

# DBC NEWS

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

October 2009

## Breed Conference

The Breed Conference, planned for 29<sup>th</sup> November, is now fully booked. We were limited to 80 places and those places were taken up very quickly. We're sorry not to have been able to accept bookings from everyone who applied.

Several people have asked why we couldn't simply find a larger venue in order to be able to accommodate more people. The answer is that we will be having a practical session after the presentation on the revised Breed Standard and simply couldn't find enough dogs and facilitators for more people.

However, the good news is that we will be filming the conference and making the presentations available on a DVD. So, if you can't attend, you can still get to see the presentations.

It is also likely that individual Breed Clubs will be hosting follow-up Seminars during 2010 with further opportunities for education and hands-on practice and assessment sessions. More details in due course.

## Accredited Breeder Scheme

We have had several conversations with Bill Lambert at the Kennel Club about their Accredited Breeder Scheme. Some of those conversations have been initiated by the Council and Clubs making complaints about the behaviour of ABS members. Bill has been very positive in his responses and action has been taken accordingly. It is clear that the KC are now keen to ensure the ABS is "policed".

We have been asked several times why more Dachshund breeders have not joined the ABS. In June 2009 there were approx. 140 Dachshund ABS members. Some people have taken the view that they already meet or exceed the requirements of the ABS and therefore it adds no value over what they already do. Bill's response is that people should consider the importance of the ABS to the breed, not to them as individuals.

The more good breeders join the ABS, the less likely it is that puppy buying members of the public will find poor quality breeders or puppy farmers.

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## Judging Lists 2010

The Breed Council will be compiling its 2010 Judging List in the next couple of months. If you wish to submit a CV, please send it to the Secretary, Lesley Brown.

For any breed specialist aspiring to the A2 or A3 Lists you must meet ALL the following criteria before you can be considered:

*For persons who are recommended as being suitable to award CCs in Dachshunds but not yet approved by the Kennel Club for inclusion onto the A2 List and have the support of the UK Dachshund Clubs Forum.*

### **Criteria.**

Minimum of 7 years judging experience in the breed and have the support of the UK Dachshund Clubs Forum. (KC Policy).

To have judged at 2 Breed Club and/or Breed Club Supported Entry Shows, for 2 different Breed Clubs.

To have judged a minimum of 300 dogs (KC Policy)

To have judged a minimum of 100 classes.

To have attended a seminar given by a Kennel Club Accredited Trainer and passed the relevant examination on Kennel Club Regulations & Judging Procedures. (KC Policy as of 1.7.2001)

To have attended a seminar given by a Kennel Club Accredited Trainer on Conformation & Movement. (KC Policy as of 1.7.2001)

To have attended at least one breed specific seminar run in accordance with the relevant Kennel Club Code of Best Practice and passed an examination and/or assessment where applicable. (KC Policy as of 1.7.2001)

To have attended and passed a Hands-on Assessment delivered by a Kennel Club Accredited Trainer (C & M). (KC Policy as of 1.7.2005)

To have bred and/or owned a minimum of 3 dogs when they obtained their first entry in the Kennel Club Stud Book (save in exceptional circumstances). (KC Policy)

To have stewarded at 12 Shows. (KC Policy)

The requirements for assessments were amended by the Breed Council in May 2009. Of the three assessment passes required, at least one must be done at a Seminar, or at a Mock Class. You must also pass a written assessment paper.

The Breed Council does not arrange assessments. If you wish to be assessed for the A2/A3 lists you should ask one of the Breed Clubs to sponsor you and make the necessary arrangements.

## Cord1 PRA Testing

Following a meeting with Jeff Sampson, the KC's geneticist, he agreed to write to any breeder of Miniature Long-haired Dachshunds who is still producing and registering cord1 Affected puppies.

He will also be writing to all MLHD breeders (including those who are not Breed Club members) to advise them of the latest good practice in relation to the cord1 mutation. The advice is as follows:

*If a dog tests normal, then there are obviously no breeding restrictions on the dog because it can only pass normal versions of the gene to its offspring.*

*If a dog tests as a carrier, and it is to be bred from, then it should not mated to another untested dog, a DNA tested carrier or a DNA tested affected dog. The reason for this is that the risk of producing further affected dogs from such matings is unacceptably high. However, a tested carrier can be mated to another DNA tested normal dog. The progeny of such a mating will be either a normal dog or a carrier dog. Importantly, none of the offspring of a carrier/normal mating will become clinically affected. Ideally, all of the progeny of such a mating should also be DNA tested to determine whether they are normal or carriers. It is imperative that such progeny are DNA tested before they are mated in the future.*

*If a dog is tested as an affected, then such dogs should not be bred from unless there are compelling reasons to do so. If an affected dog is to be mated, then it must be mated to another DNA tested normal dog. All of these progeny will be clinically normal carriers. Obviously, if any of these are to be bred from in the future, then they should only be bred to a DNA tested dog, as above.*

This advice is only directed at MLHD breeders since the cord1 screening programme has now been in place for 5 years and there is no reason for breeders to be producing Affected puppies.