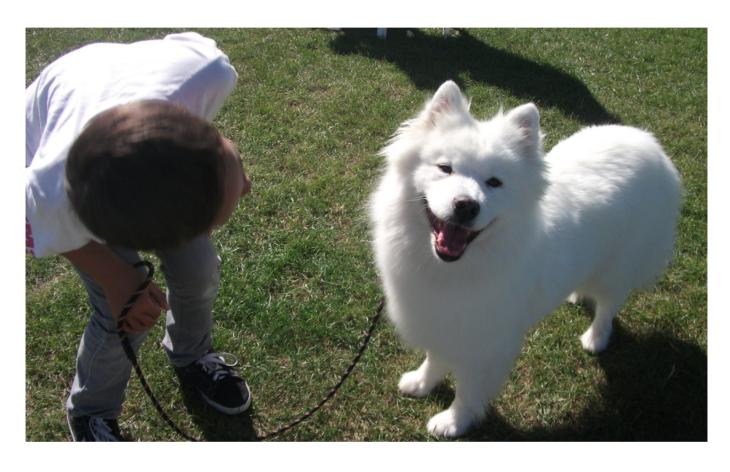
Sleigh Courier

The Samoyed Club Incorporated

Autumn 2012



Lots of fun and smiles at the Sammy Fun Day held in March. More photos inside!



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Membership Fees 2012

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A copy of the magazine is available to members via email. Please contact the Editor for details.

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Full Page (black & white)	\$15
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Sam Ads	\$ 5
Breeders/Stud Directory	\$ 5
Mating and Litter Notifications	\$ 5
Vales	Free

NOTE: Colour advertising is available on request.

Please contact the Editor for prices.

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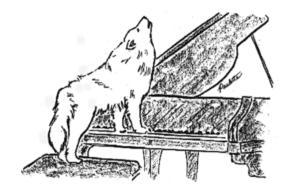


ANZSAMS

Australia / NZ Samoyed email group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ANZSAMS

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Welcome to new members

Eugene and Tania Pickett
Clive Litt and Deidre Doyle

May your memberships be long and enjoyable.



Enjoying summer

Editorial

First off, an important note, we move the magazine to just a digital edition by default for the next issue, sent out in PDF format via email. If you would like to still receive a hard copy, please email the editor and request this, otherwise it will only be emailed to the address we have in our membership list. This also means we need up-to-date email addresses, so if anyone has changed email addresses recently please let us know so we can update our records and ensure everyone is getting their copy!

In March we held another Sammy Fun Day and judging by the reactions (both human and canine!) everyone seemed to have a fantastic day. Plenty of fun and games to entertain everyone and the weather cooperated again this year which was another bonus, especially after the "weather bomb" from the previous weekend. We had an even bigger turnout this year so hopefully next year will be the same.

Photos from the day are in this issue of the magazine.



As per usual, if anyone has any photos, stories or articles they'd like to share please email them to me. It's wonderful to get member contributions in what is the magazine for you so anything at all you'd like to see in here please send in!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the shows in June, the schedules for which are also in this magazine.

Regards, Sarah Piper **Editor**

Dates to remember

Championship and Open Shows

June 4th 2012

Breed Of Year Points as at 21/3/2012

Baby Puppy - Dog		Baby Puppy - Bitch	
Icemist Ya Didn't See Me Coming (Reeve)	24		
Puppy - Dog		Puppy - Bitch	
Zhakita Finn The Highlander (Pickett)	12	Lealsam Just Dance (Reeve)	30
Oscarbi Everedi Boy (Clark / Barzey)	12	Sunshine As Kiwi Gold (Shugg)	14
Junior - Dog		Junior - Bitch	
		Ch Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	23
Intermediate - Dog		Bentara Imperial Ready At Beyond (Yau / Wen)	18
Sunshine Tri Teddy (Shugg)	16	Intermediate - Bitch	
NZ Bred - Dog			
Ch Silvertips Cosmic Storm (Pickett)	11	NZ Bred - Bitch	
Ch Lealsam Logans Allure (Reeve)	8	Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	29
Ch Oscarbi Im'A Bark Star (Barzey / Clark)	6	Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	12
Open - Dog		Ch Angara Sneaking Me Kisses (Barr)	8
Ch Blue Aegean Leventis From Snowsapphire (Imp UK) (Yau/Wen)	44	Open - Bitch	
GR Ch Lealsam Hugo Boss (Reeve)	32	Ch Silvertips Destiny's Angel (Pickett)	13
Ch Kalaska Astro Boy At Oscarbi (Barzey / Clark)	8	Ch Oscarbi Just Astronomical (Clark & Barzey)	9
Best Dog		Ch Angara Dancing With The Stars (Barr)	4
Ch Blue Aegean Leventis From Snowsapphire (Imp UK) (Yau/Wen)	45	Best Bitch	
GR CH Lealsam Hugo Boss (Reeve)	26	Ch Zaminka Magic Moments (Swetman)	19
Sunshine Tri Teddy (Shugg)	9	Lealsam Just Dance (Reeve)	10
Oscarbi Everedi Boy (Clark / Barzey)	9	Ch Silvertips Destiny's Angel (Pickett)	10
Ch Lealsam Logans Allure (Reeve)	8	Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	9
Ch Silvertips Cosmic Storm (Pickett)	4	Sunshine As Kiwi Gold (Shugg)	8
Zhakita Finn The Highlander (Pickett)	3	Bentara Imperial Ready At Beyond (Yau / Wen)	7
CH Kalaska Astro Boy At Oscarbi (Barzey / Clark)	2	Ch Lealsam Miss Cover Girl (Reeve)	5
Icemist Ya Didn't See Me Coming (Reeve)	1	Ch Oscarbi Just Astronomical (Clark & Barzey)	4
Best Representative		Ch Angara Sneaking Me Kisses (Barr)	3
Ch Blue Aegean Leventis From Snowsapphire (Imp UK) (Yau/Wen)	26	Ch Angara Dancing With The Stars (Barr)	1
GR Ch Lealsam Hugo Boss (Reeve)	20	Best Bitch Rep	
Oscarbi Everedi Boy (Clark / Barzey)	7	Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	5
Ch Lealsam Diamond Oceans (Reeve)	5	Lealsam Just Dance (Reeve)	2
Lealsam Just Dance (Reeve)	2		
Best Baby Puppy Rep			
Icemist Ya Didn't See Me Coming (Reeve)	2		

