

# Breed specific breeding strategy

[Name of breed]

[Add picture]

First edition

Valid until [Date]



**Norsk  
Kennel Klub**  
HUNDEEIERNES ORGANISASJON

[Logo of breed club]

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Breeding strategy for (breed)

## Intro

A small text on how the document was created. Describe who was responsible for writing the strategy and what the main sources of information were. Examples of references are health surveys, statistics from insurance companies, the Norwegian Kennel Clubs database, books and articles. It is also relevant to note what parties have been allowed to give feedback on the document during the process.

## General information

### Breed history

A small summary of the breed history. How did the dogs develop into the breed we know today? This part should not be too long; no more than two pages.

### Primary goal

What is the primary goal for the breed? Write a short and precise description of the overall goal.

## Breed population

### Population size

Number of puppies and litters each year and development over time. If effective population size is calculated, this information can be included here.

### Average litter size

Average litter size and development over time.

### Average level of inbreeding

Average level of inbreeding per year, and development over time.

The Norwegian Kennel Club recommend that the average level of inbreeding in the breed should never be more than 2,5%.

If the level of genetic variance has been calculated using genetic analyses, this information can be included here.

### «Popular sire syndrome»

Is there a problem that certain animals have too many offspring?

No dog should parent more than 5% of the puppies born in the last five years (no more than 2% in large breeds). Calculate the maximum number of puppies a dog should have and note how many animals have more offspring than the recommendation.

If possible, the club should also note how many grandchildren popular sires have.

### Number of males and females used in breeding

How many different males and females are used in breeding each year?

The NKC recommend that each parent do not have too many offspring and that more dogs are included in breeding programs. We also recommend that approximately the same number of males and females are bred.

### **Imports**

How many dogs are imported to Norway each year, and from what countries? What are the pros and cons of this?

### **Goals and strategies**

Determine specific short- and long-term goals and create strategies on how to reach each goal.

### **Health**

This section should be based on facts and statistics. Recommended sources of information are statistics from insurance companies and health surveys.

#### **General health**

A small summary of the general health situation in the breed.

#### **Prevalence of specific diseases**

What is the prevalence of specific diseases? Include information not only on diseases that have ongoing screening programs, but also other health issues that might be equally or more relevant to the wellbeing of the breed. What diseases or health issues are natural to include will vary with breed, but some examples may be hip dysplasia, patellar luxation, eye disease, allergies, epilepsy, cancer or intervertebral disc disease, to mention a few.

What is the prevalence and what is the clinical importance of the disease? Are the heritability or mode of inheritance known?

#### **Prevalence of problems with reproduction**

Are there problems with libido, fertility, births or nurturing of puppies? What is the prevalence and how has the development been over time?

#### **Prioritizing**

Based on prevalence, clinical importance and heritability – what health issues need to be prioritized?

#### **Goals and strategies**

Determine specific short- and long-term goals and create strategies on how to reach each goal.

### **Working abilities**

This chapter can be excluded in companion and toy dogs.

#### **Results from trials, competitions and real life experience**

Are the dogs performing well at the tasks that they were originally bred to do? Results from trials, competitions and mentality assessments can be included. Information on how the dogs function in real life use is also very relevant.

#### **Mentality in comparison to breed standard**

Are the dogs' mentality in accordance with the desired mentality described in the breed standard?

### **Goals and strategies**

Determine specific short- and long-term goals and create strategies on how to reach each goal.

## **Behaviour**

### **Behavioural problems**

All dogs need to function well in society, no matter what breed they are. Behavioural problems like for example abnormal anxiety or compulsive behaviour represent important welfare issues to dogs. What is the nature and prevalence of behavioural problems in the breed?

### **Evaluation of behaviour**

Are behavioural problems being monitored or registered in any way? Examples could be surveys or results from mentality assessments. If remarks of undesired behaviour are frequently seen is show critiques, that should be noted. Are there requirements for breeding? What is being done to reduce the problems?

### **Behaviour in comparison to breed standard**

Are the dogs' behaviour in accordance with the behaviour described in the standard? Are there behavioural differences between different lines, or dogs from different countries? Has there been a development over time? Please exclude this section if it is already included in the chapter on working abilities.

### **Goals and strategies**

Determine specific short- and long-term goals and create strategies on how to reach each goal.

## **Conformation**

### **Conformation**

Common strengths and weaknesses seen in the show ring. Commonly occurring deviations from the standard may be listed here. What traits are generally of high quality? What traits need to be improved? What should the judges and breeders focus on with regard to conformation?

### **Exaggerated conformation**

Is the breed at risk of conformational exaggerations? By conformational exaggeration, we mean traits that could potentially have a negative effect on the dogs' health or wellbeing. When a breed is listed in the Breed specific instructions regarding exaggerations in pedigree dogs (BSI), this must be mentioned and discussed.

### **Goals and strategies**

Determine specific short- and long-term goals and create strategies on how to reach each goal.

## Summary

### Prioritized goals

Please list goals that have top priority.

### Plan

Make a plan on how the breed club and breeders should implement this strategy. Delegate responsibility. The strategy should be evaluated every year, and revised every five years. Long-term goals should not be changed too frequently. Strategies and short-term goals can be changed more often.

### Appendices

Appendix 1 – breeding guidelines

- Requirements for registration in NKC:
- Requirements for recommendation by breed club: