

DBC NEWS

A news update from the **D**achshund **B**reed **C**ouncil

June 2010

Accredited Breeder Scheme

The Breed Council has been advised that the Kennel Club General Committee has agreed the following changes to the Kennel Club Accredited Breeder Scheme breed-specific requirements and recommendations:

Miniature Smooth-haired Dachshund

Add **requirement**: DNA test – cord1 PRA.

Miniature Wire-haired Dachshund

Add **recommendation**: DNA test – Lafora's disease.

Note that these requirements and recommendations come into effect on 1 July 2010 and existing members of the Accredited Breeder Scheme have a 'period of grace' of six months in order to come into line with the above change(s).

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Research Testing for cord1 PRA in MWHDs

Judy Squires reports...

I have forwarded to the Animal Health Trust the list of 53 different Miniature Wires with 53 different sires out of 53 different dams which is just over the number requested for the free Cord 1 PRA testing.

I would like to thank everyone for the good response as I have managed to get hold of a diverse range for the research. Amongst the enquiries were some from South Africa, France and Czechoslovakia which I was able to forward to the AHT. They are not, of course, on our list but it will provide the AHT with an even fuller picture.

The swab test kits will be sent out directly from the AHT to the people on the list. The general (statistical) results will be shared with the Dachshund Breed Council but individual results will be confidential between the AHT and the owners.

I have requested from the AHT a rough idea of how long this process will take and I will keep you fully updated on any information that I obtain. When the results of the research testing are made available the AHT will be able to advise the Breed Council and Miniature Wire breeders the best way forward.

I feel we do owe the AHT, especially Cathryn Mellersh and Bryan McLaughlin, a huge

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amount of gratitude for the work and help they have done and are doing on behalf of our Breed.

Cathryn Mellersh from the AHT has written to Judy to say...

Thank you for this list, this is going to generate us a really good estimate of the mutation frequency in the breed. Thank you for all your hard work - this is something I would like to do routinely for every new mutation we identify and I will use your breed/variety as an example of how to do it!

We will get these kits out as soon as we can and will crack on with the genotyping as soon as we have the samples back in to us. It won't take long to get the data once we have the samples, a few weeks at most, and once we have the data we will email the owners with their individual results and issue a summary report for the Club.

Breed Council Seminar 2010

The Breed Council will be running a Seminar at Polesworth Village Hall (Staffordshire) on Saturday September 25th 2010. The Seminar will focus on the revised Breed Standard and how to judge the Dachshund. Details of how to book a place, ticket prices and the agenda will follow.

Because this will be a participative, hands-on event, places will be limited.

IVDD

Following the interest in the possibility of developing a UK X-ray Screening Test for Intervertebral Disc Disease (IVDD) expressed at last year's Breed Conference, we have finally managed to arrange a meeting with the Kennel Club's health specialists. This initial meeting is to explore the options for setting up a programme similar to that already running in Scandinavia.

Lafora's Disease

The Breed Council has published an information leaflet on Lafora's Disease in Miniature Wirehaired Dachshunds. This is available [here](#). The leaflet was produced in association with the Lafora Dogs Support Group (www.laforadogs.org) and with input from Dr. Clare Rusbridge, the UK's leading expert on the condition.

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Code of Ethics: Judges and Exhibitors

As we move into the main Show season, it is timely to remind everyone of the Code of Ethics clauses that apply to Judges and Exhibitors...

Clause 22. As a judge I will act with courtesy and integrity to all exhibitors, I will judge according to the standard of points and will consider as part of my decisions the temperament and physical condition of the dogs judges, in particular exhibits which appear thin and undernourished should be seriously penalised.

Clause 23. As an exhibitor I will enjoy and applaud other people's success, be welcoming to newcomers and ensure as far as I am able that my dogs behave quietly at a show.

We're on Facebook!

Thanks to the hard work of one of our webmasters, Helen Geeson, the Breed Council now has its own page on Facebook, the social networking site. You can find us [here](#). We welcome feedback, discussions and suggestions, so if you're on Facebook, please "Like" us.

We also have a completely re-designed website at www.dachshundbreedcouncil.org.uk and our Health Information and Reporting site is at: www.uk-dachshund-health-report.org.uk

Enjoy the Summer!