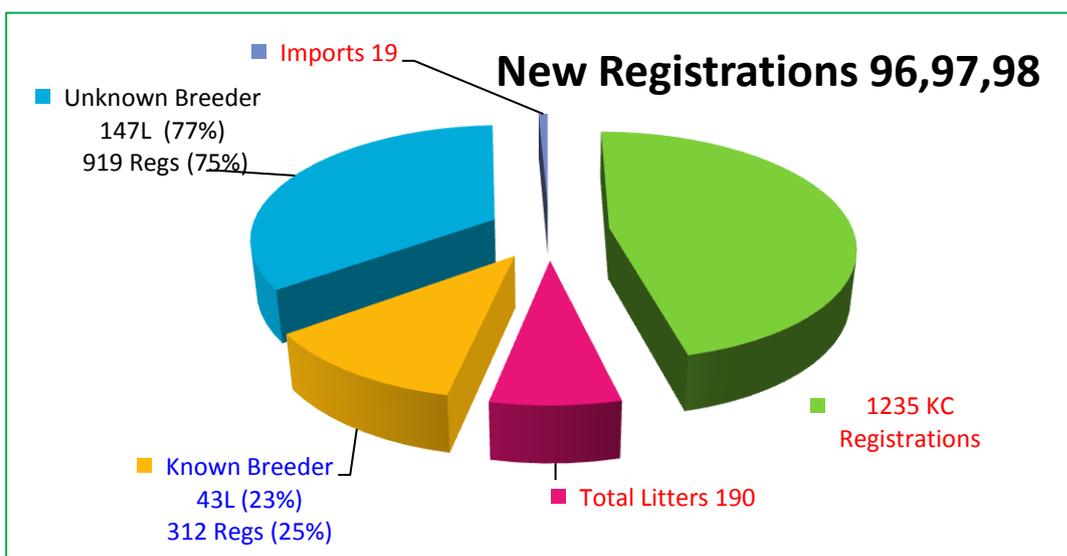


Breed Registration Records - Pie-Charts Detailing Specific Numbers & Percentages:

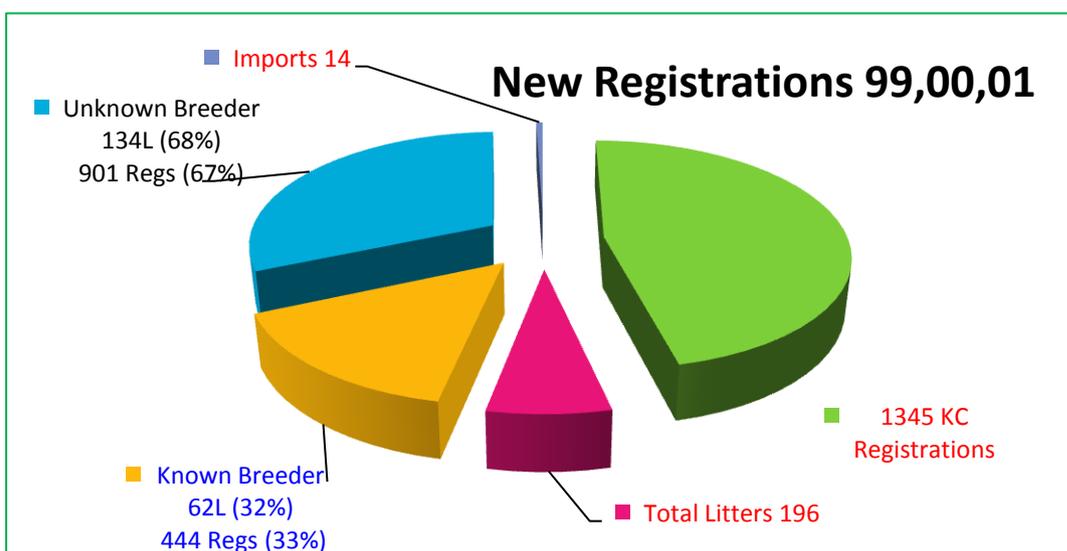
The following Pie-Charts correspond to KC Breed Record Supplement records of Registrations for Neapolitan Mastiffs for respective years. The Breed Club hopes that Annual Registration details downloaded onto our Databases & Spreadsheet files will, in the future, enable us to cross-reference registration details against health screening results, allowing us to understand or even perceive when, where, and why, issues of health may have arisen or might be likely to arise in breeding programmes.

