

FBDCA Judges' Education  
Mentor & Presenter Handbook  
September 2021

To become an FBDCA-approved mentor, an individual must:

- Maintain membership in good standing in the French Bull Dog Club of America;
- Have been a member of the FBDCA for at least ten years;
- Either be an approved AKC judge for French Bulldogs;  
**OR** a breeder who has been breeding and exhibiting the breed for at least twelve years and has bred five champions;
- Successfully complete a FBDCA Mentor Guidelines Workshop;
- Attend a FBDCA-sponsored seminar at least every three years;
- Submit a Mentor Qualification Application form to FBDCA's Judges' Education Committee (JEC) for review.
- Every three years pass a scales test administered by an AKC Field Representative.

Please note that these requirements are compatible with the AKC standards for mentors with the additional requirements that FBDCA-approved mentors must be FBDCA members for at least ten years who have attended a parent club sponsored seminar, completed a FBDCA Mentor Guidelines Workshop, and passed a scales test administered by an AKC Field Representative.

All FBDCA mentors must attend FBDCA Mentor Workshops which deal with the proper completion of AKC forms and reporting requirements, and how to mentor. Some mentor guidelines include never offering a comment contrary to what appears in the Standard; and not offering opinions about people and kennels. The FBDCA JEC would be glad to help all mentors in how to stimulate and answer questions, what things to consider and discuss, etc. Existing FBDCA mentors have three years to complete this workshop requirement or he/she will be deleted from the list of FBDCA-approved mentor. New applicants must complete this workshop before being approved as a mentor. All FBDCA mentors must attend an FBDCA-sponsored Judges' education seminar at least once every three years.

The FBDCA reserves the right to remove a member from the mentor list for cause upon complaint to the Judges' Education Committee. For cause includes violating any criteria published by the AKC or on the FBDCA website or using their position to promote or disparage individual dogs.

## **MENTOR UPDATES**

A ringside observation may be completed where formal ringside mentoring is offered or at any AKC conformation event where a major in at least one sex has been entered. Mentors will be permitted to participate on days they are exhibiting but should not mentor for classes which they are competing. Mentor should be available for discussion during major entry. Mentors will be asked to document their own experience on the Observation Form when they sign it.

This allows approved mentors to be more easily available since many mentors are also French Bulldog exhibitors. But, exhibitors as mentors must clearly understand that as their class assembles, they **MUST** remove themselves from any area of mentoring and that the mentoring through the major entry has been accomplished.

We ask that each mentor maintain a list of people they have mentored and when. The mentor should not exhibit to that person for six months after the last date of mentoring. This FBDCA policy (which used to be an AKC policy and now is an AKC Best practice) avoids the appearance of impropriety. The FBDCA policy further requires that each mentor submit to the JEC the names of the applicant judges he/she has mentored. This helps the JEC to monitor the effectiveness of the mentoring education and to facilitate remedial tutoring for the judging applicant, if needed.

### **How to Become a Mentor**

If you feel you meet the requirements listed above, agree to abide by the FBDCA mentoring guidelines, and wish to join the list of FBDCA-approved mentors, please complete the FBDCA Mentor Application Form, and return it to FBDCA's JEC Chairman at the address on the application.

### **How to Find a Mentor**

FBDCA maintains a list of approved mentors on the AKC website under the Conformation Judges' Resource section.

