

## CHAPTER 3      ANIMALS

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### ARTICLE I      IN GENERAL

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*\*Editor's note: The 2014 ordinance recodification amended the Code transferring the definitions formerly located in Article III of this Chapter, formerly § 3-077, which were derived from Comp. Ords. 154, § 3.00(A)--(F), (H)--(K), and ordinances of January 22, 1990 and January 13, 1992; into this Article pertaining to similar subject matter and derived from the same historical ordinance sources, along with additional definitions so that all definitions contained herein are applicable to this Chapter.*

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#### Sec. 3-001.      Definitions

In addition to those rules of construction and definitions contained in Section 1-002, the following definitions shall apply to this Chapter:

**Animal** means any one (1) or more of a kingdom of living beings (except humans) differing from plants in capacity for spontaneous movement and rapid motor response to stimulation.

**Animal Control Officer** means a Township official, employee, or contractor authorized by the Township Board to enforce the provisions of this Chapter who (i) satisfies the minimum requirements for physical, educational, mental and moral fitness for an animal control officer, and (ii) is a police officer, has served as an animal control officer for at least 3 years, or has completed a minimum course of study of not less than 100 instructional hours as prescribed by the State Department of Agriculture for animal control officers. For determinations or verifications under Section 3-024, but not for issuance of citations or notices of violations, animal control officer also means an animal control officer approved by the State Department of Agriculture as having satisfied the minimum employment standards in MCL 287.289b.

**Dangerous Animal** means a dog or other animal that bites or attacks a person, or a dog that bites or attacks and causes serious injury or death to another dog while the other dog is on the property or under the control of its owner. However, a dangerous animal does not include any of the following:

- (i) An animal that bites or attacks a person who is knowingly trespassing on the property of the animal's owner.
- (ii) An animal that bites or attacks a person who provokes or torments the animal.
- (iii) An animal that is responding in a manner that an ordinary and reasonable person would conclude was designed to protect a person if that person is engaged in a lawful activity or is the subject of an assault.
- (iv) Livestock.

**Domestic Animal** As more specifically defined in the Waterford Township Zoning Ordinance, means a household or container pet and hooved or small livestock.

**Exotic Animals** generally means the species of animals which are not native to the state or the United States and/or are introduced from another country.

**Hybrid(s)** means any animal which is the offspring of two (2) different varieties or species.

**Kennel** means a lot where domestic animals are housed, groomed, bred, boarded, trained, or sold for a fee or compensation.

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*(CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE I, SECTION 3-001 cont.)*

**On a Suitable Leash** means both: (1) That the animal is attached to a leash that is no more than fifteen (15) feet in length and of such material that the leash is capable of restraining, and does restrain the type and size of animal to which it is attached; and (2) That such a leash is continuously held by a person who is reasonably able to and does restrain and prohibit the animal from being out of that person's physical control.

**Owner** means any person who owns, has right of property in, harbors, or has care or custody of an animal, or who knowingly permits an animal to remain on or about any premises occupied or controlled by him.

**Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier** means any dog which exhibits those phenotypical characteristics which:

- (1) Substantially conform to the breed standards established by the American Kennel Club for American Staffordshire Terriers that are part of this Ordinance as Appendix A, or Staffordshire Bull Terrier that are part of this Ordinance as Appendix B; or,
- (2) Substantially conform to the breed standards established by the United Kennel Club for American Pit Bull Terriers that are part of this Ordinance as Appendix C.

**Poisonous** means a substance which, through its chemical action, usually kills, injures or substantially impairs an organism.

**Possess or Maintain** means the act or ability of having or exerting control and influence over an animal regulated herein, without regard to ownership.

**Reasonable Control of a Dog** means keeping an animal on a suitable leash.

**Reasonable Control of a Cat**, recognizing the nature of this animal, requires that the owner take all reasonable efforts to ensure that a cat does not become a nuisance to any other person by a violation of or destruction to private or public property.

**Substantially conform** means that the characteristics of the dog, essentially and without material deviation or qualification, meet a majority of the specific standards for a breed in Appendices A, B, or C, so as to predominate. Technical deficiencies in a dog's conformance to one or more breed standards shall not be construed to indicate that the subject dog is not a "pit bull terrier" under this Article.

**Township approved veterinarian** means a veterinarian licensed to practice in the State of Michigan whose license has not been suspended or revoked at the time of an examination of a dog, who in an affidavit provided under Section 3-024(c), acknowledges that the veterinarian has a copy of, has read, understands, and in the examination of a dog, has applied the definitions of "Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier" and "Substantially conform" in this Section, and the breed standards for American Staffordshire Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, and American Pit Bull Terriers in Appendices A, B, and C.

