GCCF Judges Appointment Scheme Review Group

Minutes of the meeting: April 11th @ 1.00pm.
Via Zoom

Present: C M Kaye (KK), Peter Collin (PC), Hilary Dean, (HD), Steve Parkin‹ (SP), Sarndra Deveraux (SD), Sue Dalton-Hobbs (SDH), Claire Lewis (CL)

Item 1: Apologies for absence

- None

Item 2: Chair's opening remarks

KK welcomed everyone and gave a short explanation as to why there has been a change in chairperson for the group.

Item 3: minutes of the last meeting -October 2020

These were agreed as a true record.

Item 4: Updated Terms of Reference:

After considerable discussion a revised Terms of Reference (see attached) for this group was agreed and will be submitted to the Board/Council.

Item 5: Accelerated Judges Scheme;

It was agreed to add the phrase (in red text) to clause 14 (Process) of AJS for clarification as requested by the Board (December 2020).

14) Judge a minimum of 3 certificate classes containing the breed, from either, their book or that of the tutor judge, with accompanying tutorials on those classes with full judges of the breed and demonstrate learning by written submission of learning points covered- on the relevant forms provided. Further tutorials with exhibits not in title classes is acceptable and welcome but not mandatory.

Request for additional wording to clause 9 (Process):

After some discussion, it was agreed that there was a need to ensure that a BAC should feel that any FJ(P) applying for promotion to FJ status had had sufficient experience prior to applying but that any change did not lead to a BAC being able to unjustifiably "hold back" a judge. However, it was felt that the wording proposed was too generalised therefore HD agreed to submit a reworded version for consideration.

Item 6: Stewarding scheme

HD had received a number of emails expressing thoughts around the length and complexity of the current scheme. After considerable discussion, wherein a lot of sympathy was

expressed especially for stewards who have been on the scheme for a considerable time and are acknowledged as already having advanced skills and knowledge. Although it was felt that there was a case for looking to develop a "fast track" option, as the scheme had only recently had a major update (2018), it was not considered a priority for now.

Item 7: Judges reports

It was fully appreciated that written reports were of great importance to exhibitors while being seen as an onerous task by many judges. There was considerable discussion as to the many ways in which, either, this burden could be eased or fully dispensed with while keeping exhibitors happy.

Overall, it was agreed that it would be of advantage if judges could have a choice of methods in which to give constructive feedback to exhibitors.
- Full written reports - post show
- Short critiques written at time of judging (either in a pre-set format of tick boxes with final general comment or forms similar to those currently used at Supreme)
- Interacting with the exhibitor either during judging or after judging engagement completed.

However, PJs would still need to send full critiques to the BAC's.

There was also some discussion as to what may or may not be retained/lost to accommodate such approaches
- Fewer miscellaneous/side classes
- Less exhibits allocated to a judge
- Changes to show format

It was also felt that the Code of Conduct for judges needed an urgent review as it had been some years since the last revision.

Item 8: Consideration of possible changes, that may arise due to changes to the methods in which PJ's are trained, to the rules within the GCCF JAS governing the management, supervision and expectations of Pupil Judge training.

It was agreed to pick this up at the next meeting.

Item 9: AOB

A discussion took place over the lack of knowledge and understanding of the GCCF JAS rules of procedure by many of those attending BAC meetings.

In the interest of openness - it was requested and agreed that the GCCF Chair (Sean Farrell) be invited to attend the next meeting.

Item 10: Date of next meeting

- **May 9th @ 1.00pm via ZOOM.**