

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE LABRADOR BREED COUNCIL HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE KENNEL CLUB AFTER THE A.G.M ON 1st APRIL 2009.

To approve the minutes of the General Meeting of the Labrador Breed Council held after the A.G.M on 17th April 2008

The minutes of the last meeting were approved proposed by Mrs Maureen D'Arcy (NWLRC) and seconded by Mr Barry Rooth (TRLRC) with all in favour.

Matters arising

Mr Barry Rooth (TRLRC) queried if there had been any more correspondence re registration of colours in Labradors and Mrs Gill had not heard any more — Secretary to query matter with KC again and to again voice our disapproval. LRC of Scotland wanted clarification on when the Labrador Breed Council judges list were updated — Mrs Gill informed that the B list is updated July and October each year and the A3 list April and October each year. The A1 list is only updated once a year in April after the AGM.

NWLRC questioned whether any clubs had any thoughts on the questionnaire handed out by their club at the end of last years meeting. LRC of Scotland responded that it had been brought up at their meeting and content was interesting.

Breed Council Liaison Council Report

Mrs Shelagh Walton (our Breed Liaison Council Representative) had sent a letter reporting on the last meeting of the Breed Liaison Council which was read out by Mrs Sussie Wiles.

Breed Council Health Sub-committee report

A report from this morning's Breed Council Health Sub-committee was now given; there will be separate minutes from this meeting.

A brief summary for now;

Mrs Margaret Brown reported:

LBC health sub committee wants secretary to write to Veterinary press to inform them we are disappointed that Vets are not checking identity of dogs at health checks. The present delegates for the LBC health sub committee are up for election in 2010/2011 and a decision needs to be made weather to change the delegates or keep the same. Mr Jeff Sampson suggests keeping number of delegates on this committee small.

Mrs Joy Venturi Rose reported:

Gary Johnson (KC) advices that if The Labrador Breed Council wants to formally ask the KC to start recording CNN results the KC could do it in the same way as they do the Optigen results.

Mrs Venturi Rose also pointed out that with all the emerging DNA technology, The KC should come forward with a strategy how to manage all this information to best advantage for all. On a different matter Mrs Joy Venturi Rose pointed out that the design of the current BVA eye certificates are not clear and asked the secretary to write to the chief panellist at BVA to suggest a change.

Mrs Fiona Braddon reported:

A discussion had been taken place regarding websites selling Labrador puppies with no health checks on the parents, it was suggested that domain name be registered on behalf of the Labrador Breed Council giving links to breed club puppy registers and secretaries. Mr Andrew Stevens (NWLRC) added valuable technical information and the Chairman R Stafford suggested Mrs Braddon and Mr Stevens get more information on costs involved and how to manage this — ready for agenda for next meeting.

At this presentation it was agreed by Mrs Margaret Brown (LC of Scotland) to hold a LBC health sub committee meeting after the ist of the two LRC shows in June at Stoneleigh to discuss this mornings findings and more further. Mrs Brown also asked for a contact list for each breed club — action Secretary.

Proposals from Breed Clubs

Three Ridings Labrador Club: This club expresses concern that the Kennel Club is not reaching out to the general public effectively regarding the totally biased TV programme, we propose that the Breed Council give serious consideration to encouraging individual Labrador clubs to engage with the local media outlets and Breed Council media representative to explore nationally. A long discussion took place with different views being voiced. The main consensus being that one must be extremely careful when dealing with the media and it would be very easy to make matters worse if not done correctly. It was suggested by the Chairman that this matter get discussed at club level again to see if we want to go public or let sleeping dogs lie and discuss the matter again later. Mr Barry Rooth (TRLRC) thanked everyone for their input.

Cotswold & Wyvern Labrador Club: would like to change the criteria for the A3 Breed and Non Breed Specialist: The item we wish to change is to have judged at least two Labrador breed club open shows — one which should be a qualifying breed club appointment. A qualifying appointment is a show at which a minimum of 80 dogs were present and judged. The reason we feel the change should be brought to the attention of other clubs is due to the following. A judge could get 100 dogs entered but may only judge around 40 on the day and that becomes a qualifying show. We feel that a judge should have to judges at least 80 dogs as this is a step towards giving CCs and we don't feel that any number under 80 is enough for a qualifying show. A long discussion followed with points being made that at 28 Championship shows last year there on average only 70 dogs and 90 bitches present and [judged. so](#) is 80 dogs at open show level unreasonable? Risk of discrimination against clubs which never get more than 80dogs present was another point being raised. One should not aim to qualify at the minimum level was also pointed out. The Chairman asked for a vote on the proposal with the result being 8 against and 5 for — proposal declined.

