

2026 Breeder's Workshop Program

Yokohama, Japan

Day 1: Tuesday May 12th, 2026

**Topics and speakers subject to change.*

Time	Session/Panel	Topic
8:30	Welcome	<i>The Planning Committee welcomes you to the 2026 Breeder's Workshop.</i>
8:45 to 9:30	Session 1	Breeding for the Future: The Vision Ahead <i>An overview of global trends in canine breeding, technology, and long-term sustainability from the perspective of the IBC.</i> Presenter: TBD
9:30 to 10:15	Session 2	Colony Management for Efficiency and Welfare <i>Best practices for maintaining productive breeding colonies and meeting organizational needs while considering breeding dog welfare.</i> Presenter: TBD
10:15 to 10:30	BREAK	Vendor tables on display.
10:30 to 11:15	Session 3	Production Planning in Modern Breeding Programs <i>How to align breeding goals with program needs, resources, and future demand.</i> Presenter: Rachel Goldammer, IWDR
11:15 to 12:00	Panel 1	Panel: From Planning to Practice <i>Experts from different sized organizations discuss real-world applications of colony management and production planning.</i> Panelists: Rachel Goldammer (IWDR), TBD, TBD
12:00 to 13:00	LUNCH	Vendor tables on display.
13:00 to 13:45	Session 4	Data Capture – The Foundation of Progress <i>Collecting accurate, reliable data on breeding, health, and behavior</i> Presenter: Dani Prebensen, IWDR
13:45 to 14:30	Session 5	Test Matings <i>Tools and strategies for breeding decisions.</i> Presenter: Madeline Zimmerman, IWDR
14:30 to 15:15	Panel 2	Panel: The Reality of Creating Systems for Data Capture <i>What to plan for, what to avoid, and how to make sure your data systems will support your organization.</i> Panelists: Madeline Zimmerman, IWDR, Dani Prebensen, IWDR, Dr. Becky Hunt, Guide Dogs UK
15:15 to 15:30	BREAK	Vendor tables on display.
15:30 to 16:15	Session 6	Where Does Behavior Fit? <i>Turning Behavioral Data into Breeding Decisions.</i> Presenter: Rachel Goldammer, IWDR
16:15 to 17:00	Session 7	Using Technology to Assist with Behavior Screening <i>The use of AI with smart harness and smart collar tech to assist in behavioral decisionmaking.</i> Presenter: Dr. Dave Roberts, NCSU

17:00 to 17:45	Panel 3	Panel: The Reality of Capturing and Incorporating Behavioral Data <i>How to capture meaningful behavioral data and implement impactful change.</i> Panelists: Zuhey Medina Gonzalez, Dogs Inc, Rachel Goldammer, IWDR, Dr. Caroline Moeser, Guide Dogs NSW
17:45	END	Conclusion of Day 1.

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Day 2: Wednesday May 13th, 2026

**Topics and speakers subject to change.*

Time	Session/ Panel	Track 1 Topics	Session/ Panel	Track 2 Topics
8:30 to 8:45	Welcome	<i>Housekeeping and speaker introduction.</i>	Welcome	<i>Housekeeping and speaker introduction.</i>
8:45 to 9:30	Session 8	Canine Health – Safeguarding the Future <i>Updates on health screening, and preventative strategies all things general canine health.</i> Presenter: Katy Evans, The Seeing Eye	Session 13	Got Milk? How to manage mum's lactation needs Presenter: Dr. Caroline Moeser, Guide Dogs NSW
9:30 to 10:15	Session 9	Canine Genetics <i>Genomic tools, how to use the information gathered, and a look to the future.</i> Presenter: Frances Chen, Darwin's Ark	Session 14	Review of the latest RECOVER guidelines for Newborn Resuscitation Presenter: Dr. Natalie Maticka, Guide Dogs QLD
10:15 to 10:30	BREAK	Vendor tables on display.		
10:30 to 11:15	Session 10	Next Generation – Identifying the Best Candidates <i>Balancing phenotype, performance, generational intervals, genetic potential and production.</i> Presenter: Zuhey Medina Gonzalez, Dogs Inc	Session 15	Uterine Interia Presenter: Dr. Gail McRae, Leader Dogs for the Blind
11:15 to 12:00	Panel 4	Panel: Outside the Box Breeding Strategies Experts weigh in about short-term breeders, dual careers, and shortened generational intervals in practice. Panelists: Katy Evans (The Seeing Eye), TBD, Julijana György Matesic (Huikuang Guide Dog Foundation Taiwan)	Panel 6	Panel: Decision Making During Whelps <i>Timings, Interventions, and seeking vet input.</i> Panelists: Dr. Gail McRae (Leader Dogs for the Blind), Dr. Natalie Maticka (Guide Dogs QLD), Dr. Caroline Moeser (Guide Dogs NSW), JGDA Whelping Team

12:00 to 13:00	LUNCH	Vendor tables on display.		
13:00 to 13:45	Session 11	Advance Topic: Cardiology Presenter: Dr Yoko Fujii	Session 16	Cleft Palate Research Presenter: Rachel Moxon, Guide Dogs UK
13:45 to 14:30	Session 12	Advance Topic: Orthopedics Presenter: TBD	Panel 7	Panel: Puppy Socialization Panelists: Caroline Moeser (Guide Dogs NSW), Jane Bradley (Vision Australia), JGDA neonatal care team
14:30 to 15:15	Panel 5	Balancing Performance, Health, and Genetics <i>Experts weigh in on the trade-offs and synergies in breeder decision-making.</i> Panelists: Dr. Yoshinori Suwa, Julijana György Matesic (Huikuang Guide Dog Foundation Taiwan), Madeline Zimmermann (IWDR)	Panel 8	Panel: Public Opinion <i>Addressing public concerns, government regulations and volunteer issues.</i> Panelists: Nicola Cotton, Benjamin Borg, TBD, TBD
15:15 to 15:45	BREAK	End of Track Sessions		
15:45 to 16:15	Session 17	Canine Breeding – Innovation & Responsibility <i>A look forward to emerging science, technology, and ethical responsibility. How to set breeding colonies and departments up for future success</i> Presenter: TBD		
16:15 to 16:30	Wrap up	<i>The Planning Committee concludes the 2026 Breeder's Workshop.</i>		