

Breeding Requirements and Recommendations.

If you are planning a litter please be aware that you will only be able to register your litter with the Kennel Club if you satisfy their regulations and requirements. Some are for all breeds and some are specific to Irish Setters. You can find this on the KC web-site at www.thekennelclub.org.uk and click on “dog breeding”.

The Kennel Club will not accept an application to register a litter when:

- 1) The dam has already whelped 4 litters (as of the 1st January 2012 the limit changed from 6 litters to 4 litters). As of this date the Kennel Club will no longer register any further litters from any bitch which our records show has already whelped 4 litters. Therefore for any litter born on or after the 1st January 2012, the system will automatically check to see how many previous litters the Kennel Club has an account of. Where the number previously recorded is 4 or more, the application will be rejected, or
- 2) The dam has already reached the age of 8 years at the date of whelping, (relief from this restriction may be considered normally provided an application is made prior to the mating, the proposed dam has previously whelped at least one other registered litter, and the application is supported by veterinary evidence as to the suitability of the bitch involved in the proposed whelping), or
- 3) The dam was under one year old at the time of mating, or
- 4) The offspring are the result of any mating between father and daughter, mother and son or brother and sister, save in exceptional circumstances or for scientifically proven welfare reasons, or
- 5) (From 1st January 2012) The dam has already had two litters delivered by caesarean section, save for scientifically proven welfare reasons and this only normally provided the application is made prior to the mating, or
- 6) The dam was not resident at a UK address at the date of whelping.

There are further Kennel Club Rules and Regulations that may prevent a litter from being registered; the full Kennel Club Rules and Regulations are contained in the Kennel Club Year Book.

Breed Specific Restrictions

(i) With effect from 01 July 2005, the Kennel Club will only register Irish Setters that are proven to be **clear of CLAD, or hereditarily clear of CLAD** e.g. both parents are clear. With effect from 01 January 2008, the Kennel Club ceased to accept any registrations for Irish Setter produced from a CLAD carrier parent mated to a clear or hereditarily clear parent. Breeders wishing to register progeny from a carrier after this date will need to apply for permission prior to the proposed mating, and applications will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

(ii) With effect from 01 January 2010, the Kennel Club will only register Irish Setters that are proven to be **clear of PRA-rcd 1** (Progressive Retinal Atrophy), or hereditarily clear of PRA rcd1 e.g. both parents are clear.

Recommendations made by the KC or the breed clubs

(i) Both parents are tested or have a known hereditary status for **PRA rcd4** before breeding. We strongly advise against breeding rcd4 affected puppies. i.e. avoid breeding two affecteds together (all the puppies will be affected), or an affected to a

carrier, or a carrier to a carrier. DNA testing kits are available from the AHT web-site www.ahtdnatesting.co.uk

(ii) The breed recommend that you have your dog's eyes tested at intervals throughout the dog's life by a KC/BVA recognized vet under the KC/BVA/ISDS scheme.

(iii) Bitches under two years not to be bred from.

(iv) A bitch not to be bred from on successive seasons, save in exceptional circumstances or if 12 months has elapsed between seasons.

Assured Breeders are also required to hip-score their breeding stock before breeding.

The **Health status** of all registered dogs can be found on the KC web-site's "**Health Test Finder**".

(Also insert the ISAE code of ethics).

Enjoy your puppies, don't expect to make money out of them, and keep in touch with the new owners.