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Championship Show 2012 Judge's Resume

Bernadette Lawton

My name is Bernadette Lawton and I have been involved with our lovely Samoyed breed all of my life.

My mother acquired her first Samoyed, which came down from the Sworddale lines of the UK, in the late 1950s.

I have been actively involved in showing/ handling since I was 10 years old. My family also bred and showed Cocker Spaniels for many years, along with two Irish Setters, but my love was with the Samoyed.

In 1977, at the age of 18, I bought my own Samoyed bitch from Mrs. Yvonne Sydenham-Clarke of the famous Kalina Kennels. I bred two litters from her under the Kalina prefix and Stara produced three champions from these litters.

In 1981, I went to work at Kalina Kennels on Sunday mornings which eventually became full time until August 1999. During my time at Kalina Kennels, I



handled the Kalina dogs at many shows and gained titles along the way. But the other interest was in the breeding. I loved raising new litters and watching them develop and learning how each litter had their differences, depending on how they were bred. It was learning about pedigrees and Mrs Sydenham-Clarke's knowledge of the English lines that gave me the passion to continue.

The imported dogs no doubt had an impact on the Samoyed here in Australia. I will be forever indebted to Mrs Sydenham-Clarke for her knowledge that she has passed on to me over many years.

My favourite dog was Aust. Ch. Kalina Uki Tochka who was a magnificent dog, not just in appearance but in his nature as well which he passed on to his offspring. Tochka won many In Show awards but the highlight of his show career was winning the 1st Samoyed National held in Australia, under Mr. Robyn Newhouse from Annecy Kennels of the UK. Tochka is behind my current dogs even though it is a few generations back now.

On leaving Kalina Kennels, I bought Kalaska Laretta and started showing and breeding under my own prefix of Snowispa. Genta soon attained her Championship title and I bred two litters from her which produced Ch. Snowispa Ice Serenity and Gr. Ch. Snowispa Dante Of Oberon. We now have grandchildren and great grandchildren which are all doing well. My young bitches Pania & Astra are from Ch Ice River Mezen Yoshi and Us imported from Slovakia.

I attained my Group 6 Championship Show judges licence in 1995 and have judged at Group level in most states of Australia. I have judged Samoyed Championship Shows in Victoria, New South Wales and Auckland, New Zealand.

I have been on the committee of The Samoyed Club Of Victoria for 34 years. Am the current secretary for The National Samoyed Council of Australia and am on the committee for The Ladies Kennel Association.

Regards

Bernadette Lawton Snowispa Samoyeds.

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The Samoyed Club Inc Championship Show

To be held at NZKC Building, Prosser Street, Porirua. In conjunction with Wellington Kennel Centre

Monday 4 JUNE 2012

Judging to commence at 9.00am Entries close: 16 May 2012

Judge: Bernadette Lawton (Snowispa Samoyeds, Victoria, Australia) Breed Classes

1	Baby Puppy (3 to 6 months)	1a
3	Puppy (6 to 12 months)	3a
5	Junior (12 to 24 months)	5a
6	Intermediate (24 to 36 months)	6a
7	Limit (4CCs or less)	7a
8	NZ Bred (bred in New Zealand)	8a
10	Veteran (over 7 years old)	10a
11	Open (any dog over 6 months)	11a

Stakes

12 Dog Head, 13 Dog Coat, 14 Bitch Head, 15 Bitch Coat, 16 Movement under 12 months, 17 Movement over 12 months, 18 Feet, 19 Tail

Entries: Breed: \$15.00

Stakes: \$5.00 Catalogue \$5.00

Advertising available in catalogue, \$15 per A4 page, black and white.

Desexed entries accepted.

Written critiques.

