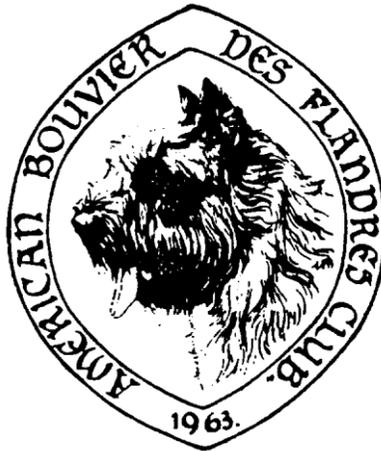


*American Bouvier des
Flandres Club, Inc.*



FUTURITY PROGRAM

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August 15, 2014

TO THE NEW PUPPY OWNER:

You have just purchased a puppy that is eligible to compete in the AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB's Futurity Program.

The breeder of your pup considers this mating to be exceptional, and has backed up this planned breeding by enrolling the litter in the Futurity Program. He expects you to keep your Bouvier eligible and to compete in the final competition if at all possible.

Much of our breed's future rests in your hands. In order to keep a breed of excellence, such as the Bouvier, results of a mating must be tested – and the best of those used for future matings. The Futurity Program helps us to do this. You, as an owner of a Futurity pup, are expected to show the results of your pup's heritage so that it may be judged as future breeding stock.

To help acquaint you with the Futurity Program we have prepared this booklet which contains the rules, a few brief articles and some of the various forms you will require. The owner of an eligible Futurity pup (all nomination fees paid) must be a member of the AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB to enter his dog in the Futurity. We suggest you contact the current ABdFC Secretary to obtain an APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP at once. Please fill out the application, obtain the necessary signatures, attach the required check and return them to the ABdFC Secretary.

Be sure to ask your breeder any question that is not clear to you about the Futurity. If he cannot answer you, the AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB will be glad to help you.

Shelley Bowman, Director
ABdFC Futurity Program
1888 S. Beech Street
Lakewood, CO 80228-4413
e-mail: AlwaysBouvier@comcast.net

FUTURITY PROGRAM

Now that the Bouvier des Flandres Futurity is a reality, the owners of Brood Matrons and Stud Dogs, as well as prospective purchasers of Bouviers, will want to keep the Futurity in mind. This Stake is a breeders' classic for Bouviers, and is comparable to the Kentucky Derby for breeders of top running horses. Who wouldn't be thrilled to say, "I bred the winner of the Futurity." And, who wouldn't be delighted to be the owner of a winner in the futurity.

The word "Futurity" implies looking into the future. In the case of the ABdFC it means a conscientious attempt to insure the future excellence of the Bouvier. Much time and effort has been expended in the past toward the development of the breed as we know it today. The Futurity Program is the means for the continuation of this development and improvement.

"Futurity" can also imply challenge, or a gamble on the future. The breeder has picked a certain Bitch to be bred to a certain Stud. It is his opinion that this breeding will produce offspring of the desired conformation and abilities that will win in competition over the offspring of other breedings that are enrolled in the Futurity Program. To back up his faith in his own judgment, he pays monies into a fund that will be divided among the winners of the Futurity.

The Bouvier originated as a Herding Breed, for the purpose of herding cattle. Why then, should there be so much concern about good conformation? A Herding Dog needs more than just intelligence to herd cattle. He must also have the stamina and rhythm of movement, to travel easily over all types of terrain, for long periods of time, without tiring, if he is able to fulfill his role as a herding dog. Good "conformation" is therefore extremely important.

Proper Conformation for a Herding Dog is the basis for the Bouvier Standard. This Standard describes the perfect Bouvier. While we cannot hope to achieve perfection, the Standard sets a goal for which the conscientious breeder must strive. The conscientious breeder chooses, as a potential brood bitch, a female that most nearly approaches the Standard. She will, in many instances, be from proven stock and, hopefully, she will have been proven herself by competition on the Bench. When the breeder feels sure that his chosen bitch is an outstanding example of the breed, he begins to look for a suitable Stud dog that will complement his bitch. The Stud will also be from proven stock and will also have been proven. He will also have a reputation for producing high quality offspring. This should not preclude using quality type bitches and studs that have not previously produced. Many fine young Bouviers have been produced in the past from just such breedings. The Breeder's next step, after the breeding has been accomplished, is to nominate the Bitch to the Futurity Program. When the puppies are whelped, the litter must be registered. The proper forms are available from the Futurity Director.

