

## **STUD DOG ADVERTISING – GUIDELINES**

Stud dog adverts are published on our website as a member benefit and free of charge, and are accepted subject to our guidelines. These guidelines may be updated from time to time as new information on health tests and good breeding practice is incorporated.

1) We advise that you agree the terms of the stud fee with the breeder clearly beforehand and have this in writing. This may take the form of a formal signed contract for stud services (see the Kennel Club page for an example [https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/325300/guide\\_to\\_stud\\_dog\\_contract\\_final.pdf](https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/325300/guide_to_stud_dog_contract_final.pdf) ) or terms agreed via an email exchange.

2) All stud dogs accepted on the page must have the relevant KC health tests completed, these are BVA hip scoring, and EIC status. We also recommend BVA elbow scoring, PDP1 status, and BVA eye tests. Total hip score must be no more than 25.

3) Any stud dog with a carrier or affected status for PDP1 or EIC must be advertised as available for stud to clear bitches only.

## **STUD DOG SERVICES – GUIDELINES**

We want WCSS membership to be representative of good breeding practices. With this in mind any member using our stud dog advertising services should always only allow their stud dog to be used responsibly. Breeding is the joint responsibility of BOTH stud dog owner and breeder.

1) Ensure that the breeding partner is fully health tested to the same standards advised for the stud dogs (see above)

2) Carrier or affected stud dogs (PDP1 / EIC) are only used on clear bitches

3) Bitch owners are advised to DNA test pups before going to their new homes if their status is unknown for PDP1 or EIC (ie not hereditary clear or carrier). You might consider this a condition of using your stud dog.

4) The relationship between the two breeding partners is not too close (COI). We would advise to aim for the first 3 generations of the resulting pups to be all different dogs, or mostly all different dogs. *COI is not a measure of health in itself, but a measure of risk, and comparative scores may differ due to methods of calculation, therefore we are not at present going to put a figure on this.*

5) Consider the number of times your stud dog has already been used and limit the number of studs you accept to prevent him becoming a 'Popular Sire'. The FCI has issued a recommendation to breeders that no dog should have more offspring in its lifetime than equivalent to 5% of the number of puppies registered in the breed during a five-year period. This roughly equates to 50 pups for a Clumber stud dog. Less would be considerably better.

6) Space out your dog's use over several years. Consider only letting him be used 2 or 3 times a year.

7) Avoid repeat matings in order to mix the genetic diversity of the breed. Occasionally a stunning litter might be born, or a small litter, that might credit a repeat mating, but for the most part try to avoid this.