

The Labrador Retriever Breed Health Committee

To Prof; S. Dean B.Vet. Med.MRCVS DVR

Chairman –The Kennel club.

1, clarges street,

London W1Y 8AB

03/05/2012

Dear Professor Dean,

As we represent this very numerically large breed which of course is a large contributor to the kennel Club finances, please may we ask for your consideration to the following proposals.

1a) That any breeder applying to register their litter of puppies where both Sire and Dam are both hip scored and hold current eye test certificates be registered as per normal application now.

1b) That any breeder applying to register their litter of puppies where only 1 of the parents is tested for both hip and current eye test certificate should incur a penalty of (say) £3 per puppy registered. (amount determined by KC)

1c) That any breeder applying to register their litter of puppies where neither parent holds either hip or current eye certificate should incur a penalty of (say) £6 per puppy registered.

We feel wholeheartedly that our governing body should LEAD the way to a future culture of responsibility and awareness throughout the 'breeding of dogs' world.

The assured breeder scheme does go some way to achieve the higher status for those joining the scheme but has NO down side to 'non compliance' with any health issues, of which the hip and eye schemes are now deemed to be very basic requirements.

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May we also take this opportunity to suggest that breeders having dogs or bitches proven to be 'affected' or 'carriers' of the eye disease GPRA, that these dogs must be mated to proven clear DNA tested dogs/bitches in order to have the progeny registered at the Kennel club—thus eventually ridding the breed of this debilitating eye disease. The DNA test has been ongoing now for quite a number of years and is thought to be as accurate as we can hope for—there should be no excuse breeding – potentially blind dogs- another 1st for our Kennel Club would be the best advert for us all in the interest of this changing 'world of dogs'.

Yours Sincerely,

Marion Hopkinson-for the health committee.

Copy to Mr W Lambert.

The kennel club.