

## **SCWT DATABASE FAQs**

### **What is the purpose of the SCWT Health Database?**

The mission of the SCWTCA Endowment is to support research related to the health of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. The board members of the Endowment believe that as a first step, we must understand what health problems exist in the breed and that to facilitate this aim, we need a mechanism to research pedigrees that is readily available to breeders, owners, and researchers. To that end, the Endowment launched the SCWT Health and Pedigree Database which is dedicated not only to developing information, but to marrying those pedigrees with health information.

### ***LISTING YOUR DOG/LITTER***

#### **What information do you want for the database?**

- Photos
- Health Records
- Physical description of the dog
- Date and cause of death
- Breeding Records
- Testing results and certifications

#### **Why is my dog/litter not already in the Database?**

All of our information comes from publicly accessible sources, such as AKC reports, OFA records, some show catalogs, etc. If your dog has never appeared in a public record, we have no way of adding him to the Database.

#### **Do you want deceased dog's information and why is it important?**

There are a number of reasons:

- Information on deceased dogs may be of use to researchers.
- It's useful to breeders contemplating a breeding with frozen semen from a deceased dog.
- Breeders research dogs in pedigrees and having that information can inform their breeding decisions.

#### **Can we mail the information on our dogs to someone to enter? Will you send our information back if we request it?**

Yes, we are happy to take hard copy records. Please email [comments@scwtodb.org](mailto:comments@scwtodb.org) for instructions.

#### **Is there any cost to me to list information?**

No. The SCWTCA Endowment funds the Database so it can be provided free of charge, but we welcome donations to support its maintenance. Please go to [www.wheatenhealthendowment.org/donate.htm](http://www.wheatenhealthendowment.org/donate.htm) to make a donation.

## **HEALTH INFORMATION**

### **What do researchers use the database for?**

Researchers use the Database to track the incidence of health issues in the breed as well as to understand possible hereditary issues. They review healthy dogs as well as dogs with illnesses.

### **What does “anecdotal” mean in the Health Information section?**

For the database to be a useful tool, it's important to have as much information as possible, even when owners may no longer have health records. If an owner provides us with health information but does not provide vet records, we list the information as “anecdotal”.

### **Do you want dogs that were diagnosed with cancer if we don't have proof of that cancer?**

Yes. If you cannot get your dog's records from your vet, please provide as much detail about the type of cancer(s), the location(s) and treatment(s). It will be characterized in the Database as “anecdotal”.

### **If I do not have the vet records any longer, can you still list health information?**

Yes, please provide as much detail as you can.

### **Do you want the results of my dog's annual health testing?**

No. We do not list those results.

### **Can you use the Open Registry to update my dog's health history so I don't have to get the records?**

Yes, but we require your permission to do so which you can send to us at [comments@scwtodb.org](mailto:comments@scwtodb.org)

### **Why isn't my PLN variant gene DNA marker information in the database? How can I send it in?**

All of our information comes from publicly accessible sources, and this information is not listed publicly unless you have paid to list it on the OFA site or sent it to us to list it for free. Attach a copy of your dog's results to an email to [comments@scwtodb.org](mailto:comments@scwtodb.org). If you received an email on the results and can no longer find that email, you can still get the information from Penn..

### **Can you enter DNA results from laboratories other than Penn?**

Yes. Please email the results to [comments@scwtodb.org](mailto:comments@scwtodb.org)

### **What is the procedure to list a dog clear by parentage?**

The test results of both parents must be in the database.

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

### **Why do you want my contact information?**

We ask for this information so we can contact you if we have questions about the data. Additionally, researchers have access to contact information. Please note that it is SCWTCA Endowment policy to never supply anyone or organization with a list of names, phone numbers or email addresses of persons in the SCWT database other than researchers or health studies approved by the SCWTCA Endowment.

### **Why is contact information given to researchers?**

If a researcher has questions about your dog, we want them to contact you directly. It limits mistakes, is more efficient and insures your privacy.

### **Will my contact information be made public?**

Your email address is public. Your city and/or state or country are public if we know them.

## **OTHER**

### **I get a really weird error message sometimes. What should I do?**

That happens when we forget to feed the gerbils that run the database. (Just kidding. They're well-fed.) Usually if you click onto another page or close the database and reopen it, the message will go away. If it persists, please contact [comments@scwtodb.org](mailto:comments@scwtodb.org).