

A number of months ago the BBC (British TV) aired a program about purebred dogs most unfavorable to our canines and their breeders. In essence, breeders were taken to task for allowing dogs to be bred of ill health. The Kennel Club, the equivalent of the AKC, was brought to its knees by the British press.

Was the BBC program a fair analysis of the purebred dog? As any slander that comes our way with reference to dogs, we all know it usually leaves out many facts. The point is the Kennel Club, to clarify itself and the purebred dog, has issued demands of the British breeders. Unlike our own country, the Kennel Club in England owns the standards of every breed of dog. They can and are now telling the breeders what they must do.

The Kennel Club has issued a breed health plan for all of its breeds; judges will have to access the health of the dogs they judge (I'd like to know how), new breed standards are being issued starting with the Pekingese by changing the wording of the flat face which they feel adds to the breathing problems (that's another issue), and, most importantly, the Kennel Club has asked the government to give it the power to make it mandatory for every breeder to belong to its established Accredited Breeders Scheme. If that becomes law and a breeder doesn't belong, well then that breeder wouldn't be able to breed and sell dogs. And this is all from the airing of one program!

My fellow Norfolk breeders, the point I'm trying to make is: Test Your Dogs. We are well ahead of our cousins in England in the area of testing. I've been preaching to our friends on the other side of the pond to test but it has gone in one ear and out the other. Now they find themselves in trouble, so to speak, with their Kennel Club. It is of the utmost importance that we support financially our Donor Advisory Fund to the Canine Health Foundation and that we test our Norfolk. The NNTC has advised the CHIC program that our dogs will be tested for eyes, hearts and patellas. Eyes must be done by a veterinarian ophthalmologist, hearts by a veterinarian cardiologist using an Ultrasound Color Doppler and patellas by the Norfolk's vet. All results sent to CERF (for eyes) and OFA (for hearts) so that a CHIC number can be issued in the Norfolk's behalf. We must stay ahead of the public in this respect; we must show we breed healthy Norfolks and the only way to do it is to TEST.

Barbara Miller – President NTC

At the April 9, 2009, NTCNC Specialty, the breed and group judge for Norfolk will be Mrs. Lydia Coleman Hutchinson. Sweepstakes will be judged by Sandra H. Stemmler. This is a group show and there will be a puppy group.

At the April 10, 2009, NTC Specialty, James G. Reynolds will judge Norfolk Terriers as well as the Terrier Group. There will also be a Bred-by-Exhibitor Group at this show. The NTCNC will have complimentary breakfast goodies. We will have a boxed lunch available and we have a dinner planned for the evening. The information on prices for the lunch and dinner will be posted at a later date.

Two all-breed shows will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The judge for the show on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April was not available at the time of this printing. The judge for the 12<sup>th</sup> of April show is Mr. John P. Wade and Mrs. Mareth K. Kipp will judge the group. All four shows will be held at one venue (Cal Expo, Sacramento, California).

The NCTA Club Hotel is the Red Lion Hotel at Arden Way and the I-80 Freeway, Sacramento, California. The hotel's phone number is 916-922-8041. A block of rooms are being held under the name of Terrier Exhibitors. The rate for Terrier Exhibitors is \$89.00 plus 12% room tax per night. This room rate is guaranteed only for reservations made by 3:00PM March 26, 2009. There will be a pet fee for all those with dogs.

Warmest regards,  
Ann Dum, President NTCNC

Directions to show site on Pg. 6