**ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 2019**

**Registrations**

In 2018, 275 puppies were registered from 48 litters; this is another large rise from 260 in 2017. In addition 5 dogs were imported to the UK and 3 were exported.

**Breed Health Plans**

The 2018 Breed Health Plan, following an extensive review, was published in February 2019 having been approved by the Committees of both the Clumber Spaniel Club and the Working Clumber Spaniel Association.

Following consultation with The Kennel Club a Breed Health & Conservation Plan was also agreed; this is to be used as in internal document but its content influences and is incorporated into the published Breed Health Plan.

**Surveys**

**a/ Lifespan Survey**

During 2018 only one form was returned.

A ten year old put to sleep with gut problems..

**b/ Breeding Survey**

No breeding survey forms were returned for 2018.

**Health Screening**

**a/ Eye Testing**

The Clumber Spaniel Club has always recommended health screening and eye testing with the KC/BVA Eye Scheme has been utilised by some over the years. However the results are not published therefore in 2009 the Club started its own database for the results and anyone with an eye test certificate for a Clumber is invited to forward a copy. This will enable the Club to gather information on the true status of the breed’s eye health.

The Club started to subsidise the cost of eye testing for its members in 2012 and in 2013 the subsidy was extended at a lesser rate to cover non members Clumbers and this has being repeated each year since. The Club now provides free testing for all dogs aged 8 and over and an eye testing session is now held in conjunction with the Club’s Championship Show each year.

In 2018 the BVA issued 59 eye test certificates for individual Clumber Spaniels (a drop from 66 in 2017) plus 1 litter screening. The sightings from the certificates issued in 2017 note 20 cases of ectropion and 10 cases of distichiasis.

No certificates were issued by the AHT or ECVO Eye Schemes.

The Club received 22 copies of these certificates for the database which can be found on the Club’s website.

Eye Testing is recommended for Assured Breeders.

**b/ Hip & Elbow Scoring**

Hip Scoring is recommended for all breeding stock and in 2017 a total of 46 Clumbers were screened for Hip Dysplasia a slight increase on the 2017 figure; 30 were also screened for Elbow Dysplasia which is 4 dogs less than in 2017.

Hip Scoring is a requirement for Assured Breeders.

The 5-year Rolling Trends in hip scoring shows the improvement in hip health is being maintained. For the 5 years ending in 2018 it can be noted that 22.3% of the dogs registered in that period were hip scored and 128 dogs (50% of the total scored) had a score of 10 or less. The highest score for 2018 was 38. The Median based on 5 years stands at 11.

Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs)

As a good proportion of the Clumber Spaniel population has been hip scored the Kennel Club have developed Estimated Breeding Values for the breed. This tool uses all screening data and pedigree information from the individual dog and its surrounding family, to more effectively determine the genetic risk that each dog will pass this disease to its progeny and is more accurate than by using an individual dog’s test score alone.

This was introduced in 2015 and can be found on the KC Mate Select site.

**c/ Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Phosphatase 1 Deficiency (PDP1) Screening**

In 2018, 7 Clumbers were tested for PDP1 and all were Clear.

It is recommended that all breeding stock is tested for PDP1. This is carried out by Laboklin and arrangements have been made for a discounted test fee through the Club.

PDP1 Testing is recommended for Assured Breeders.

**d/ Exercise Induced Collapse (EIC)**

EIC emerged in Clumber Spaniels in August 2015; it is due to a genetic fault and is proving to be more widespread than the PDP1. Affected dogs may be symptomatic whilst others show no symptoms at all but are at risk of developing symptoms at any time during their life. A DNA test has been developed and validated by Laboklin and the Kennel Club have recognised the test as an Official DNA Test for the Breed. The condition follows an autosomal recessive trait of inheritance and therefore has a clear mode of inheritance; this should enable breeding out the condition within a few generations. The Club has established a voluntary database for results and will also include the published results. At the end of 2018 the results of 355 dogs were known; of these 193 are Clear (54.4%), 146 are Carriers (41.1%) and 16 are affected (4.5%).However this does not give an accurate picture as most of the dogs tested to validate the test were those suspected of having the condition and their results led to a significant number of related dogs being tested. Therefore more results from different bloodlines are needed to determine the true prevalence within the Breed.

**Incomplete Ossification of the Humeral Condyle (IOHC)/ Elbow Y Fractures**

IOHC (also known as humeral intracondylar fissure, HIF) is a condition in which there is a weakness in the humeral condyle (part of the elbow joint in the forelimb) and it is most commonly seen in spaniels, This condition predisposes to fractures (breaks) of the humeral condyle and can also cause lameness in its own right without fracture.

One case was formally reported and two other cases noted in Clumbers in 2018. The 2019 Breed Health Survey will include a question on IOHC in order to gain more evidence on this condition.

**Population Size & Inbreeding Coefficient**

The Kennel Club report on the Breed Population Analysis, published in September 2015, showed an estimated effective population size of 24.5.

This is of great concern for the following reasons.

Effective population sizes above 100 are sustainable.

The rate of loss of genetic diversity within a breed or population increases dramatically when the effective population size is less than 100.

An effective population size that is less than 50 is considered to be at high risk of detrimental effects of inbreeding.

In 2018 the inbreeding coefficient for Clumber Spaniels stood at 16.2% showing a further drop from 17.9% in 2017 and 19.1% in 2016.

**Kennel Club Judges Health Monitoring**

The Kennel Club’s feedback from Championship Show Judges questionnaires concerning Breed Watch Points of Concern has now been received for 2017; the 2018 report is not yet available.

In 2017 the report shows fewer dogs were shown, a drop from 468 entries at Championship Shows in 2016 to 397. Newly reported conditions were dirty ears and dirty teeth with the highest reported condition (2%) being excessive facial skin with eyelid defects. Reports of weak hindquarters and overweight dogs were considerably reduced.