Minutes of the Meeting held Via Teams on Tuesday 24th January 2023

7.30 & 8.15pm (redial in after 40 min - free expired)

This meeting is open to all 17 clubs

In attendance: -

Chairperson – Dave Lee

Secretary – Helen Reaney

PRO – Clare Robinson Cox

LHO – Gem Rowe

East Anglia – Lesley McFayden

East Midlands – Jay Rogers

Northern Counties – Daniel Power

North West – Claire Crossman

North of Scotland – Julie Gray

Notts & Derby – Jane Neale

Potteries – Dave McKimm

Scottish – Gary Owen

SBTC – Alan Hedges

Southern Counties – Ken Meneer

South Wales – Gareth Thomas

Western – Martin Grimwood

1. **Apologies for absence**. KCLO – Karon Jackson, Downlands, North East
   (No apologies from Northern Ireland, MB&C and Merseyside**)**

2.

The following was a proposal at the July 2022 meeting –

To clarify the Breed Council judging list criteria regarding inclusion of numbers of overseas dogs when considering A2 applications.

No clubs came forward with any proposals and at the meeting on the 19th November 2022 those in attendance discussed this at length and the two suggestions below are what we would like you all to take back to you committees, and at the meeting in January either vote in agreement or put forward additional suggestions however with the changes in the judging from 2025 this is something that we as a breed could continue to adhere to before a judge can be considered for a Breed Club Championship Show.

These points were proposed by Alan Hedges/2nd Martin Grimwood delegate and those in attendance were in favour. (Both Alan and Martin didn't remember proposing this. And therefore wished this to be minuted. However since the meeting the Secretary forwarded the hand written points that Alan wrote and this was where the Secretary had sourced this from)

A. **<u>Any overseas judges must have judged at a Breed Club Open Show/SACS Classes</u>**

- A lengthy discussion took place regarding all points. Alan did highlight that he and Martin could not remember ever proposing items A. Helen stated she

would not have made the items up. However since the meeting Helen has found the photograph of the note made by Alan and circulated to all the clubs.

- Item A was not workable and therefore not taken forward.

B. **Any UK judges must have judged at least two breed club shows in the UK. Additional overseas judging is acceptable**.

- Item B over the years we have reduced to two breed club show and reverted to three breed club shows. Many years ago, the number of dogs to judge was 300+ and then the KC lowered the levels for them to 250 recently it has been dropped to 180 and when the JEP comes into force in 2025 it will drop again to 90 which in many clubs view is far too low. Some clubs would drop to 2 breed clubs but most preferred to stay at 3.
- It is already difficult to find judges for shows especially when Clubs have to support 2 general open shows a year which takes away our breed specialist.
- Judges at the moment are trying to get all the judging criteria done before the deadline either by current judging route or grandfathering route.
- Some of the delegates were in agreement that the JEP is similar to the FCI route and this is what the Kennel Club is moving forwards too.
- The Breed Council judging criteria is the minimum requirements and some clubs do have higher levels of dogs and classes judged. The Breed Council criteria and Breed Clubs criteria should be the same, so everyone has a level playing field, which would include overseas judging experience.
- It was agreed that delegates take this back to their committees with a view to bringing some proposals forward for the next meeting.

C. **Do the Clubs/ Breed Council maintain a judging list after 2025 to judge a breed club show**.

Helen did say that the B list is a nightmare as a lot of judges on the list either haven't judged for years, not been active in the breed and when the JEP kicks in wont meet the criteria for level 2 and will have to start again.

Helen felt that the B list if it were checked thoroughly the list could reduce by 50% which again will reduce our judges and open the door for non-breed specialists.

The consensus was that we should keep a Breed Council list of judges as well as the Kennel Club JEP lists. We need to keep some control of our Judges for our Breed Club shows.

3 Breed Standard

Discussion took place regarding the Breed Standard, and it was suggested that the Breed Council has a sub committee to review the standard and bring forward to the Clubs/Council. *This was proposed by EA and 2nd Western. Delegates and those in attendance were in favour.*

To add some meat to the bones of the second proposal made by EASBTC and seconded by

WSBTS this was put forward after discussion about the proposal from SBTC about muzzle proportions which failed to be carried. It was felt that there is wording and areas of the current Breed Standard that could possibly be clarified and/or revised. With this in mind we proposed that every Club, whether a current member of BC or not, could initially put forward a delegate and that a forum could be set up which we would all access via a media platform from our own homes, to discuss this and bring our conclusions back to BC at a later date, with a view to whether or not it might be possible to submit to the KC if thought viable.

This could be ongoing, and could throw up ideas that may need to be discussed at Breed Club committee level before carrying on, but it is really at this stage just to get an open discussion going and moving forward.

- General discussion took place with regards to setting up a sub committee to look at the Breed Standard and clarify or revise certain areas if needed.
- Lesley McFadyen agreed to lead the sub committee and everyone agreed that we would invite all 17 clubs to be part of the process.
- Helen to contact the KC to seek clarification on what the process is in regards to revising the breed standard (if we make any proposals) and if all Clubs need to be in agreement (since the meeting an email has been sent round to all the clubs with a response back from the KC
- Note Since the meeting Lesley has set up a link for a Zoom meeting on Friday 17th February 2023 at 8pm.

4. **AOB**

- Following the success of the Zoom meeting Helen to arrange another meeting for six weeks (or thereabouts) on a Tuesday evening
- Discussion regarding the future of having virtual meetings also discussed and how much the costs were for Teams and Zoom. Helen to source prices and let the clubs know and get the consensus on which platform we use moving forward. Since the meeting Helen has sent out details to all the clubs for both Zoom and Teams.
- The Rules and Regulations of the Breed Council would need updating regarding the use of video meetings. Major areas, deadline for agenda items as currently 7 weeks before a meeting and 4 weeks for the agenda being sent out.
- The general consensus was that video meetings do work and are the way forward in some format but the need to face to face is still required. Several clubs including Scottish and North of Scotland we very happy at the Zoom meeting as it means that all member clubs can be involved.

Helen E Reaney (Hon Secretary)

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