

IWCC Newsletter - July 2025

Website Update - Clubistry

The Website Committee has been working through the final stages of getting our new Website up and running. Over the last year, we have been reviewing site content and adding, deleting and preserving all the content we would not want to lose. We have a final meeting scheduled for August 15, 2025 and anticipate a launch date for the end of August. We are looking forward to being able to provide a Website that we can be proud of with accurate information and content for our Members very soon.

eBulletin - Next edition

The eBulletin team is working hard to collect content for the next edition scheduled to be released by the end of August.

IWCC P & P and Bylaws Update

The Board is nearing the end of the project to bring our P&P and Bylaws up to date by including the Board decisions that have been voted on since the start of this term. This includes the work done with the Branch Clubs to define Branch relations with the CKC and the IWCC. Once the Board has reviewed the two drafts submitted to them this week, we will conduct an OPA vote to the Members for the Bylaw edits and post the P&P changes on the Member's only area of our Website

Iwdb Webinar - July

This presentation by Per Arne Flatsberg, one of the co-founders of the iwdb was a huge success with 37 online participants from Europe, Canada and the US. The presentation will be available on the IWCC Facebook Page as well as on the IWCC Youtube Channel which has recently been created. One key learning we all heard was about the importance of entering "longevity data" on your dogs that pass over the rainbow bridge. This is so important for future data analysis.

Call for Judges for the future 2028, 2029 and 2030th Specialties

Please take a moment to offer your suggestions of your choice for judges to our Club secretary before August 31, 2025. Email to: irishwc.secretary@gmail.com

Updating the breeders list

Breeders are invited to contact the secretary for any change in their contact information as well as puppies and adults available for new owners.

The breeders list will be updated every month or sooner if needed.

We actually have a long list of people throughout Canada that are willing to become a forever home for older dogs but we don't have rescues more than two or three every year. I now send them the breeders list in case they want to be on your waiting list for a puppy. They might contact you. Those people were not formally interviewed by the Rescue team.

IWCC National and MW Regional Specialty - Alberta

September 20, 2025 - September 21, 2025

Supported by the Mid Western Members

Planning for the 53rd National Specialty and the Regional Specialty, supported by the Mid Western Branch is in full swing. This small, but mighty group of Branch members are working very hard to make this event, one to remember.

SLGCC 19th Hole RV Campground
50 Ave
Sylvan Lake, Alberta T4S 1B2

National Specialty Judge: Debbie Tebbutt, North Wales, UK (Caredig Irish Wolfhounds)

National Sweepstakes Judge: Trudy Taphorn, Busby, AB (Tamaron Collies; Counterpoint Whippets)

Regional Specialty Judge: Roger Tebbutt, North Wales, UK (Caredig Irish Wolfhounds)

Regional Sweepstakes Judge: Rosemary Young, Calgary AB (Hounds of Spiritsound)

Event Secretary:

TKO Show Services, Calgary AB
(403) 651-7789
TKOShowServices@gmail.com

For more information, contact:

Cindy Kremer at tobypaints@gmail.com or
Stephanie Bugbee at iwccmwbsecretary@gmail.com

For booking a campsite:

<https://www.camplife.com/6516779/reservation/step1?gid=15124558>

Host Hotel

Prairie Moon Inn Sylvan Lake
3 Beju Ind. Dr
Sylvan Lake, AB T4S 2J4
Phone: 403-768-0829
Must be booked by Aug 18, 2025
Room Rate 2 Queens \$174.00 plus tax.
Pet fee \$30.00 per night.

For the most up to date information, please check out the Mid Western Branch of the IWCC's Facebook page.

Heart Clinic with Upper Canada Specialty on August 23, 2025

IRISH WOLFHOUND CARDIAC HEALTH TESTING

As part of the Life Cycle Study, the Irish Wolfhound Foundation will sponsor EKGs for cardiac health at the show site on Saturday, August 23, 2025.

In order to have your hound tested, please sign up online at [The Irish Wolfhound Foundation - LCS II Dog Data](#) to enter your hound in the Life Cycle Study II. There is no cost for the EKGs. If an owner would like to make a donation to the Irish Wolfhound Foundation, it will be gratefully accepted and this can also be done on the Foundation website.

EKGs will be evaluated by email. No pre-registration for particular time slots is needed as the EKGs will be done on a walk-in basis. These may take a few days to evaluate.

FIWC ITALIA 2026

We are invite to join the Federation of Irish Wolfhound Clubs Congress host by the World dog show in Bologna, Italy on June 4th to 6th 2026. Judges are Jocelyne Gagne, Chris Amoo and Ludovica Salamon.

The site look splendid and I am sure the hospitality will be fantastic.

(See the program attached)

The history of the IW database



In the summer of 2014, an idea began to take root among passionate Irish Wolfhound enthusiasts: what if there were a single, open-access pedigree database for the entire breed—one that could be used not just by breeders, but by scientists, researchers, and everyday puppy buyers? That idea soon blossomed into the Irish Wolfhound Database (IWDB), now one of the most comprehensive canine databases in the world.