*(Ord. No. 154, § 3.00(A)--(F), (H)--(K), 1-22-1990; Ord. of 1-13-1992, rev. 09-12-2016 )*

**Sec. 3-002. Cruelty to animals; Misdemeanor.**

No owner or person shall treat an animal in a cruel or inhumane manner, or willfully or negligently overwork, torture, torment, deprive of necessary sustenance, or adequate shelter, cruelly beat, mutilate, or cruelly kill any animal. The physical alteration of animal body parts shall be considered to be a mutilation or cruelty to an animal within the meaning of this Section, unless such physical alteration is performed by a licensed veterinary surgeon. Violation of this Section is a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Section 1-010(a).

*(Ord. of 2-26-1996)*

**(CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE I, SECTION 3-002 cont.)**

**Sec. 3-003. Kennels; Civil Infraction.**

No person shall own or operate any kennel in the Township without first complying with the Zoning Ordinance and obtaining and complying with all conditions of site plan and other applicable zoning approvals. Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b).

*(Ord. of 2-26-1996; Ord. of 3-10-2003; Ord. of 12-13-2010)*

**Sec. 3-004. Excessive number of household pets; Civil Infraction.**

Except for lawful kennels and litters of puppies or kittens up to five (5) months old, no person shall possess, keep, or house more than three (3) household pets (dogs, cats) of the same species, or more than a total of five (5) household pets on a zoning lot. Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b).

*(Ord. of 2-26-1996; Ord. of 3-10-2003; Ord. of 12-13-2010)*

**Secs.3-005.    Livestock; Civil Infraction.**

A violation of this Section is a civil infraction, punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b). As defined and provided in the Zoning Ordinance:

- (a) No person shall possess or keep small livestock on a zoning lot or parcel less than five (5) contiguous acres in size without a special approval use and complying with all special approval use conditions on allowed number, maintenance, location, and containment area requirements.
- (b) No person shall possess or keep hooved livestock on a zoning lot or parcel less than five (5) contiguous acres in size, or where the average zoning lot size within a ¼ mile radius of the property is less than three (3) acres.
- (c) On a zoning lot or parcel that is at least five (5) contiguous acres in size in a neighborhood where the average zoning lot size within a ¼ mile radius is at least three (3) acres, no person shall possess or keep more than three (3) hooved livestock.

*(Ord. of 12-13-2010)*

**Secs. 3-006--3-010. Reserved.**

**ARTICLE II      DOGS AND CATS**

**Sec. 3-011.    Licensing of dogs; Misdemeanor.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep a dog which is six (6) months of age or older that is not vaccinated for rabies and licensed, or that does not wear a collar with the license tag attached at all times the dog is not on the owner's property or engaged in lawful hunting accompanied by the owner, as required and provided for in the Dog Law of 1919, Public Act No. 339 of 1919, as amended. Violation of this Section is a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Section 1-010(a), except the minimum fine is \$10.00 and the maximum fine is \$100.00.

**(CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE II, cont.)**

**Sec. 3-012.    Vaccination certification of cats; Civil Infraction.**

No owner shall keep a cat which is six (6) months or older without obtaining a certificate of vaccination for rabies and being able to produce such proof of vaccination at the request of an animal control officer. Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b).

**Sec. 3-013.    Confinement and reasonable control of dogs and cats; Civil Infraction.**

- (a) The owner of a dog shall keep it confined upon the owner's premises at all times except when the dog is otherwise under reasonable control or is on other private property with the express permission of the owner or occupant of that private property.
- (b) The owner of a cat shall be responsible for reasonable control of the cat at all times.
- (c) No owner of a dog shall cause or allow such dog to defecate on public property, including a street, sidewalk, path, play area, park, or any place where people congregate or walk, or upon any private property without permission of the owner of such property unless:
  - (1) The owner immediately removes all fecal material droppings deposited by such dog by any sanitary method. The person shall possess a container of sufficient size to collect and remove above-mentioned droppings and exhibit the container, if requested by any official empowered to enforce this Article.
  - (2) The droppings removed shall be disposed of in a sanitary method on the zoning lot of the owner.
- (d) Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b).

**Sec. 3-014.    Nuisance dogs; Civil Infraction.**

- a). No owner of a dog shall allow, permit or suffer the dog to bark often enough or loud enough to constitute a nuisance to occupiers of adjoining or surrounding lands or buildings.
- b). No owner of a dog shall permit the dog to run freely or unrestrained upon the public or private ways, or private property of another without consent of the property owner.
- c). Yards and/or exercise dog runs shall be kept free of dog droppings, uneaten food, and maintained in a sanitary manner so as not to be a nuisance because of odor or attraction for flies and vermin.
- d). Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b).

**Sec. 3-015. Nuisance dogs (Public); Misdemeanor.**

The owner of a dog shall exercise proper and necessary care and control of the dog to prevent it from becoming a public nuisance. Excessive, continuous or untimely barking, chasing or attacking pedestrians or bicyclists, chasing vehicles, habitually attacking other domestic animals, trespassing upon school or park grounds, or trespassing upon private property in such manner as to damage property shall be deemed to constitute a public nuisance. Violation of this Section is a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Section 1-010(a).

