

## Protocol

### BREATH (BRachycephalic Exercise Aptitude Test for Health)

All Brachycephalic breeds (see the list below) can participate. The Exercise Aptitude Test is designed to be organized by a breed club, with the possibility of welcoming any dog of the concerned breeds.

The Exercise Aptitude Test is independent of the Temperament Test (TAN in French). The Temperament Test can take into account the success of the Exercise Aptitude Test, but all other tests must be conducted after the completion of the Exercise Aptitude Test.

This Exercise Aptitude Test is graded under the responsibility of a veterinarian, assisted by assessors, validated by the organizing Breed club (1 assessor for 2 dogs tested simultaneously), the assessors can be judges of the breeds concerned or not.

The test consists in covering a distance in a given time by the dog encouraged by its owner (or a person designated by its owner) at a quick pace. The dog should follow a marked out exercise area, being timed by an assessor. It can be done indoors. The test should be preferably carried out at an ambient temperature ranging from 15 to 20°C if possible and not more than 25°C nor below 10°C. The Exercise Aptitude Test is organized under reasonable conditions of temperature and environment.

Distance / time pairs are defined by breed:

Breed	Distance to complete	Max time	Breed	Distance to complete	Max time
Bulldog	500 m	6 min	King Charles Spaniel	500 m	6 min
French Bulldog	500 m	6 min	Griffon Belge	500 m	6 min
Pug	500 m	6 min	Griffon Bruxellois	500 m	6 min
Boston Terrier	500 m	6 min	Shih Tzu	500 m	6 min
Dogue de Bordeaux	500 m	6 min	Pekingese	250 m	10 min
Japanese Chin	500 m	6 min			

The Exercise Aptitude Test is not a physical performance, dogs should be able to pass it without excessive effort, owners should not push their dogs beyond their natural physical abilities.

The veterinarian may, at any time, disqualify a dog if they consider that its physical condition justifies it. A dog that does not finish the course or finishes it beyond the fixed time limit is disqualified; it will not be allowed to retake the test later.

On arrival, the veterinarian will judge the physical condition of the dog, and if the dog suffers from panting or other signs of excessive exhaustion, it will be disqualified; if not, it will have passed the Exercise Aptitude Test.

If the test is successful, the dog can be classified into 2 categories:

- Apt (BREATH-1): The dog has passed the test, it meets the test requirements, but it appears breathless, sticking out its tongue or slightly tired and close to the maximum time limit
- Apt + (BREATH-1+): The dog has easily walked the distance in a shorter time and arrives not breathless at all.

The results BREATH-1(YYYY) / BREATH-1+(YYYY) (successful test in year YYYY) and BREATH-0 (disqualified from test) will be mentioned on the pedigrees as a performance. A result form must be completed for all dogs that have passed the test (successfully or not) and sent by the organizing club to the French Kennel Club Health Service for registration.

A dog can take the BREATH test from the age of confirmation (12 MONTHS, except for Dogue de Bordeaux : 15 months, Japanese chin and Pekingese : 10 months).

It is recommended to repeat the test for a dog every 2 years.