



## **JUDGES EDUCATION PROGRAMME (BREED SHOWS)**

### **CODE OF BEST PRACTICE**

### **FOR THE RUNNING OF A BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT (BSA)**

**Kennel Club Training Board**  
*"Setting standards through education"*

\*This document is intended for use by candidates, organisers and personnel\*

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## INTRODUCTION

In setting this Code of Best Practice for the Running of a Breed Specific Assessment, the Kennel Club wishes to ensure that Candidates, Assessors Organisers and Breed Education Co-ordinators (BECs) arrange for Breed Specific Assessments to be run consistently and transparently.

This document should be read in conjunction with its subsequent appendices and must be adhered to as far as possible, in order to meet the Kennel Club requirements for the Judges Education Programme (Breed Shows).

For more information on the Judges Education Programme (JEP) please refer to the Kennel Club website – [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep)

Individuals reading this Code of Best Practice (and its appendices) are reminded to ensure that they hold the most up to date copy. Please refer to the Kennel Club website for more information – [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep) or seek guidance from the Office, as necessary – [judges.education@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:judges.education@thekennelclub.org.uk).

## 1. THE AIM OF THE BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

- 1.1. To ensure judges have sufficient and competent knowledge to be able to be approved to award Challenge Certificates, by demonstrating their ability to assess a class of dogs and make informed and competent decisions in their role as a judge.
- 1.2. To test a Candidate's knowledge of the breed standard in practise.

## 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

- 2.1 To provide a breed-specific assessment of judging ability for aspiring judges. Such judges should be able to demonstrate knowledge gained from previous learning through attendance at Breed Appreciation Day and successfully passing a Multiple-choice Breed Standard Exam, mentoring opportunities and observed judging. Candidates who successfully demonstrate enough knowledge to obtain a pass may progress to Level 4 subject to meeting all other requirements necessary under the Judges Education Programme (Breed Shows).

## 3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CANDIDATES

- 3.1. Candidates will only be able to attend a Breed Specific Assessment (BSA) once they have met the necessary criteria for Levels 1-3 for the specific breed for which the BSA is being held.
- 3.2. Level 3 criteria also requires hands-on judging experience relevant to the breed. The current minimum number of dogs required is as follows:

Tier	Minimum required hands-on experience
1	15 dogs
2	20 dogs
3	35 dogs
4	60 dogs
5	90 dogs
6	125 dogs

- 3.3 Hands-on experience for breeds where there are varieties and approval is for all varieties of that breed, is as follows:

Dachshund	125 Dachshunds of any combination of the six varieties.
Poodle	75 Poodles of any combination of Poodle (Miniature), Poodle (Standard) and Poodle (Toy), which must include a minimum of 15 of each variety.
German Spitz	35 German Spitz of any combination of German Spitz (Klein) and German Spitz (Mittel).
Fox Terrier	35 Fox Terriers of any combination of Fox Terrier (Smooth) and Fox Terrier (Wire).
Bull Terrier	40 Bull Terriers of any combination of Bull Terrier and Bull Terrier (Miniature).
Belgian Shepherd Dog	35 Belgian Shepherd Dogs, any combination of Groenendael, Tervueren, Malinois and Laekenois.
Chihuahua	100 Chihuahuas, any combination of Long Coat or Smooth Coat.

- 3.3. Assessments may be organised once a minimum of 5 Candidates are listed at Level 3 for that breed or if a Candidate has been waiting for 2 years or more and no assessment has been offered – whichever occurs first.
- 3.4. A maximum of 12 Candidates will be able to take an assessment held as a 'stand alone' event and 5 Candidates for an assessment held alongside a show or other event.

#### 4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ASSESSORS

- 4.1 Assessors will be appointed by the Kennel Club, although there may be consultation with the breed clubs/council through the BEC.
- 4.2 Two breed specialist Assessors will form part of the 'panel'. These will usually be senior and respected breeders and judges of the breed, and ideally must have previously awarded Challenge Certificates to the breed for which the BSA is being held at least three times. It is accepted that for non-CC breeds and those breeds which have recently gained CC status this will not be possible and the Kennel Club will use its discretion in appointing Assessors.
- 4.3 One or two non-specialist assessors will form part of the 'panel'. They must have judged the Group in which the breed is scheduled at Championship Show level, and preferably have previously awarded CCs in the breed or, particularly in the case of non-CC breeds, be registered at Level 4 for the breed.