**Secs. 3-016--3-020. Reserved.**

(*CHAPTER 3 cont.*)

### **ARTICLE III.      PIT BULL TERRIERS, POISONOUS/EXOTIC AND DANGEROUS ANIMALS**

#### **Sec. 3-021.      Purpose.**

The purposes of this article are declared to be as follows:

- (a) To identify and enumerate certain animals which, by their nature, are sufficiently dangerous, undesirable or unsuitable for incorporation into the residential, agricultural or commercial life of this community.
- (b) To impose prohibitory measures to discourage and ban the possession and maintenance of animals considered as exotic and not easily domesticated.
- (c) To describe and classify the breeds of dog generally known as pit bulls or pit bull terriers which are determined to pose an unacceptable risk to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this community.
- (d) To provide for restrictions on the care and custody of existing licensed pit bull terrier dogs on the owners or possessors thereof.
- (e) To impose a ban on the prospective possession and maintenance of those breeds of pit bull terrier dogs so classified.
- (f) To establish guidelines and procedures to be utilized by animal control personnel in implementing this article.
- (g) To provide for penalties and sanctions for violations hereof.

*(Ord. No. 154, § 2.00, 1-22-1990)*

#### **Sec. 3-022.      Legislative classification and findings.**

- (a) With the increasing urbanization and population density of the Township, the residents of the Township must be protected from the attack and threat of injury or disease from certain exotic animals possessed or maintained as domestic animals.
- (b) This article is enacted following the passage of Act 381 of the Public Acts of 1988 (MCL 750.49) by the state legislature which provides for substantial penalties to be imposed against persons who promote the possession or use of dogs bred for fighting or baiting.
- (c) This article is enacted following the passage of Act 426 of the Public Acts of 1988 (MCL 287.321 et seq.) by the Michigan Legislature which provides for additional penalties and procedures for the protection against dangerous animals.
- (d) The Township staff has collected detailed and reliable data from many sources on the number, nature and severity of attacks by pit bull terriers upon innocent citizens of this community, the Metropolitan-Detroit area, and other communities and urban areas within the state, and the United States of America.
- (e) Based upon this data, the Township concludes that pit bull terriers within this community constitute an unacceptable risk of harm and fear to the residents hereof, and must therefore be closely regulated as provided herein.
- (f) The Township finds, from many reliable sources, ample evidence to support the following facts about pit bull terriers:
  - (1) Pit bull terriers were, for centuries, developed and selectively bred for the express purpose of attacking other dogs or other animals such as bulls, bears or wild hogs.
  - (2) In developing a dog for this purpose, certain traits were selected and maximized by controlled breeding including extremely powerful jaws, a low sensitivity to pain, extreme aggressiveness towards other animals, and a natural tendency to refuse to terminate an attack once it has begun.
  - (3) Based on the statistical evidence that pit bull dogs are the leading cause of dog bite related fatalities in the United States, and other evidence in the form of individual experiences, the pit bull is infinitely more dangerous once it does attack.
  - (4) The pit bull terriers' massive canine jaws can crush a victim with up to two thousand (2,000) pounds of pressure per square inch, three (3) times that of a German shepherd or doberman pinscher, making the pit bull's jaws the strongest of any animal, per pound.

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- (5) The breeds are almost impossible to confine without resorting to fortress-like measures; pit bull terriers can climb over high chain link fences and trees, tear metal sheeting with its teeth, attack through chain link fencing, tear loose its collars, and dig under fences and walls, requiring the adoption of breed-specific restrictions on the care and custody of licensed pit bull terriers for the protection of the citizens of this community.
- (g) These findings and facts lead the Township to conclude that a prohibition on the possession, maintenance and harboring of pit bull terriers, as defined herein, is reasonable and necessary for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare. The Board is fully aware that the breed of dog called a "bull terrier," usually considered to be of the same phenotype as the specific breeds banned herein, is not included within the prohibition of this article. The Board finds that this breed is not commonly found or bred at this time in the state nor the United States, and therefore does not pose the same risks.

**Sec. 3-023. Pit bull terriers prohibited; Civil Infraction.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess or maintain, within the Township, any pit bull terrier, as defined herein.
- (b) This section shall not be construed to apply to any person who is both within the territorial boundaries of the Township and in possession of any dog for the primary purpose of exhibiting or showing said dog at a dog show or similar event sponsored by a nationally recognized kennel club or dog breeders association, or its local affiliate or chapter.
- (c) Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b), and/or by destruction or removal as provided in Section 3-027.

**Sec. 3-024. Pit bull terrier determination guidelines.**

The following procedures and standards shall be used by all animal control officers in determining whether a particular dog is subject to the prohibition in Section 3-023.

