

Dachshund Breed Council

Minutes of meeting of the Dachshund Breed Council

10th May 2009 at the Peace Memorial Hall, Penkridge

Chair: Ian Seath.

Present:

Secretary: Lesley Brown

Cambrian DC	Debbie Plant	Sue Hewart Chambers
Dachshund Club	Anne Moore	J Horswell
Dachshund Club of Wales	<i>Absent</i>	
E. Yorkshire DC	K. Herrington	
E. Counties DA	Wendy Hall	
Lancs & Cheshire DC	Kath Bethel	
Long-haired DC	Delia Edwards	Trevor Watkins
Midland DC	Flo Winchurch	
Miniature DC	Judy Squires	
N. Eastern DC	<i>Apologies</i>	
Northern DA	Chris Moore	
Northern Long-haired Dachshund Breeders Assoc.	Andy Bethel	
Scottish DC	<i>Apologies</i>	
Smooth-haired DC	Lovaine Coxon	Clare Bethel
Southern DA	Gina Salisbury	
Ulster DC	Lesley Patton	
West of England DC	Ann Jeffrey	Pat Rees
West Riding DA	Kevin Hirst	Valerie Skinner
Wire-haired DC	Phil Rollinson	(Lesley Patton)

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Item	Discussion, Decisions and Action Points	Responsibility
	<p><i>The judge must make a report to the Show Secretary at the first opportunity after the Show.]</i></p> <p>It was recommended by ZTA that the clause would be better removed from the Standard and placed in Contracts for Judges.</p> <p><u>Proposal</u> : To ask the KC to remove the clause on thin or undernourished dogs from the Standard. Proposed Miniature Dachshund Club Seconded: Smooth-haired Club.</p> <p><u>Dapple to dapple matings.</u> The DBC wondered if it was possible for the KC not to register progeny from such matings? The Breed Standard states such a mating is not allowed. Perhaps the KC could mark as non-standard? <u>Action.</u> <i>After discussion it was decided that ZTA would investigate the possibilities of the KC IT Dept setting up a filter to prevent such registrations.</i></p> <p><u>Colours being registered</u> A number of concerns were raised about the unsuitability of colours of Dachshunds being registered by the KC. While the Breed Standard states “any colour” there is a loophole for such inappropriate colours being registered. <u>Action</u> <i>After discussion it was decided to ask Zena Thorn Andrews to contact the IT Dept at the KC to investigate a more reasonable and appropriate colour drop-down menu for online registrations.</i></p> <p>It has been noted that the KC need a nomination for a contact for the Dachshund Breed. Ian Seath (Chair) proposed by Zena Thorn Andrews. Seconded Val Skinner West Riding Dachshund Association. <u>Action</u> Zena to write to KC</p> <p><u>Education, H&W and the Breed Standard.</u> It was agreed that the time was right for the Dachshund Breed Council to run a Conference on H&W and the revised Breed Standard. Invitations to be issued to all judges for all 6 varieties. Good examples of ‘type’ in all varieties to be available. L.Coxon suggested asking people to bring a ‘favourite’ dog. Chair posed the question we need to ask – ‘Where do we think the Breed Standard is taking us?’ <u>Venue</u> Stoneleigh – to be self-financing. Date – Autumn possibly November. Enquiries through Secretary. <u>Sub Committee</u> Lesley Patton, Zena Thorn Andrews, Ann Moore, Judy Squires, Ian Seath.</p>	<p>Lesley Brown</p> <p>Zena Thorn Andrews</p> <p>Zena Thorn Andrews</p> <p>Zena Thorn Andrews</p>
6	<p><u>Code of Ethics</u> KC approved CoE can be used by the Breed Clubs and has been adopted by all.</p>	All Clubs

