

BREED SURVEY & BREED ASSESSMENT

Below is a list of requirements before a dog can be bred. Please familiarise yourself with the requirements. If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us at

info@southafricanmastiff.co.za

Minimum Requirement:

The first minimum requirement is that each dog, before it can be used for breeding, must:

- be identified by either a microchip or a permanent tattoo number in the (right) ear,
- it must pass an official Hip Dysplasia test and
- it must receive a grading of at least "G" (Good) from a qualified judge assessing the breed survey.
- In order to receive the "G" grading a dog must be free of disqualifying faults as laid down in the Breed standard, may not be afraid of a gunshot and has to pass a basic temperament test.
- In addition, bitches must be at least 14 months old and males at least 16 months old at the time of breeding.
- As of the year 2019 DNA profiling has become mandatory for all registered breed stock. All imported stock must be DNA proven.

Strictest Requirement:

While the above is the minimum standard, a second level of breeding has been developed whereby additional standards of parents are identified in the progeny by a special pedigree. To qualify for this level of pedigree:

- the parents of the puppies must pass a 10 km endurance test
- as well as a very advanced temperament test.
- Both parents further require having passed a Breed Survey, which includes a very detailed examination of the conformation and a test for drive, tolerance and courage.

About the Breed Survey



PURPOSE:

To promote uniformity in South African Mastiff® breeding, especially in the breeding of working dogs, to promote the correct temperament as well as to provide an ever-growing pool of blood-stock in which the use of dogs with disqualifying faults has been eliminated.

The Breed Assessment / Breed Survey must be provided for dogs whose owners, for some reason or other, cannot train their dogs for I.P.O., but who wish to use them for breeding. The Breed Assessment provides everything that the Advance Breed Survey does, except for the physical contact with the dog. All other requirements regarding disqualifying faults, hip dysplasia and temperament remain the same.

1. Applications for Breed Surveys to be accepted by the South African Mastiff® Clubs who present these Surveys from time to time. The Clubs should submit the names of their Breed Surveyors to the SOUTH AFRICAN MASTIFF®BREED COUNCIL, to confirm that they are suitably qualified.
2. The Breed Survey must be undertaken by a SOUTH AFRICAN MASTIFF®BREED COUNCIL approved and appointed Breed Surveyor.
3. The decisions made by the Breed Surveyor/s are final. Details of the survey are to be entered on SOUTH AFRICAN MASTIFF®BREED COUNCIL approved score sheets.
4. In the case of a Surveyor being assisted by a co-Surveyor such surveyors may not be members of the same family.
5. **FORMS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SURVEY.** On the day of the survey, the owner or handler of the dog to be Breed Surveyed, must present the following documentation to the Breed Surveyor:
 - 5.1 A pedigree certificate of registration.
 - 5.2 A SOUTH AFRICAN MASTIFF®BREED COUNCIL and/or KUSA approved certificate to substantiate that the dog's hips have been examined and meet the minimum hip score requirements as laid down by the Council from time to time.
 - 5.3 Any previous and unsuccessful SOUTH AFRICAN MASTIFF®BREED COUNCIL recognised Breed Survey report issued for the dog that is being surveyed.
6. **THE ORGANISING CLUB'S RESPONSIBILITIES.**
 - 6.1 The Club is responsible for ensuring that a registered IPO Helper and a standby is available.
 - 6.2 To ensure that no more than twenty (20) dogs are to be presented for the Breed Survey in one day.
 - 6.3 To provide a suitable demonstration dog.
 - 6.4 To provide Breed Survey score sheets issued to the Club by the Council if internet access is unavailable.
 - 6.5 A suitable area or club training grounds with a firm surface such as a lawn, spacious enough to be able to adequately evaluate, without interference, a single dog in stance and in motion with or without a lead. During the event, the following equipment must be available:

- 6.5.1 A measuring stick
- 6.5.2 A head template
- 6.5.3 A linen tape measure
- 6.5.4 A weighing scale with a base of at least 500mm X 500mm, to be able to measure (at least) 70kg, which should be tested before use.
- 6.5.5 A SOUTH AFRICAN MASTIFF® BREED COUNCIL approved protection sleeve and stick, suit, hide and a starting pistol or handgun.
- 6.5.6 A large table with chairs, writing equipment and if needed, a weatherproof shelter and a vet on call.
- 6.6 The organising Club is responsible for ensuring that dogs previously presented, as well as dogs present on the day, are identified and that a microchip scanner is available.
- 7. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY.
 - 7.1 The minimum age for the Breed Survey is 14 months.
 - 7.2 Dogs belonging to the Breed Surveyors, or their families, or the IPO Helpers or their families, may not be surveyed on that day.
- 8. CONDUCTING THE SURVEY. Dogs should be taught to be evaluated in a calm, natural composure, at stance and in movement (walk and trot, on and off lead, to allow strange hands to examine them and to have their teeth examined.) Dogs that do not meet these requirements may be deferred for later re-examination. THE SURVEYORS MUST:
 - 8.1 Evaluate the construction in stance, embracing: overall picture and proportions, balance, expression and sex characteristics, size (measuring the withers height, depth of chest, chest girth and trunk length), bone strength and weight, muscles and stability, skin and coat, colour and markings. Further detail to cover: skull shape & strength, jaw development, teeth and neck. Withers and back including the loin, fore- and under chest, ribs, belly, stomach and sex organs, shoulders and front legs, croup slope as well as fore- and hind angulation.
 - 8.2 Evaluate the movement: in walk and trot, on lead and free moving, freedom of shoulder and forward movement. Thrust and hindquarter flow, thrust over back, behaviour of muscles and joints during movement, reduction or increase of possible faults noticed earlier.
 - 8.3 Assess gun-sureness: When firing, the distance must not be less than fifteen paces from the dog. Two shots fired in succession with a starters pistol or a handgun of 5.6mm or 9mm calibre. If the dog shows a flight reaction after the first shot, the handler must sit his/her dog and take the leash off and move a short distance away. Only then may a second shot be fired (alternatively, the surveyor may decide to repeat the test from a different direction). If the dog shows further flight reaction, it should be eliminated from the test and deferred.

- 8.4 Evaluating temperament: Each dog presented for survey must undergo a temperament test as described below. The acceptance for the Breed Survey is dependent on the passing of the temperament test. Dogs which show faulty temperament may be excluded from further surveying. Dog and handler must move through a group of no less than 6 (six) people, (WHO MAY NOT INTERFERE WITH THE DOG BEING TESTED IN ANY WAY), turn around and assume a sit position in the middle of the group. The group then moves in slowly and tightly around the dog and handler, remains so for a few seconds and reverse slowly back to its prior position. At a signal from a Surveyor, the group then does so rapidly, for a second time, remain close for a few seconds and withdraw equally rapidly. This exercise must clearly show the self-confidence of the dog and its confidence in its handler.
- 8.5 At the completion of the 'crowd' exercise, the handler will walk his dog to a pre-determined spot approximately twenty (20) meters from a hiding place. The handler will be required to remain stationary and will allow the dog freedom of movement to the extent of the lead. On the Surveyor's signal, a 'helper' (clad in protective suit and armguard and armed with a stick) will emerge and challenge the handler. After allowing reaction time for the dog, the 'helper' will run diagonally across and stop in a position approximately ten (10) meters away and challenge again. The helper will then continue directly towards the handler and dog in a confrontational manner, to a minimum of five (5) meters, or when the Surveyor instructs the 'helper' to stop the threat. At no time do the 'helper' and dog make any contact. At a signal from the Assessor / Surveyor, the 'helper' then returns to the hiding place, behind which he leaves his suit, stick and arm guard. He then appears again in regular apparel and in a friendly manner strolls up to the handler, whom he greets. He also greets the dog. The Assessor / Surveyor takes note of the extent to which the dog has regained its exposure. The dog must not attempt to flee or show signs of fear, nervousness or retained aggression. A lack of reaction (e.g. tail tucked) is also considered undesirable. The dog's reaction to this situation / exercise is to be recorded on the Survey form by the Surveyor. In the case of a dog which is in training for any guard and defence work, the handler must indicate this before the start of the exercise and the dog should not be penalized for normal alert reactions.

