



**MEETING OF THE WORKING TRIALS LIAISON COUNCIL TO
BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2019 AT 10.30 AM IN
THE BOARDROOM, THE KENNEL CLUB, CLARGES STREET –
AGENDA**

ITEM 1. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE TERM OF THE COUNCIL

ITEM 2. TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE TERM OF THE COUNCIL

**ITEM 3. TO ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE ONTO THE ACTIVITIES
COMMITTEE EFFECTIVE FROM JUNE 2019 TO MAY 2022**

**ITEM 4. TO ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE ONTO THE ACTIVITIES HEALTH
AND WELFARE SUB-GROUP FOR THE TERM OF THE COUNCIL**

**ITEM 5. PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL ON KENNEL CLUB
STRUCTURES AND PROCEDURES**

The office will give a presentation to Council representatives giving details of the Kennel Club and Liaison Council structure and procedures and the role of Council representatives.

ITEM 6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

ITEM 7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2018 (copies previously distributed).

ITEM 8. MATTERS ARISING/RESULTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

(Pages 13 - 16)

- a. The Council is invited to note that the following amendments to I Regulations were approved by the Board at its meeting on 17 July 2018:

Regulation I(C)4.:

TO:

Down (Introductory Stake **and CD** 5 Minutes. Other Stakes 10 Minutes).

(Insertion in bold)

(Effective date 1 January 2019)

A consequential amendment was also approved:

Regulation I(A)9.a.

TO:

9. Schedule of Exercises and Points.

a. INTRODUCTORY AND COMPANION DOG (CD) STAKE



	Maximum Marks	Group Total	Minimum Group Qualifying Mark
6. Down (Introductory Stake 5 Minutes; CD Stake 40 5 Minutes) (Deletion struck through. Insertion in bold.) (Effective date 1 January 2019)	10	50	35

Regulation I30.i.

One close fitting smooth collar must be worn. The only attachment permitted is a form of identification. Dogs must not wear any type of slip or half-slip collar when under test.

(Insertion in bold)

Effective date: 1 January 2019

Note: The Activities Committee, at its meeting on 14 June 2018, raised a concern that the wording proposed by the Council stated that only a leather or webbing collar would be permissible, as it considered this to be unduly restrictive. It was agreed that instead the word 'smooth' should be used. Further, the Board, on considering the wording of the Regulation, stated that a collar must be worn and accordingly, it approved the revised wording as above.

Regulation I(C)2

TO:

2. Heelwork. - ... Where required the lead should be ~~of a slip type or attached to a smooth~~ **close fitting smooth** collar ~~or slip chain~~. Retractable leads or head collars are not to be used.

(Deletion struck through. Insertion in bold.)

(Effective date 1 January 2019)

Regulation I(A)9. Schedule of Exercises and Points

TO:

a. INTRODUCTORY AND COMPANION DOG (CD) STAKE

Group II Agility

	Maximum Marks	Group Total	Minimum Group Qualifying Mark
9. Scale (3) Stay (2) (1) Position (1) Recall (5)	10	20	14

b. UTILITY DOG (UD) STAKE

Group II Agility

	Maximum Marks	Group Total	Minimum Group Qualifying Mark
8. Scale (3) Stay (2) (1) Position (1) Recall (5)	10	20	14

c. WORKING DOG (WD) STAKE

Group II Agility



	Maximum Marks	Group Total	Minimum Group Qualifying Mark
8. Scale (3) Stay (2) (1) Position (1) Recall (5)	10	20	14

d. TRACKING DOG (TD) STAKE
Group II Agility

	Maximum Marks	Group Total	Minimum Group Qualifying Mark
8. Scale (3) Stay (2) (1) Position (1) Recall (5)	10	20	14

e. PATROL DOG (PD) STAKE
Group II Agility

	Maximum Marks	Group Total	Minimum Group Qualifying Mark
8. Scale (3) Stay (2) (1) Position (1) Recall (5)	10	20	14

(Deletions struck through. Insertions in bold.)
(Effective date 1 January 2019)

b. Progression and eligibility issues

The Activities Committee, in considering proposals submitted by the Council, wished to suggest that issues of progression and eligibility should be considered as a whole by the Council with a view to producing a package of measures designed to attract new competitors and to retain existing ones in order to address the decreasing number of entries. It was acknowledged that this would involve a consultation process in which the views of competitors would be assessed and taken into account.

- (i) Accordingly, the Council is requested to consider the formation of a Working Party from within the Council, to be tasked specifically with giving detailed consideration to progression issues, with the objective of encouraging wider participation in the discipline.
- (ii) In addition, the Committee suggested that the encouragement of young handlers was another issue which may be considered by the proposed Working Party as part of its remit.

c. Dogs biting on the right arm

At its previous meeting, the Council considered whether there should be any regulation to state that dogs must bite on the right arm. It was agreed that a suitable proposal may be considered by the Council at its next meeting. It is invited to note that two proposals have been submitted and are included on the agenda under items 13b. and 13.c.

d. Research project

At its previous meeting, the Council noted that, following its request for research based on comparisons of dogs traversing a 5 foot scale versus a 6 foot scale; and an 8 foot long jump versus a 9 foot long jump, a formal proposal was being formulated. An update is provided under item 10.

e. Proposed review of Regulations for Bloodhound Trials relating to entries/qualifications



At its previous meeting, the Council discussed a proposed review of I(D) Regulations relating to Bloodhound Trials in order to address the issue of higher stakes becoming 'top heavy' as a result of reduced entries at trials. In particular it considered the potential reinstatement of the nomination system, in order to encourage numbers competing at lower levels. It was agreed that discussions between the two societies concerned would take place, with a view to a formal proposal being submitted to the Council.

The Council is invited to note responses from the Bloodhound Club and the Association of Bloodhound Breeders.
(Annexes A(i) and A(ii) refer)

ITEM 9. INSURANCE ISSUES

Whilst it is not possible to discuss the specifics of any current cases due to ongoing investigations, Council members will be given the opportunity to put forward comments and raise any concerns relating to insurance and liability issues at Working Trials.

A representative from Howden, the insurance broker acting on behalf of Hiscox Insurance (the Kennel Club's insurance provider) has been invited to attend the meeting via a teleconference call in order to address issues raised by Council members.

ITEM 10. ACTIVITIES JUDGES SUB-GROUP

The Council is invited to note an update on the Sub-Group's progress since the Council's last meeting.

Mr Gilbert wishes to report that filming for the Working Trials presentation, which would be made available on the Kennel Club Academy website, took place in September 2018. Work is currently in progress to finalise the film.

It is hoped that a further update will be available at the meeting.

ITEM 11. ACTIVITIES HEALTH AND WELFARE SUB-GROUP

The Council is invited to note a report from Mr Gilbert on the work of the Sub-Group.

Following the Council's request for research based on comparisons of dogs traversing a 5 foot scale versus a 6 foot scale; and an 8 foot long jump versus a 9 foot long jump, a formal proposal has been formulated by Dr Boyd, Dr Doyle, and Mr Gilbert, and a request for funding submitted.

A further update, if available, will be provided at the meeting.

ITEM 12. KENNEL CLUB WORKING TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a. Ballot for judges for the 2022 Kennel Club Working Trial Championships
The Council is invited to vote on the nominations for the Kennel Club Working Trial Championship 2022.
(Ballot papers to follow – Representatives only)
- b. Judges
The Council is invited to note that judges have been appointed for forthcoming Working Trial Championships, as follows:



2019
TD – Ms J Owens-Poole
PD – Ms L Cottier

2020
TD – Mr L Newman
PD – Mr S Ford

2021
PD – Mr J Wykes
TD – Mr M Williams

- c. Criteria for judges for the Kennel Club Working Trials Championships
The Council is invited to note that subsequent to its 2018 meeting, the Activities Committee noted that the existing criteria for judges for the Kennel Club Working Trial Championships included the requirement for a judge to have attended the relevant Working Trial judges' seminar, but did not explicitly state that he/she must have passed the examination. It agreed that this requirement should be added to the criteria, for the purposes of clarity and completeness.

ITEM 13. FIVE YEAR STRATEGY

(Pages 17 - 18)

The Council is invited to consider the Five Year Strategy document and to discuss how it may be implemented, noting that at its 2018 meeting, a concern had been raised that the strategy for the discipline had not been developed or progressed for some time. It was highlighted that it was the responsibility of the Council to do so, and any suggestions for ways in which to implement or develop the strategy should be submitted for consideration at future meetings.
(Annex B refers)

ITEM 14. PROPOSALS FROM SOCIETIES/PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

- a. Surrey Dog Training Society Mr M Lewindon
Proposed amendment to Regulation I27.(c)
The Society wishes to propose an amendment to the above Regulation.

Regulation I27.(c). Judging.

TO:

- c. The Judge or Judges in consultation with the Working Trial Manager may arrange for dogs to be working singly or together in any numbers. All dogs entered in a Stake shall be tested as far as possible under similar conditions. **Immediately before undertaking an exercise, competitors will be told, by the judge or steward on the judge's behalf, which exercise they are being required to attempt.**

(Insertion in bold)

Rationale

Working Trials tests are rich because of the variety and flexibility in how exercises are set and the order in which they are arranged. Competitors should, however, understand what they are expected to do to achieve the requisite number of points to qualify and potentially win competitions. Additionally, within Patrol Dog stakes, clarity in what is expected is critical to ensure the safety of those taking part.

Note: proposals b. and c. below cover the same issue and should be considered together.



- b. North West Working Trials Society
Proposal for an amendment to Regulation I(C)17

Mrs J Holt

The Society wishes to propose the following amendment:

Regulation I(C)17

TO:

17. Pursuit and Detention of Protected Stewards.—The 'protected steward' (a different one for choice) and handler should be introduced as above, and the dog sent forward under similar conditions. The 'protected steward' must continue to attempt to escape and, if possible, should do so through an exit or into a vehicle once the dog has had a chance to catch up with him. The dog must be regarded as having succeeded if it clearly prevents the 'protected steward' from continuing to flee by holding him by the protected **right** arm. If the dog fails to make a convincing attempt to detain the 'protected steward', it shall lose any marks that it may have obtained for the Recall from Protected Stewards exercise or alternatively, it shall not be tested on the Recall that follows the Pursuit and Detention of Protected Stewards exercise.

(Insertion in bold)

Rationale

It has always been custom and practice that the protected arm was the right arm, although this has never been specified in the Description of Exercises and Guidance for Judges, Regulations I(C). It is considered that this clarity is necessary for the benefit of both PD competitors and judges.

- c. Mr J Wykes
Proposal for an amendment to Regulation I(C)17

Mr Wykes, an individual, wishes the Council to consider the following amendment to Regulation I(C)17:

Regulation I(C)17

TO:

17. Pursuit and Detention of Protected Stewards.—The 'protected steward' (a different one for choice) and handler should be introduced as above, and the dog sent forward under similar conditions. The 'protected steward' must continue to attempt to escape and, if possible, should do so through an exit or into a vehicle once the dog has had a chance to catch up with him. The dog must be regarded as having succeeded if it clearly prevents the 'protected steward' from continuing to flee by holding him by the protected arm. If the dog fails to make a convincing attempt to detain the 'protected steward', it shall lose any marks that it may have obtained for the Recall from Protected Stewards exercise or alternatively, it shall not be tested on the Recall that follows the Pursuit and Detention of Protected Stewards exercise. **In any exercise where the dog is required to bite a protected steward (protected consistent with safety), it must be on the right arm between elbow and wrist. Any indiscriminate biting must be severely penalised.**

(Insertion in bold)

Rationale

The objective of the proposed amendment is to ensure that dogs are only trained to bite on the right arm in the interests of safety.