In the meantime, whilst we continue to gather and down-load our registration records and scientific data, our Databases & Spreadsheet files, in present format, have enabled us to collate specific data which has provided us with a clearer picture of Annual Registrations in relation to: Imports, Exports, Litter Numbers, and New Registration applications by known breeders (enthusiasts who have held Club Membership & were/are pro-active within the breed), and un-known breeders (people who have never held Club Membership or have ever been active within the breed).

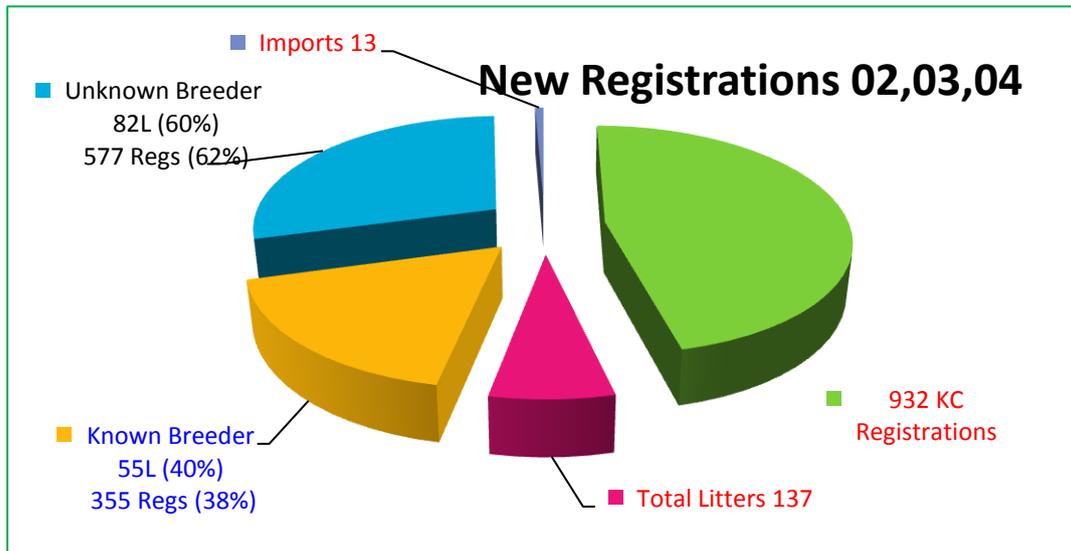
In the 10 year period: **1974 to 1984** our UK Registration total including Imports was **67**. In the next 10 year period **1985 to 1995** our Registration total was **839**. For a rare breed still developing in its country of origin and being in its infancy in the UK, with limited number of enthusiasts possessing adequate knowledge to care for our breeds health & welfare, this progression of the breed in the UK was steady and manageable.