# FBDCA Mentor Application



Name: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide information as to how you meet each of these requirements:

1. Are you a FBDCA Member?  Yes  No Approximate number of years. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have you attended an FBDCA-approved Mentor Clinic?  Yes  No  
Year(s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Presented by \_\_\_\_\_
3. Have you attended an FBDCA-approved Judges Education Seminar?  Yes  No  
Year(s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Presented by \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are you an AKC approved judge for this breed?  Yes  No
5. If you are not an approved judge for this breed
  - a. How many years have you been exhibiting and/or breeding French Bulldogs? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Have you bred at least five litters of French Bulldogs?  Yes
  - c. Have you bred/co-bred at least five champions of French Bulldogs?  Yes
  - d. Year first bred a French Bulldog? \_\_\_\_\_

Please detail other experience which might be relevant. \_\_\_\_\_

If approved as an FBDCA-approved mentor, I understand that my role as an FBDCA mentor is solely at the recommendation by the FBDCA Judges' Education Committee (JEC) with FBDCA Board approval. I understand that the FBDCA can remove my name as an approved mentor for failing to follow AKC or FBDCA guidelines. To maintain my status as a FBDCA-approved mentor I agree:

- to mentor judging applicants, at my own expense, without reimbursement from the FBDCA;
- to follow all AKC and FBDCA requirements and guidelines;
- to participate in a Judges Education Seminar/workshop at the National Special at least once every three years;

- to pass a scales test administered by an AKC Field Representative every three years;
- to consent to having my name as a mentor be published on the FBDCA website and on the AKC website;
- to mentor according to the FBDCA standard and the educational power point developed by the FBDCA JEC; and
- The inform the FBDCA JEC if I no longer wish to serve as a FBDCA-approved mentor.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send the signed, completed application to: Robin Stansell (JEC Chair) 2199 Government Road Clayton, NC 27520-8427 or a scanned copy to [allbreeddogs@embarqmail.com](mailto:allbreeddogs@embarqmail.com)

For use by the FBDCA JEC

Applicant Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date Application received by FBDCA JEC Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Decision to approve to not approve applicant Date \_\_\_\_\_

Board Decision \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Notified \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Scales Test Passed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Form approved November 7, 2007; Revision 1 approved May 20, 2009; Revision 2 Approved April 21, 2011; Revision 3 Approved February 15, 2012

To become an FBDCA-approved presenter, an individual must:

- Be a member in good standing of the French Bull Dog Club of America;
- Have documented twelve years in the Breed (exhibiting, breeding, and/or judging);
- Either be an approved AKC judge for French Bulldogs;  
**OR** a FBDCA approved mentor with at least twelve years in the breed and has bred at least five champions;
- Attend an FBDCA's Judges' Education Seminar);
- Be a FBDCA mentor in good standing;
- Complete the FBDCA Presenter Guide;
- Participate in a FBDCA Presenter Workshop (these will be conducted upon request);
- Participate in the FBDCA Judges' Education at a National Specialty;
- Co-present a FBDCA Judges' Education Seminar and Workshop, not offered at the national specialty, with successful completion of all reporting forms and peer review.
- Adhere to FBDCA's Presenter Guidelines;
- Submit a Presenter Qualification Application form to FBDCA's Judges' Education Committee for review.

Please note that these requirements, although similar to, are more stringent than those required to become an FBDCA-approved Mentor. This is due to the additional skills required of a Presenter, as well as the importance FBDCA places on making sure that the club always offers the very best and most consistent Judges' Education Programs, regardless of the location or the presenter. The FBDCA expects dynamic, knowledgeable, professionally-attired presenters to represent the breed.

Presenters must be able to answer any question about the standard and be able to instruct in a non-confrontational manner. The FBDCA Presenter agrees **ONLY** to use the FBDCA-approved presentation and materials.

The FBDCA reserves the right to remove a member from the presenter list for cause upon complaint to the Judges Education Committee. For cause includes violating any policy published by the AKC or the FBDCA, for promoting or disparaging individual dogs, failure to use the FBDCA-approved education materials, and cancelling scheduled seminars without good cause.

## **PRESENTER UPDATES**

Approved French Bulldog presenters must be familiar with the FBDCA-approved power point presentation in current use. It is the presenters' responsibility to thoroughly acquaint himself/herself with changes to the presentation. The in-classroom presentation will be one- and one-half hours long. For presentations with a workshop, the workshop should include at least four French Bulldogs, all of which are over the age of 6 months, and should last one hour. The ratio of attendees to dogs is 20:4. No presenter may conduct a workshop on the week they are judging **UNLESS** the workshop is **AFTER** the judging.

