

## Report to the KC Liaison Council (Agility) on Judges Working Party

### **Annual Trainers Meeting (24-10-16) and Judges Working Party Meeting (14-10-16)**

The main area for discussion was the Kennel Club Academy, this has now gone active for the Breed Show Judges Training.

Rachel Mansfield is now the (WDA) Kennel Club representative with responsibility for liaison with the staff developing the Academy Site. Concern was expressed with how to get the agility community engaging with the KC Academy, especially in view of the price, the suggestion that there should be an initial fee and then a reduced fee for subsequent years renewal, this would hopefully encourage judges to engage and actively participate in the Academy programme. There were several ideas discussed with how the judges trainers would like to see the Agility Judges Training develop with on of the main areas being the Requirements of an Agility Judge, and further developing the suggestion that was put forward to the at the April meeting of the JWP that we should look at combining the two one day courses into a two day course with far more emphasis and time placed on the Course Design and Judging element. It was also felt that short video clips could be included on judging specific obstacles, a Frequently Asked Question Section and a section detailing the changes to regulations. It was felt that the KC Academy should be the main resource for prospective and current judges.

There have been several resignations from approved trainers, the questions was posed do we have enough trainers; it was recognised that we do not have a good geographical spread and this could be improved. With new trainers it was felt that this would also look to the future and provide a degree of succession planning. The office will take this forward.

The number of new judges requiring mentoring was also discussed and it was felt that to reduce the burden on existing Judges trainers out the number, should we invite Championship Judges in the mentoring process if they are interested. The office will be taking this forward.

The slow uptake of continuing personal development assessments was discussed, it was felt that even though Judges Trainers had supported it, they were slow to undertake assessments and received encouragement to undertake assessments. It was discussed at the annual meeting at Stoneleigh as to whether the wording in the judges contract would benefit from a line be added to the Judges Contract and therefore the regulations to make judges aware that they are likely to undergo an assessment, as this is common in many CPD assessments and it was felt that the profile of the CPD system would be enhanced.

Chris Huckle 14-11-2016