



## **The Role of Competition Manager at Kennel Club licensed Agility Events**

A Competition Manager is intended to be impartial in any decision making and as such the following regulation is in place:

**H(1) 9. Management c. The competition manager must not enter for competition a dog which is recorded in their ownership or part ownership or work a dog at the agility show.**

The role of the Competition Manager is also mentioned in 5 other regulations.

One area that a Competition Manager often is involved in is discussions over inclement weather (e.g. wet ground, strong winds) and the removal of mandatory pieces of equipment. A Judge should seek agreement from them and this be reported to the office within 14 days.

There can be situations where competitors query the suitability/safety of the design of a course and report this to the show organisers. It should be the Competition Manager that deals with these issues but they would need a knowledge of course design and it's suitability for the level of handler/dogs competing in that class.

In practice at many shows the person appointed does not compete in agility and is appointed purely because of the H(1)9.c. regulation. At these shows it is not uncommon for the show secretary to make all the decisions that a Competition Manager should.

It is suggested that there should be a set minimum criteria of experience and knowledge that a person appointed should have to fulfil this role. This would ensure that such individuals were better able to deal with incidents, and that minor matters could be resolved on the day without the necessity to refer them to the Kennel Club.

Certainly as a minimum, having an understanding of the H regulations.

When competitor queries are brought to the attention of show organisers and where one is present at the show and, it is suggested that Accredited Trainers (Agility) should be asked to provide advice to the Competition Manager on course design for safety and suitability due to their specialist knowledge in this area. This would enable the Competition Manager to reach an appropriate informed decision. This is one area where Accredited Trainers have occasionally been informally asked for a view but it is strongly felt that this should be formalised.

It is suggested that a list of actions/flowchart be added in the show's incident book for the Competition Manager to follow to assist in dealing with issues arising at shows to assist in them being successfully dealt with on the day.

Proposal

A new regulation added as H(1)9.c.

**The person appointed as Competition Manager should be aware of their responsibilities as laid out in these regulations and should as a minimum have competed in agility and have knowledge of the current regulations.**

The current regulation H(1)9.c. and all those following to be renumbered accordingly.