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7	<p><u>Judging list criteria</u> <u>C list</u> to stay the same. All agreed. <u>B List</u> Proposals received from WEDA & SDA for changes to Judging list criteria. WEDA proposed under B list Breed Specialist criteria. To be added as one of the options “to have attended a Seminar given by a KC Accredited trainer on Conformation and Movement.” SDA proposed To have owned and exhibited Dachshunds for 5 years and have the support of the Club. To have attended a Breed Club Judging Seminar. To have stewarded at least five times. To have judged 60 dogs of the breed To have bred and/or owned at least one dog when it obtained its first entry in the KC Stud Book.</p> <p>Amongst the following discussion the subject of running assessments at shows was raised. <i>At the Chair’s suggestion this discussion was deferred to Item 10; Education and Training.</i></p> <p>It was felt that the B list is a way to encourage successful breeders /exhibitors to Judge. A consensus of opinion was that some B list first appointment judges had no idea of ring procedure. A system of ‘mentoring’ judges was discussed and debate on the importance of stewarding experience. NDC proposed that : the <i>B list to remain the same apart from the requirement to steward 3 times.</i> LHDC seconded Chair took a vote on the SDA proposal = 4 votes And the NDA proposal 11 votes The amendment to the B list Criteria was carried.</p> <p>Chairman pointed out a need to understand the requirements of a first time judge and to educate for it. <u>A3 List Criteria.</u> After discussion it was decided that the Criteria for A3 list should stay the same. However it was noted that: to put KC JDP ‘credit’ judges on the B list with a proven understanding of the Breed would broaden the list with ‘good’ non-specialists.</p> <p>Proposal ‘ To add a clause to the B list to include any KC JDP Group Judges who have obtained a “credit” pass in Dachshunds. Proposed Ian Seath, Chairman Seconded Miniature DC. Carried.</p>	<p>Lesley Brown</p> <p>Lesley Brown</p>
8	<p><u>A2 & A3 Approvals Process</u> The WHDC proposed: “The WHDC proposes that the DBC Secretary assesses the CVs (which have already been scrutinised by the nominating club and also the KC) and circulates the information to say if the criteria are met, or not. Proposed WHDC.</p>	

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	<p>Seconded West Riding D C Carried – Secretary to action on all future approvals</p>	Lesley Brown
9	<p><u>Health & Welfare</u> The Chairman had spoken with the KC and understood that they would be piloting a longitudinal Health Survey. It was also confirmed that Dachshunds are not in the KC list of high priority breeds.</p>	
9.1	<p><u>Health Plans</u> Scottish DC asked by e-mail if the DBC should put together a ‘fact sheet’ for local vets. It was felt that most Vets’ were responsive to ideas and an exchange of information on the breed. WEDA to lead and liaise with the H & W committee to produce a publication for inclusion in the Veterinary Reading Material. R Sainsbury (Committee member and a Veterinarian) to be asked to take on the role by Secretary of WEDA</p>	Ann Jeffrey
9.2	<p><u>Cord 1 Retinal Degeneration MLHD</u> Update from AHT to Miniature DC. The AHT have sent a request for DNA from ‘affected’ dogs to help with research into further understanding of the gene and differences in ages of onset of clinical symptoms. LHDC reported: There are still concerns that many KC registered dogs are not tested. A meeting between the LHDC Secretary, DBC Chairman, W Lambert and Dr. J Sampson is taking place shortly where these issues will be discussed. It was felt the public seem to be better informed now, but there was still much to do to improve awareness of the available screening. <u>Action:</u> <i>Meet with KC to discuss progress with cord1 in MLHD and linkages to registrations.</i></p>	Ian Seath, Judy Squires & Trevor Watkins
9.3	<p><u>Cord 1 Retinal Degeneration MSHD</u> Smooth Haired DC reported that the members would like an official scheme to enable members to take swabs and send to AHT. SHDC would like a Mandate from the member clubs to go to the KC with a request to make formalise the scheme for MSH testing. Carried unanimously. <u>Action:</u> <i>Request a formal KC Scheme for cord1 testing of MSHDs.</i> DC offered to provide facilities to enable testing for MSH at the Championship Show.</p>	Lovaine Coxon & Judy Squires.
9.4	<p><u>Epilepsy</u> (incl Lafora’s) WHDC reported slow progress as WHDs are not seen as a priority breed by the current research programmes and asked for information on any new epilepsy cases. <u>Lafora’s</u> S Baxter is working closely with C Rusbridge and will test batches of swabs: suggested 50 in a batch to save cost of sending to Canada. The Breed Clubs wondered if the AHT could share information and testing with the Canadian testing centre. Chair asked at what stage to request the KC to make MWH Lafora’s a “formal” scheme. WHDC replied there would be a need for a mandate for testing MWH for Lafora’s and this would be communicated via the WHDC Newsletter.</p>	Lesley Patton