## **How to Become a Presenter**

If you feel you meet the requirements listed above, agree to abide by the FBDCA Presenter guidelines, and wish to join the list of FBDCA-approved presenters, please complete the FBDCA Presenter Application Form, and return it to FBDCA's Education Chairman.

## FBDCA Judges' Education Presenter Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Presenter requirements. Please provide information as to how you meet each of these requirements:

1. Are you a FBDCA Member?  Yes Approximate date joined FBDCA. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are you a FBDCA-approved Mentor?  Yes
3. Do you continue to meet all requirements of a FBDCA-approved mentor?  Yes
4. How many years have you been exhibiting and/or breeding this breed? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you attended an FBDCA-approved Judges Education Seminar?  Yes Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Have you completed the FBDCA Presenter Guide?  Yes  No
7. Have you attended an FBDCA Presenter Workshop?  Yes  No
8. Have you attended the FBDCA Judges' Education Program at the national?  Yes  No
9. Have you co-presented at a FBDCA-Approved Judges' Education Seminar/workshop not at the national specialty?  Yes  No
10. Do you agree to abide by the FBDCA's Presenter Guidelines?  Yes  No

I understand that becoming an FBDCA-approved presenter, I agree to abide by the FBDCA-Approved Judges' Education Presenter Guidelines and AKC requirements. I am willing to participate in Judges' Education Study Groups at National Specialties, and when called upon, deliver FBDCA's approved judges' education programs at other times at my own expense. I understand that the FBDCA can remove my name as an approved presenter for failing to follow AKC and FBDCA guidelines for a presenter.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send the signed, completed application to: Robin Stansell (JEC Chair) 2199 Government Road Clayton, NC 27520-8427 or a scanned copy to [allbreedsogs@gmail.com](mailto:allbreedsogs@gmail.com)

# FBDCA-Approved Judges' Education Presenter Guidelines

As an FBDCA-approved presenter, I agree to abide by the following:

1. I agree that one of the most important responsibilities of a Parent Club is to educate judges, and I take my role in such education very seriously. Additionally, I acknowledge that successful JE presenters require a vast array of skills and abilities, and I am willing to hone these skills to become the best presenter I can. These skills include computer skills; public speaking; listening for understanding; vast knowledge of the history, function, and conformation of the French Bulldog, as well as the ability to translate that knowledge into words, comparisons, and applications; organizational skills; time management skills; personal responsibility; motivational skills; and bookkeeping and record-keeping skills.
2. If approached to do a presentation on the French Bulldog, I will immediately notify the FBDCA JEC.
3. As schedules allow, I am willing to travel at my own expense, as requested by the FBDCA JEC to present the FBDCA Judges' Education Program.
4. If called upon, I am willing, at my own expense, to serve as a presenter or in a supporting role at the FBDCA National Specialty Judges' Education Program.
5. I agree to follow the presenter checklists, objectives, recommended preparation processes, scripts, presenter notes, etc., as provided by the FBDCA JEC.
6. Whenever I am a FBDCA presenter, I will ONLY deliver FBDCA-approved content ANY and EVERY time I am asked to do a presentation on the French Bulldog.
7. If I believe that the existing FBDCA –approved programs should be modified, changed, enhanced, etc., I will offer my suggestions to the FBDCA Judges' Education Chair for potential inclusion.
8. I will strictly adhere to the standard for French Bulldog as written by the French Bulldog Club of America, approved by its membership, and adopted by the American Kennel Club, Inc., during all my presenting and mentoring. And when asked for my opinion, I will always offer it within the context of the standard for the French Bulldog.
9. I will keep apprised of all AKC JE requirements and guidelines, as well as any recommendations, guidelines, policies, etc., of the FBDCA regarding Judges' Education and I agree to follow them.
10. I realize that being an FBDCA-approved presenter is a serious undertaking, and a privilege, which may be revoked should I not comply with FBDCA JEC policies, procedures, and guidelines.
11. I agree always to do my best to present the most complete, most accurate, and most entertaining JE programs I can.
12. I understand that in order to make all FBDCA-approved presenters, and through them presentations, the best possible, I will offer constructive feedback whenever asked and will accept constructive feedback from others.
13. I will complete and return all AKC, FBDCA and host organization paperwork within the parameters of each group.
14. I will promptly provide the JEC with a list of all attendees.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ***FBDCA Judges' Education Presenters' Study Guide***