- (a) An animal control officer will initially determine why the dog is being considered as possibly prohibited. Factors that may be considered include, but are not limited to the following or a combination of the following:
  - (1) Registration or licensing as a pit bull terrier,
  - (2) Identification as a pit bull terrier by an owner of the dog.
  - (3) Identification as a pit bull terrier by an animal control officer pursuant to the procedures set forth in this section.
  - (4) Identification as a pit bull terrier by a licensed veterinarian or in veterinary records for the dog.
- (b) If the initial determination under subsection (a) is that a dog appears to be prohibited by Section 3-023, positive identification of the dog as prohibited by the Section shall be by an animal control officer based on one or more of the following:
  - (1) Verification of inclusion by comparison of the physical characteristics of the subject dog with the breed standards in Appendix "A."
  - (2) Personal and professional experience of the officer in having observed known pit bull terriers in the past.
  - (3) Identification as a pit bull terrier by an owner of the dog.
  - (4) Written verification by a licensed veterinarian or veterinary records for the dog.Written notice of the animal control officer's positive identification of a dog as prohibited by Section 3-023 shall be provided to each known owner of the dog by issuance of a notice of violation that specifies a time for the dog to be removed from the Township or for the notice of violation to be challenged as provided in subsection (c), a written explanation of which shall be provided with the notice of violation.
- (d) Within the time specified in a notice of violation of Section 3-023, if an owner of the dog denies or wants to dispute that the dog is a pit bull, the owner may support that denial or dispute by submitting a Township approved veterinarian affidavit on or in a form approved by the Township that complies with the following requirements:



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- (1) Is under oath and penalties of perjury.
- (2) Contains information confirming that the veterinarian meets the standards to be a Township approved veterinarian as that term is defined in Section 3-001.
- (3) Is based on a personal examination of the dog by the veterinarian on a date that is specified.
- (4) Specifically identifies the dog examined and attaches photographs of the dog taken on the date of the examination.
- (5) Acknowledges that the veterinarian has a copy of, has read, understands, and has applied the definitions of "Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier" and "Substantially conform" in Section 3-001, and the breed standards for American Staffordshire Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, and American Pit Bull Terriers in Appendices A, B, and C in the examination of the dog.
- (6) Certifies to the Township, based on the examination and application of the Ordinance definitions and breed standards, that the dog examined is not a Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier, and identifies the specific breed standards that the dog does not substantially conform to.
- (7) If the dog is certified as not being a Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier, identifies the dog's breed.

The examination of a dog by a Township approved veterinarian under this subsection, as an optional opportunity to the owner, shall be arranged by and at the expense of the owner even if the dog is certified to not be a Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier.

- (d) An animal control officer shall not proceed with issuance of a court citation, ticket, or complaint for a violation of Section 3-023 to an owner of a dog that has been certified as not being a Pit Bull or Pit Bull Terrier in a Township approved veterinarian affidavit submitted under and in conformity with subsection (c) unless the officer's identification of the dog as a pit bull is verified in writing by:
  - (1) Another animal control office as substantially conforming to the breed standards in Appendices A, B, or C; and
  - (2) A different Township approved veterinarian.
- (e) All animal control officers involved in enforcing Section 3-023, shall be familiar with and consult the breed identification standards in Appendices A, B, and C, and shall become familiar with the pit bull terrier, as defined, by reference to photographs, physiological diagrams and breed behavior patterns. If an officer cannot determine the predominate breed of the dog in question as pit bull terrier, the dog shall not be subject to the prohibition in Section 3-023 unless the dog is later positively identified as a pit bull by a Township approved veterinarian.

**Sec. 3-025.     Prohibited poisonous and exotic animals; Civil Infraction.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, or maintain any of the following animals within the Township:
  - (1) All animals, including snakes and spiders, whose bite or venom is poisonous or deadly to humans.
  - (2) Apes: Chimpanzees (Pan); gibbons (Hylobates); gorillas (Gorilla); orangutans (Pongo); and siamangs (Symphalangus).
  - (3) Baboons (Papoi, Mandrillus).
  - (4) Bears (Ursidae).
  - (5) Cheetahs (Acinonyx jubatus).
  - (6) Crocodilians (Crocodilus), and alligators.
  - (7) Constrictor snakes, or other poisonous reptiles.
  - (8) Coyotes (Canis latrans).
  - (9) Elephants (Elephas and Loxodonta).
  - (10) Gamecocks and other fighting birds.
  - (11) Hyenas (Hyaenidae).
  - (12) Jaguars (Panthera onca).
  - (13) Leopards (Panthera pardus).
  - (14) Lions (Panthera leo).
  - (15) Lynxes (Lynx).
  - (16) Ostriches (Struthio).
  - (17) Pumas (Felis concolor); also known as cougars, mountain lions, and panthers.

