



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

28 February 2020

Dear Breed Club/Council Secretary

Re: Hands on Judging Experience

We are writing to make your Club/Council aware that the Kennel Club Board has now approved changes to the Judges Competency Framework (JCF), having carefully considered the recommendations put forward by the independent review group. A new name to replace JCF will be announced in due course.

At its meeting on 11 February 2020, the Kennel Club Board agreed to introduce minimum hands-on experience for judges progressing under the JCF to allow them to register at Level 3. As part of this work the Board also amended the hands-on criteria for potential CC judges under the current judges approval process.

The new criteria for the minimum number of dogs judged to be approved to award Challenge Certificates has been amended as follows:

Band	Current KC criteria	Amended KC criteria under current system	Criteria for progressing under JCF to Level 3
A minus	30	30	15
A	50	40	20
B	70	70	35
C	110	120	60
D	160	180	90
E	250	250	125

This criteria will be applicable with immediate effect for questionnaires submitted to the Kennel Club and it is strongly recommended that A3 list criteria are changed to reflect the revised totals. Similarly a review of B list criteria will be needed to reflect the new A3 list minimum numbers.

A list of breeds and their relevant Stud Book Bands can be found here: <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/stud-book-bands/> See note ¹

Non CC Breeds

Non-CC breeds will be treated as being in Stud Book Band A. Breed clubs for non-CC breeds may however request listing as a Stud Book Band A minus, providing the rationale for doing so is received by **31 May 2020**.

Imported Breed Register breeds will also be regarded as a Stud Book Band A breed once they progress to Breed Register.

The current judges approval process will run in tandem with the JCF for a period of five years from the date of launch, subject to a review after three years and judges have the option to choose which system to use on a breed by breed basis.

Please note that the criteria for variety breeds has also been considered and those breed clubs/councils will be written to separately.

The Judges Committee will consider appeals from clubs or councils wishing to make a case for their breed to have different hands-on requirements to those stated above. This request to be sent to the Kennel Club via breedshows@thekennelclub.org.uk before **31 May 2020**, providing a rationale for the alteration. Where there is more than one breed club, any clubs wishing to make a case for a change to must consult with all other clubs within the breed and seek a consensus before contacting the Kennel Club.

Please note that the Kennel Club will not consider an increase above 250 dogs, the current minimum number required for Band E breeds.

For your information the Board has clarified that the following types of event may be used to claim hands-on experience numbers under both JCF and current approval system.

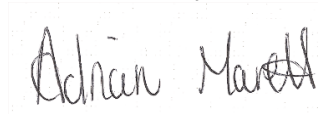
- Breed classes at Championship Shows without CCs
- Breed classes at Open Shows
- Breed classes at Limited Shows
- Mock/training classes at breed club shows (practical judging days) – only one occasion can be claimed and a maximum of 5 dogs
- Dogs judged at KC approved assessments, maximum of 5 dogs – only one occasion and a maximum of 5 dogs. Cannot be used in addition to mock classes.
- Dogs judged at inter or intra-club single-breed matches
- Special Award Classes at breed club shows
- Supported entry shows
- Dogs judged at single breed dog of the year competitions
- Overseas appointments

Dogs judged at the following types of event may NOT be included in a judge's hands-on experience:

- AVNSC and Variety classes
- At fun days
- Conjointly with other judges at events where the candidate judge is not required to give independent judgment on the dogs
- Any JCF mentoring sessions

If you have any questions related to this process please email breedshows@thekennelclub.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Adrian Marett
Senior Officer – Canine Activities Team

¹ Those breeds designated Band A minus are: Australian Cattle Dog; Australian Terrier; Basset Griffon Vendeen (Grand); Bloodhound; Bouvier Des Flandres; Brittany; Finnish Spitz; Glen of Imaal Terrier; Ibizan Hound; Kerry Blue Terrier; Lakeland Terrier; Mastiff; Norwegian Buhund; Norwich Terrier; Otterhound; Pharaoh Hound; Polish Lowland Sheepdog; Retriever (Chesapeake Bay); Sealyham Terrier; Skye Terrier; Spaniel (Irish Water); Swedish Vallhund; Welsh Terrier.