Tea and coffee available. There will be a shared lunch so please bring something to share. Following on will be the Of Year awards presentation and then The Samoyed Club Inc Open Show.

Please make cheques payable to The Samoyed Club Inc Entries to - Simeon Copsey, PO Box 9730, Marion Square, Wellington 6141. simeon@copsey.co.nz Tel 04 477 9975

The Samoyed Club Inc Open Show

To be held at NZKC Building, Prosser Street, Porirua. In conjunction with our Championship show

Monday 4 JUNE 2012

Judging to start after lunch Entries close: 16 May 2012

Judge: Duncan Schilling

Breed Classes Baby Puppy (3 to 6 months) 1a Puppy (6 to 12 months) 3a Junior (12 to 24 months) 5a Intermediate (24 to 36 months) 6a Limit (4CCs or less) 7a NZ Bred (bred in New Zealand) 8a

Stakes

Veteran (over 7 years old)

Open (any dog over 6 months)

12 Dog Head, 13 Dog Coat, 14 Bitch Head, 15 Bitch Coat, 16 Movement under 12 months, 17 Movement over 12 months, 18 Feet, 19 Tail

Entries: Breed: \$7.00

Stakes: \$3.50 Catalogue \$3.00

Advertising available in catalogue.

Desexed dogs and bitches can be entered in breed and stake Classes. They need to be registered with the NZKC as desexed and have a 'D' after their registration number on the entry form.

Please make cheques payable to The Samoyed Club Inc Entries to - Simeon Copsey, PO Box 9730, Marion Square, Wellington, 6141 simeon@copsey.co.nz Tel 04 477 9975

1

3

6 7

10

11

10a

11a

Sammy Fun Day!

Another successful Fun Day was held back in March with an even greater turnout of people and dogs than last year and a day that ended up being another fantastic one. The dogs got to mix and mingle before the games began, with apple bobbing for the humans becoming harder than normal with dogs trying to grab the apples or just get in the way and drink the water, and the chocolate game again proving very tempting for some of dogs.

Like last year, the agility tunnel was out again and many of the dogs (and small children!) got to have a go at that too. At the end of the day we had plenty of tired but happy dogs and people and we hope for another increased turnout next year!

A huge thanks to Bronwyn Weir for organising it all on the day and to everyone who turned up and made it a success!





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Evaluation of the BVA/KC health screening programmes

Dr Jeff Sampson, Ph.D in molecular genetics, Professor of Veterinary Genetics, Canine Genetics Consultant for The KC (UK).

Introduction

The Kennel Club collaborates on three clinical screening programmes:

- The BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme
- The BVA/KC/ISDS Eye Scheme
- The BVA/KC Elbow Dysplasia Scheme

The first two are now well-established, operating for a number of decades, whilst the last one, the Elbow Dysplasia Scheme is relatively young, starting in 1998. The purpose of these health screening programmes is to help breeders gain a better understanding of genes that individual dogs might pass onto their offspring and thus allow them to select breeding pairs that will reduce the prevalence of inherited diseases in future generations. The BVA/KC screening schemes use clinical phenotype to predict an individual dog's genotype, and are aimed at screening all potential parents, before they are used for breeding.

The BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme

Dogs need to be 12 months or older to participate in this Scheme. Radiographs of a dog's hips are taken by the owner's vet and then submitted to a panel of specialists. Each radiograph is assessed by two scrutineers of the Hip Panel and together they assign a score for the dog, after assessing nine anatomical features:

	Range of score
Norberg Angle	0-6
Subluxation	0-6
Cranial Acetabular Edge	0-6
Dorsal Acetabular Edge	0-6
Cranial Effective Acetabular Rim	0-6
Acetabular Fossa	0-6
Caudal Acetabular Edge	0-5
Femoral Head and Neck Exostosi	is 0-6
Femoral Head Recontouring	0-6

Thus each hip can be assigned a score ranging from 0-53, and the scores for the dog's two hips are then added together to give the dog's overall hip score, which can range from 0-106, the lower the hip score the better the hip. Uptake of the Scheme varies from breed to breed, with the physically larger breeds being significantly over-represented in comparison to smaller breeds. Each year data are published on breed mean hip scores. These breed mean scores are global means of all dogs tested and at the end of each year the mean is adjusted to take account of dogs scored in the previous year.

For all Kennel Club registered breeds, results of each dog's hip scoring are then sent directly to the Kennel Cub where the information is logged on appropriate fields on the dog's registration record. This triggers publication of the dog's hip score via a number of different routes:

- as a one-off publication in the Kennel Club's Breed Records Supplement, a quarterly publication of registration information from the previous quarter
- on any new registration certificate issued for the dog after the hip score has been placed on the registration database
- on the registration certificates of any of the dog's future progenv

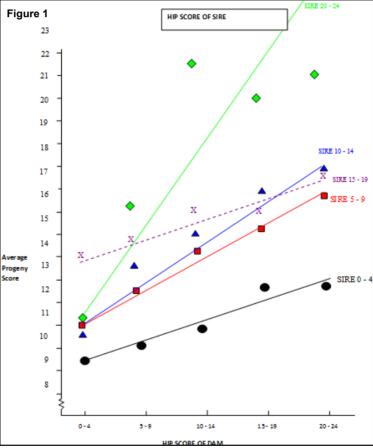
The Kennel Club registration database therefore contains a vast amount of hip score information and we can use this to evaluate the effectiveness of the hip scoring scheme.

