



**PANEL OF BREEDERS**  
**DAM AND PUPPY CHECK LIST**

<b>TIME PERIOD</b>	<b>EVENT TO WATCH FOR</b>	<b>WHAT TO DO</b>
<b>10 days before partus</b>	This is the stage where the pups grow the fastest and the Dam requires good nutrition for the pups.	Start feeding your <b>Dam puppy food</b> . The best quality you can afford
<b>12- 48 Hours before partus (birth)</b>	Clear discharge may be visible Restlessness, nesting (digging) Licking of flanks and front legs Panting, No eating	Phone your vet so he/she is aware of the imminent birth Show the Dam where you want her to nest. It must be dry, warm, quiet and private Give her lots of paper to tear.
<b>4-6 Hours before partus</b>	<b>ABDOMINAL CONTRACTIONS</b> <b>Contractions are NOT the same as straining</b>	Monitor the time between contractions Spend time with her, reassuring her and watching that the labour is running smoothly
<b>30 minutes – 4 hours before partus</b>	<b>Contractions WITH straining</b> (pushing) indicate imminent puppy arrival	Have paper and pen and watch to record times: This will be useful info for your vet if assistance is required <b>A first time dam: can strain for 45 minutes before first pup is born. If no pup appears phone your vet</b> <b>A Dam with her second or subsequent litter will strain for 30 minutes</b> Walking her is often helpful
<b>The Birth</b>	The whole process should <b>not take longer than 8 – 10 hours</b> Have sterile scissors, clean old towels, dustbin bag, paper and pen for recording gender and colour of pup	<b>If 12 hours have passed and the Dam appears to still be in labour, contact your vet</b>

<p><b>The Pups</b></p>	<p>The Dam should bite the umbilical cord, break the sack and lick the pup. The placenta will follow, which the Dam will eat. Place the pup on a teat</p>	<p>If the Dam does not do what comes naturally you must, tie the cord 10cm away from body using cotton and then cut the cord 12 cm away from body. Break the sack and rub pup with a dry towel until it is clearly breathing. Place on teat. Watch that the pup suckles well. A pup that does not suckle may have a cleft palate. When the birth is over the pups and the Dam should appear relaxed and content. The Dam may not eat after the birth but offer her water</p>
<p><b>Day 1</b></p>	<p><b>VET VISIT</b> if possible request your vet to do a home visit, it is far less stressful for all</p>	<p>The Vet will check that the Dam has delivered all pups and placentas All pups will be checked for any abnormalities Breeders should supplement feeds in litters that are larger than 6 pups. Ask your vet for the correct dog milk. If pups are quiet and relaxed it is an indication that they are getting sufficient milk.</p>
<p><b>Day 14</b></p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> DEWORMING</b> Puppies, Dam and all other dogs</p>	<p>Pups are born with worms. For maximum growth potential and to avoid diarrhea use a dewormer from your vet. Quantel and Drontol are good choices. Nemex is a good liquid option.</p>
<p><b>Day 24</b></p>	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> DEWORMING</b> Same procedure as the 1<sup>st</sup> treatment</p>	<p>Worms have larval and adult stages. The dewormer rids the adults but not the larvae. This is a two week cycle and therefore necessary to do on a regular basis. The eggs shed in stools, which the Dam eats until solids are introduced thus causing re-infestation</p>
<p><b>Days 38, 52, 66..... (every two weeks)</b></p>	<p><b>CONTINUOUS DEWORMING</b> - until pups are sold and removed from your property</p>	<p>Remember all dogs in contact with the pups must be dewormed. It is common for adult dogs to have a steady worm population <b>Hint – Deworm the human family as well, after pups have left the property</b></p>
<p><b>3 - 5 Weeks</b></p>	<p><b>WEANING</b> The Dam will spend less time with her pups and probably only let them drink at night.</p>	<p>Offer the pups moistened, cool, Large Breed puppy food. They should be offered food 3 times a day It is preferable to feed each pup with his/her own bowl as you can easily monitor how much each pup is eating and if a pup is not eating it could be a warning bell for a sick pup.</p>
<p><b>6 – 8 Weeks</b></p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> VACCINATION Microchipping ( Recommended)</b> If possible ask your vet to do a home visit for this event. It avoids the pups coming into contact with viral diseases that may be present</p>	<p>Your vet will inject each pup and he/she MUST give you a vaccination booklet, recording the date and type of vaccine given. This booklet is given to the new owner of the pup. The vet must also complete the block on the second page of the FBCSA Application for Registration form, so remember to take it along.  When microchipping ensure it is a controlled process so you know that each pup has been done and you don't chip one pup twice. Record the number next to the pups name on the registration form.</p>

<p><b>6 Weeks onwards</b></p>	<p><b>SOCIALIZATION</b> with the Dam and other dogs on the property</p>	<p>You will notice that the Dam or other adult dogs roll, bite and growl at the pups. This is very normal and very important behaviour. Do not prevent this process from happening. These lessons build a more confident, social dog that will adapt to their new environment with less stress.</p>
<p><b>8 – 12 weeks</b></p>	<p><b>PUPS TO NEW HOME</b> Often a sad time for the breeder, but a exciting time for the new owner</p>	<p>8 weeks is the <b>MINIMUM</b> age that the FBCSA allows registered pups to go to their new homes. The FBCSA recommends a minimum of an 8 week <b>Puppy Socialization class</b> from 9 weeks of age.</p>



### A NOTE TO THE BREEDER

**As an owner of a FBCSA Registered Boxer female, you are the one who makes a conscious choice to breed with her. Once she is pregnant she requires you to be completely responsible for her nutrition, vet treatment, well being and assistance in delivery and raising of her pups. Breeding costs money so if you are not financially sound, rather have her sterilized and enjoy her just because she is the Boxer that she is.**

**Always check with the FBCSA **BEFORE** mating takes place, so that you are familiar with the relevant rules and regulations that are required for breeding FBCSA Registered Boxer dogs.**

Visit [www.fbcса.za.org](http://www.fbcса.za.org)

**Produced by the FBCSA Breeders Panel with assistance by Dr Gareth Zeiler BVSc**

**November 2009**