#### 5. ROLE OF MODERATOR

- 5.1 An independent Moderator will be appointed by the Kennel Club to ensure assessments are conducted in a consistent manner with due consideration given to the opinions of all Assessors in reaching a decision on whether a Candidate has passed the assessment. The role of Moderator cannot be combined with that of Assessor for the same BSA and may be undertaken by a member of Kennel Club staff. **See Guidance for Organisers – Annex A.**

#### 6. ADVERTISING THE BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

- 6.1. The Kennel Club will notify those eligible Candidates once an assessment has been arranged. Eligible Candidates will be able to reserve a place via the Kennel Club website.

## **7. ORGANISATION OF A BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1. The Kennel Club will organise a BSA with the assistance of the BEC, organisers and breed supporters.
- 7.2. It is sensible to require the BEC to assist the Kennel Club with the aspects which are known only by the breed, such as selection of the example dogs for assessment and potentially suggesting names of breed specialist Assessors for the KC to contact.
- 7.3. If more than one assessment is held on the same day for the same breed due consideration should be given to health and safety and welfare issues regarding the number of dogs being 'gone over'.
- 7.4. The Kennel Club will make a charge per Candidate to cover the costs of hosting the assessments and contributing to the expenses of Assessors and handlers.

Please refer to:

**Appendix A – Guidance for Organisers**  
**Appendix B – Assessment Process**

## **8. PASS CERTIFICATES**

- 8.1. Candidates should be notified of their result on the day of the assessment. If this is not practical due to time constraints, results will be issued within five working days of the assessment. Appropriate feedback will be given to unsuccessful Candidates following the assessment.
- 8.2. A pass certificate will be issued to successful Candidates by the Kennel Club for the judge to upload to their online JEP account, together with a completed copy of the **Candidate Results Form**. Unsuccessful Candidates will receive a copy of the **Candidate Results Form** only.

## **9. ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS**

- 9.1. Candidates with recognised educational needs, disabilities and temporary physical injuries may request access arrangements. A common sense approach should be adopted.
- 9.2. Access arrangements include applying for assistance from an 'independent person', to act as a reader/scribe/interpreter where appropriate. Such requests must be arranged through the Organiser as part of the application process.
- 9.3. An 'independent person' is there to aid the Candidate by reading any documentation aloud/relaying the questions and may further document the Candidate's answer if required. The independent person may only record the answer dictated to them – they are not permitted to offer help or guidance to the Candidate in any other way.
- 9.4. The 'independent person' must have no connection to the Candidate.
- 9.5. Further access arrangements such as the use of coloured overlays is accepted. Extra time may be available depending upon the arrangements for the day and Organisers must be aware of this request at the time of booking.



## 10. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 10.1 This Code of Best Practice should be used to assist the Kennel Club with regards to:
- Location of the Assessment
  - Organiser (Kennel Club) Responsibilities
  - Notification of Results
  - Exhibits required for the Assessment Process
  - Equipment and Layout
  - Catering Requirements
  - Assessor and Observer roles
- 10.2 Your privacy is very important and we retain your data in accordance with our Privacy Notice which can be found on the Kennel Club website [www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk)

## 11. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 11.1 Please refer to the Complaints Procedure located at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep)



## JUDGES EDUCATION PROGRAMME (BREED SHOWS) CODE OF BEST PRACTICE FOR THE RUNNING OF A BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

### GUIDANCE NOTES FOR ORGANISERS

#### 1. LOCATION

- 1.1. The Kennel Club is responsible for organising a Breed Specific Assessment (BSA) and may call upon the assistance of Breed Education Co-ordinator (BECs) and breed supporters.
- 1.2. The BSA may take place at a show, particularly if there are difficulties sourcing enough suitable example dogs for assessment, for example if the breed is numerically small and geographically spread, or if the breed is one which requires particular attention to coat preparation etc.
- 1.3. If the BSA takes place at a show, due consideration should be given to ensuring that a certain amount of privacy is allocated away from the main show to ensure Candidates are able to apply due concentration to the assessment.
- 1.4. If there are a suitable number of Candidates located in a specific region a BSA may be arranged for those candidates in that region, including at a show or as a 'stand alone' event if resources allow.
- 1.5. More than one BSA may take place on the same day at the same location.