Hip scoring in the Labrador Retriever

Of all the breeds that participate in the BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme, the Labrador has the greatest participation. In 2007 10,236 new hip scores were added to the registration database, of which 3,842 were from Labradors; in total 55,775 KC registered Labradors have been scored under the

Scheme. It is therefore appropriate to use the Labrador data to try to evaluate the outcome of hip scoring.

The basis of the hip score is to help breeders assess the genetic makeup of a dog and aid them in developing breeding programmes that will improve hip quality in future generations. The breeding advice under the scheme is for breeders to hip score dogs before they are bred from and then to breed from dogs that have low hip scores, and certainly hip scores that are lower than the breed average; the most recent (2007) global mean hip score in the Labrador is 15. Using the Labrador hip data on the Kennel Club registration database, it is possible to show that the heritability of the hip score in this breed is 25%. This figure was calculated from a 5-year cohort of hip scored Labradors, with scoring ages ranging from one to 6 years of age. Although this is heritability is low, it is certainly high enough to permit breeders to select for improved hip scores in their breeding programmes.



Is there any evidence that the breeding advice will actually improve hip scores in future generations? The data presented in Figure 1 was taken from Kennel Club registered Labradors scored over a 10 year period, where the scored dog's parents had both been hip scored.

Parental scores were grouped into 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19 and 20-24, and then average progeny hip scores were calculated for matings between parents in the different hip score groups. The average progeny score is presented on the y-axis, the x-axis represents the dam's hip score group and then each line on the graph represents a sire hip group. So, the lower line on the graph (circles) represents the average progeny scores from sires with hip scores in the range 0-4 mated to dams from the different hip score categories. As you can see, the average progeny score increases as the dam's hip score increases. Also, the average progeny score for dam's within a score range increases as the sires hip score increases, and this becomes most obvious at high hip scores. Overall, this result supports the contention that breeding from dogs with low hip scores will be far more likely to produce offspring with low hip scores.

So, there certainly seems to be support for the breeding advice given un-

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der the BVA/KC Hip Scoring Scheme, but what evidence is there that Labrador breeders are actually using the scheme in the way that it is intended? The data presented in Table 1 below was taken from 7 years of Labrador litter registrations at the Kennel Club (2000-2006) and shows the proportion of total registered Labrador litters with no parent, one parent or two parents hip scored.

Table 1: Analysis of all Labradors registered by year

Year of registration	0 parent scored	1 parent scored	2 parents scored	1 or 2 parents scored	combined score for both parents
					<30* >30*
2000	25.40	26.90	47.70	74.60	91.6 8.40
2001	25.30	23.90	50.80	74.70	91.2 8.80
2002	23.90	24.90	51.20	76.10	91.3 8.70
2003	23.20	25.00	51.80	76.80	93.8 6.20
2004	22.70	25.20	52.10	77.30	93.5 6.50
2005	23.70	24.90	51.40	76.30	94.0 6.00
2006	25.00	23.40	51.60	75.00	94.6 5.40

^{*30} chosen as 2 X breed average, i.e. both parents with a breed average score (as per BVA data).

In the year 2000, 25.4% of registered Labrador litters had neither parent hip scored, 26.9% had either the dam or the sire hip scored and 47.7% had both parents hip scored. The data for the intervening years are also

shown. Furthermore, in those litters where both parents had been scored, the combined parental hip score was 30 or less in over 90% of litters. This figure of 30 was chosen as being equivalent to both parents having the breed mean hip score (15) or less.

Bearing in mind that the Labrador is by far the most popular pet breed, and therefore bred by a whole spectrum of individuals from serious breeders to 'one-off' breeders, these results are striking and suggest that 50% of all Labrador litters that are registered by the KC are bred by individuals using the BVA/KC Hip Scoring Scheme and following the advice that is offered under the Scheme. Clearly this is extremely encouraging, but even greater efforts need to be made to increase this figure of 50%. This will almost certainly require better communication with all individuals who breed a litter and register it with the Kennel Club.

With all of these data in mind, is there any evidence that the Scheme has improved the hip status within the registered Labrador population? The global breed mean hip score that is computed and upgraded each year by the BVA is not the best way to analyse trends on a year by year basis, so the

KC data has been re-analysed to produce 5-year rolling mean hip scores. This analysis starts in 1996, by computing the mean hip score for dogs scored between the beginning of 1992 and the end of 1996; in 1997 the average is computed from dogs scored between the beginning of 1993 and the end of 1997. The analysis continues until the year 2007, which is the mean of hip scores added to our registration database between the beginning of 2003 and the end of 2007.

