



# Rottweiler Breed Health Report

FEBRUARY 2017

Sarah Morgan

## Introduction

I would like to start by wishing you all a very happy new year. We have so much to discuss and so much that needs to get done, although we have already achieved so much already. Onwards & upwards.

## Give a dog a genome

I'm a little disappointed in the response I've received from the Animal Health Trust regarding the Genome Project. They last contacted me in December 2016, stating 75/77 breeds had returned their health forms, from these forms 90 disorders had been listed and they have assessed 58/75 of the forms so far. They have asked for patience from the remaining 17 breeds whose forms are yet to be assessed. Rottweilers are amongst these last 17. Hopefully I will have more to report in the next quarter.

## Elbow Scoring

I'm pleased that the Kennel Club have put Elbow Scoring back as mandatory for the Assured Breeder Scheme. Although at the time of writing this the press release hadn't gone out, but they did state mid to late January. I emailed them and received an email back on Tuesday 14/02/17 stating they had had problems with their outsourcers who format and print the schedule. So, the press release should have been sent out by now.

Assured Breeders will have 6 months to fall in line with the changes and all breeding dogs will be required to be elbow scored in advance to mating so when a litter registration is received the system will flag up if one or the other parent is not tested. While they will not refuse registrations of a litter with high scores, repeated use of high scores will be monitored and they will be guided by the BVA who as we know only recommend breeding from a 0 elbow.

## Juvenile laryngeal paralysis and polyneuropathy (JLPP)

The response to the information and advice regarding this disease has been wonderful, breeders should give themselves a massive pat on the back. I have had many of the results sent to me so far and the latest data from that is:

**82** dogs tested, **10** of those were found to be carriers, this equates to **12.2%** of dogs tested being carriers. I will update this percentage as more results come in.

I have the forms from the Kennel Club to get this test made an official KC scheme, and will discuss at the breed council meeting the best way forward for the breed regarding testing.

Thankfully we have had no reports of affected dogs in the UK, but unfortunately this is not the case in other countries.

## Osteosarcoma Study

It was the **3<sup>rd</sup>** update on Saturday **11<sup>th</sup>** February, much better attended this time with **31** delegates there but we still need to show these people more support.

Mark Dunning leads the study and the university are making fabulous progress, however before the geneticist spoke we were made to promise not to print any of the information regarding the study, due to confidentiality and the safety of the universities findings.

I can say they now have **2500** swabs from Rottweilers sitting in their freezers & **4** tumor samples. It costs the university **£1500.00** to sequence **1** swab. To date they have sequenced the swabs of **5** dogs, this is **£7500.00** of Grants & funding that the University have spent on **our** breed. Monies we have donated has been for swabs up till now, but I'm going to ask for ideas on how we can raise money for the university to continue their amazing work.

I'm also going to work with Mark to produce an algorithm on how to get tumor samples to the university if you are faced with the awful diagnosis of osteosarcoma in any of your dogs.

The University of Nottingham are very interested in **our** breed and although the osteosarcoma study is the main one, they are also doing other studies including vaccinations, Parvo-virus, nutrition and veterinary consultations. So as these roll

out I will be sharing the information. Please show your interest and I hope next year even more will come and hear about the amazing work Mark & his team are doing.

## Heart Testing

Along with JLPP, I will be asking the KC to accept Heart testing for Sub Aortic Stenosis (SAS) To also become a KC recognized scheme. We've been testing well over 10 years now. With the Estimated Breeding Values (EBV) being widely used the more tests listed/recognised the better our dogs EBV.

## Crufts Leaflet/Information

After speaking to a few on Facebook , we thought it would be a good Idea to put a leaflet together for the discover dogs stand at Crufts with information to give the general public, initially we were intending this to be about JLPP and the importance of making sure when purchasing a puppy they make sure the parents are tested. Thinking about this I feel this leaflet could include other health issues so again I will discuss this at the Breed Council Meeting on the **19/02/17**.

Thanks again for all your help and input. If you need any help or information regarding the health and wellbeing of your dog or have any questions don't hesitate to contact me, it goes without saying everything we discuss is kept confidential.

Sarah Morgan.  
3 Lansbury Walk  
Tipton  
West Midlands  
DY4 osh  
[melaiseyrottweilers@gmail.com](mailto:melaiseyrottweilers@gmail.com)  
**07949230242**