This lengthy Study Guide attempts to prepare Presenters for some of the situations to which they may be exposed when presenting FBDCA Judges' Education programs.

Completion is required and must be discussed at the Judges' Education Presenters Seminar which is required before approval to be a FBDCA presenter is granted. Presenter Seminars are held upon request. If a presenter encounters a problem/question that is unusual, please let the JEC know so we can add it/them to the list of items to be discussed and solutions found.

This is to HELP you. We have found that presenters who do a bad job lose credibility for the club, for the breed and for themselves in the show ring. Be prepared!

## **Practical tips for presenting when things go bad. Or OMG, how can the show go on?**

The best way is to anticipate potential problems. Be completely prepared with the materials and program. Here are some disaster scenarios and how to handle them.

The number one priority is to deliver an AKC-accredited seminar and workshop. Attendees will not be happy if they have spent time and money to attend a seminar/workshop that will not be accepted by the AKC!

- Can't get the projector to show the PowerPoint
- Forgot the seminar presentation
- Forgot the attendee packets of information
- There are not enough handlers for the number of dogs
- Not all the handlers can run
- There are fewer than four dogs for the workshop
- Not enough room to gait the dogs
- Forgot the AKC reporting forms



## **Practical tips for presenting when there are disruptions.**

- One of the registrants is a “know it all.”
- One of the registrants disagrees with your statements
  - About the French Bulldog
  - About AKC procedure
  - About another breed
- One of the registrants has trouble grasping the information
- One of the registrants is disruptive
- One of the registrants leaves before the seminar is over
- Someone speaks ill of the French Bulldogs or a FBDC member

What do you do if you disagree with something your Co-presenter says during a presentation (a personal opinion with which you strong disagree)?

What do you do if your Co-presenter makes a mistake in what he or she says during a presentation? Mis-quotes the standard, mis-states a fact, describes another breed incorrectly. What do you do?

**Teaching the French Bulldog. Anticipate questions. Speak from ONE voice.**

If you had a limited amount of time to teach someone about the French Bulldog, what are the MOST important items you would discuss, and why?

If you only had four words to describe the French Bulldog what would they be?

What is the essence of French Bulldog breed type? The hallmarks?

What do you consider to be the most serious problem(s) you are seeing in the Breed today? What are the “drags” of the breed?

How do we discuss body proportions? In what way is this different or similar to how other breeds measure body proportions?

How would you prioritize the following traits in order of importance for the French Bulldog, and why? Head, Ears, Topline, Gait, Soundness, Body proportions, Size, Temperament, Correct tail set.

What are the 3-5 things that a prospective judge MUST not ignore when physically examining a French Bulldog?

Describe head shape.

Describe the jaw. How do you examine it? What are you looking for? What deviations might you see and how important are they?

Describe ear size, shape and placement.

Describe correct movement front and rear.

Describe the topline.

What is the correct tail set and carriage?

What colors and markings are allowed? What are not allowed?

One way in which a judge learns a new breed is within the context of other breeds, by comparing and contrasting with similar breeds. With that in mind, how would you compare/contrast the French Bulldog with the Bulldog and the Boston Terrier?

Based on each standard, the purpose & history & appearance

Minimum of five ways are similar to

Minimum of five ways are dissimilar to