



**NZVA**  
New Zealand Veterinary Association



## National report for the International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs (ICECDogs)

1. **Country:** New Zealand
2. **Name Multi stakeholder group (or National Stakeholder when there is no multi-stakeholder group yet):**  
No official name. The group is a collaboration of the New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA), Companion Animal Veterinarians Branch of the NZVA (CAV), Dogs New Zealand (Dogs NZ), the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA New Zealand), and Companion Animals New Zealand (CANZ).
3. **Mission/ vision multi-stakeholder group (or National Stakeholder when there is no multi-stakeholder group yet):** to breed dogs that can move, breathe, eat, sleep and reproduce with positive animal welfare outcomes
4. **Website address:**
  - NZVA: <https://nzva.org.nz>
  - SPCA: <https://www.sPCA.nz/advice-and-welfare/article/the-truth-behind-brachycephalic-breeds-appearance-over-welfare>
5. **Contact address (email):**
  - NZVA contact: [sally.cory@vets.org.nz](mailto:sally.cory@vets.org.nz)
  - SPCA contact: [science@spca.nz](mailto:science@spca.nz)
  - Dogs NZ contact: [caninehealth@dogsnz.org.nz](mailto:caninehealth@dogsnz.org.nz)
  - CANZ contact: [saraho@companionanimals.nz](mailto:saraho@companionanimals.nz)
6. **Members multi-stakeholder group (or National Stakeholder when there is no multi-stakeholder group yet):** NZVA, CAV, Dogs NZ, SPCA New Zealand, and CANZ.
7. **Current activities:**
  - Respiratory Function Grading testing. Dogs New Zealand now have an appointed official assessor who is initiating training veterinarians nationally.
  - The NZVA is holding its annual conference in June 2023. CAV has dedicated a day of its conference stream to Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS) with Dr Jane Ladlow attending as a virtual speaker. There are also speakers addressing emergency care and airway surgery.
  - SPCA New Zealand is providing advice to Air New Zealand on updates to their policy on air transportation of brachycephalic cats and dogs.
8. **Ongoing research activities:** No current research activities.
9. **Achievements up to now:**
  - Respiratory function grading testing is now mandatory for Dogs New Zealand-registered pugs who are being used for breeding.
  - Dogs New Zealand has introduced mandatory and recommended health testing for many breeds.
10. **Goals for next year:**
  - Respiratory function grading testing is made accessible to dog breeders and dog guardians because of training opportunities being made widely available to companion animal veterinarians. Whilst scientifically validated in pugs, bulldogs, and French bulldogs, we hope to be able to collect information from other breeds and crossbreeds. Validation on the respiratory function grading test for more breeds of dogs is planned.
  - Dogs New Zealand hopes to have respiratory function grading testing made compulsory for registered bulldog and French bulldog litters.
  - Ongoing improvements in breeding practices, aiming for dogs that are fit for function.



- Collaboratively redrafting New Zealand’s Code of Welfare for Dogs. New Zealand’s codes of welfare are issued under the New Zealand Animal Welfare Act (1999) and provide minimum standards, recommendations for best practice, and guidance for people in charge of animals. This includes guidance on selection of dogs for mating and breeding.
- SPCA New Zealand is working with the Government to explore how we might address issues associated with companion animal breeding in New Zealand.

11. **Current national situation concerning extreme conformation in dogs:** We have started to see a reduction in demand for all dogs, including extreme conformation breeds generally post COVID-19.

**Statistics for Dogs New Zealand registered dogs:**

	<b>Bulldog</b>			<b>French Bulldog</b>			<b>Pug</b>		
	Dogs Reg	Litters	Popularity	Dogs Reg	Litters	Popularity	Dogs Reg	Litters	Popularity
2023	57	11	9th	62	17	8th	19	7	31st
2022	393	81	6th	242	60	9th	67	21	33rd
2021	322	77	8th	310	63	9th	127	34	19th
2020	358	79	6th	350	85	7th	117	30	17th
2019	347	66	5th	289	73	6th	131	38	13th
2018	371	84	4th	361	103	6th	106	50	13th
2017	420	84	5th	457	117	3rd	133	41	15th
2016	406	91	4th	320	89	7th	119	34	19th
2015	404	99	4th	373	90	6th	135	43	13th