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- (18) Wolves (*Canis lupus*).
- (19) Wolf hybrids.
- (20) Raccoons (*Procyon lotor*).
- (21) Skunks (Genus *Mephitis*).
- (22) Tigers (*Felis tigris*).
- (b) The prohibitions above shall not apply to pet shops licensed by the S.E.A., zoological gardens licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and accredited by the American Association for the accreditation of zoological parks and gardens, and circuses licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture if:
  - (1) Their location conforms to the provisions of the zoning ordinance of the Township.
  - (2) All animals and animal quarters are kept in a clean and sanitary condition and so maintained as to eliminate objectionable odors.
  - (3) Animals are maintained in quarters so constructed as to prevent their escape, and so as to humanely provide for their biological and social needs.
  - (4) No person lives or resides within one hundred (100) feet of the quarters in which the animals are kept.
- (c) The prohibitions above shall not apply to any person who is in possession of an injured animal listed in this section under a valid caregiver's permit issued by the S.E.A.
- (d) Violation of this Section is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b), and/or by destruction or removal as provided in Section 3-027.

**Sec. 3-026.    Dangerous animals; Civil Infraction and Misdemeanors.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, or maintain a dangerous animal in the Township. The first violation of this Section for a specific animal is a civil infraction punishable as provided in Section 1-010(b) and/or by destruction or removal as provided in Section 3-027.
- (b) A second or subsequent violation of subsection (a) for a previously adjudicated dangerous animal is a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in Section 1-010(a) and/or by destruction or removal as provided in Section 3-027.
- (c) The owner of a previously adjudicated dangerous animal shall keep it confined upon the owner's premises at all times except when the dog is otherwise under reasonable control or is on other private property with the express permission of the owner or occupant of that private property. A violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in Section 1-010(a).

**Sec. 3-027.    Destruction or removal of prohibited animals.**

- (a) Upon a sworn complaint that an animal is a pit bull terrier, poisonous or exotic animal, and/or dangerous animal prohibited by this article, and is currently being illegally owned, possessed, or maintained, a district court judge or magistrate shall issue a summons to the owner ordering him to appear to show cause why the animal should not be destroyed or removed from the Township.
- (b) Upon the filing of a sworn complaint as provided herein, the court may order the owner or possessor to immediately turn the animal over to the animal control officer, an incorporated humane society, a licensed veterinarian, or a boarding kennel, at the owner's option, to be retained by them until a hearing is held and a decision is made for the disposition of the animal. The expense of the boarding and retention of the prohibited animal is to be borne by the owner. After a hearing, the court shall issue its findings and opinion as to whether the animal is prohibited so as to be subject to destruction or removal under this article. The court shall order destruction if the animal has been found to be a dangerous animal that caused serious injury or death to a person or dog, and may order destruction if the animal is found to be a dangerous animal that did not cause serious injury or death to a person but is likely in the



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- future to cause such injury or death or has been adjudicated a dangerous animal in the past. If the court orders the destruction of the animal, it shall be at the expense of the owner. If the court finds the animal to be prohibited by this article but does not order destruction, the court may order the animal removed from the Township under terms and conditions which ensure such removal, or in the case of a dangerous animal, may order the owner to take designated actions at the owner's expense, including having the animal permanently identified with a number tattoo applied by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, the erection, maintenance, and containment of the animal in an escape and entry proof enclosure, sterilization of the animal, obtaining and maintenance of sufficient liability insurance coverage to protect the public from damage or harm caused by the animal, and other actions appropriate to protect the public.
- (e) Animals who reasonably appear to have become a dangerous animal, as defined by this chapter, are subject to immediate seizure or pickup by an animal control officer when the owner cannot be found or contacted and the health and safety of the general public requires immediate containment of the animal. The impounded animal shall be held at a facility designated by the animal control officer, at the owner's expense. The complaining witness shall promptly comply with the complaint requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

**APPENDIX A**

**APPENDIX A**

AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER

AKC BREED STANDARDS

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Official Standard of the American Staffordshire Terrier

**General Impression:** The American Staffordshire Terrier should give the impression of great strength for his size, a well put-together dog, muscular, but agile and graceful, keenly alive to his surroundings. He should be stocky, not long-legged or racy in outline. His courage is proverbial.

**Head:** Medium length, deep through, broad skull, very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct stop; and ears are set high. **Ears** - Cropped or uncropped, the latter preferred. Uncropped ears should be short and held rose or half prick. Full drop to be penalized. **Eyes** - Dark and round, low down in skull and set far apart. No pink eyelids. **Muzzle**- Medium length, rounded on upper side to fall away abruptly below eyes. Jaws well defined. Underjaw to be strong and have biting power. Lips close and even, no looseness. Upper teeth to meet tightly outside lower teeth in front. Nose definitely black.

**Neck:** Heavy, slightly arched, tapering from shoulders to back of skull. No looseness of skin. Medium length.

**Shoulders:** Strong and muscular with blades wide and sloping.

**Back:** Fairly short. Slight sloping from withers to rump with gentle short slope at rump to base of tail. Loins slightly tucked.

**Body:** Well-sprung ribs, deep in rear. All ribs close together. Forelegs set rather wide apart to permit chest development. Chest deep and broad.

