



**MEETING OF THE SHOWS LIAISON COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY
23 APRIL 2024 AT 11.00AM IN THE BOARDROOM, THE KENNEL CLUB,
CLARGES STREET**

AGENDA

ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**ITEM 2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 2023**

The Council is requested to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2023.

(Annex A refers)

ITEM 3. RESULTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS/MATTERS ARISING

a. Completing of Certificates

Proposal: That if requested by the judge, the steward may complete but must not sign certificates.

Outcome: The proposal and necessary regulation amendment had been referred to and recommended by the SEC and subsequently approved by the Board effective from 1 January 2024.

b. Baby Puppy Classes

Proposal: That baby puppy classes be introduced at any breed club shows.

Outcome: The proposal and necessary regulation amendment had been referred to and recommended by the SEC and subsequently approved by the Board effective from 1 January 2024.

c. Junior Certificate of Excellence/Junior Award (non-CC)

Proposal: That a new award be introduced for breeds not allocated championship status.

Outcome: The proposal was considered by the SEC and the Board and is currently progressing in line with the development of the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. The Council is invited to note a verbal update.

ITEM 4. PROPOSALS

a. Proposed and presented by: Mr A Paisey

That Best in Show must be the last class of the day, concluding a show.

It should be noted that any dog winning through to Best in Show is a momentous occasion for any owner/handler. However, Best Puppy in Show, Best Veteran in Show etc, have to wait until after Best in Show to be showcased. Puppies and veterans may have been waiting all day, in light of this, it is proposed that Best in Show is the last class of the day, concluding a show.

F(1)26.c

~~“Consequently, selection of Best Puppy in Breed, Best Puppy in Group and Best Puppy in Show must follow the selection of Best of Breed, Best of Group and Best in Show respectively.”~~

(Deletions struck through)

(Effective TBC)

F(1)26

“Where a Best Puppy in Show competition is scheduled the Best Puppy in Show is a puppy which has been declared Best Puppy in Breed or Best Puppy in Group. A puppy is a dog of 6 and not exceeding 12 calendar months of age on the first day of the show. **The selection of Best in Show must follow the selection of Best Puppy in Show and Best Veteran in Show (if scheduled) respectively**”

(Additions in bold)

(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- To improve dog welfare reducing the length of time younger/older dogs are required at the show
- Larger audiences for Best Puppy or Best Veteran in Show, and an improved audience for Best in Show
- Best In Show is the ultimate class of the day, all dogs would be competing without there being any ambiguities to their presence, and would not have to compete in any further competition, e.g., Best Puppy etc.

b. Proposed and presented by: Mr A Moss

That the steward's responsibilities be updated in the Code of Best Practice for Judges and stewards.

10.7

In the event the society has promotional materials such as leaflets and flyers to be handed out to the winners, it is the steward's responsibility to make sure they are given with the prize cards.

(Additions in bold)

(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- Increasingly clubs are having to look for more ways to make money and the distribution of leaflets or flyers in this way is an effective one that not only helps the club financially but can also aid the companies involved, which in turn helps the club as they would normally be happy to attend the show again if it was a success for them
- As it isn't currently in the code of best practice there is a feeling from a minority of stewards that 'the club may be getting paid for it, but they aren't paying us for it'. The inclusion will help to clarify the situation and make it so the distribution of them is consistent throughout a show.

c. Proposed and presented by: Mr A Moss

That Best Veteran in Show is introduced within the regulations.

It should be noted that the exact regulation numbering would be discussed by the office and the Show Executive Committee as required should the proposal be recommended by the Council

Best Veteran in Show

Championship shows and breed club open and limited shows

At championship shows and breed club open and limited shows where a Best Veteran in Show competition is scheduled the Best Veteran in Show is a Veteran which has been declared Best Veteran in Breed or Best Veteran in Group. A Veteran is a dog of 7 years or more on the first day of the show.

General and group championship shows.

Best Veteran in Breed

A Best Veteran is declared from the Veteran breed classes. Where Veteran classes are not classified in a breed, Best Veteran in Breed can be declared from any Veterans entered in any breed classes.

Best Veteran in Group

Best Veteran in Group and subsequent Veteran group placings must be selected from: -

- 1. Those Veterans declared Best Veteran in Breed**
- 2. The Veterans declared Best Veteran from the Any Variety Not Separately Classified classes in each group**
- 3. The Veteran declared Best Veteran from the Any Variety Imported Breed Register classes in each group**

General open and general limited shows

At those shows where a Best Veteran in Show competition is scheduled the Best Veteran in Show is the exhibit which has been declared best from the Any Variety Veteran classes scheduled. A Veteran is a dog of 7 years or more on the first day of the show.

(Additions in bold)

(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- There is currently confusion from show to show as to which dogs can be declared Best Veteran in Breed and subsequently Best Veteran in Group and Best Veteran in Show
- The competition becomes an "opt in" at shows with exhibitors being fully aware of what classes they need to enter if they wish to progress within Best Veteran competition
- It is much easier for judges and stewards to sort out on the day of the show with them not having to go through each class hunting for potentially eligible Veterans
- General open and limited shows don't have the scope of classification to allow for Veteran classes in all breeds but can schedule Any Variety (AV) group Veteran classes (e.g. AV Gundog Veteran) from which a Best Veteran in Show can ultimately be declared

d. Proposed and presented by: Mr A Moss

That an interval for judging Best Puppy in Show (excluding single breed championship shows) be introduced.

