



News from the SABBA Board

Sources: SABBA Board and Show Committee
Date: 11 August 2009

SABBA Board members and senior appraisers devoted the entire long weekend of 8 - 10 August to meetings and training. The Show Committee and Board held meetings on Saturday, the 8th. On the 9th and 10th Board members who are also senior appraisers, joined other appraisers for a practical and theoretical appraiser work session.

This report summarises the most important outcomes of the meetings.

Highest points to remain valid at reappraisals

SABBA has gone a step further in relaxing previous conditions pertaining to reappraisals. At this most recent meeting, the Board decided that, as from 8 August 2009, the highest score that a dog receives at an appraisal or reappraisal would remain in force. This is undoubtedly good news for owners, who were often hesitant to present their dogs for reappraisal because of the possibility that it could be assessed at a lower point.

Members are also reminded that in February, the Board revoked the 6-month time limit on reappraisals on the premise that it is up to owners to decide when, and if their dogs are ready to be reappraised.

Show arrangements in full swing

Most of the arrangements for the SABBA Regional Shows to be held from 5 to 26 September, culminating in the Championship Show in Parys in the Free State on 7 November are now in place. The show rules, class allocations, overview of proceedings, code of conduct, adjudication criteria and the *pro forma* entry form are available on the [Show page](#).

Additional information include: Opportunities for trophy sponsorships, referrals for accommodation in Parys, and the Social Bash planned for the night before the Championships. The Regional Show results will be published on the website within a couple of days after the respective shows.

Appeal for help with database 'clean up'

All members and Boerboel owners will soon receive a communication requesting them to verify to their contact information. Persons of whom SABBA has e-mail addresses will receive a direct link to an online verification form, and others will receive sms requests for their e-mail addresses.

SABBA urges all recipients to respond positively and swiftly. This is the first phase of a project aimed at bringing the current database in line with modern communication options so that it can be used for effective planning and reliable research for the benefit of members and the Boerboel breed.

The Board assures respondents that all information will be used for improving organisational functions only, and that it will not be made available to any third parties. There are also systems in place to protect information provided electronically.

Registration of Boerboels from other organisations

There is still some uncertainty about SABBA's acceptance of non-registered Boerboels and Boerboels registered by other organisations. The Board reiterated that any Boerboel is welcome at SABBA appraisals, but that certain pre-conditions must be met in order to protect the integrity of the Association's database. They are as follows:

Full Registration:

SABBA accepts all dogs that are presented for appraisal and subsequent registration if

- (i) the dog has a SABBA birth certificate;
- (ii) the dog achieves an appraisal point of 75 % or more.

Development Register:

Dogs may be taken up in the Development Register in the following circumstances:

- (i) The owner must be a SABBA member / join SABBA.
- (ii) In the event that the required documentation is incomplete/unavailable or issued by another organisation, the Executive Committee will consider the owner's application on merit.
- (iii) If the dog achieves an appraisal point of 80% or more, the dog will be taken up in the Development Register.
- (iv) His/her first generation progeny will be taken up in the Development Register if they achieve a minimum appraisal point of 80%.
- (v) His/her second generation progeny will be taken up in the Development Register if they achieve a minimum appraisal point of 80%.
- (vi) If his/her third generation progeny attain appraisal points of 85% or higher, they will be taken up in the Registration Register. If they point lower than 85%, they will remain on the Development Register.

Appraiser training

The Board expressed regret that an appraiser training course, scheduled to take place in Gauteng in June had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. This course was planned to attract Boerboel enthusiasts and breeders interested in becoming appraisers. There is still a possibility that such courses will be presented during 2009 – possibly in October in Gauteng and the Western Cape. Interested persons should please contact their regional Board members or the Chairman of the Breed Standard Committee, [Thys von Solms](#).