

AGM – Secretaries report

Please let me start by thanking everyone for attending this evening. Our outgoing committee for 2014 has shown immense tenacity and dedication to the FBCQLD and I thank them all for their time and efforts. Our President Ian, VP David, Sponsorship Mgr Tia, Website guru and all support person Lucas, Treasurer Steph, Show Secretary Nick and all our general committee – you have freely given your time, efforts and enthusiasm to our club, and it shows in the growth we have seen this year.

To date we have had 69 345 clicks on our web page. This is a truly amazing platform for disseminating information and ensuring that the general public is kept well informed – as a breed club we are here for the show people, the pet people, the prospective owners, the rescue and the general all round wellbeing of the French Bulldog. This needs to be maintained as our focus at all times!

Our Fun Days for 2014 have been very well populated, averaging 32 dogs and 57 people at the days. Our final day for the year is coming up on the 30th of this month, and we are seeing more new faces and people searching for dogs / puppies coming along to these events. The committee does a fabulous day of running these events, and all hands are welcome! We will need new ideas for 2015 to keep them fresh and exciting and I would like to thank Tia for her tireless work in chasing sponsorships and donations for these days so that we have suitable prizes.

Membership for 2014 currently sits at 75 people which is wonderful for such a young club. This is comprised of 45 Singles and 30 doubles. In 2015 it would be great to see more breeder support of the discounted membership for litters (only \$7.50 for a single), to encourage new membership and awareness of our club. Also, when receiving enquiries from the general public, it would be great if breeders were attaching the club's website, and membership form as a matter of course – even if we only receive a 20% join up, it will certainly boost our numbers and assist the club financially.

Litters registered for 2014 – This is a spreadsheet of all breeders prefix and litters registered for 2014 YTD (December not available as yet). It is alarming to see over 40 prefixes for “breeders” – very few of whom show in any capacity (be it conformation, agility, obedience, etc) or provide any support to the breed in general. Even more alarming is the number of litters registered in comparison to the number of litters being posted for sale on DOL and FB. In 2015 we need to be more aware and sit on Dogs QLD in a more pertinent fashion – breeders are clearly not abiding by the COE of Dogs QLD with regards to registering to the standard, and registering all litters. This should be a focus point for the incoming Secretary.

Our 2014 Open and Champ shows were run with great success again this year. We did have less helping hands this year, and certainly we can see areas for improvement, but one thing all committee members should be aware is that their support on days like that is irreplaceable. Our Show Secretary, Nick, did a fantastic job and was on hand to assist with the judge at all times – having a non (Frenchie) show person as show secretary has certainly removed any ethical questions, and a lot of fun was had by all that attended – to the ladies who work tirelessly on the sales table (Megs, Steph and Lucy) as well as their other halves, many thanks.

Fundraising was a little quiet in 2014, so let's focus on more raising of monies for the club in 2015.

I am looking forward to watching the club to continue growing in 2015 and in supporting all facets of our breed.