

Weimaraner Club of America

Health Committee

Purpose: To communicate with veterinarians and researchers with regard to breed specific health/genetic issues and research and convey information they acquire to the membership.

Organization: The governing body of the membership committee is the Weimaraner Club of America Board of Directors.

1. Appointees must be members in good standing with the Weimaraner Club of America.
2. The Chairperson shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors.
3. A Chairperson or Member is not prohibited from holding any other WCA office while serving on this Committee provided they have sufficient time to effectively contribute to the Committee's work.
4. The Chairperson shall choose their Committee from members with a background in science/veterinary/health and with interests in *advances* in canine health and genetics. The Chairperson shall ensure regular turn-over of Committee members.

Committee Chair Qualification: Must possess an advanced degree in biomedical or veterinary science, which will enable them to critically evaluate scientific research while effectively communicating with researchers and lay people.

Committee Responsibilities:

1. Development:
 - a. Develop a health database for members to exchange health information in an open forum.
 - b. Develop subcommittee(s) to address a specific health condition if warranted.
 - c. Develop recommendations for the Canine Health Information Center ("CHIC") as part of the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals database.
2. Education:
 - a. Educate the membership through timely online material, including links to scientific studies and articles.
 - b. Educate the membership about the need for targeted health funding.
 - c. Provide educational materials for breeders to include with their puppy packets.
 - d. Educate the public and Veterinarians about breed-specific conditions and new and on-going research for the same.
3. Member Participation: Encourage breeders and owners to participate in donating samples by organizing collections at regional and national specialties and in open discussions of health issues.

4. Communication and Funding:
 - a. Communicate with the Health Committees of fellow national breed clubs to coordinate collaborative funding contributions.
 - b. Communicate with the Weimaraner Foundation Fund to identify priorities in health research and target donations.
 - c. Communicate Weimaraner health issues to the American Kennel Club's Canine Health Foundation ("CHF") through selection of a CHF Liasion.
 - d. Review pending or ongoing research and advise the Board on targeted funding.

5. Report to the Board at least twice a year.

Board Reports: Submit report to the Secretary of the Board of Directors six weeks prior to each Board meeting.

1. Summarizing committee activity since the last Board of Directors meeting.
2. Include in the report any recommended changes to :
 - a. WCA rules or procedures related to the Committee
 - b. Committee responsibilities
 - c. Committee organization
 - d. Committee Chairperson Qualifications