#### 2. ORGANISATION BY KENNEL CLUB

- 2.1. The details of the BSA should be finalised well in advance to ensure that a sufficient numbers of Candidates are able to attend to make the event viable.
- 2.2. It is important that careful consideration is given to ensuring a consist approach by Candidates and Assessors. NB: the role of Assessor does not affect the Assessor's future judging appointments. The role is to assess the ability of the Candidates to judge and place the dogs in an order that would have the general agreement of experts. There is no conflict with KC Regulations.
- 2.3. The Kennel Club Organiser will ensure that the day runs smoothly, and in accordance with the Code of Best Practice.
- 2.4. The Kennel Club Organiser will ensure that those in attendance are suitably thanked for their contribution to the day and expenses may be paid for Assessors, Moderator, Organiser and handlers as appropriate.
- 2.5. Candidates will be charged a fee to help cover any costs incurred as a result of staging the BSA.
- 2.6. The Organiser may also act as Moderator if time and resources permit.

#### 3. EXHIBITS REQUIRED FOR BREED SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

- 3.1. Five dogs are required to be assessed in a mock class but additional dogs should be present as reserves in case of sickness, lameness or welfare issues.



- 3.2. A range of exhibits should be available for the assessment with a varying degree of quality. Obviously the particular group of dogs being assessed will raise different issues. One outstandingly 'good' dog and one outstandingly 'bad' dog will ensure the process of 'placing' the dogs is much more straight forward for Candidates and Assessors alike.
- 3.3. Preferably both dogs and bitches, and a range of ages from puppy to senior may be used for the assessment.
- 3.4. It is fundamental that owners are not upset as a result of comments made about dogs present, in order to ensure that dogs are available for future Breed Specific Assessments. It is essential that comments about dogs are only made by Assessors and Candidates, and that such comments are confidential to the Candidate, Assessors and Moderator.
- 3.5. Where the particular group of dogs allows the Assessors to agree easily on placings, it is likely that the Candidates will do likewise. The placing aspect is straight forward and the important issue must always be what the Candidates critique about the dogs.
- 3.6. On the other hand, where there is a rather difficult group of dogs, and the Assessors are in disagreement on the placings, it is likely that most Candidates will be in disagreement as well. On these occasions, the grading of the 'placings' should take this into account. Close consideration of the Candidate Critique Sheet – Appendix E by the Assessors will be highly important in the assessment process.

#### 4. GUIDANCE ON RUNNING THE ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 This is a closed book assessment, i.e. no other documentation or breed standards may be referred to at any point during the assessment.
- 4.2 Assessors may decide whether the assessment will take into account bite and dentition, this is likely to vary on a breed by breed basis.
- 4.3 The Moderator should ensure that the Candidates and Assessors are distributed evenly among the five dogs to be assessed.
- 4.4 The Moderator will have the authority to intervene if a Candidate is proceeding too slowly and impeding on other Candidates' time to progress.
- 4.5 Candidate names must not be used on the paperwork submitted during the first part of the assessment. Candidates will be given a reference number at the start of the assessment process and this will be used to identify the documentation submitted by them. Only the Organiser will know the Candidate reference numbers. NB: in order to maintain anonymity, the Organiser is unable to act as an Assessor.
- 4.6 Prior to the assessment process, the Organiser should ensure that all Candidates and the Assessors are in possession of the appropriate assessment paperwork. Spare paperwork should be available should any documents need to be re-written.
- 4.7 It should be noted that no other persons are permitted to be present during the BSA other than those persons performing a key function of facilitation of the process.
- 4.8 If a 'stand alone' event the venue should be set up with five separate areas for the five dogs (on the floor or on a table as appropriate for the breed). Each dog should be allocated a letter from A-E and this clearly displayed next to where they are positioned to ensure clarity for Candidates and Assessors. It is recommended that the Candidates move from dog to dog rather than changing the dogs' location to avoid confusion.



