

Dogs NZ Scent Work Committee Minutes for 19th May 2024

Commenced 7:31pm

1. **Roll:** Karen Magorian (Acting Chair), Clare Groom (CG), Lyn Clearwater (LC), Jo Searle (JS), Amerillis Farmer (AF), Joanna Upton (JU), Fiona Hodgson (FH),
2. **Apologies:** Arend van den Bos (AvdB)
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Recorded as accepted **Moved:** Jo (JS) **Seconded:** Amerillis (AF)

4. **Matters Arising from previous Minutes:**

Raised by LC – The recent regulation submitted to EC should be added to our previous minutes for Endorsement KM Advised these changes were advised the Regulation changes were Endorsed by the post Judges Conference meeting held at Ardmore on the 17th March at which there was a quorum – the March 20th meeting also had these circulated for any further discussion.

AP – KM will complete minutes for 17th March

Raised by LC – The Judges Probationary Assessment form needs to have Mentor added, KM advised it has been done and has requested it be added to our Webpage. Was sent to Matt Levens to upload

Raised by LC – Off Line searches. Noted that AvdB statement that AKC (American Kennel Club) do not have this option is incorrect – AKC do have an off line search option. For further discussion with incoming committee.

Raised by LC – New Judges & Judges promoted need to go up on Website – KM has done a comprehensive review & submitted to DNZ regarding amendments to our Judges panel – still has not been actioned. KM will submit again.

Note: All Regulation amendments will be published on the following calendar dates each year.
1st July & 1st January.

5. **Report from EC meetings: Fiona**

- All Regulation amendments will be published on the following calendar dates each year.
1st July & 1st January
- Regulations submitted for 1st July were ratified by EC except – Restricted Trial – further discussion required to clarify /refine
- Matt Leven has resigned – will be focussing on on end IT work before leaving. Contact for basic changes suggest
Suzy or Linda -
Feedback from LC – Linda has been doing a great job with SW Certificates

6. **Email votes:** – Counties DTC Trial dates for the 16th June & 13/14th July were Endorsed

7. **Regulations**

Rewards 10.7.3 – Following feedback from SW & Judging community and further discussion within the committee the following urgent amendment will be submitted to EC for Email Vote to ensure the new Regulations for 1st July read as follows:

10.7.3 A handler is permitted to use food or a toy to reset/refocus their dog on one occasion only, in addition to Regulation 10.7.1, in the scent area on one occasion only without incurring any penalties. Subsequent resets/refocusing will however incur penalties use of food or a toy will incur penalties.

AP: KM will email this to Fiona to request EC Email vote to ensure Regulation is amended for 1st July Publication

Timing 9.6 – Alert Call multiple hides – feedback from Jo Miller – problem may occur if Timer cannot see the full search area and when a handler calls again on same hide location – Timer likely to stop timing but handler can proceed to find correct hide. Further discussion by Committee. Regulation remains unchanged but would advise Judges to instruct their Timers what they want if the above scenario arises.

8. General Business

a) Qualifying Scent Work Trials – Nil received

LC raised concern that CKA / Invercargill have a SWT on same weekend on August 24th & 25th, especially given that Invercargill has had this date each year.

Concerns amongst committee that Calendar not fully updated – would help avoid clashes.

Question raised as to whether a Committee member could have access to our web page to update the calendar

AP: KM – will send updated Calendar (with revised format) to DNZ to update in our web page.

b) Appointments/Promotions:

Susie Londer – application to become SW Judge – Mentor K Magorian – Accepted

Christine Scott – application to become SW Judge – Mentor A Farmer – Accepted

Jane Morgan – Advanced Containers & Adv Vehicle (pending timing 25th May) – Endorsed

Adele Williams – Advanced Containers – Endorsed

Evelyn Williams – Novice Exterior & Novice Vehicle - Endorsed

Jo Miller – Excellent Containers – Endorsed

LC – proposed that Jo Miller be consider under the Core Group of Judges or be promoted under Exceptional Circumstances Regulation to all Excellent Panels.

Rationale: There are only two Judges currently in the South Island that are at Excellent & Masters Panel level. With the introduction of the full Masters classes options to contract enough higher level judges are limited needing to contract more northern Judges and with more trials northern Judges are getting busier/less availability.

Those on the committee who have conducted Probationary assessments for Jo in the past, fully endorse this recommendation, pending Jo completing the full Excellent Panel Exam.

AP: KM will email Arend to request Exam be sent to Jo Miller

AP: KM – will email the endorsed promotions to Fiona to include with proposed email Reg 10.7.3 email vote and will notify the new Judges they have been accepted

c) Committee Roles: Tabled by JU

General discussion of roles proposed – Committee considered this was a good starting point /working document and should be discussed further when new committee is in place.

Discussion regarding setting of Judges Exams suggestion that maybe a role of to manage Judges/Promotions/Training

d) Committee Communication with SW community:

FH advised that there is a generic email address for Scent via DNZ, however unclear who has access to this Facebook – Committee to consider set up of FB page (similar to Agility **ACEY**) that would allow the committee to post information and seek consultation regarding regulation updates/changes etc.

However feedback would only be accepted if emailed to the Committee the post would not have a commenting a option.

AP: Committee happy for AF to post a response from the Committee to DNZ Scent Work Group dialogue from recent posts

9. Other Matters:

LC – Will DNZ be updating the SW Levies form to reflect the increased costs?

JS – Nothing in the Regulations to state that we cannot use another essential oil as a distraction.

AP: JS will write up a set of recommendations for Judges to provide guidance regarding distractions.

AF – 1) Regulation regarding handlers can be disqualified for talking to a Judge – most agreed this was often “ignored” by some Judges - ? Take this out of the Regs

2) What should clubs do if a team wins out prior to the SWT entries have closed, they email show secretary to ask for entry to be changed, however higher class entries are at maximum. How to deal with this situation ? If sorry entries are full, you can still enter as a non-comp entry or club offers a refund.

CG– Nil

JU – Nil

KM – Nil

10. Next meeting:

Wednesday 19th June 2024 (7.30 PM via Zoom – DNZ Office to arrange) Finished 10.06 PM