

2023 BREEDERS WORKSHOP PROGRAM - 1ST & 2ND MAY

Note this program is subject to change as further details are confirmed.



Day	Time	Details
Monday		
Monday 1st May	8:00	Welcome and Introduction <i>Host: BC & Alberta GD - Bill Thornton (IGDF Chair)</i>
	8:05 to 8:35	Hip and elbow assessments <i>Bart Broeckx</i> What is the difference between the types of measurements (PennHIP, Vezzoni, Hip extended) and what problems arise when trying to interpret them? Where should our cut-off levels be for breeding or training?
	8:35 to 9:05	Stargardt's disease in Labrador retrievers <i>Katy Evans</i> Current information regarding Stargardt's testing in Labrador Retrievers. Should dogs be rejected based on genotype? What is your selection strategy?
	9:05 to 9:30	Skin allergies <i>Caroline Moeser</i> Recognition of diagnoses associated with canine atopic dermatitis. Environmental influences and the prevention of otitis externa.
	9:30 to 10:15	Is it really epilepsy? <i>Bob Proesmans</i> Many conditions can trigger seizure-like events. How do you differentiate among them? What is paroxysmal dyskinesia? <i>Caroline Moeser</i> Head tremors- suspected triggers for episodes. Epilepsy - discussion of variant Benign Juvenile Epilepsy.
	10:15 to 10:30	Questions
Monday	10:30 to 11:00	Coffee Break
Monday	11:00 to 11:25	Cardiac diseases <i>Kevin Conrad</i> What are the most common conditions in our breeds (Labrador, Golden, German Shepherd)? How and when should we screen for them? Do they matter for working dogs? Breeding?
	11:25 to 11:45	Does early potty training affect indiscriminate relieving?

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		<p><i>Jenna Bullis</i></p> <p>Data analysis on early potty training and dogs inappropriately urinating or defecating during Guide Dog training.</p>
	11:45 to 12:15	<p>Healthy microbiome and faecal transplants.</p> <p><i>Kevin Conrad</i></p> <p>Importance and practical guidance used in guide dog organisations to re-establish and maintain a healthy microbiome. Procedure and results on the colony health will be presented.</p>
	12:15 to 12:30	Questions
Monday	12:30 to 13:30	Lunch Break
	13:30 to 13:50	<p>Entropion</p> <p><i>Jenna Bullis</i></p> <p>Reduction in the incidence of entropion in a colony through EBVs and mild selection pressure.</p>
	13:50 to 14:40	<p>Gaiting and structure for Guide Dogs</p> <p><i>Peggy Gibbon and Katy Evans</i></p> <p>Assessment and scoring of conformation and gaiting in guide dogs. Does it make an impact on success and can we estimate heritability?</p>
	14:40 to 15:30	<p>Conditioning Program for Dogs Coming In For Training</p> <p><i>Kevin Conrad</i></p> <p>Foundational fitness addresses mobility, stability (e.g., core, forelimb, hindlimb), strength, and proprioception. Using the GDBart Test results dogs were identified that would benefit from specific exercise to improve control of movement, balance and proprioception. Examples using video and results will be presented</p>
	15:30 to 15:45	Questions
Monday	15:45 to 16:15	Coffee Break
Monday	16:15 to 16:50	<p>Improving health using EBVs- <i>Elbow, Skin and Mast cell tumour</i></p> <p><i>Eldin Leighton</i></p> <p>Data required and best age to measure Heritability of each trait Response to selection Challenges</p>
	16:50 to 17:25	<p>Improving behaviour with EBVs- <i>Body sensitivity, Noise Fear, Inhibited by Stress, Activated by Stress, Excitable</i></p> <p><i>Jane Russenberger</i></p> <p>Data required and best age to measure Heritability of each trait Response to selection Challenges</p>

	17:25 to 18:00	How to make breeding decisions on traits without EBVs- 35 mins <i>Eldin Leighton</i> Steps to take Approaches for selection- Using examples of TVD, Head Tremors, Corneal Lipid Dystrophy
Monday	18:00 to 18:15	Questions
Monday	19:00	Dinner included with registration

TUESDAY		
Tuesday 2nd May	8:00 to 8:35	How to use estimated breeding values successfully <i>Jane Russenberger</i> Demonstrate how IWDR can apply the 3 principles of selection Selecting breeder candidates Choosing mates Choosing which dogs to retire
	8:35 to 9:05	Strategies for genetic diversity <i>Jackie Clark and Bart Broeckx</i> How do we maintain genetic diversity in smaller breeding colonies? A discussion of the strategies you can use for your colony to maintain diversity. Mate Finder in IWDR Freeze the male then train him Building Collaborations Increasing likelihood of conception- general guidelines Considerations in shipping dogs
	9:05 to 9:25	Calculating Differential Risk of Osteoarthritis in Dogs with Low vs High Hip Scores. <i>Tom Lewis</i> Determining which traits receive priority for genetic selection can be aided by determining the risk for developing clinical disease in a population of dogs based on retrospective data. This example uses phenotype data of osteoarthritis diagnosis in 8 and 12 year old dogs with either 'low' or 'high' hip score at 1 year old. The results of risk by breed and also when the osteoarthritis diagnoses are made will be shared.
	9:25 to 9:45	TBA 20 mins
	9:45-10:00	Questions 15 mins
Tuesday	10:00 to 10:30	Coffee Break
Tuesday	10:30 to 11:10	Critical periods of socialisation and impact on temperament of the dog <i>Helen West & Jane Russenberger</i>

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		Presentation of data analysis between groups of dogs in which socialisation has been interrupted.. When are the critical periods and how much of an impact does it make?
	11:10 to 11:45	GDBart Puppy Test <i>Helen West</i> Conducting the GDBart Puppy Test, is it worth it, is it predictive and how can the data help your organization and your breeding colony
	11:45-12:15	Behavioural scoring in Puppy Raising <i>Helen West</i> A look at behavior assessments between the ages of 2 months to 18 months. Which are the best ages to collect data? What information do you get? How to develop consistency for data analysis
	12:15-12:30	Questions
Tuesday	12:30 to 13:30	Lunch Break
Tuesday	13:30 to 13:50	Screening prospective broods and studs <i>Bob Proesmans and Caroline Moeser</i> The must-have checklist and practical in-house tasks. When is a specialist required? Repro screening - strictures, semen quality, Brucella Health - x-rays, CT, bloods, urine, genetic tests- must have (tight budget) and the nice to have - cost benefit Pyramid investment in breeding
	13:50 to 14:45	Brood and Whelping Concerns 55 mins <i>Fiona Hollinshead</i> Care of the brood through pregnancy, whelping and lactation. Is there a way we can prevent mastitis and reduce our caesarean sections? When should we breed again after a C-section?
	14:45-15:00	Questions
Tuesday	15:00 to 15:30	Coffee Break
	15:30 to 16:30	Neonatal Care 60 mins <i>Kevin Conrad</i> Care of the neonate from 0-8 weeks. What are the common problems that occur, what to do? How can we reduce or prevent them?
	16:30 to 16:45	Questions
	16:45 to 17:00	Conclusion <i>Host: BC & Alberta GD - Bill Thornton (IGDF Chair)</i>