- 4.9 If being held at a show, the Organiser must liaise with the show society well in advance of the show. They must agree on a suitable area to hold the event, and an approximate time, so that the smooth running of the show is not affected.
- 4.10 Assessors must not voice their opinions or discuss their findings with the Handlers, Candidates or the other Assessors while they are assessing the dogs. It is not intended to place handlers in an embarrassing position, and handlers should not have to endure any comments (good or bad) made about the dog they are handling.

## 5. GUIDANCE FOR ORGANISER

- 5.1 The Organiser should ensure that the assessment is conducted according to the Code of Best Practice and that Candidates are aware of how the assessment will be run and are issued with the correct paperwork.
- 5.2 The Organiser should undertake all administration for the BSA, including liaising with venues and show societies (if applicable) on behalf of the Kennel Club.
- 5.3 The Organiser will source the exhibits to be used, engaging the services of the BEC and any other breed supporters.
- 5.4 The Organiser will oversee the payment of all expenses. The expenses should be agreed at the time of invitation to participate in the BSA.

## 6. GUIDANCE FOR MODERATOR

- 6.1 The Moderator should provide assistance to the Assessors by reading the Candidates' paperwork and summarising the discussion of the Candidates' assessments while ensuring that the anonymity of the Candidate is preserved.
- 6.2 At all times the Moderator should ensure that all decisions are made objectively.
- 6.3 The Moderator is required to record the Assessors' initial decision of whether to award a 'pass' on the paperwork provided and to agree any areas of the Candidates' findings that need clarifying, with the panel of Assessors, and to record those areas on the reverse of the Candidate Results Form.
- 6.4 If required, the Moderator should organise interviews with Candidates and ensure that after the interview, the Assessors make their final decision.
- 6.5 The Moderator should ensure that the panel agree written feedback for each Candidate and to record that feedback on the paperwork provided.
- 6.6 The Moderator should inform the Candidates of the panel's decision and facilitate feedback through the Organiser, unless the panel agree that it will provide feedback at the event.
- 6.7 The Moderator will report to the Kennel Club on the BSA and highlight any issues arising and improvement on the running of the assessment.

## 7. GUIDANCE FOR ASSESSORS

- 7.1 The BSA aims to be transparent in the way it operates and relies on the expertise and professionalism of the appointed Assessors to be fair, consistent and objective.



- 7.2 The deliberations of the assessing panel will be recorded on the Candidate's paperwork, along with any notes that it chooses to make.
- 7.3 The assessment will be completely confidential and the Kennel Club will be responsible for ensuring that the results of the assessment and feedback are provided to the Candidate.
- 7.4 These are the key points upon which the Candidate are to be assessed:
- Knowledge of the breed standard and breed type
  - Ability to recognise each dog's merits and demerits
  - Ability to place the dogs in an appropriate order of merit using their knowledge of the breed standard (placings)
  - Ability to justify their placings
- 7.5 Assessors may not act as Assessors for Candidates who are immediate family or anyone that is resident at the same address or that they own dogs in partnership with, and must conduct themselves in a manner which does not result in a conflict of interest.
- 7.6 It should be noted that an Assessor that has previously acted as a mentor or observer for any BSA Candidate may continue to act as an Assessor as all Candidate identities shall be anonymous.
- 7.7 No more than one Assessor from a household/partnership may undertake the role for the same BSA.



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### ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The recommended time allocated to the assessment is 1 hour 30 minutes. This is based on a maximum of 12 Candidates and 3/4 Assessors being involved. Additional time will be required afterwards for the Assessors to consider the Candidates' findings. The following timings are intended as a guide and will vary depending on the number of Candidates:

Introduction by Moderator and questions	10 minutes
Assessing movement	20 minutes
Hands-on assessment	30 minutes
Writing up Placings	5 minutes
Writing up Candidate Findings (Critiques)	25 minutes

After undertaking their personal assessment of the dogs and placing the dogs in their own order of merit, the Assessors will meet privately to discuss their findings and consolidate their approach to the assessment process.