The conversation began in a Facebook group, where Maura Lyons of Scotland floated the idea of creating a collaborative, international resource. Interest quickly grew, and by October 2014, a dedicated group had formed to coordinate the project. This founding team included Maura Lyons (Scotland), Jean Timmins (England), Edita Beresová (Czech Republic), Pernille Monberg (Denmark), and Per Arne Flatberg (Norway), who later became the database's developer and technical lead.

What started as an informal discussion soon evolved into serious work. By the time the IWDB was launched at Crufts in 2016, volunteers around the world had collected and entered data for over 125,000 Irish Wolfhounds. As of April 2025, that number has grown to over 179,000 dogs, representing an estimated 96% of all registered Irish Wolfhounds in history—with 95% of those having complete pedigrees tracing back to breed founders.

But the IWDB is more than just a record of names and dates. Its data has supported groundbreaking scientific studies, including research on the heritability of osteosarcoma, atrial fibrillation, and even longevity itself. Over 13,000 lifespan records are now available in the database—by far the largest collection of canine lifespan data for any breed.

From the beginning, the IWDB has been guided by the principle “free and open for all.” This philosophy ensures that breeders can make informed choices, researchers can access high-quality data, and puppy buyers can better understand the dogs behind their new companions. The database’s open access and global contributions reflect the founders’ vision of transparency and collaboration.

A dedicated team of about ten volunteers continues the daily work of entering and correcting data, answering inquiries, and tracking down new sources. Though the core group has grown and evolved, the IWDB is designed to be sustainable well into the future, with a steering group in place to guide its development for generations to come.

More than just a tool for breeders, the IWDB is an educational resource. It helps people read and understand pedigrees as the genetic “blueprint” of a dog. It empowers puppy buyers to make thoughtful decisions, helps prevent avoidable mistakes, and connects dog lovers around the world with the rich history of this majestic breed.

The Irish Wolfhound community’s support has made the IWDB what it is today. Every donation—of data, photos, time, or funding—brings the project closer to its goal: a complete and accurate record of every Irish Wolfhound that ever lived.

The webinar is available on the IWCC Facebook page for your information. If you find the database and the webinar useful, a donation to the iwdb is gratefully appreciated to help continue this amazing resource available to all of us.

Iwdb

PayPal to infor@iwdb.org



by Bob McMillan, July 2, 2018

Dear Oona

My humans love the heat. They swim. They sunbathe. They like to go to the beach in the middle of the day and they like to take me along. The heat is killing me. How do I get the message across?

Buster

Dear Buster

Since it's July and getting dangerously hot out there, you need to convince them fast. If your body temperature rises just four degrees above normal, you can die, Buster. You're permanently in a fur coat. They are not. It's time to stop being subtle. Just walking on asphalt in this weather can burn your foot pads. Next time you have the chance, pull a pot of boiling water off on their bare feet. Look at them pointedly. Maybe they'll get the message. If they're leaving you in a parked car for any time at all, bark and look pitiful to every passerby. You've got 15 minutes tops before you die. Someone will break a window and get you out of there. Some dog owners have learned this the hard way. With any luck, a policeman will show up and be mean to them, too. If you're an Irish Wolfhound, do what I do and simply refuse to budge from the couch if it's too hot. They probably won't lug you outside on their shoulder. I won't leave the couch until October unless it's at dawn or past 8 at night. It's Oisin I worry about because he's a boy and he's up for anything if he gets to go with Mom or Dad. Luckily, they make him stay inside when it's too hot. How much is too hot? For me, it's any day past April or 70 degrees, whichever comes first. Try to walk me after that and I just head for the shade and let anybody try to stop me. Some dogs are more timid, I guess. If your humans are half-way competent, they'll realize that any time your ears, tongue or gums start to turn red, it's time to douse you with lukewarm water and get you in to the air conditioning. July is NOT the time for a day the beach, Buster. Not for you. Heat exhaustion can be quickly followed by heatstroke itself. If they see you staggering or throwing up, it could quickly be too late to help. You could go into shock. You could start having brain seizures, You could die in just no time at all. So head for the couch. Wish them a a great time at the beach. Complement their tans. But do not budge until it's safe to go outside. Love, Oona

A sales contract for Irish Wolfhound puppies that complies with the Code of Ethics.

This month, we are offering the contents of a standard sales contract for Irish Wolfhound puppies or adult dogs that complies with the IWCC Code of Ethics, as well as examples of how certain requirements are interpreted.

The COE establishes minimum requirements for caring for a dog the size of a wolfhound with regard to health, food, exercise, safety, socialization, housing, and fenced areas.

It also encourages good relations between owners and breeders to ensure the dog's well-being throughout its life. This is the first part of the Code.

The interpretation of these clauses may vary; we will present a few examples.

The second part of the Code addresses the responsibilities of breeders. There are many responsibilities.

If the dog is co-owned for the purpose of eventual breeding, additional clauses will be included as

co-ownership agreements are not covered by the COE

These elements should be included in a specific contract between the breeder and buyer.

Let us examine the basic contractual requirements and

the specific clauses that may be added to meet needs or restrictions deemed essential by breeders.