**Tail:** Short in comparison to size, low set, tapering to a fine point; not curled or held over back. Not docked.

**Legs:** The front legs should be straight, large or round bones, pastern upright. No semblance of bend in front. Hindquarters well-muscled, let down at hocks, turning neither in nor out. Feet of moderate size, well-arched and compact. Gait must be springy but without roll or pace.

**Coat:** Short, close, stiff to the touch, and glossy.

**Color:** Any color, solid, parti, or patched is permissible, but all white, more than 80 per cent white, black and tan, and liver not to be encouraged.

**Size:** Height and weight should be in proportion. A height of about 18 to 19 inches at shoulders for the male and 17 to 18 inches for the female is to be considered preferable.

**Faults:** Faults to be penalized are: Dudley nose, light or pink eyes, tail too long or badly carried, undershot or overshot mouths.

Approved June 10, 1936

## **APPENDIX B**

**STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER**

**AKC BREED STANDARDS**

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Official Standard of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier

**General Appearance:** The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is a smooth-coated dog. It should be of great strength for its size and, although muscular, should be active and agile.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** Height at shoulder - 14 to 16 inches. Weight - Dogs, 28 to 38 pounds; bitches, 24 to 34 pounds, these heights being related to weights. Non-conformity with these limits is a fault. In *proportion*, the length of back, from withers to tail set, is equal to the distance from withers to ground.

**Head:** Short, deep through, broad *skull*, very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct stop, short foreface, black nose. Pink (Dudley) nose to be considered a serious fault. *Eyes* - Dark preferable, but may bear some relation to coat color. Round, of medium size, and set to look straight ahead. Light eyes or pink eye rims to be considered a fault, except that where the coat surrounding the eye is white the eye rim may be pink. *Ears* - Rose or half-pricked and not large. Full drop or full prick to be considered a serious fault. *Mouth* - A *bite* in which the outer side of the lower incisors touches the inner side of the upper incisors. The lips should be tight and clean. The badly undershot or overshot bite is a serious fault.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The *neck* is muscular, rather short, clean in outline and gradually widening toward the shoulders. The *body* is close coupled, with a level *topline*, wide front, deep brisket and well sprung ribs being rather light in the loins. The *tail* is undocked, of medium length, low set, tapering to a point and carried rather low. It should not curl much and may be likened to an old-fashioned pump handle. A tail that is too long or badly curled is a fault.

**Forequarters:** Legs straight and well boned, set rather far apart, without looseness at the shoulders and showing no weakness at the pasterns, from which point the feet turn out a little. Dewclaws on the forelegs may be removed. The feet should be well padded, strong and of medium size.

**Hindquarters:** The hindquarters should be well muscled, hocks let down with stifles well bent. Legs should be parallel when viewed from behind. Dewclaws, if any, on the hind legs are generally removed. Feet as in front.

**Coat:** Smooth, short and close to the skin, not to be trimmed or de-whiskered.

**Color:** Red, fawn, white, black or blue, or any of these colors with white. Any shade of brindle or any shade of brindle with white. Black-and-tan or liver color to be disqualified.

**Gait:** Free, powerful and agile with economy of effort. Legs moving parallel when viewed from front or rear. Discernible drive from hind legs.

**Temperament:** From the past history of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, the modern dog draws its character of indomitable courage, high intelligence, and tenacity. This, coupled with its affection for its friends, and children in particular, its off-duty quietness and trustworthy stability, makes it a foremost all-purpose dog.

**Disqualification:** *Black-and-tan or liver color.*

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**AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™**

**Approved November 14, 1989**  
**Effective January 1, 1990**



## **APPENDIX C**

**AMERICAN PIT BULL TERRIER**

**UKC BREED STANDARDS**

# AMERICAN PIT BULL TERRIER

## Official UKC Breed Standard

Revised December 1, 2012

### Terrier Group

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The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

The American Pit Bull Terrier has a long history of being a physically active, muscular, very agile breed, and has maintained breed type for over 150 years. Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

Quality is never to be sacrificed in favor of size. Characteristics that very clearly indicate crossing with other breeds are not to be tolerated.

UKC is unwilling to condone the validity of using exaggerated specimens of this breed in a breeding program and, to preserve its health and vibrancy, cautions judges about awarding wins to these representatives.

### HISTORY

Sometime during the nineteenth century, dog fanciers in England, Ireland and Scotland began to experiment with crosses between Bulldogs and Terriers, looking for a dog that combined the gameness of the terrier with the strength and athleticism of the Bulldog. The result was a dog that embodied all of the virtues attributed to great warriors: strength, indomitable courage, and gentleness with loved ones. Immigrants brought these bull-and-terrier crosses to the United States. The American Pit Bull Terrier's many talents did not go unnoticed by farmers and ranchers who used their APBTs as catch dogs for semi-wild cattle and hogs, to hunt, to drive livestock, and as family companions. Today, the American Pit Bull Terrier continues to demonstrate its versatility, competing successfully in Obedience, Rally Obedience, Tracking, Agility, Lure Coursing, Dock Jumping and Weight Pulls, as well as Conformation.