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9.5	<p><u>Diabetes</u> Lovaine Coxon reported that she had only had 2 responses ,both anecdotal, for MLH. One other MLH had been diagnosed and was on treatment. There has been no major progress in 4 years – ‘evidence’ is still anecdotal, but we are aware of the condition and at present it is not a problem affecting any significant number of dogs. <u>Action.</u> <i>Agreed to keep a watching brief.</i></p>	Lovaine Coxon
9.6	<p><u>IVDD</u> <u>Chair lead.</u> Summary handouts of an IVDD presentation. Research from Denmark and Sweden on X-rays to identify IVDD probability showed incidence of IVDD could be predicted based on levels of calcification at 2 years of age and selective breeding could be used to decrease probability of IVDD. <u>Possible Actions raised in the presentation:</u> To consider setting up a screening programme but recognise that it could be 5 years before benefits would be seen in the breed. To continue with Education and Communication. <i>The following discussion raised these points :</i> A need to go to a “back specialist” for X-rays and that a well-defined procedure should be followed for testing/X-rays. General consensus was that Miniatures appeared to be more affected and that factors related to general weight and health of the dog should be publicised more. Be aware that it may be an inherited trait. Lines with back problems should not be bred from. <u>Action</u> <i>To include in Newsletters and info to vets – keep a watching brief on emerging research and results of screening in Scandinavia.</i></p>	Ian Seath & Lesley McNaughton
9.7	<p><u>Weighing of Miniatures</u> A lengthy discussion on this topic ensued: The WELKS issue of no scales being made available was raised and discussed. The need to preserve the Miniature status and a need to monitor size/weight was also discussed. Various suggestions were made on alternatives to weighing, yet still maintaining size of Miniatures. A strong general feeling of not being forced to act, by an individual, prevailed. The Chair then asked each club to state their club’s view on weighing. All clubs present wished to keep scales and weighing. DC agreed in principle and had already been discussing various options at their recent Committee meeting. It was felt that to keep the scales allowed judges to make up their own mind on quality of both under and overweight exhibits. It was felt that some judges and exhibitors' understanding of weighing procedures are poor and we need to continue to address this through education and communication. The subject of judges writing negative general critiques was discussed.</p>	All

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	<p>After much discussion a proposal was made by West Riding Dachshund Association. Proposal. West Riding Dachshund Association.</p> <p><i>“The DBC support the right of judges to weigh all Miniature Dachshunds should they so choose; and to remind them of their responsibility to use powers given to them by the KC to act on any H & W issues”.</i></p> <p>Seconded Miniature Dachshund Club. Judy Squires thanked all Breed Clubs for their continued support.</p>	
10	<p><u>Education and Training</u> Concern was raised on the Education of Judges. It was felt by some representatives that Seminars are not always effective and there should be a need to prove oneself in the breed before judging. The idea of establishing a mentoring scheme was discussed and it was agreed that an update of educational materials was needed, together with a formal proposal for a mentoring scheme. <u>Action:</u> <i>A sub-committee was appointed to update materials, CV forms and develop a mentoring approach.</i></p> <p>Gina Salisbury offered to collate and type out data if needed. <u>Action</u> <i>October to report back.</i></p> <p>The A2/A3 Assessment process was discussed and it was agreed that at least one Assessment should be carried out at a Seminar or Mock Class; i.e. 3 Show-based assessments would no longer be acceptable. It was noted that Clubs would now have to be more proactive in arranging Mock Classes and Seminar opportunities for assessments to take place. <u>Action:</u> <i>Amend A3 Criteria on Judges List</i></p>	<p>Lovaine Coxon, Katherine Herrington, Andy Bethel</p> <p>Lesley Brown</p>
11	<p><u>Communications</u> Secretary read out a report from Irene Cook (Press Officer): communication to Clubs seemed to be good, and the ‘Handling the Media’ seminar run by the KC had been helpful.</p>	
12	<p><u>Any other business.</u> Ulster DC reported that Miniature Dachshund Breeders in GB are reluctant to send any pups to Ireland as there are concerns over being reclassified as Kaninchen according to FCI rules. WEDA asked for clarification on the KC/DBC CoE to be sent with Annual Returns to KC. Confirmed the KC Code of Ethics was to be adopted by Clubs and therefore sent with Annual Returns. Secretary asked that when ‘forwarding’ e-mails for general circulation that representatives delete the sender list of e-mail addresses.</p>	

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13	<u>Date of next meeting</u> 1 st Nov 09 (meeting start 10.30); Acton Trussell Community Centre	Lesley Brown