

Minutes of the Border Collies Breed Council Meeting held on Saturday 8th
November
At
Stoneleigh Park Lodge, Stoneleigh Park, Warks.

Welcome .The chairman (BT) opened the meeting at 11.10 and thanked everyone for attending, he said he was aware that there was a traffic problem getting into the venue due to a Horse Event at Stoneleigh and he would wait a few minutes more before starting the meeting as he was knew that the representatives from W.O.E.B.C.C. were on their way. BCC of Wales rep mentioned that he had another meeting that he had to be at so would appreciate it if we could look at moving some of the agenda items around so that he could give BCC of Wales' views on these items. The chairman put this to the meeting and all clubs were in favour of moving these agenda items forward.

Clubs in attendance were: BCC of Wales/Midland BCC/Wessex BCC/North East BCC/EACC by Skype. Then due to traffic WOEBCC as per the minutes.

E.A.B.C.C. (LN) would be attending the meeting by Skype and we were already having a bit of an issue with losing contact but Val Hawker seemed to have this problem sorted for the moment which was great news as at this time we only have five clubs in attendance until WOEBCC arrive.

Apologies were received from Southern BCC/Scottish BCC/BCC of GB - no other clubs had sent apologies. The Chairman said that he thought it was just bad manners that some clubs cannot even be bothered to let us know whether they will be attending or not and said that he wanted to say that not letting us know until the last minute that you are not attending the meeting makes things very difficult for the rest of the clubs due to attend and who travel a long way. The secretary said it is not going to be long before we all travel a long way to find out that we do not have an enough clubs to hold a meeting. The date of the next meeting is always posted on FB etc. so everyone knows quite a way in advance the date of the next meeting and surely it is possible to send a representative from that club?

Minutes of the last meeting were read out by the chairman - these minutes where taken by the treasurer (VH) as the secretary was not at the last meeting. VH said that the minutes before that had not been passed correctly and they needed passing first so the chairman asked for those minutes to be passed as correct before he went onto the last set of minutes. Both sets of minutes were then passed as correct by all those clubs present.

Chairman's report. The chairman said he felt that if as a breed we could look at the health issues in our breed and the registration of those results onto each dogs details held at the KC it would be a great step forward but it is up to us as a breed council to agree to do the best for our breed.

I also feel I need to mention about clubs sending a rep to the meetings if the clubs do not feel they want to give a view on matters on the breed then maybe it's time this was noted so that their members are aware of exactly what their breed club is doing for their breed.

KK from MBCC arrived and apologised for being late.

Secretary's report. The secretary had received a letter from the KC but this will be read out AOB as it is something Wessex BCC had been dealing with and it was to do with assessors for our breed. I have also sent out several lists of judges for clubs that had requested them and thank you VH for keeping the list up to date.

I have received an E-mail from BCC of GB on Friday 07/11/14 as they are unable to send a rep which states (these details have also been recorded further on in the minutes) "Automatic recording of B12 & MDR1 Test Results on the KC Database" - BCCGB votes in favour of this suggestion.

Rep from WOEBCC arrived at 11.35 and apologised for being late.

Treasurers' report. The treasurer gave each club representative a report and this will be uploaded onto the Breed Council FB site so that everyone can read them and once minutes/accounts are passed we will also upload them onto the Breed council web-site (via RG who is the website administrator). VH mentioned that NWBCC had not paid its membership but the secretary said that Chris Richardson normally pays their money to an officer at the NWBCC club show but she did not go this year and the chairman forgot to ask for the payment.

BORDER COLLIE BREED COUNCIL ACCOUNTS				
as at 8th November 2014				
Opening bank balance				2,660.07
Expenses paid 19/07/2014 to 8/11/2014				(108.94)
July meeting expenses - Food & Drink ASDA	#00004	(24.44)		
Stoneleigh Park Hotel - room hire/teas & coffees	#00005	(84.50)		
Income received:				0.00
Annual club subscriptions received:				
Bank balance as at				2,551.13
Contingency Fund				(1,450.00)
Breed Council Cash available (as at 8/11/2014)				1,101.13
Club subscriptions due for 2014				50.00
North West BCC		50.00		
Total funds excluding contingency fund, including expected income				1,151.13

Item 13 on the agenda was then moved forward for discussion. KK who is the health rep said that she had posted all the details from the KC on the FB web site so all reps should have had time to discuss this item before the meeting so (RG) said in that case under the breed council constitution we should now be able to vote on this as we have enough clubs here to represent the breed council.