The United Kennel Club was the first registry to recognize the American Pit Bull Terrier. UKC founder C. Z. Bennett assigned UKC registration number 1 to his own APBT, Bennett's Ring, in 1898.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The American Pit Bull Terrier is a medium-sized, solidly built, short-coated dog with smooth, well-defined musculature. This breed is both powerful and athletic. The body is just slightly longer than tall, but bitches may be somewhat longer in body than dogs. The length of the front leg (measured from point of elbow to the ground) is approximately equal to one-half of the dog's height at the withers.

The head is of medium length, with a broad, flat skull, and a wide, deep muzzle. Ears are small to medium in size, high set, and may be natural or cropped.

The relatively short tail is set low, thick at the base and tapers to a point.

The American Pit Bull Terrier comes in all colors and color patterns except merle. This breed combines strength and athleticism with grace and agility and should never appear bulky or muscle-bound or fine-boned and rangy.

Above all else, the APBT must have the functional capability to be a catch dog that can hold, wrestle (push and pull), and breathe easily while doing its job. Balance and harmony of all parts are critical components of breed type.

*Eliminating Faults:* Any disproportionate overdone characteristic (such as short legs, excessive bone or massive head or body) that would interfere with physical activity or working ability.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid. Dwarfism.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The essential characteristics of the American Pit Bull Terrier are strength, confidence, and zest for life. This breed is eager to please and brimming over with enthusiasm. APBTs make excellent family companions and have always been noted for their love of children. Because most APBTs exhibit some level of dog aggression and because of its powerful physique, the APBT requires an owner who will carefully socialize and obedience train the dog. The breed's natural agility makes it one of the most capable canine climbers so good fencing is a must for this breed. The APBT is not the best choice for a guard dog since they are extremely friendly, even with strangers. Aggressive behavior toward humans is uncharacteristic of the breed and highly undesirable. This breed does very well in performance events because of its high level of intelligence and its willingness to work.

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*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.



**HEAD**

The APBT head is unique and a key element of breed type. It is large and broad, giving the impression of great power, but it is not disproportionate to the size of the body. Viewed from the front, the head is shaped like a broad, blunt wedge. When viewed from the side, the skull and muzzle are parallel to one another and joined by a well defined, moderately deep stop. Supraorbital arches over the eyes are well defined but not pronounced. The head is well chiseled, blending strength, elegance, and character.

*Very Serious Fault:* Overly large, heavy heads.

**SKULL** - The skull is large, flat or slightly rounded, deep, and broad between the ears. Viewed from the top, the skull tapers just slightly toward the stop. There is a deep median furrow that diminishes in depth from the stop to the occiput. Cheek muscles are prominent but free of wrinkles. When the dog is concentrating, wrinkles form on the forehead, which give the APBT his unique expression.

**MUZZLE** - The muzzle is broad and deep with a very slight taper from the stop to the nose, and a slight falling away under the eyes. The length of muzzle is shorter than the length of skull, with a ratio of approximately 2:3. The topline of the muzzle is straight. The lower jaw is well developed, wide and deep. Lips are clean and tight.

*Faults:* Snipey muzzle; flews; weak lower jaw.

*Eliminating Faults:* Muzzle so short and blunt as to interfere with normal breathing.

**TEETH** - The American Pit Bull Terrier has a complete set of evenly spaced, white teeth meeting in a scissors bite.

*Fault:* Level bite.

*Serious Faults:* Undershot, or overshot bite; wry mouth; missing teeth (this does not apply to teeth that have been lost or removed by a veterinarian).

**NOSE** - The nose is large with wide, open nostrils. The nose may be any color.

**EYES** - Eyes are medium size, round and set well apart and low on the skull. All colors are equally acceptable except blue, which is a serious fault. Haw should not be visible.

*Serious Faults:* Bulging eyes; both eyes not matched in color; blue eyes.

**EARS** - Ears are high set and may be natural or cropped without preference. Prick, or flat, wide ears are not desired.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral deafness.

**NECK**

The neck is of moderate length and muscular. There is a slight arch at the crest. The neck widens gradually from where it joins the skull to where it blends in to well laid-back shoulders. The skin on the neck is tight and without dewlap.

*Faults:* Neck too thin or weak; ewe neck; dewlap.

*Very Serious Fault:* A short, thick neck that would interfere with functional ability.

**FOREQUARTERS**

The shoulder blades are long, wide, muscular, and well laid back. The upper arm is roughly equal in length to the shoulder blade and joins it at an apparent right angle.

The forelegs are strong and muscular. The elbows are set close to the body. Viewed from the front, the forelegs are set moderately wide apart and perpendicular to the ground. The pasterns are short, powerful, straight, and flexible. When viewed in profile, the pasterns are nearly erect.

*Faults:* Upright or loaded shoulders; elbows turned outward or tied-in; down at the pasterns; front legs bowed; wrists knuckled over; toeing in or out.

