

## Health Committee Report Draft 9/2/17

The Health Committee is composed of myself, Laura Liscum, Assistant Chairperson, Shelley Barclay, Peggy Evanich, Patricia Koprovic, Linda Murray and Veronica Scheer. Joann Beavers has resigned for personal reasons.

Pat Koprovic contacted me several weeks ago and asked to join the HC. She was added after discussion by HC members. For as long as I can remember the HC has been its current size. When a Club member volunteers (as Pat has) to assist the committee with a health issue, I've asked if they are interested in joining the committee. Pat was noticed several years ago when a litter she had was affected with a disorder of importance to the breed. She was forthcoming to PBGV owners and breeders, and sent pictures and criteria to UC Davis to help in research. I was pleased she finally has the time to join us.

We appreciate Jo's help in drafting roles and responsibilities for the HC. We are in the process of task assignments as well as adding health features to our website as their need becomes evident.

The approval from the PBGVCA board for Dr. Danika Bannasch's (UC Davis) potential IVDD research is appreciated. As soon as we hear if CHF has approved Dr. Bannasch's grant, we will advise you of her plan. If the Grant is approved, the HC is considering obtaining DNA swabs at the Reno National to assist Dr. Bannasch with her research. In addition, Dr. Bannasch may be available to conduct a discussion at our National. We hope we can give her a good-sized audience. We need our members to appreciate and be aware of the power of genetics and potential diseases created by pedigree combinations. We hope that the health information that we are acquiring in our database will help Club members reduce disease in future breedings.

Dr. Rachel Allbaugh, a Veterinary Ophthalmologist from Iowa State, is again interested in potential research involving prophylactic treatment of POAG affected PBGV. As this develops, I will keep you updated. Dr. Allbaugh feels that prophylactic treatment of POAG affected PBGVs who are not yet blind may allow them to keep their sight longer. Information on affected dogs in our database will be very helpful to Dr. Allbaugh.

I have been in touch with Kristina regarding DNA Blood Draw for OFA CHIC and obtaining an ophthalmologist for OFA Eye Certification Registry examinations (CAER), including both gonioscopy and tonometry. We are in the process of finding out the requirements for blood draw by a licensed technician and locating an ophthalmologist for the April 27, 2018 clinics.

Laura has put together a "Meet the Health Committee" article for ST. She is also working on a

ST article updating the membership on POAG. Announcements will be included touching on database updates and additional health information. Veronica will advise on the latest database features and articles for the Reference Center.