The first decision to be made at this meeting is for the Assessors to list their relative placings of the exhibits. Hopefully a consensus will be reached, but not always, and in these cases, the Moderator should ensure a consistent approach is applied to the assessment.

The Assessors should agree the relative merits and demerits of each dog, including key points that they would expect to see mentioned.

### 1. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Please note that the Assessors will follow the same Steps 1-3 as the Candidates.

#### **Step 1 – Candidates to make an initial assessment of exhibits (using Appendix C – one for each exhibit A-E)**

- 1.1 The 'class' that Candidates will be asked to judge will consist of 5 dogs. The same 5 dogs will be used for all Candidates and Assessors and identified by letters A-E.
- 1.2 All Candidates will be in the 'ring' at the same time and may not confer during the assessment.
- 1.3 The Candidates should not voice their opinions or discuss their findings with anyone while they are assessing the dogs.
- 1.4 The handlers will be asked to move each of the 5 dogs individually so that the Candidates and Assessors can collectively see the dogs' movement 'coming and going' and in profile. This will be the only opportunity for Assessors and Candidates to view movement to ensure both are afforded the same view.
- 1.5 Each Candidate and Assessor will then take a turn to examine one dog at a time and make notes using the **Candidate Worksheet – Appendix C**. Please note the timings for this task will be adjusted accordingly depending on the number of Candidates undertaking the assessment.
- 1.6 This is a closed book assessment process, i.e. no other documentation may be referred to during the completion of Step 1.



- 1.7 Candidates may make their notes on a separate **Candidate Worksheet** for each of the 5 dogs, or they may prefer their own version or a blank sheet of paper. This form will not be passed to the Assessors and should be for the Candidate's reference only.
- 1.8 At the end of the assessment of the first dog, Candidates and Assessors will be asked to move onto the next dog and repeat the same actions on the second dog.
- 1.9 This action will continue until each Candidate and Assessor has examined and made notes about all 5 dogs.
- 1.10 The Assessors may also observe the way that the Candidates examine the dogs and make appropriate notes. This information may be used as part of the feedback to Candidates. Handlers may make any relevant comments to the Moderator.

### **Step 2 – Candidate to Place the Exhibits (Using the Placings Slip – Appendix D)**

- 1.11 Candidates and Assessors will be asked to 'place' the 5 exhibits in order of merit, as if judged as a class and will be asked to write their decision on the **Candidate Placings Slip – Appendix D**. The Candidate placings of the dogs will be compared to the placings agreed by the Assessors, when the **Candidate Critique Sheet – Appendix E** is analysed.
- 1.12 All the dogs will remain in view of the Candidates while Step 2 is completed.
- 1.13 Dogs will NOT be 'pulled out'. Placings are made on paper only.
- 1.14 Candidates will be given approximately 5 minutes to complete Step 2.
- 1.15 Before moving to Step 3, Candidates will give their completed **Candidate Placings Slip** to the Moderator and make a note of their placings to enable them to complete the **Candidate Critique Sheet**.

### **Step 3 – Candidates and Assessors to write their findings on the 5 dogs placed (Using Candidate Critique Sheets – Appendix E)**

- 1.16 Candidates are asked to write their findings on each of the 5 exhibits placed using the **Candidate Critique Sheet**.
- 1.17 Candidates should try to balance their findings and should include what they consider as 'merits' and 'demerits' of the exhibits. It is understood that some judges tend to write only positive comments about the exhibits when publishing critiques. However, in this assessment process, it is important that Candidates write exactly what they find, whether they be good or poor points. The Assessors will want to confirm to themselves that the Candidates have demonstrated an advanced practical knowledge of the breed standard, and have been able to apply that understanding to the dogs that have been assessed.
- 1.18 The 'first' placed dog is likely to have more merits and less demerits than the dog placed fifth. However all dogs have merits and all demerits, and candidates should bear this in mind.
- 1.19 Candidates are **strongly recommended** to make use of the additional comments box on the paperwork. This can be used to explain why Dog A was placed higher than dog B, or make other comments, for example best head in class, best mover etc.
- 1.20 Candidates will be given approximately 1 hour to complete Steps 1-3 and will be provided with a suitable area for sitting down for ease of completing Step 3.
- 1.21 Candidates will be asked to submit all their **Candidate Critique Sheets** to the Moderator at the end of the assessment process.