Because of the rules established by the ABdFC Board of Governors, there are three age groups to be judged at the Futurity. Futurity pups will vary in age from approximately 12 months old to a maximum of 24 months. Prior to the judging, the judge is provided with a set of rules that define the method of judgment. This procedure is followed so that each Futurity class winner has an equal chance to win Best Dog or Best Bitch In Futurity.

The goal of all Futurity Breeders and owners is, of course, to record a win in the Futurity. A breeder or owner can take great pride in a placement in the Futurity. It should be remembered that all of these pups are bred for excellence, and a placement in this type of competition is indeed a prestigious accomplishment. Along with the prestige involved, there are also financial rewards for winning in the Futurity. All of the fees that have been paid, minus a percentage for expenses, are divided among the winners of the Futurity and the breeders of the winners.

The rules of the Futurity permit the use of a professional in training and showing these pups. Many owners, however, choose to train and show their own pup. They are often successful. The owner/handler who will take the time to learn the fine points of training and campaigning his dog will certainly realize a great deal of personal satisfaction from the accomplishment. Both owner and puppy will benefit from the close rapport that results from the training necessary to prepare the dog to compete in the Futurity. If conditions and abilities permit, there is much to be said for the owner who campaigns his own dog.

Most of the Breeders are also knowledgeable in the training and showing of the Bouvier. They will gladly answer questions and assist in efforts to develop puppies that are the product of their breeding.

In summary, it is hoped that the Futurity Program will provide some incentive to improve the quality of the breed by appealing to the gambling instincts of those members that are proud of their accomplishments in breeding Bouviers.

RULES

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Futurity is to encourage breeding high quality Bouvier des Flandres and to reward successful breeders. Monetary and recognition awards will be given to those breeders best meeting their responsibilities in developing the described inherited potentialities of the Bouvier des Flandres.

Eligibility

- 1. Dogs:** Puppies whelped on or after October 1 of one year through September 30 of the following year will be eligible to compete in the Futurity held one year later. (i.e., Oct. 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011, will compete in the 2012 Futurity.)
- 2. Breeders and Owners:** The Futurity is open to all AKC registered and AKC recognized foreign registered Bouvier des Flandres where one of the breeders is a member of the ABdFC and where one of the owners is either a member or pending member of the ABdFC. A pending member is one whose membership application, dues and initiation fee have been received by the ABdFC Secretary and the application is pending approval.
- 3. Puppy Sale:** If a Futurity puppy is sold, eligibility will continue to the new owner provided such owner is a member or pending member as defined above.
- 4. Bitch Nomination:** The breeder or the co-breeder signing the Bitch Nomination and Litter Registration forms must be a member in good standing of the ABdFC and remain a member in good standing until after the Futurity entries are closed.
- 5. Puppy Nomination:** The owner or co-owner signing the Puppy Nomination form must be a member in good standing as defined in the ABdFC By-laws Article II, Section 4 or a non-member owner who is initiating action to become a member.
- 6. Futurity Entry:** The owner or one of the persons listed as co-owner on the Futurity Entry Form must be a member in good standing or pending member of the ABdFC by August 1st of the year of the Futurity.
- 7. Health Requirements:** Must fulfill Futurity health requirements (see page 9).

Fees

1. Bitches shall be nominated after being bred but before the puppies are whelped. The nomination must be accompanied by a fee of \$30.00.

2. The litter shall be registered within 30 days after being whelped. A registration fee of \$10.00 is required for each litter registered. Each puppy in this litter will be eligible for individual nomination.
3. Nomination of eligible puppies must be made before the puppy reaches four (4) months of age by paying a fee of \$30.00.
4. All fees shall be paid to the ABdFC in U.S. Funds and become the property of the Futurity fund. No refunds will be made.
5. If the bitch fails to whelp or gives birth to a dead litter, her nominator will be permitted one substitute nomination, provided said nominator gives notice within ten (10) days after the bitch would have normally whelped to the Futurity Director. If notification is not made in accordance with this requirement, the nomination fee shall be forfeited.

