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## Official Statement

March 26, 2025

Dear ISWS Club Members,

Over the past decade members of the Silken Windhound community with hounds that experienced a traumatic injury were approached by an individual seeking detailed health information about the injury sustained by their Silken Windhound. This individual, often operating under various pseudonyms, gained the trust of owners and members to get them to share details of their experiences. These owners and members placed their trust in this individual and shared in hopes of building support networks and connections within our community.

This individual proceeded to violate the trust and social contract of our community by publishing this information from owners in various formats online and in print. The individual in question is not a member of, nor are they affiliated with ISWS or the Silken Windhound Health and Rescue organization. Furthermore, the data we have available does not support the conclusions made by this individual. We recognize the concerns raised by this breach of trust, and that it affects the ability of our Silken Windhound Health and Rescue to function and fulfill its mission statement.

Our club has always been dedicated to the recognition and welfare of the breed. Our affiliation with Silken Windhound Health and Rescue began from almost the breed club's inception. What started as an ISWS committee grew with the support of our community and gained its own nonprofit status in 2023. Throughout this journey, Silken Windhound Health and Rescue and the ISWS collaborated with scientists and owners alike in an effort to understand more about our breed and how to guide it into a healthy future.

The official ISWS protocol to report health issues or potential concerns is through Silken Windhound Health and Rescue (<https://silkenwindhoundhealthandrescue.weebly.com/>), via their health report form (<https://silkenwindhounds.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/ISWS-Health-Report-Form.pdf>). Silken Windhound Health and Rescue works with skilled volunteers and researchers with comprehensive knowledge and experience in their field to address issues as they arise within the breed.

There are multiple ongoing research projects, with appropriate experts managing data collection and analysis.

In the event any individual approaches you about your Silken Windhound's health, online or offline, reach out to members of Silken Windhound Health and Rescue to confirm they are part of the organization.

If you have been personally impacted by the publication of your Silken Windhound's health information, you are encouraged to send in your statement to [ISWSpresident@gmail.com](mailto:ISWSpresident@gmail.com) or [ISWSVicePresident@gmail.com](mailto:ISWSVicePresident@gmail.com). Your insights are invaluable as we move forward.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. Together, we can address these challenges and strengthen our community.

Sincerely,

ISWS Board of Directors