A lot of discussion took place with regard to the different levels EABCC (LN) asked if we could clarify the difference between level 2 and level 3 on level 3 carriers would be included/ level 3 carriers would no longer be registered after a length of time. (LN) asked who set the time scale? BCC of Wales said the Breed Council would determine the time scale.

Please see below levels discussed

Levels of a Control Scheme:

Level 1

From [DAY/MONTH/YEAR] all [BREED] used for breeding should be either DNA tested for [CONDITION] or be classed as hereditarily clear (HC) of [CONDITION] before being used for breeding.

Identified genetically affected or carriers can be used for breeding, but they should only be mated to a dog that is either hereditarily clear of [CONDITION] or one that has been DNA tested clear of [CONDITION]; carriers should not be mated to carriers or genetically affected dogs. Genetically affected dogs can only be mated to clear or HC dogs. No dog should be used for breeding where there is a welfare problem.

All of the registered offspring of an affected or carrier dog mated to a clear or HC must be clearly identified, DNA tested, and registered as either clear or carrier.

Level 2

From [DAY/MONTH/YEAR] all [BREED] used for breeding should be either DNA tested for [CONDITION] or be classed as hereditarily clear (HC) of [CONDITION] before being used for breeding

Identified carriers can be used for breeding, but they should only be mated to a dog that is either hereditarily clear of [CONDITION] or one that has been DNA tested clear of [CONDITION]; carriers should not be mated to carriers.

All of the registered offspring of a carrier mated to a clear should be clearly identified, DNA tested and registered as either tested clear or carrier.

Level 3

From [DAY/MONTH/YEAR] the Kennel Club will refuse registration of [BREED] puppies unless both parents have been tested clear of [CONDITION], or are hereditarily clear of [CONDITION].

No carriers will be registered after [DAY/MONTH/YEAR].

Level 4

all current UK registered dogs are hereditarily clear. The Control scheme is removed, except for imports or imported semen (i.e. those not hereditarily clear).

Applying and Approving New Control Schemes:

- The application must be submitted by the Breed Health Coordinator, as a result of the majority of breed clubs beings in favour of applying (if there is more than one breed club).

- Control schemes should be considered a last resort to help breeders remove a condition within the breed, and should be limited to serious painful or welfare affecting conditions.
- The test must already be an official Kennel Club DNA testing scheme with results recorded by The Kennel Club. This testing scheme should be put into place for a sufficient amount of time to assess how testing was developing (i.e. uptake of the test by breeders) and how well the mutant gene frequency is falling. The specific time required will vary depending on specifics of the breed, but normally this would range from 1-5 years.
- The Kennel Club should only approve Level 2 and onwards if there has been significant uptake of the test by breeders.
- If the breed is already controlling the spread of the mutation well (i.e. if even without a Control Scheme all dogs used for breeding include 1 clear or 1 hereditary clear dog in each mating) then a Control Scheme is not necessary.
- Consideration to the breeding population size must be made to ensure that the removal of undesirable genes by Control Scheme does not adversely impact the over-all population and reduce the gene pool.

BCC of Wales said surely the first question is 'Do we want to get involved with the KC and this health issue?

MBCC said Yes/BCC of Wales said yes/ Wessex BCC said yes/EABCC said Yes/ NEBCC said yes BCC of GB say Yes (via e-mail) A total of 6 votes mean a yes then!

Next step is for us as a breed to decide onto which level do we want to get involved with?

Level 3 BCC of Wales said yes

Level 3 MBCC said yes

Level 3 WOEBCC abstained

Level 3 NEBCC abstained.

Level 3 EACC abstained. EABCC then said that to keep the gene pool good they would go with level 2 but had not discussed the levels fully with their club so had to abstain.