Table 2: 5-year Rolling Mean Hip Scores for Labradors between 1992

Year End	No. of scored dogs in the period (% of regis- tered dogs)	No. of dogs regis- tered in the period	5-year Rolling Mean (Median)	Range of scores in the period	No. of dogs with scores of 10 or less (% of total)	No. of dogs with scores>30 (% of total)
1996	12012 (8.2)	147140	16.5 (12)	0 – 106	5083 (42.3)	1457 (12.1)
1997	13392 (8.6)	156440	16.1 (11)	0 – 106	5803 (43.4)	1529 (11.4)
1998	14483 (8.7)	167157	15.8 (11)	0 – 106	6360 (44.0)	1576 (10.9)
1999	15114 (8.8)	171437	15.4 (11)	0 – 106	6883 (45.5)	1567 (10.4)
2000	15354 (8.8)	173784	15.0 (11)	0 – 104	7262 (47.3)	1506 (9.8)
2001	15386 (8.9)	172608	14.5 (11)	0 – 104	7662 (49.8)	1387 (9.0)
2002	15320 (8.8)	173816	14.2 (10)	0 – 104	7983 (52.1)	1315 (8.6)
2003	16045 (9.0)	179144	13.8 (10)	0 – 104	8807 (54.9)	1275 (7.9)
2004	17097 (8.9)	191127	13.6 (10)	0 – 104	9510 (55.6)	1300 (7.6)
2005	18183 (9.0)	202130	13.4 (10)	0 - 106	10387 (57.1)	1323 (7.3)
2006	19265 (9.0)	214162	13.1 (10)	0 – 106	11313 (58.7)	1354 (7.0)
2007	19929 (8.9)	223245	12.8 (10)	0 – 106	11949 (60.0)	1334 (6.7)

and 2007

The results in Table 2 show some very interesting trends and demonstrate that the quality of Labrador hips, as assessed by the BVA/KC Hip Scoring Scheme, has increased over the period from 1992 to 2007. The most obvious demonstration of this is the steady fall in the 5-year rolling mean hip score from 16.5 in 1996 to 12.8 in 2007, and a corresponding fall in the 5-year rolling median hip score from 12 in 1996 to 10 in 2007. Critics of the Scheme, and any apparent progress that is being made, will cite the fact that clients and vets might appraise a set of radiographs before submission to the BVA panel and decide not to submit them if they are particularly poor and thus any positive effect on breed mean scores is the result of failure to submit and assess the most extreme radiographs. Whilst the opportunity for this to occur does exist, and if it does happen it will have an effect on breed means scores, the data in Table 2 assesses the efficacy of the scheme in a separate way, by calculating the number of dogs scored under the Scheme hat have scores of 10 or less. You will see that there has been a year on year increase in the number of dogs scoring less than 10, the figure being 5083 in 1996, representing 42.3% of all tested dogs in that period, increasing to 11949 in 2007, representing 60% of all tested dogs in that period. The other interesting observation is that the percentage of registered Labradors that have been hip scored has remained remarkably constant, at just less than 9%, during the period of study

There is no doubt that this analysis demonstrates that hip scoring is having a positive effect on the quality of Labrador hips and that breeders are following the Scheme's advice by having their breeding stock hip scored and then taking note of this score when choosing mating pairs. But what about other breeds?

Table 3: 5-year Rolling Mean Hip Scores for all breeds that have scored 1000 or more dogs in total under the BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme.

Breed	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Labrador Retriever	16.5	16.1	15.8	15.4	15	14.5	4.2	13.8	13.6	13.4	13.1	12.8
German Shepherd Dog	19.3	19.4	19	18.9	18.7	18.3	17.7	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.2	17
Golden Retriever	19.5	19.2	18.7	18.1	17.6	17.3	17.1	16.8	16.7	16.6	16.2	15.7
Rottweiler	12.2	12	11.7	11.6	11.5	11.3	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.1	11
Border Collie	15	15.1	14.9	14.4	14.2	13.7	13.2	12.6	12.7	12.4	12.3	12.2
Flat-Coated Retriever	9.5	9.2	9.1	8.9	9	9	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.3
Bernese Mountain Dog	17	17.1	16.8	16.1	15.5	15.7	15	14.3	14.2	14	13.3	13.3
Newfoundland	27.7	26.5	25.4	25	25	24.6	23.8	23.5	23.1	22.8	21.9	22.8
Siberian Husky	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7	8	8.1
Bearded Collie	11.9	11.6	11.1	10.6	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.8	10.9	11	11	10.8
English Setter	19.4	18.9	18.4	17.3	17.1	16.7	16.4	16.2	16.6	16.9	16.8	16.3
Gordon Setter	26	25.1	24.2	23.7	23.2	21	20.2	18.7	18.5	18.6	17.9	18
Japanese Akita	10.9	10.8	10.6	11	11	10.7	11	10.8	10.4	10.2	9.7	9.1
Weimaraner	13.7	13.7	13.1	12.7	12.5	12	11.7	11.5	11.4	11.2	11.1	11.1
Rhodesian Ridgeback	12.1	12.1	12.1	11.7	11.1	11	10.4	10	10	10	9.9	9.9
Old English Sheepdog	20.4	19.8	19.9	18.7	17.5	16.8	15.6	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.5	15
Tibetan Terrier	14.4	13.5	12.7	13	13.3	13.1	12.8	13	12.7	12.4	12.3	12.3
Welsh Springer Spaniel	19.5	19.2	19	19.5	19.6	19.6	19.1	18.3	17.1	16.4	16.1	16.7
Samoyed	13.5	13.5	13	12.6	12.1	11.7	11.4	11.4	11.5	12	12.3	12.5
Airedale Terrier	15.9	16.2	15.8	16	15.6	15.6	15.1	14.8	14.2	14.6	14.7	14.8
Hungarian Vizsla	13	13	13	12.8	12.7	12.4	12.5	12.1	12.2	12.1	12.1	12

