



THE KENNEL CLUB

Making a difference for dogs

Secretary

Mrs C.R. Kisko

Ms M Taylor
The Canine Alliance
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21st March 2013

Dear Ms Taylor

Further to our initial reply to your letter of 12th November regarding the various points which the Canine Alliance requested that the Kennel Club should consider, I am now writing to advise you of the General Committee's position in each area.

- 1 Veterinary checks – you will be aware that a working group was set up to review the checks. The group is chaired by Nick Blayney MRCVS and includes Nigel Luxmoore-Ball, Jeff Horswell, Harvey Locke MRCVS and Frank Kane. The results of the group's discussions will be reported to the Kennel Club AGM in May. The Kennel Club has recently confirmed that the veterinary health checks will remain in place at least until this time.
- 2 Collation of breed health data – the Kennel Club has recently considered the data being collected on the high profile breeds and appreciates the opportunities that this data presents in terms of breed health in relation to visible conformation. To this end a new initiative will shortly be announced to encourage all judges to raise concerns in any breed. There will also be enhancements to the way in which information is gathered on those breeds featured on Breed Watch in order to ensure that any conditions which have been noted are resolved as early as possible. The Kennel Club does not consider that adding an extra requirement to the judging of all breeds would be productive – this surely should be limited to those breeds where a genuine conformation concern has been noted.
- 3 Grading system of judging – you will of course be aware that we are discussing this matter with representatives of the Canine Alliance and I will not expand further on this here.



- 4 Veterinary health certification prior to Stud Book/Crufts entry – this suggestion has also been made by others and has been discussed with various veterinary bodies. However the veterinary profession is not supportive of this idea since health certification is fraught with complications – not least being the fact that certifying that a dog is healthy really only applies on the day on which the examination takes place. In other words a health certificate would not have validity if it was intended to apply beyond the date of examination, thus rendering it somewhat meaningless in relation to either Crufts or the Stud Book.

With regards

Caroline Kisko

Caroline Kisko
Kennel Club Secretary