Registration

A photocopy of the puppy's registration will verify information required to establish each puppy's eligibility requirements. Each time a puppy is sold a copy of the registration certificate showing the new owner(s) must be submitted. Puppy registration certificates are due no later than six (6) months after whelping. For Canadian puppies, a copy of the Canadian papers are due no later than six (6) months after whelping with AKC paperwork to be submitted by August 1st. Postmarks transmitting the breeder's nomination of the bitch will be verified with the puppy's registration for birth date of the litter.

Futurity Classes

1. Senior dogs and bitches whelped on or after October 1 through January 31.
2. Intermediate dogs and bitches whelped on or after February 1 through May 31.
3. Junior dogs and bitches whelped on or after June 1 through September 30.
4. The entry for the Futurity requires the puppy to be entered in one of the regular classes at the ABdFC Specialty Show.
5. The Futurity entry must be indicated as an additional class. Additional Class entry must include age division (i.e., Futurity – Junior, Intermediate or Senior).

Division of Monies & Awards

1. **Income**
 - ◆ Bitch Nomination fee
 - ◆ Litter Registrations fee
 - ◆ Puppy Nomination fees
 - ◆ Entry fee

Disbursements:

- ◆ 40% of Income – Operating expense fund (stationary, printing, postage, record keeping, forms, judges expenses including selection, show secretary or superintendent expenses, advertising, awards, rosettes, etc.)
- ◆ 36% of Income – Prize money shall be equally distributed to each of the first place winners of the Junior, Intermediate, & Senior classes for each sex.
- ◆ 24% of Income – Prize money shall be equally distributed to Best Dog in Futurity and Best Bitch in Futurity.
- ◆ 50% of each prize goes to the owner(s) and 50% of each prize goes to the breeder(s)

2. Disbursements and Awards will be awarded to the owner of the sire listed first on AKC registration paperwork and to the breeder of the puppy listed first on AKC registration paperwork of the Best Dog in Futurity and Best Bitch in Futurity.
3. Rosettes will be presented to Best Dog in Futurity, Best Bitch in Futurity, and all placements.

Judges and Judging Schedule

1. Only those persons who appear in the AKC list of approved judges for Bouvier des Flandres, experienced Bouvier breeders or other eminent persons known to be intimately familiar with the Bouvier Standard shall be selected and approved to judge the Futurity. They will be nominated by the membership and ranked in order of preference.
2. Dogs and bitches shall be judged separately. The judge will begin with dogs in this order.
 - a) Junior dogs – placing 1, 2, 3, and 4
 - b) Intermediate dogs – placing 1, 2, 3, and 4
 - c) Senior dogs – placing 1,2,3,and 4

The first place winners of the above classes will then compete for Best Dog in Futurity.

The judge will then do bitches in this order:

- a) Junior bitches – placing 1, 2, 3, and 4
- b) Intermediate bitches – placing 1, 2, 3, and 4
- c) Senior bitches – placing 1, 2, 3, and 4

The first place winners of the above classes will then compete for Best Bitch in Futurity.

CODE OF ETHICS
AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB

This Code is designed to establish a standard of conduct to be followed by All members of the AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB in the course of breeding, selling, exhibiting and advertising Bouviers.

I. GENERAL

Each member of the Club will consider the welfare of the breed when engaged in any activities involving the breeding, exhibiting and selling of Bouviers, and will refrain from any actions which would be prejudicial to the best interests of the breed and the Club.

Every dog should be provided with humane living quarters and personal care as well as adequate veterinarian-supervised health care.

