

British Association of True Working Kelpies



Breeders Charter 2023

BATWK requests that all Breeders are aware of and acting in accordance with The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018, **if relevant**. Please note this is correct at the time of writing on the 12th of November 2022. It is the Breeders responsibility to check the relevance of legislation, and ensure they are acting in accordance with an up-to-date copy of legislation, which may differ dependent on circumstances and location.

A summary of key (but not all) points include:

- All dogs for sale must be in good health.
- No bitch is mated if aged less than 12 months.
- No bitch gives birth to more than one litter of puppies in a 12-month period.
- No bitch gives birth to more than six litters of puppies in total.
- No bitch is mated if she has had two litters delivered by caesarean section.
- The licence holder must ensure that each puppy is microchipped and registered to the licence holder before it is sold.
- No dog may be kept for breeding if it can reasonably be expected, on the basis of its genotype, phenotype or state of health that breeding from it could have a detrimental effect on its health or welfare or the health or welfare of its offspring.

In addition to these points, BATWK also suggests, when possible (unless reasonable explanation is given otherwise), Breeders act in accordance with the following:

- All breeding animals will have proven their worth as quality livestock workers, true to the Working Kelpie breed before being bred (unless recorded as non-working on the pedigree).
- Dogs will be 18 months of age by first breeding and in good health.
- Health tests will have been carried out where possible prior to breeding (CA tests for LINGO3 and VMP1 strains; and hip/elbow scores where breeding more than one litter).
- Breeders will stand by their pups and offer to help rehome where possible if circumstances of original buyers change.
- Pups will be provided with the best start possible in terms of housing, nutrition, and care.

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