

Why we ask all our puppy buyers to perform some routine health testing once their IWS reaches 2 years of age.

As the IWS is a rare breed with small numbers, it benefits the breeders, owners and the IWS to collect as much health data as possible on as many adult IWS as is possible.

While the IWS is a pretty healthy breed in general, there are some conditions that have been seen in our breed. The IWSCA Breeders Education Committee commits to performing the following tests on all their breeding stock and posting those results on the OFA's database.

- Hip and elbow radiographs - Thyroid - CERF (eyes)

Further, Chantico Irish Water Spaniels recommends having a full cardiac screening performed on all their dogs.

Although we have not personally had any of the above mentioned health problems in any dogs of our breeding, we support the testing as outlined above because with such a small gene pool as the IWS currently has, ultimately most IWS will at some time share common ancestry so the more data collected and reported, the more information each breeder has when considering a future breeding.

In order to encourage our puppy buyers to agree to perform this important testing Chantico IWS will rebate the puppy buyer \$200 once proof of the above testing is received. Further we will assist with getting information on upcoming clinics that may be held in the geographical area of the buyer which will reduce the total cost of the testing.

Sincerely,

Mindy Garbarino

Former Chairman, IWSCA Breeders' Education Committee