



KCLC BREEDS COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON 25 MAY 2022 AT 11 AM - AGENDA

ITEM 1. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE TERM OF THE COUNCIL

Nominations for election of Chairman must be received by the office by 11 May 2022.

ITEM 2. TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE TERM OF THE COUNCIL

Nominations for election of Vice Chairman must be received by the office by 11 May 2022.

ITEM 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

ITEM 4. TO ELECT ONE MEMBER FOR THE SHOW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM OF THE COMMITTEE (2022-2025)

Nominations for election of one member for the Show Executive Committee must be received by the office by 11 May 2022.

ITEM 5. PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL ON KENNEL CLUB STRUCTURES AND PROCEDURES

The office will give a presentation to Council representatives giving details of The Kennel Club and Liaison Council structure and procedures and the role of Council representatives.

ITEM 6. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2021

(Annex A refers)

ITEM 7. RESULTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is requested to note the following updates to recommendations from its meeting held 26 May 2021:

Communication campaign

- a) At its meeting held on 4 November 2020, the Council had supported a proposal to make the dog owning community more aware of its role and remit, in order to encourage engagement. The Show Executive Committee considered the proposal and whilst in support, it was noted that such an article would need to cover all six Liaison Councils and not just the Breeds Liaison Council. The Council was in favour of an article being published in The Kennel Club Journal. The Council is requested to note that the office has spoken with the marketing and communications department who have advised that The Kennel Club Journal does not include features and The Kennel Club Gazette does. The matter is still under active consideration and an update will be given in due course.

Lists of breed clubs on The Kennel Club website



Proposer: Irish Water Spaniel Association

- b) At its meeting held on 26 May 2021 the Council gave consideration to a proposal from the Irish Water Spaniel Association that wished to request that The Kennel Club supported breed clubs on its website by providing a list of such clubs and their contact information on the breed information pages with an explanation of their purpose. The Council had noted that currently locating information about breed clubs via The Kennel Club's website was not a simple process and the Association considered that, as many people were not aware of the existence of breed clubs, they would be highly unlikely to look for them unless their attention was drawn to them. For this reason it would be helpful for suitable signposting towards breed clubs to be provided for prospective puppy buyers, in order to provide an additional source of guidance and information for them. The Association had suggested that The Kennel Club's support in this matter would go some way to provide resources to potential owners.

The Council had expressed its concern that there would be difficulties in ensuring that contact information for breed clubs included in breed information pages was kept up to date, and that considerable resources would be required for maintenance. As an alternative it was suggested that owners could be directed to the Find a Club facility via signposting.

The Council wished for their recommendation to be forwarded to the relevant team and an update be provided. The Council is requested to note the Find a Club is currently in development for delivery and the Council's comments have been taken into consideration.

Health schemes

Proposer: The Yellow Labrador Club

- c) At its meeting held on 26 May 2021, the Council gave consideration to a proposal from the Yellow Labrador Club, represented by Mrs Walton which wished the Council to consider a number of issues in relation to health schemes. In particular, the Council highlighted the long delays experienced by many breeders in obtaining hip and elbow scores via The Kennel Club (KC)/British Veterinary Association (BVA) scheme, as a result of which many had chosen instead to carry out scoring via overseas schemes, in particular using schemes in Australia, the USA, and Sweden. The Council highlighted the potential for considerable confusion in the future, alongside concerns regarding possible detriment to the health of dogs, and it was hoped that breeders could be encouraged to continue to use the KC/BVA schemes.

The Council had also considered a suggestion that The Kennel Club should reassess the KC/BVA hip and elbow schemes in order to bring the costs and turnaround times to be more in line with the overseas schemes, and to ensure that the workings of the scheme should be sufficiently robust enough to withstand any future events which may occasion the BVA office in London to close down. Furthermore, it was suggested that The Kennel Club should consider facilitating the installation of an IT system at the BVA linked to The Kennel Club's registration database which could enable online submission by a breeder's veterinary surgeon of a form with the dog's details and digital images which could then be read and scored remotely by the BVA scrutineers. The turnaround time from submission to results being sent by email should be a maximum of three weeks.

