

Report from Judges Working Party to Agility Liaison Council

Mentoring System for First Time Judges

Following on from the Annual Accredited Trainers Meeting the JWP discussed how to proceed with this item, it was felt that this could only be voluntary, when a candidate received their Certificates having successfully completed the seminars, they would also receive a letter from the Kennel Club asking them to inform the office of their first three judging appointments, as and when they were confirmed. The office would then seek to find someone to act as a mentor who was going to be present at the show, or at least a mentor who could look over the courses if no one was going to the show. They would support the judge through their first appointments.

Jumping Practical Seminar

This failed to find enough support at the Annual Accredited Trainers' Seminar, but this may be reconsidered in the future.

Continuing Professional Development of Existing Judges

This was suggested at the Annual Accredited Trainers' Seminar to replace the previous suggestions of mentoring or observing existing judges, as it was felt that Continuing Professional Development did not have the negative connotations of assessing, mentoring or observing, and that it was in line with our intentions to develop Agility professionally. Suggestions from Liaison Council Members were discussed as was the level of support from competitors. There was also discussion as to how this would be implemented. This item is still in progress.

Annual Accredited Trainers' Seminar

The issues discussed were already stated earlier in this paper. Various issues were discussed at the seminar which included updating the presentations and exam papers, which were being reviewed by Agility JWP members. The next Seminar will take place in Oct 2014 (dates are yet to be agreed).

There were also suggestions that there should be a pilot seminar "refresher course" for existing judges on changes made to regulations and judging procedure; this would be developed during 2014 with a view for delivery in early autumn 2014. The far South West would be the pilot area and it was felt that subject to its success, it would be considered to run alongside the launch of the Continuing Professional Development Scheme for Existing Judges.

Chris Huckle

Judges Working Party
27th Nov 2013