II. BREEDING

- a) All breeding stock shall be in good health and free from communicable disease.
- b) While x-raying of breeding stock is not mandatory, it is highly recommended and individuals whose dog or bitch is to be bred to another's are urged to furnish and request such x-rays for the stud and bitch.
- c) A bitch shall be bred only to one stud dog during any one-oestrus cycle.
- d) No bitch shall be bred more often than two out of three heat seasons (and then only if in excellent health), and never at the time of her first season unless this occurs after 12 months of age.
- e) Full disclosure, when requested by either party to a proposed breeding, of what the dog or bitch has previously produced and background details as known.
- f) To breed carefully and with discrimination for the purpose of improving the breed, not just for profit.
- g) It is recommended that, to protect all parties, stud service contracts be made in writing, executed by both parties.
- h) A Bouvier without registration papers shall not be used for breeding.
- i) All breeders will be responsible for any dog for which they are the breeder of record that is in need of rescue or are in the rescue program. This responsibility is to include the cost of returning the dog to the

breeder. If the dog remains with rescue, the breeder shall conform to all rescue guidelines, and shall reimburse rescue for all costs incurred.

III. SALES

- a) No member of the Club shall engage in wholesaling of litters of Bouviers or individual sales of puppies or adults to pet shops, pet dealers, catalog houses or other commercial establishments, nor shall they be given as prizes in contests nor exploited to the detriment of the breed or of purebred dogs.
- b) All Bouviers sold shall be in good health and condition, free from communicable disease. No adult or puppy shall be sold without adequate immunization against disease in terms of its age.
- c) Prices of puppies and adults shall be based on individual quality. Pet quality stock shall not be misrepresented as show prospects.
- d) Any puppy sold as a show prospect which subsequently develops a congenital or disqualifying defect shall be:
 - (1) replaced by the breeder with another show prospect puppy,
 - (2) the money refunded and the dog returned to the breeder, or
 - (3) the buyer's money refunded to the extent of the difference between the price paid and the price of pet puppies sold from the same or similar litters, the buyer retaining the dog.
- e) A puppy showing deviations from the standard, rendering it unsuitable for breeding or showing, will be registered by the breeder with a limited registration. Only the breeder may request the AKC to remove the limitation at some later date, when conditions warrant such action. All other puppies eligible for registration will be registered within the time constraints of the AKC. Papers may not be withheld without a signed agreement with the buyer.
- f) Sellers are to provide buyers with the following papers:
 - (1) A sales contract specifying all conditions of the sale and signed by both buyer and seller. (A condition of the sale of a pet quality puppy is that the puppy should be neutered as soon as practical.)
 - (2) The rules pertaining to limited registration if appropriate.
 - (3) An application to register or an application to transfer ownership with the necessary information filled in unless the sales contract specifies that papers are to be withheld until certain conditions of the sale have been completed.

(4) A four-generation pedigree

- g) It is recommended that adult dogs and bitches no longer performing activities which require them to remain whole be neutered as soon as possible for the comfort and convenience of both the pet and the owner.

IV. EXHIBITING

All members of the club shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner which will reflect credit upon themselves and upon the breed, regardless of the location or circumstances, but especially when attending dog club meetings or shows, whether as an exhibitor or a spectator.

V. ADVERTISING

All advertising shall be truthful and ethical. Any claims made must be provable. Fraudulent advertising, misrepresentations or misleading statements shall constitute prima-facie evidence of violation of the intents of this Code.

In the case of untruthful or unethical advertising, the censured member must, at his expense, have a retraction printed in the same publication and in the same size as that of the advertising for which he was censured.

VI. INFRACTIONS

Violations or infractions to the Code are to be brought to the Board's attention and dealt with in the manner prescribed by the Club's Constitution and By-Laws.

FUTURITY HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

For Futurity nominated Bouviers to be eligible to compete in the Futurity competition beginning in the year 2001 and beyond, both parents must have certification of health clearance in at least three of the following areas, two of which must be hip status and OFA cardiac:

Hips (OFA, PennHip{for purposes of this program PennHip of less than 50% will be unacceptable}, or equivalent certification from foreign Registries)
Elbows (OFA) Cardiac (OFA)
CERF or OFA number (certification must be dated within 12 months of the date of the breeding that produced the Futurity nominated Bouvier or the collection of the semen used for the breeding)

Breeder must provide health certificates for the sire and the dam to the Futurity Director by July 1st of the Futurity Year. Exempt from this requirement are sires who are deceased prior to January 1, 2000.

Thyroid certification purposely was not placed on the list due to the concern that the current testing procedures cannot detect if the thyroid levels are maintained by medication. The absence of thyroid certification shall not be interpreted as tolerance for the use of thyroid deficient Bouviers in any breeding program.