In general, these results paint a very positive picture. In the vast majority of these breeds, the 5-year rolling mean decreases with time. As you might expect, the decrease is most marked in those breeds which started with a relatively high mean in 1996 and least obvious in those breeds with a low mean throughout the period of study.

These data are very encouraging and show that the BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme has had an extremely positive impact in lowering breed mean hip scores over the period of analysis and thereby improving the quality of the dogs' hips in the breeds represented.

BVA/KC Elbow Dysplasia Scheme

As with the Hip Dysplasia Scheme, dogs need to be 12 months or older to participate in the BVA/KC Elbow Dysplasia Scheme. Two radiographs are submitted for each elbow, these represent two mediolateral views which must be (i) a neutral lateral (110°) and (ii) a flexed lateral (45°). Two scrutineers, appointed by BVA, grade the radiographs according to criteria laid down by the International Elbow Working Group (IEWG). For each elbow joint a grade is derived by evaluation of the margins of the joints and the bone structures for signs of primary lesions and/or osteoarthritis of the elbow. Four grades are possible under the Scheme, the minimum grade for each elbow is 0 and the maximum is 3. The overall grade given for both elbows is the grade that was given to the elbow with the highest grade. The lower the grade the less the degree of elbow

dysplasia evident on the radiographs. This overall elbow grade is intended to assist dog breeders in their selection of breeding stock. It is recommended that breeders wishing to reduce the risk of elbow dysplasia should select their breeding stock (both dogs and bitches) only from animals with overall elbow grades of 0 or 1.

Elbow grades of all KC registered dogs are sent directly to the KC and deposited on the dog's registration database, triggering publication in a number different ways:

- as a one-off publication in the Kennel Club's Breed Records Supplement, a quarterly publication of registration information from the previous quarter
- on any new registration certificate issued for the dog after the hip score has been placed on the registration database
- on the registration certificates of any of the dog's future progeny

Numbers of dogs going through the Elbow Dysplasia Scheme are still low in comparison to those going through the Hip Dysplasia Scheme:

Table 4: Total numbers of dogs (all breeds) going through the Elbow Dysplasia Scheme by year

This equates to 8,780 KC registered dogs having gone through the Scheme. The table below shows the breakdown of the elbow grades for these dogs:

Table 5: Total number of dogs (all breeds) being Elbow Graded by year

Number of dogs in each elbow grade (% of total dogs scored in the year)										
Year	Total dogs graded	0	1	2	3					
1998	410	273 (66.6)	73 (17.8)	33 (8.0)	31 (2.9)					
1999	583	408 (70.0)	89 (15.3)	54 (9.3)	32 (2.1)					
2000	503	359 (71.4)	70 (13.9)	49 (9.7)	25 (2.4)					
2001	578	441 (76.3)	61 (10.6)	54 (9.3)	22 (2.1)					
2002	597	471 (78.9)	59 (9.9)	43 (7.2)	24 (2.0)					
2003	712	568 (79.8)	57 (8.0)	54 (7.6)	33 (1.7)					
2004	1044	826 (79.1)	111 (10.6)	75 (7.2)	32 (1.1)					
2005	1226	1011 (82.5)	97 (7.9)	81 (6.6)	37 (1.0)					
2006	1491	1196 (80.2)	152 (10.2)	100 (6.7)	43 (0.8)					
2007	1636	1332 (81.4)	167 (10.2)	99 (6.1)	38 (0.7)					

Labrador Retrievers (4,277) represent essentially half of all dogs graded and the break down of their grades is:

	Number of Labradors in each elbow grade									
	(% of total Labs scored in the year) Year Total 0 1 2 3									
Year	Total	- -								
	Labradors									
	graded									
1998	131	99	15	5	12					
		(75.6)	(11.5)	(3.8)	(9.2)					
1999	180	133	21(11.	15	11					
		(73.9)	7)	(8.3)	(6.1)					
2000	167	134	17	14	2					
		(80.2)	(10.2)	(8.4)	(1.2)					
2001	211	178	17	7	9					
		(84.4)	(8.1)	(3.3)	(4.3)					
2002	239	203	17	11	8					
		(84.9)	(7.1)	(4.6)	(3.4)					
2003	262	219	22	11	10					
		(83.6)	(8.4)	(4.2)	(3.8)					
2004	402	359	30	10	3					
		(89.3)	(7.5)	(2.5)	(8.0)					
2005	567	499	36	26	6					
		(88.0)	(6.4)	(4.6)	(1.1)					
2006	667	558	60	33	16					
		(83.7)	(9.0)	(5.0)	(2.4)					
2007	772	658	62	37	15					
		(85.2)	(8.0)	(4.8)	(1.9)					

Although these numbers are significantly lower than the number of dogs going through the Hip Dysplasia Scheme, there are none the less some encouraging trends. After a slow start, the annual numbers of dogs going through the Elbow Dysplasia Scheme have increased year on year over the last few years. There is a year on year increase in the proportion of dogs getting 0 and a year n year decrease in the proportion of dogs being given the higher grades of 2 and 3 (Table 4).

