







A ventrodorsal (VD) radiograph of the pelvis is required for scoring. The veterinary surgeon should radiograph the dog's hips as indicated below.

#### 4.1 Protection of Personnel

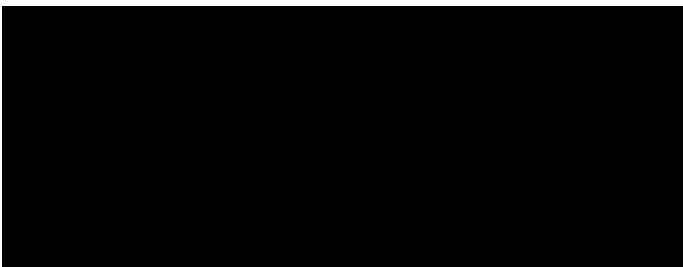
The Guidance Notes for the Safe Use of Ionising Radiations in Veterinary Practice (2017), which are based on the [Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017](#) explain that only in EXCEPTIONAL circumstances should dogs be manually restrained for radiography. Since the radiography of dogs for the purposes of this scheme would not constitute exceptional circumstances:

- a) it is NECESSARY to employ general anaesthesia, narcosis or deep sedation to enable only mechanical (i.e. nonmanual) restraint for the positioning of the animal;
- b) collimation of the primary beam should be clearly visible on the radiograph;
- c) the X-ray beam must be projected vertically downwards, perpendicular to the table top.

#### 4.2 Positioning

A standard position for radiography must be employed as follows:

- a) the dog must be placed on its back with the pelvis over the middle of the cassette or detector and the X-ray beam centred on the midline between the hips (i.e. the centring point should be at the level of the cranial edge of the pubis, by palpation). The pelvic area must lie flat on the table and not be artificially tilted.
- b) in order to avoid lateral rotation, the body should be supported in a straight line using a cradle or sandbags. The thorax must be upright and symmetrical since tilting of any part of the dog's body is likely also to cause tilting of the pelvis and asymmetry in the appearance of the hips. Lateral tilting of the pelvis can be recognised as a disparity in appearance between the ilial wings and obturator foramina on the two sides. It may be corrected by raising the





- g) To obtain correct positioning, please refer to the “how to” positioning videos on the [BVA YouTube channel](#).

#### 4.3 Markers and identification

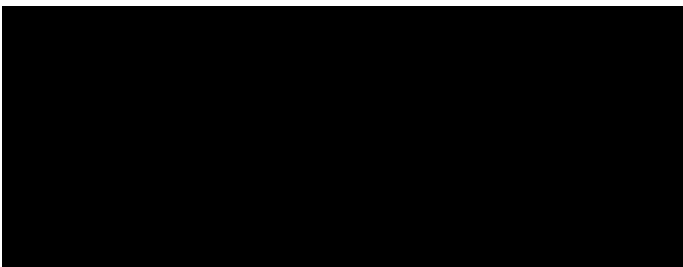
The following information MUST be included on digital images:

- a)
- i) the Kennel Club Registration Number (from the top right-hand corner of the KC Registration Certificate) for dogs registered with the KC ( ). For dogs not registered with the KC, identification as used by the veterinary practice, other registering body or breed club may be used.
  - ii) microchip or tattoo number
- b) the date of radiography
- c) left and/or right marker(s).

#### 4.4 Image quality

Correct exposure is essential to provide a radiograph of good diagnostic quality. When radiographing a large or overweight dog with either conventional or digital systems, it is usually necessary to use a grid to minimise the effects of scattered radiation on the image. The image should show good radiographic definition and contrast, and the dorsal acetabular edges (DAE) should be visible superimposed by the femoral heads. The radiograph should be checked for correct positioning, exposure, and image quality while the dog is still restrained in case a further radiograph needs to be taken.

#### 4.5 Uploading Images





## 5. Submission

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The procedure for submission under the scheme is as follows:

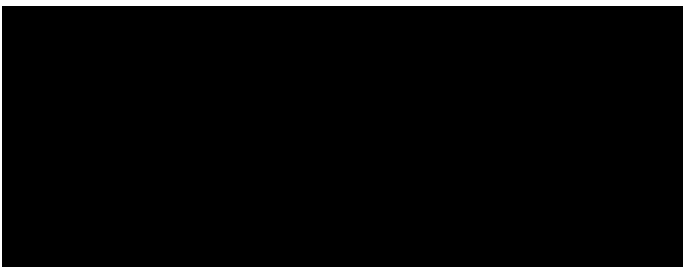
- a) The veterinary surgeon is responsible for uploading the images and providing the correct details (as the owner would want to see them appear on the completed certificate) on the submission portal.

## 6. Scoring

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The procedure for scoring under the scheme is as follows:

- a) S





- b) relevant details may be sent to a geneticist for statistical analysis or creation of EBVs as arranged by BVA.

### 7.1 Requests for results

Owners can request to receive direct email updates from CHS on the progression of their submission. Owners should let their veterinary surgeon know that they would like to receive updates and the veterinary surgeon is then responsible to select this feature when making a submission.

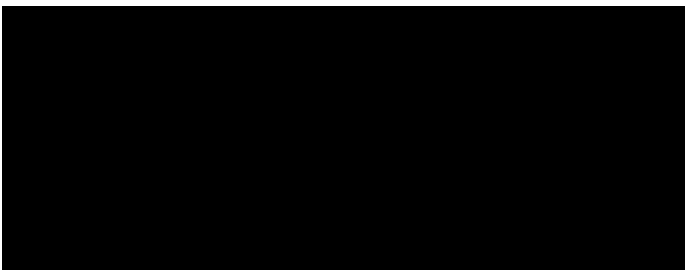
- a) Pending results:
  - i) an owner must contact the submitting veterinary surgeon, NOT BVA, for results issued under the scheme;
- b) Past results:
  - i) results for KC-registered dogs which have previously been published are available on the Kennel Club website;
  - ii) any results which have not been published should be sought directly from the owner(s) of the dog;

## 8. Appeals procedure

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An owner has a right to appeal with regard to the results of a HD score. The procedure is as follows:

- a) any application for appeal against the result of a HD score must be lodged by the owner to the submitting veterinary surgeon of the BVA scored date.
- b) the veterinary surgeon who originally took the radiographs and submitted them to scheme, will then need to find the relevant submission on the online portal under Submission history, and then commence the appeals procedure by selecting 'appeal' and following the relevant prompts.
- c)





## Schedule 1

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## Schedule 2

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The scale of fees as of 1 January 2024 is set out on the [BVA website](#). These charges do not include the cost of radiography and may be changed from time to time. Any changes will be notified by further communication.

## Schedule 3

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The BVA appointed panel of scrutineers detailed below may be changed from time to time.

Mrs E A BAINES MA VetMB DVR DipECVDI MRCVS (Chief Scrutineer)  
Dr K BRADLEY MA VetMB PhD DVR DipECVDI MRCVS  
Dr G W BROWN BVM&S DSAS(Ortho) MRCVS  
Dr J V DAVIES BVetMed PhD DVR DipECVS DipECVDI FRCVS  
Mr S CLARKE BVM&S DSAS(Ortho) DipECVS MRCVS  
Mr D G CLAYTON JONES BVetMed DVR DSAO HonFRCVS  
Dr R DENNIS MA VetMB DVR DipECVDI FRCVS  
Prof M E HERRTAGE MA BVSc DVSc DVR DVD DSAM DipECVDI Dip ECVIM FRCVS  
Mr J E F HOULTON, MA VetMB DVR DSAO FRCVS