#### **Step 4 – Assessment of Candidates’ Critiques**

- 1.22 The Assessors will meet to reach a consensus of their own placings and findings and placings of the assessment dogs.
- 1.23 The Moderator will read out the placings and findings for each Candidate (who will remain anonymous at this point).
- 1.24 The Assessors will make an ‘initial decision’ for each Candidate in accordance with the **Candidate Results Form – Appendix F**.
- 1.25 If the Assessors consider that they have all of the information they require, the Moderator should then complete the final decision on the **Candidate Results Form** and record agreed feedback to be given to the Candidate.
- 1.26 It may be that after making their initial decision, the Assessors consider that some clarification from a Candidate might be helpful. In these instances, the Assessors should formulate specific questions for the Assessors to ask the Candidate. The Candidate may be given the opportunity to clarify their placings and/or findings for the Assessors by way of an interview. The questions and answers should be recorded on the back of the **Candidate Results Form**. This information should demonstrate the Assessors’ decision process. The assessment process allows for selected Candidates to be interviewed or all of the Candidates to be interviewed.
- 1.27 When the Assessors have the information they require, and the Candidate has left the interview, a final decision should be made. The Moderator should then record the final decision on the **Candidate Results Form** and also record the agreed feedback to be given to the Candidate.
- 1.28 In view of the above guidance, the Moderator and Assessors should decide whether to conduct interviews for:
  1. All Candidates
  2. ‘Borderline’ Candidates
  3. No Candidates at all
- 1.29 It is accepted that where a Candidate interview takes place, this will negate anonymity.
- 1.30 The interview should last no more than 5 minutes and be restricted to the Candidate justifying their placings and subsequent critiques on pre-determined questions.
- 1.31 Where the Assessment Panel has decided to conduct interviews, Candidates should be given the choice of ‘opting out’ of the interview.
- 1.32 Once the Assessors have made an initial evaluation of each Candidate’s paperwork, i.e. using **Candidate Critique Sheet** to record their initial decisions of whether to award a ‘pass’ or not, they should then agree whether any specific areas need clarifying with the Candidate. Where there may be a need to clarify points in a critique which are unclear, this may be done through an interview by the Assessors. The Moderator will record any areas that need to be clarified on the reverse of the **Candidate Results Form**.
- 1.33 After the interview, the panel will make its final evaluation of whether to award a ‘pass’ to the Candidate. Assessors will agree written feedback using the **Candidate Results Form** for each Candidate.
- 1.34 Where the Panel’s initial evaluation is changed on final evaluation (ie after the interview) the reasons for the change of decision must be clearly stated on the reverse of **Candidate Results Form**.



- 1.35 The Kennel Club will send a copy of **Candidate Results Form** to the Candidate, as part of the assessment process. No paperwork submitted as part of the assessment (ie Candidate Critique Sheet) can be returned to the Candidate.
- 1.36 The **Candidate Results Form** advises the Assessors that in order to award a 'Pass', a Candidate must gain a minimum of 'excellent' in three of the areas mentioned on this form and 'good' in one other.
- 1.37 A Candidate will be considered to have passed the Breed Specific Assessment if they receive a **MAJORITY** of 'yes votes' from the Assessors. Therefore, if the panel consists of three Assessors the Candidate must receive at least two 'yes votes' and if there are four Assessors appointed the Candidate must receive at least three 'yes votes'.