372 of the elbow-graded Labradors were born to parents that had both been elbow-graded. The table below gives the average elbow grades for the dogs born to different combinations of parental elbow grades. Most of the graded Labradors were born to parents that both had 0 elbow grades, but there were some born to different parental combinations, although the numbers here are significantly smaller, particularly at the higher elbow grades. However, with this caveat, the data do suggest a relationship between the average progeny elbow grade and the parental elbow grade, supporting the breeding advice offered under the Scheme.

Parental Elbow Grades	Number of Labradors	Average Elbow Grade
0/0	316	0.17
0/1	34	0.30
0/2	18	0.42
0/3	4	0/75

In the above classes the parental score could have been either the dam or the sire.

BVA/KC/ISDS Eye Scheme

The Scheme offers breeders the possibility of eye testing to screen for inherited eye disease in certain breeds for certain known conditions. These conditions are restricted to those involving the eye itself, and not those involving the tear ducts, the eyelids or other surrounding structures. The breeds listed under the Scheme are those where specific hereditary eye conditions are know or suspected. The breeds and conditions are then divided into two categories for different purposes: Schedule A and Schedule B.

Schedule A lists the known inherited eye diseases in the breeds where there is sufficient scientific information to show that the condition is in that breed and often what the mode of inheritance is. For the breeds specified in Schedule A a certificate is issued with the results of 'unaffected' or 'affected'. Schedule B lists those breeds in which the conditions are only suspected of being inherited and therefore are 'under investigation'. Observations made on Schedule B conditions are noted and collated by the Eye Panel Working Party, made up of members of the Eye Panellists that operate the Scheme.

Breeders are encouraged to use the Eye Scheme if there breed is on ei-

ther Schedule A or B, but this does not cover all breeds, so any breeder can have their dog's eyes examined under the Scheme, for reassurance. In general, the best age for eye testing is before a dog has reached one year of age and thereafter on an annual basis. Continued monitoring is strongly encouraged, particularly in those breeds known to suffer from late onset inherited eye conditions. For some breeds, litter screening at around 6 to 12 weeks of age is recommended to screen for inherited congenital conditions of the eye. By screening for these conditions, breeders can attempt to eliminate or reduce the incidence of eye disease being passed onto to future generations. It is strongly recommended that breeders eye screen their breeding stock and to only breed from dogs that are unaffected for inherited conditions known to affect their breed.

The results of all KC registered dogs certified under Schedule A are sent to the KC where the information is placed on the dog's registration database. As with the two other BVA/KC Scheme results, this triggers publication via a number of different routes:

- as a one-off publication in the Kennel Club's Breed Records Supplement, a quarterly publication of registration information from the previous quarter
- on any new registration certificate issued for the dog after the hip score has been placed on the registration database
- on the registration certificates of any of the dog's future progeny

Many, although by no means all, of these inherited eye diseases are known to be the result of a single recessive mutation. Clinical screening therefore offers breeders the opportunity of predicting the genotype of an individual, and therefore insight into what t dog might pass to its offspring if bred from. Unfortunately, clinical screening of this type will not distinguish between the clinically normal dog which is also genetically normal, from the clinically normal carrier dog. However, the identification of a dog that is affected with one of these recessively-inherited condition immediately identifies its clinically normal parents as obligate carriers. Furthermore, the clinically normal siblings of an affected dog will have a 2 out of 3 chance of also being a carrier. Breeders can also compute the likelihood that other close relatives of a known affected are also carriers.

Recent insights into canine molecular genetics and the canine genome have spurred on the identification of recessive mutations known to cause inherited disease. So an increasing number of mutations that cause these inherited eye diseases have now been identified and, importantly, DNA tests to detect the presence of the mutant gene in an individual dog have been developed. These DNA tests offer the breeder a much more precise way of determining a dog's genotype; from a simple mouth swab taken from a dog a breeder can determine whether the dog is normal/clear, a carrier or an affected, provided there is a DNA test for causal recessive mutation. Sine these DNA tests can be undertaken very early in a dog's life, they are particularly valuable for those late onset diseases because they can detect the affected dog before it is mated and long before it will show clinical signs.

Table 6 shows the results of annual eye testing between 1997 and 2006. The figures reported are for KC registered dogs and represent those dogs tested for the first time or retested in the year quoted.

