

## **BULLDOG CLUB OF AMERICA**

## **Position Statement**

## **RESPONSIBLE BREEDING PRACTICES**

The Bulldog Club of America believes that breeding programs should be undertaken responsibly for the purpose of preserving breed characteristics and producing healthy, well-socialized purebred puppies. Responsible breeders give careful consideration to health issues, temperament, and genetic screening, as well as to the individual care an placement of puppies in responsible homes. The BCA supports and promotes these and other responsible breeding practices through breeders' education programs, a Breeder's Code of Ethics and commends those who offer similar guidance.

The BCA strongly opposes the breeding of dogs by those who do so without regard for the dogs' welfare. We support scrupulous enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act, and state and local regulations governing the humane care of animals. We further believe that USDA and other enforcement agencies should be given appropriate resources to ensure that regulations are met.

In addition, the BCA investigates complaints made about members of our Breeder referral Program. We believe that kennels that do not meet the AKC or local animal control minimum care and conditions requirements should be educated and encouraged to raise their standards or face suspension of their AKC registration privileges or fines. In the case of a finding of animal abuse, BCA supports the enforcement of all reasonable laws requiring the humane treatment of all animals and levying appropriate civil or criminal penalties against the violators.