



**MEETING OF THE BREEDS LIAISON COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 21
NOVEMBER 2023 AT 11.00AM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

AGENDA

ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**ITEM 2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD
ON TUESDAY 6 JUNE 2023**

The Council is requested to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2023.

(Annex A refers)

ITEM 3. RESULTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS/MATTERS ARISING

a. Colour Watch

The Council is reminded that at its previous meeting it noted a summary regarding the introduction of a 'colour watch' system, which had received Board approval.

The Council raised a number of questions which the office undertook to provide responses for. The Council is invited to note responses were issued to delegates via email as follows:

Q1 - Whether there would be further education to puppy buyers regarding the colour of puppies

A1 - The launch of Colour Watch will be supported by ongoing education, which is currently being scoped.

Q2 - Noting that there had been photos of dogs for sale which were of a concerning and highly likely non breed standard colours, on The Kennel Club's Find a Puppy service it was queried what action The Kennel Club was taking to mitigate this issue

A2 - We have placed additional measures across any approval of images across the Find a Puppy website further to feedback on some examples shared on social media. Currently, our position to allow for NBS puppies to be advertised on our Find a Puppy website has not changed. However, we are planning enhancements to the Find a Puppy service which we hope will start to address concerns. In addition, and as advised to members at The Kennel Club AGM, we are working on developing a 'tiered registration' system which has captured much of the feedback from the working party's consultations with a number of breeds.

Q3 - If/when the Breed Standards and Stud Book Committee would be told that the ownership of 'Colour Watch' would sit within its remit

A3 - The secretary of the Breed Standards and Stud Book Committee is aware of this issue and will discuss the necessary next steps accordingly.

b. Partnership Shows

The Council is reminded that at its previous meeting it noted its views on partnership shows were progressing through the relevant channels and that an update would be published and provided to the Council in due course.

The Council is invited to note that a verbal update would be provided at the meeting.

c. Amend critique regulation to include Kennel Club critique website

The Council is invited to note that its proposal has been referred to the Show Executive Committee and the Judges Committee and is progressing through the relevant channels and that an update will be provided to the Council in due course.

ITEM 4. PROPOSALS

**a. Proposed by: Mrs S Pounds-Longhurst
Presented by: Mrs S Walton**

That the current regulation regarding the submission of critiques be amended as follows to include the requirement for judges to produce critiques for the first two placings in all classes in addition to all group and best in show placings:

F(1)20.d

"All judges at championship shows and open shows must produce a written critique for the first two placings in all classes **and all Group and Best in Show competition placings** each ~~Breed class~~ and will dispatch these to, at least one of the weekly United Kingdom canine journals."

(Additions in bold, deletions struck through)
(Effective TBC)

Rationale:

- Given the many changes to the dog show scene in recent years the need to encourage entries and exhibitors is paramount and it is felt that this alteration would help support this aim
- Exhibitors really want to see critiques as they want to know what a judge thought about their dog and see it published in the public domain

**b. Proposed by: Mrs K Jackson
Presented by: Mrs D Britten**

That the wording in the definition of classes for the sections detailing Maiden, Novice, Tyro, Debutant and Undergraduate be amended to (Minor Puppy, ~~Special Minor Puppy~~, Puppy and ~~Special Puppy~~, **and ANY class defined as Special excepted, whether restricted or not**).
(additions in bold, deletions struck through)

Rationale:

- This would clarify this requirement in one place as currently the mention of classes defined as special is in the overview of the definition of classes and has been overlooked by some

ITEM 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Presented by: Mrs S Walton

That the current class definition for Undergraduate be amended as follows to bring it more in line with Graduate, Post Graduate, etc.

* applies to championship and open shows only

** applies to limited shows only

UNDERGRADUATE

* For dogs which have not won a Challenge Certificate/ CACIB/CAC/Green Star or 3 or more first prizes at championship shows **in Undergraduate, Graduate, Post Graduate, Minor Limit, Mid Limit, Limit or Open Classes whether restricted or not** where Challenge Certificates were offered for the breed (~~Minor Puppy, Special Minor Puppy, Puppy and Special Puppy Classes excepted, whether restricted or not~~).

** For dogs which have not won 3 or more first prizes at open or championship shows **in Undergraduate, Graduate, Post Graduate, Minor Limit, Mid Limit,**

Limit or Open Classes whether restricted or not (~~Minor Puppy, Special Minor Puppy, Puppy and Special Puppy Classes excepted, whether restricted or not~~).

(Additions in bold, deletions struck through)

Rationale:

- It would prevent confusion some exhibitors believe they can still enter Undergraduate unless they have had 3 Undergraduate class wins
- It would help to improve entries in the Undergraduate class
- Where Undergraduate is scheduled, it would help dogs in slower maturing breeds who may not be ready to go from the age classes to Graduate.

b. Presented by: Mr M Walshaw

That the Breed Record Supplement be made into an online format where you could specify breeds instead of the whole group.

Rationale:

It is noted that the cost would be reduced but people would be more likely to purchase as they would just get their breed. There would be cost savings for both sides and would be more environmentally friendly. E.g. Receiving the Terrier group specifically for Manchester Terriers, which is often one side of A4 paper.

c. Presented by: Mr S Lowthian

That mandatory training days be scheduled at The Kennel Club building, Stoneleigh for judges awarding Challenge Certificates to breeds classified as Breed Watch category 3.

It is suggested that the training be specifically in relation to the requirements of a dog to pass the category 3 health check at general championship shows. It is further suggested that the contents of the training should explain in finer detail exactly what constitutes to pass/fail. It is felt that after a judge has attended the above, if exhibit fails to pass a health check for any of the reasons covered during the training there should be some form of penalty.

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

The Council is invited to note that the next meeting is scheduled for 5 June 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***