This timing provides notice to and allows owners of frozen semen of currently alive sires until 12-31-99 to certify the dog if the owners desire to protect the status of the semen as useable for litters that will be eligible for the Futurity after 12-31-99; if the sire dies after 12-31-99 and has not been certified, the requirements will not be waived even if the semen was collected prior to 1-1-00.

*Approved by the Board of Governors March 12, 1999
Revised August 18, 2006
Revised August 15, 2014*

FUTURITY PUPPY NOMINATION FORM

I hereby nominate the following PUPPY for the 20____ Futurity competition. I certify that my membership status in the AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB is as follows: (check appropriate line)

- I am a member in good standing
- I request a membership application form
- I have submitted my membership application form

I know that I must remain a member in good standing in order for this Puppy to compete at the FUTURITY.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

Breeder/Co-breeder _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Owner/Co-owner _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Litter (SIRE) _____

Litter (DAM) _____

Whelping Date _____

Puppy's Name _____

AKC Reg. No. _____

Puppy's Sex & Color _____

See reverse side for additional information

NOTE: Nomination must be made **before** the puppy reaches four (4) months of age. The postmark on the envelope containing this nomination will determine the nomination date.

Make your check for **\$30.00** (U.S. funds only) payable to
The AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB.

Send both check and nomination form to the Futurity

Director:

**Shelley Bowman
1888 S. Beech Street
Lakewood, CO 80228-4113**

AlwaysBouvier@comcast.net

FUTURITY PUPPY NOMINATION FORM

I hereby nominate the following PUPPY for the 20____ Futurity competition. I certify that my membership status in the AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB is as follows: (check appropriate line)

- I am a member in good standing
- I request a membership application form
- I have submitted my membership application form

I know that I must remain a member in good standing in order for this Puppy to compete at the FUTURITY.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

Breeder/Co-breeder _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Owner/Co-owner _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Litter (SIRE) _____

Litter (DAM) _____

Whelping Date _____

Puppy's Name _____

AKC Reg. No. _____

Puppy's Sex & Color _____

See reverse side for additional information

NOTE: Nomination must be made **before** the puppy reaches four (4) months of age. The postmark on the envelope containing this nomination will determine the nomination date.

Make your check for **\$30.00** (U.S. funds only) payable to
The AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB.

Send both check and nomination form to the Futurity

Director:

**Shelley Bowman
1888 S. Beech Street
Lakewood, CO 80228-4113**

AlwaysBouvier@comcast.net

***FUTURITY LITTER REGISTRATION
FORM***

FUTURITY NO. _____
For office use only

Breeder or Co-Breeder

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

SIRE _____

DAM _____

Whelping date _____

Number of Puppies **Males** _____ **Females** _____

Please send this completed form to reach the Futurity Director within 30 days of the whelping. If this registration is mailed late, the puppies will not be eligible for nomination.

Make your check for **\$10.00** (U.S. funds only) payable to The AMERICAN BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB.

Send Litter Registration form to the Futurity Director:

**Shelley Bowman
1888 S. Beech Street
Lakewood, CO 80228-4113**

AlwaysBouviere@comcast.net

***FUTURITY BITCH NOMINATION
FORM***

I here by nominate the following Bitch for the 20____ FUTURITY competition.
I certify that I am a member in good standing of the AMERICAN BOUVIER
des FLANDRES CLUB and that I must remain a member in good standing in
order for any puppies of this litter to compete at the FUTURITY.

SIGNED _____ **DATE** _____

Breeder or co-breeder _____

Address _____

e-mail _____

Phone _____

DAM _____

Date of Breeding(s) _____

SIRE _____

NOTE: Nomination must be made after breeding, but before litter is whelped.
The postmark on the envelope containing this nomination will determine the
nomination date.

Make your check for **\$30.00** (U.S. funds only) payable to the AMERICAN
BOUVIER des FLANDRES CLUB.

Send both check and bitch nomination form to the Futurity Director:

**Shelley Bowman
1888 S. Beech Street
Lakewood, CO 80228-4113**

AlwaysBouvier@comcast.net