WOEBCC said they had abstained from voting on any level as they had not discussed it fully with their club.

Level 3 No but Wessex BCC said yes for level 2 - but needs to discuss further with the committee

The next thing to decide is which date do we want which test to go from.

There was a lot of discussion at this stage from each club and the best way forward the result of this was.

CEA 3 years.

TNS 3 years.

CL 3 years.

So much was said on this subject and BCC of Wales proposed that of these tests we have a ceiling that any test under this control scheme has a time limit this was seconded by MBCCC. So can all clubs please come back to the next meeting and let us know if they would like the ceiling to be 3, 5 or 10 years.

IGS B12 results since August 118 clear and 10 carriers 2 affected. It is interesting around the world to see what is happening KK said what she got

news from America recently she was told when puppies were born they appear fine up until 12 weeks then the puppies seem to have problems absorbing B12 so can look ill in different ways. Because this can look like other diseases vets can quite often get the results wrong.

E-mail from BCC of GB "Automatic recording of B12 & MDR1 Test Results on the KC Database" - BCCGB votes in favour of this suggestion.

Furthermore, we canvassed the opinion of our members via our FB Group, where the question was asked:- " Would you like the KC to record health test results on registrations?" - 49 members voted 'Yes', with only one vote against. This supports the above vote, but also extends the scope of recording to all health test results.

Item 8 BCC of GB - "KC Pink Forms: The KC does not appear to take account of Breed Club's opinions, so what is the point of completing the forms?" The chairman said that we had discussed this before and we do not seem to be getting any further forward with pink forms. Wessex BCC said that they did not have any CC judges on their committee so have elected a judging sub-committee to complete pink slips for the Club. JG suggested she speak to Toni Jackson about the pink form issue as a lot of clubs feel it is just a form to send and not sure how much notice the KC is taking of clubs views. It was suggested we send the pink forms back with a note on to the KC stating something to the effect that it is a waste of clubs time to complete them and maybe this is something the KC working party should be looking at to improve entries. BCC of Wales suggested that maybe as a breed council we should all get together and sponsor a judge who we are promoting to judge our breed by offering to pay expenses maybe that way society would look at the judges they are choosing more closely? And pick a judge from the breed council list. VH (treasurer) said the breed council could not afford to pay expenses for judges. BCC of Wales also suggested we have a panel of assessors and we pick three assessors for each judge at a show like a scoring system and send the form back to the show secretary and copy to the KC so they can see we are trying to improve the judging by some judges – can breed clubs come back to the next meeting.

Item 9. BCC of GB -. KC JSC Guidance on A3 Judges List Criterion for number of dogs judged following receipt of the above from the KC, the BCCGB JSC has reviewed the recommendations & concluded that the criteria should remain unchanged. As requested in the guidance, BCCGB has written to the KC detailing the reasons why the criteria is considered to be correct & the KC has advised that this letter should come from the Breed Council rather than individual Clubs. In my conversation with the KC specialist it was also suggested that the criteria should be consistent across clubs. Here is the email received from the KC today:-"Further to our telephone conversations today please send the attached letter to the breed council and we will await its response, this will be kept on file for future reference." A copy of the BCCGB letter sent to the KC is attached. This matter was discussed in detail and we have tried on several occasions to try to get breed clubs to have the same criteria but the clubs do not want to do this so the breed council judging list is made up from combining club lists and edited

by VH as required. This is the list that the secretary sends out to all clubs that request judges and it is also sent to the KC with the breed council returns.

We can try again. We need to remember that in the combined list, judges are put on the highest list. So if Mr Smith is on three different club list Mr Smith is put on the breed council list on the highest position. EABCC dropped their A1 list to 160 to fall in line with the KC. The whole thing about this is that the BCC of GB does not want to change their criteria in line with the KC. Can the secretary write to the KC stating that we support all breed clubs' right to have individual judging criteria and see where the KC go from there. The attached letter was then read out stating as to why the BCC of GB wanted to keep its criteria as it is. KK said there was two parts to this letter that we need to reply to and we need to support BCC of GB in their decision as we support all Border collie breed clubs. KK said what about EABCC as we have lost them.

