



KC ALC Governance Panel Report of Progress to date May 2019

1. Role and remit

Reviewing its revised remit the Governance panel has identified a range of issues that it needs to consider over this three year period. The next stage is to develop these into a work programme for the panel. ALC is asked to consider if the Panel has identified all the major issues that need to be worked upon and to considered the priority and timescale for each of these actions. These need to be integrated with our 5 year strategy (see below)

Revised Remit - The Governance Panel will:

- Review existing regulations and guidelines to identify areas where improved clarity, review or consolidation is needed and bring these to ALC for consultation
- Improve communications with show management, clubs, judges and competitors and assist the Kennel Club in providing a one-stop source of information on KC Agility
- Consider ways in which the ALC could be more effective, specifically with regard to liaison with the agility community, coordination with KC office staff and its relationship within the KC decision making structure.

Work programme to include:

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| Agility Test | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definition of what agility tests - Control versus speed ▪ Review the course time matrix and evaluate it use. ▪ Collate data to assess the impact of recent changes in agility regulations (notable grading changes and the introduction of the Intermediate height) ▪ In conjunction with other panels identify the needs for rule changes and establish programme of review. |
| ALC Role | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review effectiveness of collaborative working with KC staff ▪ Review effectiveness of gathering information from sector ▪ Review role of the Agility Liaison Council and its relationships with other KC councils, committees etc. |
| Communications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Compile and keep up to date a single Q&A for any regulations and guidelines. Consider the need to incorporate these into guidelines on a rolling basis. ▪ Establishment of single source of information for regulations and guidelines relati to agility ▪ Guide to competing in KC Agility – simplified with links to current rules / guides ▪ Review scope and relationship between Regulations and Guidelines ▪ Consider the restriction on show dates by distance ▪ Show date application timetable phased to prioritise Championship, Premier and Full club shows. |
| Regulations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Qualification requirements for eligibility for Championship classes ▪ Review H regulations to identify improvements needed in language, layout, duplication etc. ▪ Review Code of best practise for Measuring Agility Dog Heights |



- Review Guide for Agility Judges & Stewards in cooperation with Judging Panel.

Show Management

- Develop Guidelines for Agility Show Managers
- Prepare guidelines on planning classes and considering judges and stewards
- Incident book – clarification of the its use and consider more effective collation an analysis of data

2. Future consideration of changes to licensing arrangements for Agility Shows.

The Governance Panel was asked to consider the need to bring in some controls over the way that licences are issued to clubs for Open, Premier and Championship shows. This matter has previously been discussed as part of the remit of the Grading Panel, which had identified close proximity of shows as being one cause of very low numbers in classes at some shows.

The Governance Panel would like to ALC to reconsider the proposal made by the Grading Panel and consider if a practical approach to addressing this can be devised.

This proposal is as follows:

- The Kennel Club should alter the procedures for licensing agility shows with the intent of restricting the number of shows on any date within a given radius as this is causing a major problem in terms of several small shows competing for business and therefore offering wins to very low number of dogs. Currently there are no restrictions on how many licenses are issued within any area on one day (excepting Scotland where only one agility show is licenced on any day).
- We understand that this is currently not possible due to the management systems used with The Kennel Club for issuing licences. However as these are being reviewed and improved such a mechanism should be built into the new system. It is recognised that this development would affect the implementation date of this proposal.
- ALC would like this aspect to be considered in the future so restrictions might be placed. For example this might not allow a show to be held within 30-50 miles radius of another licensed show on the same day (this figure needs to be agreed). This distance would be calculated using the venue post code and as the crow flies. This would only apply to Championship, Premier and Open shows and not limited shows or matches.
- In Scotland the current system only allowing for one Championship, Premier or Open Agility show to be licensed on one should be retained.
- Clubs who did wish to both hold shows within this minimum distance could jointly apply to the KC (or SKC) for dispensation to hold shows on the same date. KC /SKC would only allow this if they were satisfied there was sufficient demand.
- To make this practical it is proposed that only registered clubs would be able to apply for licences 18 months or more in advance of the show date.



Listed clubs could only apply for shows 6-18 months in advance of the show date. This would give a slight preference to registered clubs (who will be organising championship and premier shows) but still enable listed clubs to confirm date at least a year in advance.

3. Guidelines for the clubs applying to hold Championship Agility Shows.

At its last meeting the ALC discussed the process for approving clubs to run Championship agility shows were discussed. Currently there are no formal guidelines and the process is not transparent. ALC considered that some published guidelines would be helpful and enable clubs to consider if they are eligible and how to apply.

The Governance Panel proposes that the following guidelines for Clubs Applying to hold Championships Shows should be adopted.

In applying to run Championship Agility shows, Clubs must demonstrate that:

- The club committee and membership has considerable experience in running KC Open and Premier Shows, including satisfactory field officer reports.
- The club committee has experience of managing and / or judging Championship Agility classes.
- The proposed show venue is proven to be suitable to run large agility shows, is accessible and has appropriate facilities to host a Championships Show including excellent ring surfaces. Indoor venues should be able to provide full size (32m²) rings (or very close to this size).

When applying for Championship Status the Club should include in its presentation:

- Club's structure and any relevant background
- Details of the club's experience in running KC shows, particularly agility shows
- Information relating to the relevant experience of the committee and Show Manager/Secretary
- Full details of the proposed venues and facilities available
- Proposed Show dates (which must not clash with existing Championship classes for the same height categories).

4. Development of a revised 5 year strategy

The ALC has asked the Governance Panel to start the process of developing a new 5 year strategy for the ALC. This need to incorporate all aspects of the work of the ALC and set long term objectives with actions that are SMART (Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant Timebound).

The Governance Panel is liaising with the other panels, (including those in "cold storage") and will table a draft strategy for discussion at the ALC meeting in July 2019.