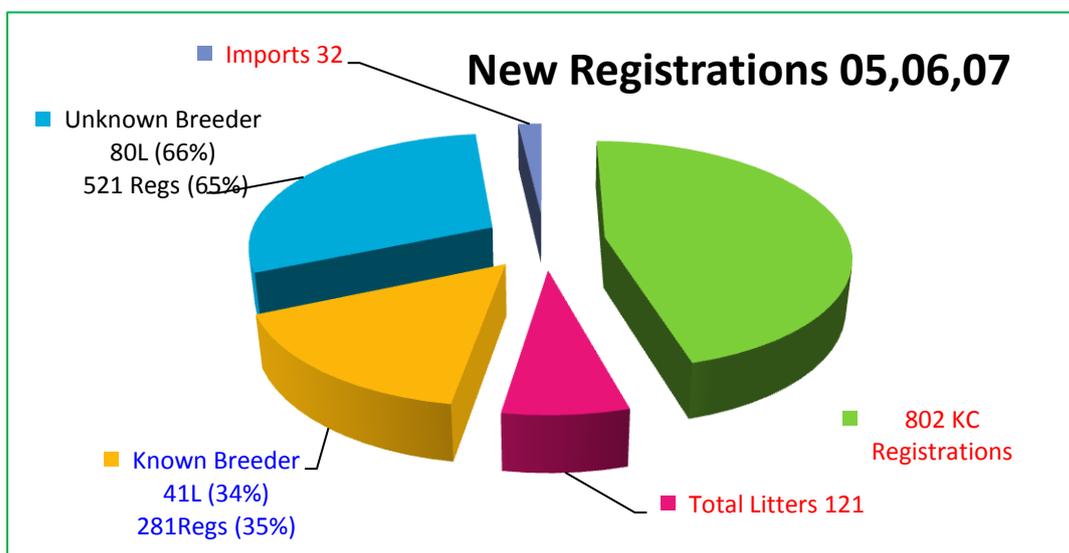
As we can see from Registrations during the following three year period, **1996 to 1998**, breed numbers dramatically increased at an alarming rate, and whilst known breeder numbers were consistent with the previous 10 year averages, unknown breeders were responsible for an additional 919 dogs during this 3 year period. Whilst we cannot assume that all 919 dogs were bred by back-street breeders whose only concern was monetary, we cannot therefore assume that unknown breeders gave any consideration to breed health & welfare when breeding, rearing, and finding knowledgeable experienced homes for this additional number of dogs.



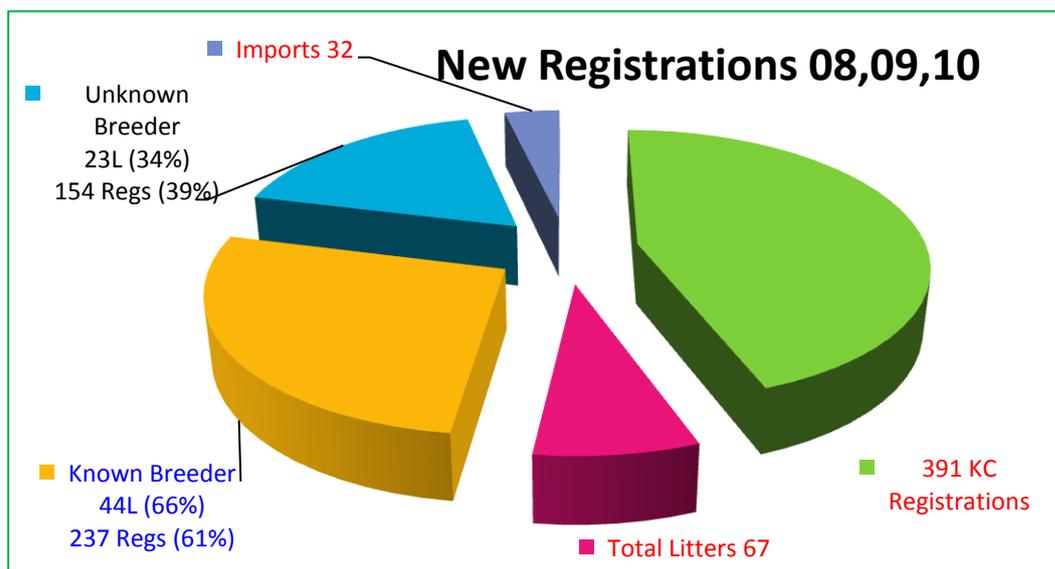
The dramatic increase of Registrations continued throughout the next 3 year period **1999 to 2001**, known breeder numbers were somewhat greater but consistent with breed development, but again, an additional 901 Registrations were attributed to unknown breeders. Few owners possessed the knowledge or ability to rear and care for our breed correctly, let alone compile and manage informed breeding programmes and inevitably, mismanaged, in-experienced breeding, bad husbandry, incorrect diet, and incorrect rearing, all had an impact upon our breed as a whole. Breed Rescue/ Welfare became a major concern for the Breed Club and we saw large numbers of rescued dogs with a multitude of problems.