The Labrador Club of Scotland: Proposal 1. The Kennel Club's response to concerns regarding the registration of non- standard colours is extremely disappointing and the Breed Council should continue to lobby the Kennel Club on this matter as their response is contrary to upholding the Breed Standard. The Yellow Labrador Club questioned what sort of lobbying was proposed. Letter from The Breed Council was the form of lobbying suggested and this was approved with all in favour.

Proposal 2. Once again applications for inclusion to the Breed Council's judging lists are being returned incomplete or inaccurate. Member Committees should ensure that when they are supporting applications to judging lists that forms are completed in full and accurately prior to submission. The Secretary affirmed that any forms submitted incorrectly will be returned to the proposing club for amendment.

Proposal 3. That criteria for the "A" judge's list should include an assessment at open show level. Clarification of which A list was being discussed — A3 was the response. It was generally felt that this was up to each committee to do an assessment of their judge at their open show and some already do this. Midland Counties LRC proposed that the proposing club get a properly worded proposal for next meeting as it could not be discussed at its current format. This was approved by the Chairman. **Proposal 4.** That the Breed Council recognises that The Kennel Club's handling of the media coverage on pedigree dogs did not represent the positive attributes of the Labrador Retriever. It did not recognise the sterling work being carried out by the Breed Council's Health committee. Nor did it recognise that the

majority of responsible Labrador breeders do take positive steps to protect and maintain the health and welfare of the breed within breeding programmes.

It was generally thought the program showed what it wanted to portray and did not give any positive reflections on any pedigree breeders whatever breed. Mrs Joy Venturi Rose suggested that the health committee in conjunction with Jeff Samson write a proposal for a letter to the KC on the matter — action health committee. **Proposal 5. That the Breed Council is disappointed that the Kennel Club have introduced a mandatory Code of Ethics without prior consultation. That specific aspects of this Code are unreasonable and impractical to apply but breed societies have been forced to adopt them.** No other clubs seemed to find this a problem and it was pointed out that a club's own code of ethics could be added with approval by the Kennel Club at any time. — Proposal dismissed.

Midland Counties Labrador Club: Proposal I. Would like the issue of non — recognised colours to be included in the agenda again as the committee feel that this is simply not acceptable to register puppies not complying with the breed standard allowed colours. The committee also requests that The Kennel Club clarify that they actually mean they will not refuse registrations of dogs which have two registered "Labrador" parents and not just two registered dogs. The Chairman pointed out this has been discussed already.

Proposal 2. This committee wish to propose the following " Any member of any breed club using either stud dog or brood bitch to purposely produce a cross breed e.g Labradoodle, shall be subject to a Special General Meeting of the club to consider their exclusion from the club. A discussion followed with points being brought to attention like we are in a breed to further the development of that breed not to breed crossbreeds. The proof of any such activity could be difficult to prove. However most people agreed in principal but felt a rewording needed to take place as in some incidents — like Labradoodles for the Guide dogs is actually beneficial for a purpose. It was suggested to reword this proposal to include the exemption of when breeding dogs for assistance and then the proposal to be taken back by each club to their AGM for a proposal to the change of their rules. All in favour.

Proposal 3. This committee have identified three items we feel requires amendment: a) on the judge's checklist, a judge must have completed two breed club appointments and currently the checklist only asks for one. b) On the judges CV, the "Breed Points" should only ask for the date passed. The Certificate of Attendance should be deleted as irrelevant. c) On the judges CV, Regulations, Ring Procedure & Practical Aspects of Judging requires a "pass" and not just the date completed. It was unanimously agreed to make all the above amendments.

To present the results of the vote on nominations for joining the Judges lists starting 1st May 2009. The Chairman, Richard Stafford now urged all delegates to fill in the voting forms on A3 & A1 judges on behalf of their Clubs.

There was a "late addition" for the A3 (Breed specialist) list — Mrs L Oxley

The votes were counted and the results as follows:-

Names to be added to the A3 (breed specialist) list

No names to be added

Names to be added to the A1 List

Mr G Talbot NBS

Mr G R Haran

Mrs J Woodall BS

Mr C J Mills

Mr J D Jackson

Roll of Honour list

The Yellow Labrador Club proposed Mrs Phyllis Woolf and Miss Mary Young for the list.

Any other business — The new proposed breed standard — it was suggested that any clubs wishing to suggest changes to the new proposed breed standard to forward these to the secretary as soon as possible.

Date and venue of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 15th April 2010 at The Kennel Club. AGM to start at 1.30 prompt.