

Appendix 2.

Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS) grading based on clinical examination (modified by Lilja-Maula et al. 2017, based on Liu et al. 2015).

Valid from 1.1.2022

	BOAS grade ^a			
	BOAS-		BOAS+	
	0	1 ^b	2 ^b	3
Upper respiratory noise at rest^c 0 = none 1 = mild [†] 2 = moderate 3 = severe*	0	0-1	1-2	1-3
Upper respiratory noise after exercise^c 0 = none 1 = mild [†] 2 = moderate 3 = severe*	0	1-2	1-2	2-3
Respiratory type at rest / after exercise 0 = normal 1 = use of accessory respiratory muscles ^d	0	0	0-1	1
Resting dyspnoea or cyanosis / after exercise 0 = none 1 = present*	0	0	0	0-1

^aBOAS grade: 0 = no; 1 = mild, 2 = moderate, 3 = severe signs.

^bUpgrading to next BOAS grade is made in case the dog has all signs in upper range.

^cAudible upper respiratory noise evaluated without auscultation.

^dAccessory respiratory muscle use evident by nasal flaring and increased chest and abdominal wall movements.

[†]A continuous, moderate sound of nostril stenosis when sniffing is also considered as a mild upper respiratory noise.

*When found, the dog's BOAS grade is always 3, regardless of other signs.

The grading (0, 1, 2, or 3) of the dog's BOAS signs is marked on the walk test form and recorded in the Finnish Kennel Club's Breeding Database.