Table 6: Annual Schedule A Eye Test Results for KC registered dogs

	Те	sted dogs		Conditions								
Year	Т	UA	Α	CEA	CHC	PHPV	PPM	gPRA	cPRA	HC	PLL	G
1997	11,133	10,707	406	87	1	0	2	27	1	213	4	28
1998	12,428	11,957	403	81	1	1	0	29	3	286	1	69
1999	13,405	12,986	355	73	0	3	2	27	4	246	0	64
2000	11,541	11,188	300	50	1	7	2	20	2	232	1	37
2001	11,116	10,838	249	29	0	3	0	7	1	203	5	30
2002	12,055	11,731	266	46	0	3	1	15	1	216	3	40
2003	11,434	11,150	246	24	0	5	0	19	1	208	2	25
2004	14,939	14,566	312	33	1	0	4	24	2	246	13	50
2005	13,114	12,792	275	30	0	3	0	12	0	238	2	34
2006	13,406	13,010	323	37	1	6	1	17	1	270	6	55

Abbreviations: T = Total; UA = Unaffected; A = Affected; CEA= Collie Eye Anomaly; CHC = Congenital Hereditary Cataract; PHPV = Persistent Hyperplastic Primary Vitrous; PPM = Persistent Pupilary Membrane; gPRA = generalised Progressive Retinal Atrophy; cPRA = central Progressive Retinal Atrophy; HC = Hereditary Cataract; PLL = Primary Lens Luxation; G = Gonodysgenesis/Primary Glaucoma.

Interestingly, the vast majority of dogs tested each year are found to be clinically unaffected for inherited conditions known to affect their breed (Schedule A results). The table below shows the percentages of total dogs

that are either unaffected or affected:

Year	Unaffected dogs	Affected dogs
1997	96.4%	3.6%
1998	96.8%	3.2%
1999	97.4%	2.6%
2000	97.4%	2.2%
2001	97.8%	2.2%
2002	97.8%	2.2%
2003	97.8%	2.2%
2004	97.9%	2.1%
2005	97.9%	2.1%
2006	97.6%	2.4%

Of the individual conditions, the number of identified cases of hereditary is around an order of magnitude greater than most of the other conditions. However, this really reflects that hereditary cataracts are conditions reported in both the Golden Retriever and the Labrador Retriever, and together these two breeds represent over 50% of all dogs that are tested annually.

Dr Jeff Sampson, Ph.D in molecular genetics, Professor of Veterinary Genetics, Canine Genetics Consultant for The KC (UK).

September 2008

Kapiti owners' battle of the bark

Dog dispute may go to High Court

A battle between neighbouring dog lovers has escalated to one couple threatening High Court legal action.

Bob and Gay Renshaw have appealed against complaints being pursued by the Kapiti Coast District Council that their dogs, six-year-old labrador Lou and eight- year-old samoyed Kayla, are causing a noise disturbance barking in the neighbourhood.

Mr Renshaw admits that, for a while, they had four dogs, but since September have had only two, under council regulations all that is permitted on an urban section before a special licence is needed.

All up, the Renshaws say they have spent about \$1000 to comply with the regulations, including forking out for bark collars, obedience training and building a fence.

"We are being discriminated against, targeted unfairly.

"We have complied with everything," Mr Renshaw, a lawyer, said.

In a letter to the council, Mr Renshaw has put the council on notice they will be seeking costs in the High Court.

The couple challenged a noise abatement notice issued by the council in September, and their appeal was heard on Thursday.

Mrs Renshaw stressed they were "real dog people".

"We love our dogs, treat them like princesses. They sleep on our beds. We have complied with absolutely everything, gone the extra mile.

"We just want to be treated fairly," she said.

Neighbour Robin Fraser, who is a New Zealand Kennel Club member and dog trainer, first complained about barking from the property six years ago, especially from Kayla, the samoyed.

"Very little has been done about it.

"I find it unbelievable the samoyed has been allowed to remain on the property.



Dog trouble: Paraparaumu couple Bob and Gay Renshaw with their dogs Kayla and Lou, which neighbours have complained about.

"If a dog wears a bark collar properly it does not bark. Dogs should not bark like that," Mrs Fraser said.

Before the appeal was adjourned, committee members urged the Renshaws to give the bark collar another go, with the assistance of a council animal control officer who had suggested ways to stop Kayla barking in the past.

Mayor Jenny Rowan stressed there had to be some action by the Renshaws to resolve the issue and prevent the dog being removed from the property.

Appeals committee chairwoman Hilary Wooding said it was an emotive issue and the committee would release its decision soon, expected to be within 10 days.

FairfaxNZ

- Kapiti Observer

Notices

IMPORTANT!!

The Sleigh Courier is going digital! By default, the next issue will only be sent out as a PDF to the email addresses we have for the members, so there are two things to note:

First, if you would like a hardcopy, please email the editor to request this.

Second, if you have recently changed email addresses (or would like to check what email address we have for you) please contact us so we can make sure you will definitely be sent your issue.

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If anyone is ever interested in helping with Samoyed Club fundraising or events please get in touch with us and let us know!



Contact details for all the people mentioned here and elsewhere in the magazine can be found on page 2.

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