

Firstly, my apologies for being unable to attend your AGM, hopefully this short report will give some insight into the ongoing progress of the Judges Education Programme in relation to our breed.

I have been in the role of Breed Education Coordinator since December having taken over from Victoria Goldberg who so ably piloted us through the early stages of the transition to this new system of judges education. I am very grateful to Victoria for her help and support and also to all 4 breed clubs for their nomination that I take over the role.

I am still learning the ropes so to speak but happy to try to find an answer to any questions which our up and coming judges have asked.

There is as yet no progress in the Kennel Club setting up the online Find A Judge resource in the KC academy for non CC judges which was to be an integral part of the new system therefore it remains the responsibility of individual judges to maintain their records and ensure that they meet the relevant criteria for accepting any judging appointment offered. We are still in a transition phase meaning that both the old system and JEP are accessible until the end of 2025 after which JEP will be the only option, this situation can, and does, cause some confusion.

There are now many online seminars which can be accessed by prospective judges including the requirements of a dog show judge and some Breed appreciation days which makes judges education much more accessible. The most recent BAD, hosted by the Society in October 22 saw a good number of candidates pass the multiple choice exam and an opportunity to undergo a group mentoring session followed. Hopefully the next BAD will be organised by NEFRA sometime in the autumn. A very productive meeting was held recently between myself as BEC and representatives from the breed clubs which recognised the importance of supporting judges education as

fully as possible and for the breed clubs to work together to maximise opportunities for them to access opportunities. Lots of good ideas were shared to take back to the committees including the possibility of an online BAD. There is now a healthy list of judges who are at level 2 of the JEP and therefore could begin working towards the level 3 criteria which includes mentoring sessions.

I have not received any new requests for mentoring as yet so just a gentle reminder to those wishing to progress that setting up mentoring sessions can be tricky therefore as much notice as possible please if you are thinking of taking the next step.

I will finish by saying please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about JEP and that the KC have all the relevant information and codes of practice on their website which you can also refer to.

Thank you
Sandra Stevenson
Breed Education Coordinator.