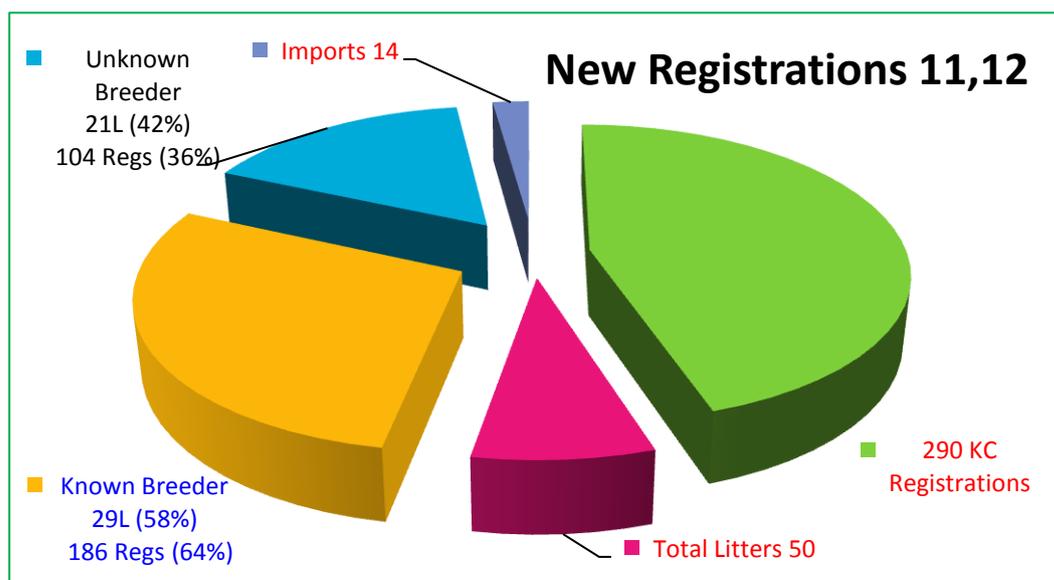
Throughout the following 3 year period, **2002 to 2004**, known breeder Registrations decreased in number compared with previous 3 years, and numbers Registered by unknown breeders reduced considerably. The Breed Club established a Welfare Organisation (which at this juncture was inundated), and a Code of Ethics was drawn-up emphasising responsible breeding practices but, as the majority of Registrations were attributed to unknown breeders with no association with the Club, the Code of Ethics was neither applicable to, nor enforceable upon, the majority of breeders.



The next 3 year period, **2005 to 2007**, we saw the total Registration figure falling well below 1000. There were again fewer Known breeder Registrations, and Unknown breeder Registrations, although far greater in number than known breeder numbers, were consistently falling. For many years our known responsible breeders, has strived, through the appropriate selection of compatible sires and dams, to produce litters of puppies with the correct breed type, good temperament and the best chance of living a long and healthy life, they looked at ways to manage the genetic diversity in the Mastino population in the UK to try and prevent the breed from becoming genetically homogenous, one way of achieving this was to increase the number of individual dogs contributing to the genetic population, by increasing the number of Imports.



The 3 year period **2008 to 2010**: unknown breeder Registrations were significantly reduced in number and for the first time in more than a decade, Known breeder Registrations surpassed the number Registered by Unknown breeders. For our rare breed still developing in its country of origin and being in its infancy in the UK, this type of progression was once again steady and manageable. Our known responsible breeders continued to manage their breeding programmes with greater consideration given to genetic diversity, breed health, breed type and temperament, and with far greater numbers of Mastini being presented for health screening, our breeders had an increased ability to predict the future health of their puppies.



The 2 year period: **2011 to 2012**, New Registration numbers for Neapolitan Mastiffs were consistent in their manageability. Known breeder Registration numbers, as in the previous 3 year period, surpassed Registrations from Unknown breeders, with the majority of Litters bred being attributed to Known breeders.

Thankfully, the Neapolitan Mastiff has gone from fashion accessory back to the specialist breed with specialist needs we recognise him to be. Unfortunately, for those Breeders who remained steadfast in their endeavours to promote the responsible progression of our breed in the UK, watching-over the developments of the previous 17 years with parental eye must have been heart-breaking..... Fashion dictates desire, desire creates demand, demand commands supply, supply provides revenue, and when the desirable is mass produced with profit being primary concern, 'concern' is what is left for those who remain, to pick-up the pieces when fashion has invariably moved on.

Denise Bucknall. The Neapolitan Mastiff Club Secretary. January 2013.