The Council also supported a proposal that The Kennel Club should keep a record of all hip and elbow results whether under the BVA scheme or under an equivalent scheme abroad. It was of the view that it should be possible to access these records via The Kennel Club website along with the BVA results. Caveats should be published alongside non-UK results and, where possible, an equivalent, if the result had been scored by the KC/BVA scheme. The Council was in full support of the publication of all hip and elbow scores, albeit with caveats as necessary. The proposal also included an issue on comparison between schemes. There was a suggestion that a study should be carried out to establish the comparability of each overseas scheme to the KC/BVA scheme. Scores from KC/BVA and the overseas scheme on plates for hips and elbows for the same dog should be compared, a report prepared and published in the relevant health section of The Kennel Club website.



The Council is invited to note that an update will be issued to breed health co-ordinators by the end of April 2022. Breed health co-ordinator mentors have been assured that a number of measures are being developed with the BVA to enhance the BVA/KC Scheme, and progress will be reviewed later this year. In particular, the breed health co-ordinator for Labradors has been made fully aware of these developments.

No comparison will be made between the KC/BVA Hip & Elbow Scheme and other schemes at this time, but may be undertaken by the genetics and health screening sub-group of the Dog Health Group at a later stage if the measures to enhance the BVA/KC Scheme are not considered to have been effective.

The appropriate channel for this to be discussed or for interested parties to contact the Kennel Club to discuss this matter is health@thekennelclub.org.uk.

ITEM 8. PROPOSALS

Proposed: Whippet Breed Council

To be presented by: Mrs E Newton, Hound Delegate

We would like to propose that the custom and practice of lining dogs up from left to right, last class judged on the left be adopted as a regulation when awarding the CC at Championship shows or Best of Breed at Open shows. At the present time confusion and conflict can arise when not everyone is following the same practice.

Should this custom be adopted as a rule, it would also benefit the welfare and inexperience of puppies as they would not be unnerved by older and more experienced dogs wanting or needing to move faster on the move.

There have been instances in the not so distant past where the judge has awarded the Challenge Certificate to a Minor Puppy as it was on the left and asked for 2nd in Open, only to be told that he couldn't do that as he had awarded the Challenge Certificate to the Minor Puppy.

Not only would it resolve this occurrence but judges, stewards, exhibitors and spectators would then be in no doubt which dog had won which class.

ITEM 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Please give at least two weeks advance notice of matters to be raised under 'Any Other Business' as this assists the office if research is required. These items are discussed at the discretion of the Chairman.

ITEM 10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next KCLC Breeds Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 09 November 2022**. Agenda items must be received by **11 August 2022**.



THE KENNEL CLUB'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

To raise the relevance of The Kennel Club in the eyes of the public at large, dog owners and those who take part in canine events, so as to be better able 'to promote in every way the general improvement of dogs'.

Notes:

1. *The Kennel Club will reimburse standard class return rail fares to all Representatives attending the meeting from their address as recorded at The Kennel Club. Claim forms will be available at the meeting.*
2. *Those resident in Northern Ireland or Scotland may apply in advance for authority to substitute shuttle air travel for standard class rail fares. Although, it is requested that tickets are booked well in advance to take advantage of any reduction in fares.*
3. *Please give notice of matters to be raised under Any Other Business. This assists the Office if research is required. These items are discussed at the discretion of the Council Chairman.*
4. *Kennel Club Liaison Council Regulations state that The Kennel Club will bear the cost of reasonable and externally incurred costs connected with a Council, if agreed in advance. Therefore, Representatives should apply to the Office of The Kennel Club for approval of any costs they might wish to claim prior to the expense being incurred.*