F(1)22.d.

“(4) Judges for Best Puppy in Show (excluding single breed championship shows)

(a) There must an interval of not less than 9 calendar months between appointments to judge Best Puppy in Show at a championship show.”

(Additions in bold)
(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- In the last 12 months a judge judged the same puppy group twice within a month at general championship shows taking opportunities away from other judges to judge at this level
- Give parity to Best in Show

e. Proposed and presented by: Miss S Thomson

That in future open shows only be required to list vets local to the venue and not have a vet on call.

F(1)11.(11)

Catalogues

“For shows at which a veterinary surgeon is not present, **a note to state the club hold a list of local veterinary practices** including the name, address and telephone number of the veterinary practice ~~on call~~”

(Additions in bold, deletions struck through)

(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- Many veterinary practices have been taken over by conglomerates who do not do out-of-hours or weekend work. My own practice is one of these and requires me (out of hours) to attend a veterinary college which is more than 1.5 hours away. I am a secretary for an open show and the difficulty I had finding a practice moved me to ask the question on ‘Scottish Showdogs’ Facebook page of ‘How many societies in the last 5 years had required to send someone to the vet’ the answer to that was 1 and in the end the owner chose to take the dog to their own vet.

f. Proposed and presented by: Miss F Snook

That the definition of the Special Beginner class is amended to prevent confusion.

‘For Owner, Handler or Exhibit not having won a Challenge Certificate or Reserve Challenge Certificate, or for those breeds not allocated Championship Status, Best of Sex or Reserve Best of Sex at a Championship Show, **with their own dog.**’

(Additions in bold)

Rationale:

- ‘Special Beginners’ are helping others by moving/handling dogs, and are then excluded from the competition even if they were not in the ring

when the Challenge Certificate, Reserve Challenge Certificate or equivalent was awarded

g. Proposed and presented by: Miss J Cutler

That where a society schedules Any Variety Not Separately Classified (AVNSC) classes at general open shows for sub-groups e.g. AVNSC Dachshund, AVNSC Poodle etc., the dog/puppy declared 'best' be eligible to compete in the relevant group/puppy group, without first having to compete with the winner of AVNSC classes in that group. Currently, the 'best' from the AVNSC group classes must challenge the 'best' from the AVNSC subgroup classes, with only the winner of this challenge progressing to group competition.

F(1)26.d.(2).(b)

“The puppy declared Best Puppy from the Any Variety Not Separately Classified classes in each group **and any puppies declared Best Puppy in any relevant AVNSC sub-group classes.**”

F(1)27.b.(1).(b)

“The best dog from the Any Variety Not Separately Classified classes in each group **and any dog declared Best Any Variety Not Separately Classified in any relevant Any Variety Not Separately Classified sub-group classes.**”

(Additions in bold)

(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- To encourage more entries from breeds that do not have their own classes and are often reluctant to enter AVNSC
- To prevent disappointment for those declared Best AVNSC who would assume they were automatically eligible for the group but could find themselves beaten by the winner of an AVNSC sub-group breed before the group takes place
- To allow more dogs the chance to qualify for Crufts at premier open shows or to earn points for the Show Certificate of Excellence
- There are only a few recognised 'sub-groups' (Dachshund, Poodle, German Spitz, Chihuahua, Belgian Shepherd Dog, Fox Terrier and Bull Terrier) but this could be extended to other breeds with a common background e.g. Rough/Smooth Collie, Norfolk/Norwich Terrier, Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand/Petit), Corgi (Cardigan/Pembroke)

ITEM 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Council is invited to note that no items for discussion have been received.

ITEM 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Please give at least two weeks advance notice of matters to be raised under 'Any Other Business' as this assists the office if research is required. These items are discussed at the discretion of the Chairman.

ITEM 7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

An announcement confirming the date of the next meeting will be confirmed in September 2024.

NOTES:

1. The Kennel Club will reimburse standard rail fares to all representatives attending the meeting, from their addresses as recorded at The Kennel Club. Claim forms will be available at the meeting.
2. Those resident in Northern Ireland or Scotland may apply in advance for authority to substitute shuttle air travel for standard rail fare, although it is requested that tickets are booked well in advance to take advantage of any reduction in fares.
3. Please give advance notice of matters to be raised under Any Other Business. This assists the office if research is required. These items are discussed at the discretion of the Council Chairman.
4. Kennel Club Liaison Council Regulations state that The Kennel Club will bear the cost of all reasonable and externally incurred costs connected with a Council, if agreed in advance. Therefore, representatives should apply to The Kennel Club for approval of any costs they may wish to claim prior to the expense being incurred.

THE KENNEL CLUB'S STRATEGIC AIMS

- ***Champion the wellbeing of dogs***
- ***Safeguard and enhance the future of pedigree dogs, addressing breed-associated health issues***
- ***Protect the future of dog activities together with our grassroots network***
- ***Become relevant to more dog owners to increase our impact***
- ***Deliver an excellent member experience and widen our community***
- ***Ensure we are financially secure and sustainable***