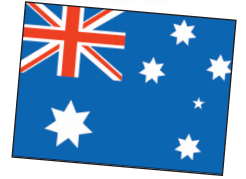


Breed presentation from Australia



- Separate State Bodies control breeding and most Championship Shows
- Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC) for national matters
- Breed clubs must meet minimum membership to affiliate, and so hold Championship Shows.

3 formalised Clubs with constitutions containing processes for accepting & disciplining members

- SCWT Society of NSW - the only affiliated club, 1st Championship Show March 2008.
- SCWT Club of Victoria the longest running group, have held social get-togethers for some years
- SCWT Society of Queensland most recently formed as the SCWT numbers have grown
 - ACT has a strong representation but small population makes a club problematic, owners join NSW
 - Only the Eastern states have clubs, indeed there are very few Wheatens in Tas, SA, WA or NT

Number of puppies Registered over 10 years:

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
SCWT	20	15	7	22	24	7	25	23	23	17	39	41	55	51	21	33	39	67	67	70	55	36
Staffies	1913	2444	2542	2561	2774	2995	2964	3098	3327	3807	4172	3404	4698	3570	3849	3752	3591	3647	3803	3585	3614	3996

In 2007 Staffordshire Bull terriers were 3rd most popular behind Labrador Retrievers & German Shepherds

There appear to be very few Wheatens advertised by unregistered breeders but the odd one does appear

Registered breeders must have a kennel prefix registered in the state of residence and sit a test.

Most breeders have waiting lists and there are enquiries coming via the NSW website and internet ads regularly.

- Imports- 20 SCWTs in the last 5 years _ ex New Zealand then UK & US followed by SWD & Czech Rp.
- Exports - since 1995 9 SCWTS in total, most to NZ then US and one each to Japan and Singapore
- Litters registered to 18 breeders in the last 5 years, over 70% involved with clubs

Club activities

- Website development, setup by SCWTS NSW, to be used by other clubs & perhaps turned National
- Developing a Regular Unified Newsletter called Wheaten Whispers to be published 4 times a year.
- Victoria is good at social events eg WOW - Walk Our Wheatens, Picnics, Puppy Play Days.
- Health Test days
- Developing a representative Health Group

Breeding guidelines

- Each State Body has regulations for breeding, eg minimum breeding age, frequency/number of litters.
- Some State Governments as part of their Domestic Animal Legislation, for example Victoria 2007, have made it an offence to knowingly breed dogs with specified heritable diseases.
- Draft breeding protocols agreed in June 2006 by newly formed NSW club and existing Victorian Enthusiasts
- Health Group, fostered by NSW; Qld & Vic have recently agreed to the development of a representative group to develop unified policies to be adopted by the existing clubs.

Evaluation of Breeding stock and their offspring

1. Health testing as recommended for PLE/N screening by Dr Littman to be conducted annually
2. Member's dogs are now not bred until tested and 2 years age minimum.
3. Some breeders are now testing for HD.
4. Show results are not a requirement for breeding in Australia
5. No current temperament testing is done as is common for many breeds in Aust.
6. We are a small breed "community" and so many dogs are known to other breeders.

Inbreeding coefficients

- K9 Ped software starting to be used by breeders making efforts to use wider gene pools. Much of the focus has been on dog's PLE/N history but accurate diagnosis can sometimes be problematic. Some breeders feel that other health issues may be overlooked with too much focus on one area.
- other breeders prefer to use % blood as they feel it is a more reliable tool

Buying a Wheaten. Stud fees average around \$AU1700 but is dog dependant.

- As is the case with most breeds in Australia, pups will sell for a similar price.
- With the small breed community clubs do not get involved in stud dog promotion
- With high interest in puppies the website is a useful contact point for prospective purchasers.
- As there is an undersupply of puppies most breeders within the clubs share their contacts
- Prospective owners are put in direct contact with breeders and at this stage there is no fee.

Health Issues No health surveys in Australia.

- An Open Register has been partially constructed but at this point not all breeders participate. This matter is currently under consideration by the 3 clubs.
- All wheaten owners are encouraged to conduct annual PLN testing but vets can be unfamiliar with the breed
- Victoria has held testing days but the geography of other states makes this difficult.
- Breeders at this stage keep their own test data and attempts are being made to set up more comprehensive records. Indeed some diagnoses of fatal health issues have been very problematic.