

Introduction of Listed Status for Obedience

Over the last few years concern has increasingly been raised with the Kennel Club that the number of Obedience shows being held across the country has fallen. The statistics show that over the last 10 years 52 Obedience shows across all show types have been lost.

In 2004 there were 275 Obedience shows licenced; 43 Championship, 83 mixed licence (ie Open Breed and Open Obedience), 137 Open and 12 Limited Obedience, whereas in 2014 there are 223 Obedience shows licenced; 44 Championship, 46 mixed licence, 124 Open and 9 Limited Obedience. Within the mixed licences types in this period there have been 17 Limited and 20 Open shows lost.

There are many organisations who provide training for Obedience who do not wish to undergo the full requirements of running a Registered society but are interested in holding Kennel Club licenced Obedience shows. So to assist them to do this, and aim to address the issue of falling show numbers, the Kennel Club has proposed the creation of Listed Status for Obedience.

Listed Status was successfully introduced for Agility in 2012 with the opportunity for organisations to hold both Open and Limit shows. This has resulted in an extra 188 shows being licenced in 2014 of which 179 are Open and only 9 are Limit. Interest in Limit Shows within Agility is generally higher than within Obedience however

Due to the low level of interest in holding Limit shows, both currently in Obedience and for Listed Status clubs within Agility, where there are more Limit shows held than in Obedience generally, there is concern that only offering Limit to Listed Status Clubs will not fully address the issue of the number of lost shows.

The Kennel Club monitors all Listed Status organisation shows in the same way it monitors those of fully Registered Societies and the current show objection policy for Obedience shows will apply between Registered Societies and Listed Status clubs.

Cheryl Maguire
Team Leader – Working Dog Activities
May 2014