



## RALLY - SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

from Kennel Club Working Party Meeting 19 January 2016

	Proposed	Recommended	Action
1.	Results of Working Party recommendations	The General Committee approved the introduction of Limited Rally competitions with effect from 1 January 2016. All relevant changes to S Regulations are listed at the back of the current Regulations booklet.	Competitors, show organisers and judges to note
2.	Membership of the Working Party	The Working Party was saddened to note the death of Mrs H Astbury, who had been an Accredited Trainer for Rally, and a member of the Rally Working Party. Miss B Collier has agreed to join the Working Party and it is anticipated that her considerable experience and expertise of competing and judging would allow her to make a valuable contribution to its work.	All to note
3.	Judging of dogs in co-ownership	<p>The Working Party recommended the following Regulation amendment for approval which would allow for the partner of a judge to work a co-owned dog at the same show and level being judged by the co-owner, but not in the part of a class being judged by the co-owner. Show organisers may specify that the entries would be returned where an entry had been made by the partner of a judge, but where the class had not been split.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regulation S17. f. Judging <b>TO:</b> Judges at a Rally competition <del>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</del> <b>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.</b> (Deletion struck through. Insertions in bold.)</p> <p>The above will replace an amendment to Regulation S17. f. which was originally due to come into effect on 1 January 2016, implementation of which had been deferred by 12 months.</p>	<p>Judges and competitors to note.</p> <p>The amended Regulation will come into effect 1 January 2017, subject to approval by the General Committee</p>
4.	Eligibility to judge	The Working Party was requested to consider the issue of eligibility to judge Levels 1 and 2, noting that it was currently a requirement for a judge to have handled a dog and achieved the Level Title for the Level which he or she was judging.	Competitors, show organisers and judges to note



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		<p>It was sympathetic towards those who wished to commence judging but who found themselves in the position where, as co-owner of a dog where the other co-owner had already won into Level 3, they could not handle the dog in Levels 1 or 2 in order to gain the necessary experience to become eligible to judge. However it did not consider that it would be desirable to reduce the level of experience required before an individual may commence judging.</p> <p>It wished to emphasise that an individual wishing to gain the necessary experience may handle a dog owned by someone else in order to do so.</p>	
5.	Competition Management Seminar	<p>Positive feedback had been received following the launch of the Competition Management Seminar the first of which took place at the Kennel Club Building at Stoneleigh on 29 November 2015. There appeared to be considerable interest from the Rally community in the seminar, and it was agreed that another one should take place in autumn/winter 2016/17. Possible locations suggested were Chieveley, Harlow, Colchester, Carlisle, Edinburgh or Doncaster. All Rally clubs are to be contacted requesting an indication of interest and preferred location. A suitable venue would then be identified based on responses received.</p>	All interested parties should contact the Kennel Club at Rally@thekennelclub.org.uk
6.	Online Rally Competition	<p>The Working Party considered a suggestion for an online Rally competition in which filmed rounds of a pre-set course would be submitted, judged, and full results announced online.</p> <p>The Working Party supported the principle but noted that at present the Kennel Club's licensing structure did not contain any provision for events of this type, and that extensive amendments to Regulations would be necessary.</p> <p>There were also a number of practical issues which would need to be addressed, and which would require careful consideration. The Working Party suggested that for the time being, any such events should be organised on a 'fun' basis and a more detailed proposal submitted in the future once the issues involved in organising online competitions had been identified and resolutions considered.</p>	Show organisers to note
7.	Links with other countries	<p>The Working Party welcomed links with the Italian Rally governing body and hoped that it would be possible to continue to develop the relationship. Should overseas competitors wish to compete in Rally competitions in the UK they may do so, provided the dog has an ATC (Authority to Compete) number, or is registered on the Kennel Club's Breed or Activity Register.</p>	Overseas competitors and show organisers to note



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8.	Five Year Plan	<p>A number of issues were discussed as part of the Five Year Plan which was being created with the objective of developing Rally as a growing discipline.</p> <p>These included:</p> <p><u>Beginners Guide to Rally</u> In order to assist new competitors, the Working Party agreed that a guidance document should be provided which would provide advice regarding what to expect from competitions and how competitors should prepare for them. It was hoped that the Guide would be available from 2017 onwards.</p> <p><u>'Pay on the Day' classes</u> The Working Party considered a suggestion that clubs could offer 'Pay on the day' classes where competitors could be offered feedback and guidance. It considered that such classes may be helpful and constructive, especially to those competing at lower and intermediate levels, but that it was essential that they were managed by experienced individuals.</p> <p><u>Additional class for experienced handlers</u> The Working Party noted that an additional 'Special' class for experienced handlers was being trialled at Leamington Dog Training Club's competition on 30 May 2016. It was hoped that this would be helpful in gauging the level of interest in the creation of an additional class for more experienced handlers.</p> <p>Leamington Dog Training Club would also be offering additional classes for existing competitors such as a class between Levels 2 and 3, and a class of Level 6 standard available for Level 4 handlers, to give them an idea of competing at a higher level.</p> <p><u>Introduction of Rally Warrants</u> The Working Party was of the view that a Rally Warrant would be a highly prestigious award which should only be made available to those dogs and handlers of the very highest standard, and that such an award should not be introduced until any issues regarding progression had been fully addressed. It would therefore not be possible to introduce a Rally Warrant within the next two years, but the Working</p>	All to note, and suggestions or feedback to be notified to any member of the Working Party.



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		<p>Party was keen to begin considering suitable formats for such an award and whether it should be based on points, places or class wins.</p> <p><u>Championship Status</u> The Working Party was of the view that Rally was a relatively new discipline and that the possibility of achieving Championship Status should be reviewed in 2020.</p> <p><u>Scheduled Rally competition at Crufts</u> An Inter-regional event would take place at Crufts in 2017 and it was anticipated that it would be very beneficial in attracting interest to Rally. An appointment process for Team Managers is underway.</p> <p><u>Holding scheduled Rally classes at major all-breed Championship shows</u> The Working Party was keen to promote Rally in this way but accepted the difficulties involved. It was noted that United Kingdom Toydog Society would provide a Have a Go ring for Rally at its 2016 Championship show.</p> <p><u>Review of Levels</u> The Working Party agreed that it would be desirable for there to be six distinct Levels, each with its own set of signs, although it was unclear as to whether some signs would be used in more than one Level. It was anticipated that the Working Party would discuss the suggestion fully in early 2017, but was keen to ascertain the views of competitors prior to such discussions taking place.</p> <p><u>Judges' training</u> A suggestion was made that 'Judges' Panel' days be organised whereby attendees would have opportunities to judge each other on an informal basis, and to discuss and challenge the results with the objective of helping judges to identify and address any issues relating to judging and marking.</p> <p>It was also suggested that more advanced seminars be made available to help those judging at higher levels, or those relatively new to judging. Refresher courses may also be helpful and would be useful in maintaining consistency.</p> <p><u>Open Meetings</u> It was hoped that more open meetings at competitions would take place. The Kennel Club Roadshow would be attending Hatchford Brook Dog Training Club's Open Rally competition due to take place on 23 October 2016.</p>	



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		<p><u>Young Handlers</u> The importance of attracting young handlers into the discipline was acknowledged, and discussions would take place with representatives of the Young Kennel Club to explore ways in which this may be achieved.</p> <p><u>PDTI (Pet Dog Training Instructors)</u> Discussions were ongoing with the PDTI to encourage the promotion of Rally.</p>	