*Eliminating Faults:* Front legs (measured from elbow to ground) shorter than half the total height at the withers. Front legs so bowed as to interfere with normal movement.

**BODY**

The chest is deep, well filled in, and moderately wide with ample room for heart and lungs, but the chest should never be wider than it is deep. The forechest does not extend much beyond the point of shoulder. The ribs extend well back and are well sprung from the spine, then flattening to form a deep body extending to the elbows. The back is strong and firm. The topline inclines very slightly downward from the withers to a broad, muscular, level back. The loin is short, muscular and slightly arched to the top of the croup, but



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narrower than the rib cage and with a moderate tuck-up. The croup is slightly sloping downward.

*Very Serious Fault:* Overly massive body style that impedes working ability.

*Eliminating Fault:* Chest so wide as to interfere with normal movement.

**HINDQUARTERS**

The hindquarters are strong, muscular, and moderately broad. The rump is well filled in on each side of the tail and deep from the pelvis to the crotch. The bone, angulation, and musculature of the hindquarters are in balance with the forequarters. The thighs are well developed with thick, easily discerned muscles. Viewed from the side, the hock joint is well bent and the rear pasterns are well let down and perpendicular to the ground. Viewed from the rear, the rear pasterns are straight and parallel to one another.

*Faults:* Narrow hindquarters; hindquarters shallow from pelvis to crotch; lack of muscle; straight or over angulated stifle joint; cow hocks; sickle hocks; bowed legs.

**FEET**

The feet are round, proportionate to the size of the dog, well arched, and tight. Pads are hard, tough, and well cushioned. Dewclaws may be removed.

*Fault:* Splayed feet.

**TAIL**

The tail is set on as a natural extension of the topline, and tapers to a point. When the dog is relaxed, the tail is carried low and extends approximately to the hock. When the dog is moving, the tail is carried level with the backline. When the dog is excited, the tail may be carried in a raised, upright position (challenge tail), but never curled over the back (gay tail).

*Fault:* Long tail (tail tip passes beyond point of hock).

*Serious faults:* Gay tail (not to be confused with challenge tail); kinked tail.

*Eliminating Fault:* Bobbed tail.

*Disqualification:* Screw tail.

**COAT**

The coat is glossy and smooth, close, and moderately stiff to the touch.

*Faults:* Curly, wavy, or sparse coat.

*Disqualification:* Long coat.

**COLOR**

Any color, color pattern, or combination of colors is acceptable, except for merle.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. Merle

**HEIGHT AND WEIGHT**

The American Pit Bull Terrier must be both powerful and agile; overall balance and the correct proportion of weight to height, therefore, is far more important than the dog's actual weight and/or height.

Desirable weight for a mature male in good condition is between 35 and 60 pounds. Desirable weight for a mature female in good condition is between 30 and 50 pounds.

As a general and approximate guideline only, the desirable height range for mature males is from 18 to 21 inches at the withers; for mature females it is from 17 to 20 inches at the withers.

It is important to note that dogs over or under these weight and height ranges are not to be penalized unless they are disproportionately massive or rangy.

*Very Serious Fault:* Excessively large or overly massive dogs and dogs with a height and/or weight so far from what is desired as to compromise health, structure, movement and physical ability.

**GAIT**

The American Pit Bull Terrier moves with a jaunty, confident attitude, conveying the impression that he expects any minute to see something new and exciting. When trotting, the gait is effortless, smooth, powerful, and well coordinated, showing good reach in front and drive behind. When moving, the backline remains level with only a slight flexing to indicate suppleness. Viewed from any position, legs turn neither in nor out, nor do feet cross or interfere with each other. As speed increases, feet tend to converge toward center line of balance.

*Faults:* Legs not moving on the same plane; legs over reaching; legs crossing over in front or rear; rear legs moving too close or touching; rolling; pacing; paddling; sidewinding; hackney action; pounding.

**ELIMINATING FAULTS**

*(An Eliminating Fault is a Fault serious enough that it eliminates the dog from obtaining any awards in a conformation event.)*

Any disproportionate overdone characteristic (such as short legs, excessive bone or massive head or body) that would interfere with physical activity or working ability.

Muzzle so short and blunt as to interfere with normal breathing.

Front legs so bowed as to interfere with normal movement.

Front legs (measured from elbow to ground) shorter than half the total height at the withers.

Chest so wide as to interfere with normal movement.

Bobbed tail.

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**DISQUALIFICATIONS**

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

Merle.

Unilateral or bilateral deafness.

Long coat.

Dwarfism

Screw tail

Note: Although some level of dog aggression is characteristic of this breed, handlers will be expected to comply with UKC policy regarding dog temperament at UKC events.

*The docking of tails and cropping of ears in America is legal and remains a personal choice. However, as an international registry, the United Kennel Club, Inc. is aware that the practices of cropping and docking have been forbidden in some countries. In light of these developments, the United Kennel Club, Inc. feels that no dog in any UKC event, including conformation, shall be penalized for a full tail or natural ears.*