

Report on Progress of the Judges Group.

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Many of the issues from the last Council Meeting have recently been discussed and received positive feedback.

Judges withdrawing due to high numbers being expected to Judge, the council needs to decide if it wishes to take note of the comments of those judges who are withdrawing from judging due to the maximum numbers a judge is expected to judge and develop proposals accordingly, as this does not appear to be an issue in other disciplines.

Judges withdrawing due to fear of social media, whilst the judges decision should not be impugned either verbally or on Social Media, judges in accepting an appointment effectively put themselves and their decisions under scrutiny, they need to have the confidence to stand by their decisions, and should become more assertive with competitors, perhaps the judges training should include a module on assertiveness training.

The mentoring of new judges should become mandatory and provision of refresher training for all judges every five years; if the council support this they need to develop proposals.

Modifying and updating the Code of Practice and Guide for Agility judges, for inclusion as Regulations as many people appear to think that as it is a code of practice or a guide it does not apply to them. The KC look upon the Code of Practice as part of the regulations and they are regularly used by the KC to clarify various issues that have arisen.

The judges training may need reviewing to provide judges with a greater degree of confidence in decision making, as when reviewing many of the comments on the KC Judges support group on Facebook as a lot of them are still asking fundamental basic questions which are already covered in the judges training.

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