

# IWDBA BREEDERS WORKSHOP

## PROGRAM

**1ST & 2ND MAY - VANCOUVER 2023**

**INCLUDING SUNDAY 30 APRIL RECEPTION**



### DAY & TIME DETAILS

#### SUNDAY 30 APR

**SUNDAY** **Reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres.**  
17:00 - 20:00 Each guest will also receive one drink token. Further drinks available at the cash bar.

#### MONDAY 1 MAY

- MONDAY** **Welcome and Introduction - with Bill Thornton (IGDF Chair)**  
08:00 With thanks to our host: BC & Alberta Guide Dogs.
- MONDAY** **Hip and elbow assessments - with Dr Bart Broeckx**  
8:05 to 8:35 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?
- MONDAY** **Stargardt's disease in Labrador retrievers - with Dr Katy Evans**  
8:35 to 9:05 Current information regarding Stargardt's testing in Labrador Retrievers. Should dogs be rejected based on genotype? What is your selection strategy?
- MONDAY** **Skin allergies - with Dr Caroline Moeser**  
9:05 to 9:30 Recognition of diagnoses associated with canine atopic dermatitis. Environmental influences and the prevention of otitis externa.
- MONDAY** **Is it really epilepsy? - with Dr Bob Proesmans & Dr Caroline Moeser**  
9:30 to 10:15 Many conditions can trigger seizure-like events. How do you differentiate among them? What is paroxysmal dyskinesia? What are the suspected triggers for episodes of head tremors? And a discussion of variant Benign Juvenile Epilepsy.
- MONDAY** **Questions**  
10:15 to 10:30

*Note: This program is subject to change as further details are finalized.*



**MONDAY Coffee Break**  
10:30 to 11:00

**MONDAY Cardiac diseases - with Dr Kevin Conrad**  
11:00 to 11:25 What are the most common conditions in Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, and German Shepherds? How and when should we screen for them? Do they matter for working dogs? Do they matter for breeding dogs?

**MONDAY Does early potty training affect indiscriminate relieving? - with Dr Lynna Feng**  
11:25 to 11:45 A data analysis on early potty training and dogs inappropriately urinating or defecating during Guide Dog training.

**MONDAY Healthy microbiome and faecal transplants - with Dr Kevin Conrad**  
11:45 to 12:15 Importance and practical guidance used in guide dog organizations to re-establish and maintain a healthy microbiome. Procedure and results on the colony health will be presented.

**MONDAY Questions**  
12:15 to 12:30

**MONDAY Lunch Break**  
12:30 to 13:30

**MONDAY Entropion - with Jenna Bullis**  
13:30 to 13:50 Reduction in the incidence of entropion in a colony through EBVs and mild selection pressure.

**MONDAY Gait and Structure Evaluation for Guide Dogs - with Peggy Gibbon and Dr Katy Evans**  
13:50 to 14:25 Assessment and scoring of conformation and gaits in guide dogs. Implications for success and breeding.

**MONDAY Superficial Digital Flexor Tendon Avulsion - with Dr Caroline Moeser**  
14:25 to 14:40 Do you have a patellar luxation or a superficial digital flexor tendon avulsion? A quick review of a condition that can present with symptoms similar to a patellar luxation, how is it inherited and what does it mean for the future of the dog?

**MONDAY Conditioning Program for Dogs Coming In For Training - with Dr Kevin Conrad**  
14:40 to 15:30 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.

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**MONDAY Questions**  
15:30 to 15:45

**MONDAY Coffee Break**  
15:45 to 16:15

**MONDAY Improving health using EBVs: Elbow, Skin and Mast cell tumours - with Dr Eldin Leighton and Madeline Zimmermann**  
16:15 to 16:50

Covering what data is required and the best age to measure, heritability of each trait, response to selection, and challenges.

**MONDAY Improving behavior with EBVs: Body sensitivity, Noise Fear, Inhibited by Stress, Activated by Stress, Excitable - with Jane Russenberger**  
16:50 to 17:25

Covering what data is required and the best age to measure, heritability of each trait, response to selection, and challenges.

**MONDAY How to make breeding decisions on traits without EBVs - with Dr Eldin Leighton and Madeline Zimmermann**  
17:25 to 18:00

When you don't have enough data for utilizing EBVs, how do you approach breeder selection? Using examples of TVD, Head Tremors and Corneal Lipid Dystrophy, this presentation will show you the methods to improve your breeding program without EBVs.

**MONDAY Questions**  
18:00 to 18:15

**MONDAY Dinner (Included with registration)**  
19:00

## TUESDAY 2 MAY

**TUESDAY How to use estimated breeding values successfully - with Madeline Zimmermann**  
8:00 to 8:35 Demonstrating how IWDR can apply the 3 principles of selection: Selecting breeder candidates, choosing mates, and choosing which dogs to retire.

**TUESDAY Strategies for genetic diversity - with Jackie Clark and Dr Bart Broeckx**  
8:35 to 9:05 How do we maintain genetic diversity in smaller breeding colonies? A discussion of the strategies you can use for your colony to maintain diversity, such as: utilizing Mate Finder in IWDR; freeze the male then train him; building collaborations; general guidelines for increasing likelihood of conception; and considerations in shipping dogs.

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**TUESDAY 9:05 to 9:25** **Calculating Differential Risk of Osteoarthritis in Dogs with Low vs High Hip Scores - with Dr Tom Lewis**

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.

**TUESDAY 9:25 to 9:45** **The Overall Selection Index - with Dr Eldin Leighton**

What is it and how do you use it in your breeding program to identify a genetically diverse cohort of young dogs as replacement breeders. Choosing the traits and how much influence they have on the selection index based on your breeding goals.

**TUESDAY 9:45-10:00** **Questions**

**TUESDAY 10:00 to 10:30** **Coffee Break**

**TUESDAY 10:30 to 11:00** **Critical periods of socialization and impact on temperament of the dog - with Jane Russenberger**

Presentation of data analysis between groups of dogs in which socialization has been interrupted. When are the critical periods and how much of an impact does it make?

**TUESDAY 11:00 to 11:25** **GDBart Puppy Test - with Helen West**  
Conducting the GDBart Puppy Test: is it worth it, is it predictive and how can the data help your organization and your breeding colony?

**TUESDAY 11:25 to 11:50** **Dog behaviour is in the eye of the beholder - with Joke Monteny**

**TUESDAY 11:50-12:15** **Behavioral scoring in Puppy Raising - with Helen West**  
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?

**TUESDAY 12:15-12:30** **Questions**

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**TUESDAY Lunch Break**  
12:30 to 13:30

**TUESDAY Selecting Reproductively Healthy Dogs - with Dr Emmanuel Fontaine**  
13:30 to 13:50 Practical Must Do Screening for large breed (Lab, GS, Golden) females and males, acceptable abnormalities and how to manage unacceptable abnormalities for the individual and/or long term fertility in the colony.

**TUESDAY Brood and Whelping Concerns - with Dr Greg Burns**  
13:50 to 14:45 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?

**TUESDAY Questions**  
14:45-15:00

**TUESDAY Coffee Break**  
15:00 to 15:30

**TUESDAY Neonatal Care - with Dr Kevin Conrad**  
15:30 to 16:30 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?

**TUESDAY Questions**  
16:30 to 16:45

**TUESDAY Conclusion - with Bill Thornton (IGDF Chair)**  
16:45 to 17:00 With thanks to our host: BC & Alberta Guide Dogs.

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