During this item we lost BCC of Wales as the meeting has gone quite over time.

At this time we seemed to have lost Skype which means we do not have enough clubs to vote on items. VH is trying to resolve the issue.

Item 10. Wessex BCC has unverified dog's application form and instructions from KC. It was felt that this issue needs to be looked at further with the KC and also who the assessors are.

This unverified dog application should be certainly helped by the control schemes being introduced but can the secretary please put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Wessex would like to bring up assessors under AOB as they have recently had a real issue with finding an assessor for a judge recently.

Item 11. Wessex BCC -Definition of herding class and working classes at Crufts. WBCC readout the criteria for the class and said it could now be joined with the class to be called 'Special Versatile Border Collie'.

PROPOSED CLASS DEFINITIONS & QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

'SPECIAL VERSATILE BORDER COLLIE' - A dog is eligible for entry in Special Versatile Border Collie classes if it has earned a Title Award in competition for a Kennel Club recognised discipline.

Discipline Awards include -

Herding - SBCHT (Show Border Collie Herding Test)

Agility - the Agility Warrant (AWB, AWS, AWG)

Obedience - the Obedience Warrant

Heelwork to Music: - HTM (St Ex, HTM N Ex, HTM I Ex, HTM A Ex.)

- Freestyle (FS St Ex, FS N Ex, FS I Ex, FS A Ex.)

Flyball - BFA Advanced qualification

Working Trials - CDex, UDex, WDex, TDex

The list of disciplines is not exclusive and includes any KC recognised disciplines in which a Title Award is issued, subject to KC approval of the Award. N.B. Dogs entered into this class must also qualify for entry in the usual way.

WORKING CLASS AT CRUFTS

Option 1: All existing classes remain unchanged, new class added to schedule

Option 2: Change the current Working Class to include other disciplines except herding (as specified above) - this would mean that dogs who could previously enter this class with a Working Trial qualification only would now have to qualify for Crufts in the usual way as well. Herding class remains separate.

Option 3: Remove current Working Trials & Herding class and replace with class as specified above.

The secretary said that she was very instrumental in getting the Show Border Collie Herding Class and we do need to remember that Crufts is a breed show and by trying to add all the other qualifications like agility/Obedience/Heelwork to Music/Fly Ball the KC will I feel really need some convincing to change the Show Border Collie Herding Test class at Crufts.

Clubs were asked to discuss this with their committees/members in order to vote at the next Breed Council meeting on which option (including qualification criteria) we should present to the KC for consideration.

Item 12. Minutes of meeting –Breed Council Website. Once minutes are passed as correct these minutes can then be posted on the breed council web site so that anyone interested in border collies can read them? We had agreed this some time ago but as most of the clubs committees have now change we wanted to make sure all clubs were aware of this. The chairman said that it made us very transparent as far as the breed is concerned.

We have now lost EABCC again – this is making things difficult to continue with so as we are running about 40 minutes late for the PBHF meeting the chairman suggested we move onto AOB which can be bought up at the next meeting.

Item 14 AOB. MBCC bought forward that the PBHF will carry forward DNA testing at it shows. Can clubs discuss this to see if they are keen to do the same at their shows?

Wessex BCC said that they had a real problem finding an assessor for our breed. The list is generated by the KC and you have to have given so many tickets before going on the list and as a judge you are not asked if you want to go on the list you are automatically put on the list once you have given the right number of tickets. Some people on the list no longer judge or have passed away. The secretary said that she had e-mailed the K.C and received a very nice reply but that is the way they pick their assessors I had mentioned to the KC just because you judge 10 sets of tickets doesn't mean to say you are a good assessor. Wessex BCC was able to get an assessor and that has now been sorted.

JG said that she needed a head note paper letter to go to the KC stating she is the breed liaison officer the secretary normally sends this to the general

committee so this is obviously not getting to the right department so JG will the secretary know which department this letter is to go to and JG will also send one herself.

Item 15. Date of next meeting – The next meeting will be the AGM which will be on **Saturday 7th February 2015 and at Stoneleigh.**

This date has now been changed to the 14th March 2015 time to be confirmed.