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## Referral to a breeder before you buy.

Sometime a breeder's referral is needed & info that requires more than a simple list of breeders in some geographical area.

Then also to educate the person inquiring about starting to breed to first doing their homework about the APBT Bulldog.

It may be that you don't even realize that there is more to breeding than simply putting a male and female of the same breed together, or it is possible that some simply want to start a puppy business and don't really care about the things that concern serious fanciers.

Know that you might think buying a puppy from a close by local breeder, just because such an opportunity is available – think again – consider looking further than your own city or province – be prepared for the extra expense - best advice is to buy the best from the best.

Also realize if you were to approach an ethical APBT Bulldog breeder and say that you wish to buy a male and a female <u>for breeding</u> you would probably be turned down – real responsible registered breeders need to verify **your** credentials as to be a responsible dog owner of APBT Bulldogs.

Most APBT Bulldog owners today are concerned about this breed and it's future and are leery of anyone who wants to start immediately with a breeding pair or even looking for a puppy.

However, there are people who come from more commercially oriented breeds who would like to push the specific dog breed into a popularity that would sell lots of puppies.

Most of them start out great guns until they discover that they are unable to make big money with this breed.

It sounds like a contradiction, but some breeds can be difficult to either sell or to buy.

The APBT Bulldog puppies do not have the universal appeal of the fuzzy babies of

coated breeds.

Then, APBT Bulldog puppies must be properly socialized, and managed as working dogs - if they are to grow into good working canine citizens or show competitive dogs or even good companions.

Mass produced pups that fail to receive a great deal of individual attention can turn out shy, hyper or both – with an undeveloped working temperament.

## Best if you start with one dog at first.

See how you like working with this new pup and daily learn more about the breed, the people in it and, most important, where and if your puppy or dog needs improvement.

It is difficult enough to buy a good show or working dog class puppy without compounding the problem by looking for two that would also compatible (or even merely acceptable) to breed to each other.

Unless you bought them from a really—respected APBT Bulldog breeder (there are very few of these) who works with several different bloodlines, you could wind up with a pair that are too closely related to breed together without considerable risk of genetic problems.

Most breeders who would sell you a so-called "breeding pair" would probably not even mention this possibility to you.

Then, it will be advised to first come to know the ADBA APBT Bulldog's breed standard, conformation and more so their functional conformation and structure for your purpose of having such a breed before you buy.

The concern of serious fanciers about APBT Bulldogs today is that this breed possibly becoming too popular today and becoming a "scare crow" sort of thing because of unreal media propaganda.

There is genuine concern among real APBT Bulldog devotees for the dogs and what will become of surplus puppies produced by over- ambitious and greedy people -interested only in puppy sales.

There is also concern for the new fancier – understandable.

Looking back to the early 1980, when there were far fewer breeders (or those who call themselves that), a novice could safely buy a decent selectively bred puppy with proven performance and gameness in the family tree, from almost anyone who had one available.

Not only is there a great deal of variation in quality today, but prices vary and are not always in line with what is being offered – know that not all APBT Bulldogs are born equal.

From some sources, guarantees sound good, but might mean little.

It is difficult **mostly impossible** for someone with many years and litters experience to accurately predict quality at an early puppy age.

Then also true, many of the newer breeders sell very young pups strictly on the assumption that, since the sire and dam are proven game working and performance proven dogs, having a good pedigree or are registered dogs, that the offspring will be great.

Others are kennel blind and see faults only in the dogs of others.

Some successful and reputable breeders have waiting lists for puppies from certain mating's, and you can get in line as well or will not be offered a pup to everyone today anyway - for obvious reasons.

Then know there will still be first and last choices for pups in these litters, and you, as a newcomer, will probably not be at the head of the line.

Those who have been in the dog game long enough are aware that they may not get a pick puppy right away, but to get the bloodline they want they <u>are willing to take a chance even if another generation or two will be required to parlay the puppy into something special.</u>

Those that expressed an interest in breeding, should probably need to start with a bitch dog that you could then breed to a stud of your choice (best advice).

However, there always seem to be more female puppies offered and available than males - this should not spook you.

Since there are many more female pups available from which to choose and since most breeders naturally do keep the top-quality bitches for themselves (their reason for doing the breeding), you stand a better chance of being able to buy a good selectively bred quality female for your first APBT Bulldog.

If you do this, when your female has come to age and look and found to be promising - you will be in a much better position to seek one of the best top sought after proven male to breed with or such a male offspring to purchase.

By that time, you will have seen many dogs and will have become familiar with different breeders and different bloodlines as well as with the breed conformation standard itself.

In other words, then you will be able to make an educated and intelligent choice. Reading the ads in dog magazines, on the Internet and mostly today on Facebook or websites - these can give a false idea of where to buy a working game bred APBT Bulldog puppy for competition, contest, the hunt or as family or guard dog (the purpose by your choice).

Advertising claims, although mostly bold-faced lies, can be considerably inflated. Sometimes puppies are advertised as show quality, simply because their parents have been showing in club competitions or elsewhere registered.

If neither of the parents been game bred or proven as working dog in club shows or known by word of mouth as awesome family dog or guard dog, any prospect claims should be regarded with a grain of salt.

Most show winners are produced by people who exhibit actively and breed only their best dogs - for those I lift my hat - MK.

## **Prices?**

They vary a great deal - for obvious reasons.

With some breeder's, puppy sale prices vary appropriately more because of the quality breeding dogs, the popularity of the bloodline, the proven quality as from the family of dogs they came from or buying a pup close to where you stay.

Considering the delivery transport cost if any.

Also taking into consideration the proper cost of raising a litter and keeping dogs.

There is no bargain base for buying an APBT Bulldog - none.

Keep in mind also, as you seek the right APBT Bulldog to buy, that there is no such thing at buying an 8-week-old puppy as "breeding quality," or for whatever purpose you intend, even for what would be called "pet quality."

A dog that is not good enough to show or compete does not have the virtues necessary for successful breeding.

If there is a dog handler or a breeder **whom you know and trus**t - that know and respect you, and you thinking of having him or her choose a puppy for you, be very sure that this handler or breeder is thoroughly versed in the breed.

Some will first look for flash and charisma, choosing a dog for its activity and behaviour in the litter, for the assumed potential as a winner rather <u>than for its adherence to the breed standard</u>.

This may not be the best dog choice for establishing a breeding program. There are many good, honest, and respected breeders, although it may be necessary to first walk a life with them or go a distance to find one and even then, you may have to wait for a puppy.

**Good advice** >>> make personal visits if you possibly can.

If it can be arranged, take someone with you who has experience in evaluating real game bred APBT Bulldogs.

If there is a chance to attend an APBT Bulldog organized sporting dog show -there are several each year in various parts of the country.

Breeders and competitors from other areas and provinces **will be there**, and you would be able to talk with several of them as well as to see their dogs.

Do not be in a rush to buy and do not allow a breeder to persuade you to jump into a "deal" without first thinking and taking it over.

Be sure to discuss what kind of guarantee, if any, the breeder will make regarding health and regarding the puppy's worthiness (best if in a puppy sale agreement from the breeder – then signed by the both of you).

Be realistic in your expectations and remember that you are not buying a piece of machinery that can be easily repaired if something goes wrong with it.

In the long run the effort will be worthwhile, and you will be able to look forward to many happy years living you and your family's life with a " real" APBT Bulldog.

That's it - Gawie Manjaro - MK.