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**CANDIDATE WORKSHEET**

**Candidate's Reference Number:**

- Five candidate worksheets sheets are available as an optional method of noting initial comments

<b>Exhibit ID:</b>		<b>Sex:</b>	
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	Good	Fair	Poor	Comments
General				
Balance and proportion				
Head				
Mouth				
Forequarters				
Body				
Hindquarters				
Feet				
Coat				
Movement/ Soundness				
Fit for Function				



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**Stage 2 – CANDIDATE PLACINGS SLIP**

**Candidate's Reference Number:**

Having assessed the dogs during the 'hands-on' session and made notes as to their various points, candidates are now required to list them below in the order they would have placed them if they were judging a class.

Dogs will not be 'pulled out' – placings are only to be made on paper:

	EXHIBIT ID
1st	
2nd	
3rd	
4th	
5th	

Candidates should note:

- Placings of the dogs will be compared with the placings agreed by the Assessors. Judging is subjective and placings may not necessarily agree entirely with those decided upon by the assessors – there is no totally 'right or wrong' order

**One completed, this form should be given to the Moderator.**

**Please remember to make a note of placings for use in Step 3 of the assessment.**



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### Stage 3 – CANDIDATE CRITIQUE SHEET

**Candidate's Reference Number:**

- a) Candidates are required to write their findings for each of the 5 dogs placed. Candidates may use the notes made in Stages 1 and 2
- b) No account will be taken of spelling, handwriting etc although it is important that the Moderator can read all comments. This assessment is designed to ascertain whether Candidates have understood the breed standard, and have been able to apply that understanding to the assessed dogs
- c) Candidate findings should include merits and demerits of each of the 5 dogs. The Assessors will need to confirm that Candidates have understood the breed standard and have been able to apply that understanding to the assessed dogs to be able to award a pass
- d) Observations made in the findings should be comparative (ie why dog B was placed over dog D, for example)
- e) Candidates may wish to comment on:
  - Overall type, quality, balance, proportion, size, substance, conformation
  - Head and skull
  - Front, legs and feet
  - Body, topline, length, depth and general proportions
  - Rearquarters, angulation, hocks and feet
  - Movement, soundness
  - Temperament
  - Any striking or exaggerated features
  - Fit for function
  - Anything else
- f) Additional copies of the **Candidate Critique Sheet** may be requested from the Moderator



Candidate's Reference Number:

Place:

Exhibit ID	Merits	Demerits
<p><b>Additional Comments</b> (including why this dog was 'placed' in this position)</p>		



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**CANDIDATE RESULTS FORM**

<b>Candidate's Number:</b>	<b>Breed:</b>
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In order to award a 'pass', the assessors need to make an overall evaluation about the candidate's competences by determining whether they have been able to demonstrate their:

<b>1. Knowledge of breed standard and breed type</b>	Excellent	Good	Basic	Poor
<b>2. Ability to recognise each dog's merits and demerits</b>	Excellent	Good	Basic	Poor
<b>3. Ability to place the dogs in an appropriate order of merit using their knowledge of the breed standard (placings)</b>	Excellent	Good	Basic	Poor
<b>4. Ability to justify their placings (critique)</b>	Excellent	Good	Basic	Poor

Key:

**Excellent:** The Candidate demonstrates an excellent knowledge of the breed, giving sound and accurate descriptions demonstrating advanced knowledge and insight of the breed.

**Good:** The Candidate has demonstrated a reasonable level of knowledge of breed specifics giving good descriptions of some dogs and placed them in a reasonable order of merit.

**Basic:** The Candidate has demonstrated a rudimentary level of knowledge and understanding of breed specifics in the descriptions given the placement of dogs in order of merit. Further study and hands on experience is recommended.

**Poor:** The Candidate has failed to demonstrate the required level of understanding of breed specific knowledge in their descriptions and placement of the dogs. Further study of the breed through engaging with breed specialists and exhibitors and attending breed educational events is recommended.

**A 'pass' is awarded to judges who are able to demonstrate an advanced knowledge and insight of a breed. In order to achieve a 'pass' a candidate must gain a minimum of 'EXCELLENT' in three of the above categories and 'GOOD' in one other.**

<b>Award 'Pass'?</b>	Initial Decision <b>YES / NO / UNSURE</b>	Final Decision <b>YES / NO</b>
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Overall Comments by Assessors:
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*Please continue overleaf if required*

**Date of Assessment:**

**Signed by Moderator:**