

OBEDIENCE REPORT OF THE ASC JUDGES WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2015

The Judges Working Party meets twice a year and is made up of representative judges trainers from all the Activities disciplines, Agility, Bloodhound Trials, HTM, Obedience, Rally and Working Trials. Those from Obedience are, Sue Garner, Roy Page and Steve Rutter.

The group reports to the Activities Sub Committee and the Kennel Club Training Board. The latter is concerned with the training and development of judges from all disciplines. Judges trainers, ASC and the respective discipline specific councils and working parties can raise items, so that matters involving judges, judging and judges training are coordinated and all relevant parties properly informed.

The items discussed at this meeting were:

The Annual Accredited Trainers Seminar. All judges trainers meet annually in Stoneleigh in October to review the judges training seminars, and to look at relevant documentation, content and procedures. The day offers an opportunity for trainers from the various activities to meet and share best practice and experiences. It is also a chance to look at KC judges training policy and how it might affect current practice and be implemented. The Obedience judges also looked at succession planning and will be looking at how best to ensure there are sufficient judges trainers to continue delivering the training required in years to come.

Kennel Club Guide for Obedience Judges and Stewards. This booklet is undergoing a complete review to ensure its contents remain topical and relevant to current regulations and practice. A new booklet will be available in the summer of 2016.

E-Learning. The Kennel Club is developing a system of on line learning packages, initially for breed judges, but it will be rolled out to include other disciplines so the judges trainers will be looking at how best to use an on line facility and how it can complement the work of the seminars.

Reaccreditation. All judges trainers must be re-accredited every three years to ensure they remain suitably qualified and up to the standard expected of the role. This requires each to be observed presenting one of the judges seminars. This is an ongoing process across all judges trainers.

Evening seminars. Currently all seminars are a full day. The group looked at how a seminar might be presented over the course of several evening sessions. This was not thought appropriate at the present time.

The Working Party will meet again in April 2016.