



RALLY - SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

from Kennel Club Working Party Meeting 18 July 2016

	Proposed	Recommended	Action
1.	Results of Working Party recommendations	<p>The General Committee approved the following amendment to Regulation S18. f. Judging:</p> <p>TO: Judges at a Rally competition may enter a class they are not judging, provided it does not conflict with their judging assignment. However, host associations will not interrupt or delay any class to accommodate judges must not enter for competition a dog which is recorded in their sole ownership, or handle a dog, at the Competition at which they are judging. A dog recorded in part ownership with the Judge may be entered for competition in any part of a class other than the part which the judge is judging. (Deletion struck through. Insertions in bold.)</p> <p>The above amendment will come into effect on 1 January 2017. All relevant changes to S Regulations are listed at the back of the Regulations booklet in the year of its introduction.</p>	Competitors, show organisers and judges to note.
2.	Membership of the Working Party	The Working Party welcomed new member Miss B Collier, noting her valuable experience as a judge and competitor.	All to note
3.	Find a Dog Club	<p>It was confirmed that details of Registered and Listed Status Clubs offering Rally training are now available via the 'Find a Club' facility on Kennel Club website. The link for 'Find a Club' can be found here:</p> <p>http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/services/public/findaclub/activity/Default.aspx</p>	All to note.
4.	Competition Management Seminars	<p>Following results of a survey of clubs, the Working Party intended that a competition management seminar would take place in the South of Scotland in November 2016. Details of how to book at a place at the Rally Management Seminar can be found here:</p> <p>http://www.thekennelclubshop.org.uk/products/rally-competition-management-seminar</p> <p>A further seminar was mooted to take place in the South of England approximately 12 months later.</p>	All to note.



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5.	Establishment of a Working Group	The Working Party agreed to establish a small Working Group to review all matters related to levels and progression. The membership of the group would consist of Mrs Bradley, Mrs Coughlan-Khan, Mrs Prince, Miss Collier and Mrs Williams. It was envisaged the review would incorporate open meetings during 2017 including consultation with Level 6 competitors and judges.	All to note.
6.	Guidance on a Level 5 or 6 Sign	Bonus Exercise 2 Call Front Back Up 3 Steps Guidance: Although the regulation states that ‘the dog backs up three steps’ it is impossible to judge the number of steps fairly. Therefore it should be interpreted as the dog moves backwards for the duration that the handler moves forward three steps.	All to note.
7.	Cone exercises	Excluding multiple sign stations there had been a number of incidents of cone exercises being distributed below the minimum of 2m between signs or incorrect judging of entry and exit of cones. The office agreed to include further clarification of this on future documentation to be published.	All to note.
8.	Five Year Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mrs Coughlan-Khan was appointed to act as liaison between the WP and YKC where she would provide a current status update at each WP meeting. - The office agreed to redraft the beginner’s guide to Rally competitions based on the WP’s suggestions. - The WP would also discuss the value of a Rally warrant at the next meeting. It was agreed that a record of all existing Level 6 competitors should be undertaken to help analyse the development of the discipline. - Expressions of interest to hold a Rally competition had been made by a number of Breed Championship Shows. It was noted that a number of members had a duty to follow up these indications of interest. 	Mrs Coughlan-Khan and the Office.
9.	Points for future review	<u>Regulation amendment to Level 3-4 exercise signs</u> Theoretically it is possible to create a course with only three level 3-4 exercises due to multiple signs. This matter would be investigated further. <u>Critiques and Result Publication</u>	All to note, and suggestions or feedback to be notified to any member of the Working Party.



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		<p>The WP agreed to review allowing clubs or societies to make it a requirement in judges' contracts to produce critiques for competitions and also the feasibility of establishing a quarterly publication on the discipline that Mrs Wells would investigate.</p> <p><u>Date of Entry and Eligibility to Compete</u> Concern was raised that there had been a number of incidents reported between the date of entry and eligibility to compete in different classes. In order to avoid confusion, a review of clearer descriptions on schedules or combining both the qualifying and date of entry would be undertaken.</p> <p><u>Chief Rally Steward Seminar</u> The Working Party members were requested to liaise with Mrs Garner over any guidance they wished to submit for Chief Rally Stewards and seminar content. A document will be issued in the New Year.</p> <p><u>Barrier fencing</u> Do Level 3 or above competitions require barrier fencing to be used given its cost, storage and time take to erect and dismantle it? At present there is no requirement for any competition organiser to supply barrier fencing for rings but they may use rope or other such materials.</p> <p><u>Method of establishing running orders</u> A number of complaints had been received about the method used to establish running orders for competition. The WP did not wish to be too prescriptive in this matter, however issued concern if alphabetised systems were being implemented. They therefore agreed to consider whether guidance or amendments to the Regulations would be required. It also noted that self nomination of running orders on the day work well for all levels and is popular with competitors.</p> <p><u>Crufts</u> It was agreed that a list of requirements should be compiled to qualify as a judge in order to undertake appointments at the event in order to make nominating easier.</p>	



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		<p>The Young Kennel Club (YKC) would also be holding a Rally competition at Crufts in 2018 and a candidate had been nominated. Inter-Regional Judges have also been nominated and proposed to the Crufts Committee for consideration in 2018 and 2019.</p>	
10.	Regulation amendment	<p><u>Following feedback from competitors - Progression</u> Significant support had been received about excellent awards being required in order to progress to the next level. The WP was in support of this feedback in order to raise the standard of competition. As a result, a review would take place to see how this could be practically applied.</p> <p>The General Committee has amended Regulation S(A)3 to ensure double counting of awards be removed and that three qualifying marks are required at any level before the dog is required to move up a level. This will come into effect from January 2017.</p>	
11.	Additional guidance for judges	<p><u>Sign size and angles</u> It came to the attention of the WP from competitor feedback that using A5 rather than A4 signs and displaying them at certain angles made them difficult to read. It was established that although A5 signs were acceptable in training, but they should not be used in competition. Signs can be complex in nature and if not clear can lead to hesitation, a loss of both confidence and momentum for a competitor. The WP therefore does not support the use of A5 signs at Limit or Open Rally Competitions.</p> <p><u>Stated distances between signs</u> It was brought to the WP's attention that judges were not effectively implementing the distances between signs, either due to impracticality or guidance being unclear. Judges are asked to be aware of the regulations and to ensure all courses comply.</p> <p><u>Food Bowls Exercise</u> Concerns have been raised with the WP about the types of food used during competition that some can easily disintegrate or that some dogs may be allergic to and the WP agreed to investigate the matter further. Judges are asked to consider</p>	



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		<p>and use only foods that would not deteriorate or cause an allergic reaction in dogs should it be consumed.</p> <p><u>Judging practice</u> The Working Party is aware that some judges are standing outside the ring, this is not recommended and they should judge from a position inside the ring.</p>	