



HEELWORK TO MUSIC - SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

from Kennel Club Working Party Meeting 13 December 2016

	Proposed	Recommended	Action
1.	Amendments to Regulations	<p>The Working Party noted that the Board approved the following amendments to the L Regulations:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Regulation L(A)5 – Special Classes TO: a. At all types of Heelwork to Music competitions Societies may schedule classes other than those defined above, as "special" classes. The eligibility for special classes must be defined by the society and included in the schedule. The word "special" must be included in the title of the class.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Wins, places and points gained in special classes will not count towards class progression or Excellent Qualifications. (Insertions in bold, subsequent regulations to be renumbered).</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Regulation L14.a. TO: Management a. Catalogues – The competition organisers must publish a Catalogue for the Competition containing names and addresses of all competitors (unless requested by the competitors to be withheld from publication), and full particulars of each dog as given on the entry form by the competitor, except dogs entered Not for Competition. (Insertion in bold)</p>	<p>Competitors and competition organisers to note.</p> <p>The amended regulations came into effect on 1 Jan 2017.</p>
2.	Entertainment licences	<p>The Working Party raised a concern that heelwork to music competitions required an entertainment licence under the Performing Animals Act. It was confirmed by the office that as the discipline is a competitive event it should not be classed as involving performing animals under the act and therefore does not require an entertainment licence.</p>	<p>Competition organisers to note.</p>
3.	Activities Judges Working Party	<p>It was confirmed that the office could publish the list of current judges, but only those who had passed the Heelwork to Music Regulations & Judging Procedures examinations.</p>	<p>Competitors, Competition organisers and judges to note.</p>



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4.	Raising the Standard of Competition survey	<p>It was agreed that a significant number of respondents were in favour of a win becoming mandatory to progress from Novice into Intermediate. Furthermore, there had been some support for the increase in the minimum score of 55% (16.5 marks) for class points to be awarded. As a result and in agreement that this would help raise the standard of competition it recommended an amendment be proposed to be made, subject to approval by the Board.</p> <p>Further proposals of changes to the regulations following discussions on this agenda matter would be considered at the next Working Party meeting.</p>	Competitors, Competition organisers and judges to note.
5.	Qualification of Crufts Submission Responses	The Working Party reviewed the responses in respect of the issue of qualification for Crufts. On balance, it was accepted that support for the introduction of a new structure of qualification was not strong. Given this, it was decided not to proceed with any changes to the current structure for qualification.	All to note.
6.	Championship Status	<p>The issue of Championship status was discussed. Whilst accepting that the introduction of a Championship class would act as an incentive for handlers to improve their standards of performance, the Working Party's view was that the discipline, at this current point in time, was not yet ready for the introduction of Championship status.</p> <p>However it agreed that the issue should continue to be considered with a view to preparing for its introduction in the future. One suggestion was that an additional class, above Advanced, should be introduced. It was agreed that this may be a positive step as a preliminary to introducing Championship class in due course, and that the matter should be discussed in more detail at the Working Party's next meeting.</p>	Interested parties on this matter should submit their views to HTM@thekennelclub.org.uk
7.	Heelwork to Music and Freestyle Team GB	<p>The Working Party considered all the applications it had received. It agreed that the office would write to all successful applicants to ask them to confirm participation for Team GB.</p> <p>Subject to acceptance, the individuals would form Team GB with a view to participate in the Open European Heelwork to Music and Freestyle Championships being held in Belgium on the 26-28 August 2017. The office has confirmed that every individual country in the UK submitting entries to the European Open can have their own team.</p>	All competitors to note.
8.	Ring Size	The Working Party wished to remind competition organisers that the minimum size for rings at Premier HTM Competitions is 15m x 20m. Failure to comply with this	Competitors, Competition organisers and judges to note.



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		<p>requirement may result in a Society not being permitted to hold Crufts qualifiers.</p> <p>The Working Party also wanted to take this opportunity to remind shows and societies that ring flooring, should be both safe and suitable. Carpet was an acceptable surface but not mandatory.</p> <p>Any complaints regarding Kennel Club licensed events would be dealt with by the office but may be referred to the Working Party where necessary.</p>	
9.	Find a Dog Show	<p>It was confirmed that the Find a Dog Show facility was now live on the Kennel Club website. Competitors are now able to find all licensed Heelwork to Music events taking place in the UK.</p> <p>A link to the webpage is as follows: http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/services/public/findaclub/Default.aspx</p>	Competitors to note.
10.	Next meeting	<p>The next meeting of the Working Party is due to take place on 4 May 2017.</p>	All to note.