

## **FROZEN SEMEN – REGISTRATION & OWNERSHIP – Facts:**

Australian National Kennel Council registration of frozen semen and other procedures -

*“The registration of frozen semen from local or imported dogs ideally should be registered but it is no longer mandatory.”*

ANKC\_Semen Procedure\_08b Last amended: October 2008

The change in the ANKC’s procedure for registering semen procedure (that registration is no longer mandatory) may have clouded your perception as to the importance of the registration of semen and an ability to track/audit the semen as it changes hands after registration.

It is very important and in everybody’s interest that you register your semen, including the number of straws/pipettes, on the ANKC database. Registration creates and maintains the existence of the semen and the subsequent chain of ownership and use whether local or imported.

This ensures a simple process not only for you but also the State Canine Controls to facilitate paperwork in relation to the registering of puppies resulting from artificial insemination and the sale of semen.

Where the semen is registered, the owners of semen will be issued with Certificates of Registration of Semen, much the same as the current Registration Certificates. These certificates like the Registration Certificate will include the owner of the semen, whose signature is required for the Litter Registration Application, the Certificates of Service or the transfer of ownership of the semen.

The procedures for registration of puppies got from frozen semen will also be simplified and will require the owner of the semen to sign the stud certificate as would be the case in a normal mating.

Owners of registered semen now have the opportunity to officially trade in semen, so a chain of ownership recorded on the ANKC database becomes very important if we are going to ensure the integrity of that semen as a trade commodity.

The transfer of semen will occur in the same way as the sale of a puppy, by the simple transfer of semen on the reverse side of the Semen Certificate.

What we are trying to avoid are situations as illustrated in following instances where the semen has not been registered:

- . The donor dog has long since been exported overseas.
- . The donor dog has died and there is a dispute as to whether that dog is the donor.
- . The owner of the semen is not the owner of the dog.
- . The ownership of the semen is by persons in partnership or marital relationship, the relationship has dissolved and there is now a dispute as to ownership.
- . Co-signatures are required and both/all persons won’t sign.
- . An amount of semen has been imported and owned by a group of people, there is no record of how much was imported and the amount each individual owns.
- . An amount imported is registered but the amount used exceeds the amount registered or the semen used is not by the person it is registered to.
- . This also applies to where a dog has been exported or has died and the amount of semen used exceeds the amount registered.  
In both of these instances, it means subsequent amounts has been imported or existed and had not registered.

In all of these instances they are issues that are avoidable and you would need to resolve, they are civil matters between parties where State Canine Controls have no reason to become involved.

There may be situations where the semen stored is old, new testing requirements now exist for hips/elbows/eyes or CL/TNS/epilepsy, the dog is deceased, the dog’s owner/s is/are deceased and the testing has not and cannot be done.

Example: Semen imported in 1991, the dog died in 1997, both owners are now deceased. Since importing the semen the rules registering a litter of pups have changed with the introduction of LRLs re hips. There is no certificate to prove the dogs hips scores. There are currently no ANKC protocols or ruling in relation to this and therefore the litter registration is held up for an undetermined time until this issue is resolved.

At the time you register the semen we will advise of the current tests required by the ANKC for the registration of the litter sired by that dog. These tests can be completed and recorded against the dog's registration and the registration of the semen.

It is agreed that with many breeds these tests are not required, but this may not be the case in the future. For example, the Border Collie fraternity has requested the inclusion of testing for Collie eye, CL and TNS to be recorded on a dog's registration and the limitation of litter registrations if the tests are not recorded.

Why is the registration of Semen important? We will let you decide.

Dogs ACT.