



INFORMATION PAPER ANKC POLICY ON ADOPTING BREED STANDARDS

History of ANKC Breed Standards

Until 1992, it was ANKC policy to adopt only The Kennel Club (England) Standards.

Around 1987 the Kennel Club (England) urged all English Breed Clubs to revise their Standards this was completed around 1994.

In some cases the English Breed Clubs for Australian breeds revised our long standing Standards, which were originally those written and adopted in Australia.

The ANKC officially objected to these changes, however, the Kennel Club officially advised the ANKC that it would not receive any input from foreign Kennel Clubs.

Due to Breed Clubs and breeders/owners in Australia disagreeing with many of the revised Standards, and the Kennel Club's attitude the ANKC agreed to allow Breed Clubs and/or owners to choose between the Pre-1987 Standards, the revised Kennel Club Standard, the FCI Standard or the Country of Origin/Development Standard.

The process to choose one of the above standards the Breed Clubs and the owners were required to conduct a survey of all registered owners of each breed and these results were then ratified at the May 1998 ANKC Conference.

Around 1990 at the World Canine Conference it was unanimously agreed NOT to introduce any more alternative Breed Standards for existing breeds, but rather for Canine Controlling Bodies to adopt one of the Standards existing with preference to adopting the Breed Standard produced by the Country of Origin/Country of Development.

Since 1990, the ANKC has been working with the FCI Breeds Standards Commission, resulting in the Australian Standard for Australian Breeds being accepted by the FCI, also the FCI accepted Australia as the Country of Development for the Jack Russell Terriers, which were not recognised by any Country in the World at that time, and the ANKC Standard is now officially adopted by all FCI member bodies and Canada.

Summary of Policy

The ANKC has an "agreement in principle" not to amend Breed Standards originating from the Country of Origin or Country of Development, therefore the ANKC automatically accepts all Breed Standard amendments received from the Country of Origin or Country of Development Canine Controlling Body, except in exceptional circumstances, such as clauses that contravene ANKC Rules, Regulations, Policies or Government Acts.

The reason for this agreement is to limit the number of Breed Standards around the World for each Breed.

The only exception to the above is those Breeds that have adopted the Pre 1987 Kennel Club (England) Breed Standard. For those breeds that have adopted the Pre 1987 Kennel Club (England) Breed Standard, new amendments do not apply and the Standard remains as it was when adopted by the Owners, except when a universal statement is added to the majority of standards.

The NBSCG will never amend/alter a Breed Standard originating from the Country of Origin or Country of Development's Canine Controlling Body of its own accord.

The only Breed Standards that the NBSCG coordinate amendments are the Breed Standards originating in Australia, these are:

- Australian Silky Terrier;
- Australian Terrier;
- Jack Russell Terrier;
- Tenterfield Terrier;
- Australian Kelpie;
- Australian Cattle Dog;
- Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog;
- Border Collie;
- Kangal Dog.

To summarise the ANKC policy in relation to Breed Standards, it is as follows:

- The ANKC manages the Standards for those breeds that originate or developed in Australia;
- The ANKC does not accept any amendments for those breed that have selected Kennel Club (England) Pre 1987 Standards;
- The ANKC automatically accepts all amendments to Kennel Club (England) non Pre 1987 Standards;
- The ANKC automatically accepts all amendments to FCI Standards;
- The ANKC automatically accepts all amendments to those Breed Standards originating from the American Kennel Club and the Canadian Kennel Club where they are the Country of Origin\Development for a breed.

The ANKC policy does permit input from National Breed Councils\Breed Clubs before the amendment is adopted, as they have no input to the amendment.

With the ANKC policy the ANKC delegates in reality can either adopt or reject a Breed Standard originating from the Country of Origin/Development, for a new breed. The ANKC policy does not permit the ANKC to amend the Standard.

This policy also applies to amendments to existing Breed Standards; the ANKC delegates can only adopt the amendment originating from the Country of Origin/Development, they cannot amend the amendment.

The only variance with this is that if it is felt that a statement in a Breed Standard is ambiguous or unusual then the ANKC NBSCG can add an explanation, which will be placed in [square brackets] after the ambiguous or unusual statement.

All this information was circulated to National Breed Councils and published in Member Bodies' Journal in the nineteen-nineties.

If the owners of a breed in the future wish to adopt a different Standard from the Pre 1987 Kennel Club Standard or the present Kennel Club Standard that was selected in 1998 to the Country of Origin/Development Breed Standard they will be required to conduct a survey of all registered owners of the breed in accordance with the ANKC layout procedure (refer copy attached).

Roger Bridgford
National Breed Standards Coordination Group
12 October 2006



ANKC Procedure for a Breed to change a Breed Standard from Kennel Club (England) (or Pre 1987) to the Country of Origin

[Second Revision 22 March, 2007]

When the ANKC receives a request from a Club or Owner to change their current breed Standard to the Official Standard of the Country of Origin/Country of Development.

The Procedure will be as follows:

1. The ANKC Breed Standards Coordination Group (NBSCG) will review the application and will either reject the application or advise the originator of the application that they can proceed with the process.
2. The originator will then be required to prepare a survey for circulation to all owners of a Registered dog of the breed, who are members of an ANKC affiliated Canine Controlling Body via the ANKC Member Body's Official Journals.
3. The "Survey Form" must advise in clear English the advantages and disadvantages of changing the breed standard.
4. The "Survey Form" will need to include space and heading for the following:
 - Name of the Registered owner;
 - The Membership Number of the Registered owner;
 - The Registered number and Date of Birth of a dog of the breed currently owner by the Registered owner;
 - Signature of the Registered owner;
 - Date Survey is signed;
 - A place clearly marked for voting for or against the change;
 - Date the Survey Form must be returned to the ANKC Administrator.
5. Prior to publication in the Member Body's Journal the "Survey Form" MUST be sent to the ANKC Administrator, for approval by the ANKC/NBSCG.
6. When approved by the NBSCG-the "Survey Form" will be returned to the ANKC Administrator who will arrange for the survey to be published in the Member Body' Journals.
7. The Survey is to give sufficient time to the Registered owners (not less than 60 days after publication) for the survey form to be returned to the ANKC Administrator.
8. The ANKC Administrator will forward the returned Survey Form to the ANKC/NBSCG, who will process the forms, prepare a report and recommendation to the ANKC Delegates for their approval.
9. If a change to the Breed Standard to the Country of Origin is approved the new standard will come into affect either on the 1st January or the 1st July, whichever date will allow a minimum of six [6] months to distribute the standard and train the Judges.

Roger Bridgford
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22 March 2007