Responsibilities and guarantees provided by the breeder:

Your puppy will be at least 10 weeks old and will arrive with the following documents and commitments from the breeder:

- The CKC registration in the name of the kennel and the name chosen by the breeder and issued by the CKC within six months.

- The puppy's health record, which includes vaccination certificates, deworming certificates (date and product), and, most importantly, the PSS test results.
- Additional microchip barcodes.
- A copy of the puppy's three-generation pedigree and a link to the IW Database for both parents, for more information on the lineage.
- A copy of the health tests for both parents, specifically those recommended by the OFA, i.e., heart, elbows, hips, and eyes.
- A non-breeding or co-ownership agreement issued by the CKC.
- Written recommendations on diet, exercise, vaccination protocol, and age of spaying or neutering might be added to address breeders' needs or restrictions.
 - *Several breeders offer a guarantee against congenital or hereditary diseases, usually up to the age of 2 years. Reports of such diseases or death must be provided in writing by a certified veterinarian. The dog must be returned to the breeder, and the replacement or refund must be specified in the sales contract (e.g., replacement, refund variable depending on the dog's age, etc.). Some breeders stipulate restrictions on these guarantees in the event of treatment or surgery deemed inappropriate. Breeders cannot guarantee the color, size, or even the sex of the replacement puppy.*
 - *Several breeders offer guarantees against infectious or viral diseases for a period of time and under conditions also specified in the contract (e.g., duration of the guarantee, copy of the veterinarian's evaluation, no contact with other animals, exclusion of certain diseases such as Parvo, etc.).*
- In addition, your breeder agrees to take back the puppy or adult dog, regardless of the circumstances, in which case the buyer must provide the signed registration of the dog for the purpose of transferring ownership.
 - *Some breeders require CKC transfer fees.*
 - *Some breeders detail in their contracts the terms of reimbursement depending on the age of the puppy and whether it is resold by the breeder.*
- Your breeder agrees to be available to you and your dog for its entire life and will not hesitate to help you with several important decisions regarding its care, health, and even its end of life.
- Your breeder has committed to selling you a healthy puppy from healthy parents.

Buyers also have responsibilities and contractual obligations:

- The buyer agrees to provide satisfactory indoor housing and care beyond food, water, and medical care, including vaccinations.
 - *Some breeders will require a raw diet, while others will prefer specific dry diets such as grain-free, adult, giant breed puppy, lamb-based, etc.*
- The buyer agrees to keep their puppy in a safe environment throughout the day.
 - *Some breeders request that puppies not be placed in “day camps” or boarding facilities during vacations or business trips.*
- The buyer agrees to provide a fenced-in area where the puppy can exercise without a leash.
 - *Some breeders refuse to sell a dog that would live in a city because the space would be too small to provide an adequate environment for its growth. For health and safety reasons, some breeders refuse to allow puppies to visit dog parks, especially without a leash.*
 - *For health and longevity reasons, some breeders request that dogs remain slim.*
- The buyer agrees to stay in touch with the breeder of their dog.
 - *Some breeders ask to be kept informed of the puppy's progress and development.*
 - *Some breeders want to be involved in all important decisions concerning the health and end of life of a dog.*
- The buyer agrees not to offer or give the dog to a third party without the breeder's consent. The dog must be returned to the breeder and must not be sold under any circumstances.
 - *Penalties may be stipulated in the contract.*
- The dog is usually sold without breeding rights and must be spayed or neutered after the age of 2.
 - *A written agreement with the breeder may exempt the puppy from neutering or spaying .*
 - *Any breeding of these dogs without the breeder's consent, whether accidental or not, may result in significant monetary compensation, which will be stipulated in the contract.*
 - *Some breeders offer one month of dog insurance, and future owners agree to continue the dog's health insurance for its lifetime.*

Specific features of a co-ownership agreement

- Breeders who sell puppies in co-ownership will require future owners to meet the same standards they set for themselves and their dogs.
 - *Dogs must obtain their Canadian or American championship.*
 - *In the case of a male dog, the breeder may show the dog at exhibitions on behalf of the owner.*
- Female dogs must not be mated before their first heat after the age of 2 and must not exceed 6 years of age.
 - *When breeding a bitch, the choice of male is the result of mutual consent between the two owners.*
- Both future parents will be tested for heart, shoulders, hips, and eyes and certified by the OFA, as will their parents.
 - *A Canine Brucellosis test is added to certain contracts.*
 - *No male may mate without the breeder's consent.*
 - *The distribution of costs and payment for mating must be specified in the contract.*
 - *The distribution of puppy choices must also be specified in the contract.*
 - *The breeder and the buyer should also discuss and set out in writing in the contract several other terms and conditions covering the registration names of any offspring, the type of contract associated with these puppies.*
 - *The possible termination of co-ownership should also be part of the contract*

In conclusion

I am sure that this list is not exhaustive, and that some breeders have specific requirements related to their own situations or those of their buyers. This fictitious contract covers all relevant points of the COE, as well as examples of possible interpretations and additions. Breeders are welcome to supplement it with the results of their experience.

A good, well-understood contract can prevent many problems and disputes.