- d. Ms F Mckenzie
Proposal for amendment to Regulation I(D).6.h

Mr D Robertson

Ms Mckenzie wishes to Council to consider the following addition to Regulation I(D)6.:



Regulation I(D)6.h

TO:

Should cattle be present, the Stake Manager must inform line walkers that a diversion should be made to avoid walking through them. If a reasonable diversion is not possible then the line should be aborted and a spare line used.
(Insertion in bold.)

Rationale

The proposal is made following a serious incident which occurred at a recent Bloodhound trial in which a Bloodhound was injured by cattle. Ms McKenzie wishes to stress that there are many reported incidents every year in which walkers, with and without dogs, are badly injured or killed by cattle, and is of the view that any potential danger to competitors and/or hounds should be avoided if possible.

ITEM 15. DISCUSSION ITEMS

(Pages 19 - 20)

- a. Yorkshire Working Trials Society Mr R Musgrave
Number of meetings
The Society would like to suggest that two Liaison Council meetings are scheduled each year. It is of the view that if a second meeting, probably in October was scheduled, then societies would submit items. If there are insufficient items to justify a second meeting, then it would not be confirmed. It would also offer the advantage of allowing the Council to discuss matters referred back to it from the Activities Committee if necessary.
- b. Yorkshire Working Trials Society Mr R Musgrave
Removal of the gun test
The Society requests that the Council discuss the removal of the gun test from Working Trials tests, and the marks in that section redistributed. It notes that many triallists are of the view that this exercise is no longer necessary.
- If the Council is in agreement with removal of the gun test, further discussion would be required as to how the marks should be redistributed.
- c. Ms F Atkin Miss J Carruthers
Qualification for Championship CD Stake
Ms Atkin, an individual, requests that the Council consider a review of making CD Open a compulsory requirement to progress to CD Championship.

The current Regulation I(A)6.b. is as follows:

Companion Dog (C.D.) Stake—For dogs which have not qualified W.D. Ex.

Rationale

It is anticipated that doing so would elevate the perceived value of the CD Open Stake. Further, it would bring CD into line with all the other open stakes as a requirement for progression into championship stakes, and if approved would result in an increase in the number of dogs competing in CD Open Stakes.

- d. Southern Alsatian Training Society Mrs L Marlow
Refusal of entries
The Society requests that the Council discuss the procedure to be followed should a club wish to refuse entries from a particular individual, or for a particular dog. It wishes to ensure that the procedure is fair, reasoned and transparent, and suggests that clubs



should advise the individual concerned of the reason behind any decision to refuse entries in order to allow him or her the opportunity to amend their conduct or to offer an apology, if appropriate.

Further, the Council is requested to consider ways in which guidance on the correct procedures may be disseminated to clubs.

A copy of the Kennel Club's 'General advice on the exercise of the right of Societies to refuse entries to Kennel Club Licensed Events' document guidance is attached for reference.

(Annex C refers)

- e. Mr J Wykes
Introductory Stake
Mr Wykes requests the Council to discuss the merits of the Introductory Stake, and to consider ways in which it may be improved.
- f. Progression issues
Mr Wykes
Mr Wykes wishes the Council to discuss progression through the stakes and ways in which it could be improved.

ITEM 16. MARKING UP OF CATALOGUES

The Council is invited by the office to agree a standard method for marking up Working Trial catalogues to indicate qualification marks. This is requested in order to ensure clarity as to which dogs have qualified in the Tracking or Patrol Dog stake and which dogs have gained Excellent qualifications in these Stakes.

At present there are inconsistencies in the way catalogues are marked up by different societies, resulting in time-consuming errors and queries when compiling Stud Book proofs, and the possibility of Stud Book certificates being issued incorrectly.

ITEM 17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Please give at least two weeks advance notice of matters to be raised under 'Any Other Business' as this assists the office if research is required. These items are discussed at the discretion of the Chairman.

ITEM 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be confirmed in September 2019.



NOTES:

1. The Kennel Club will reimburse standard rail fares to all representatives attending the meeting, from their addresses as recorded at the Kennel Club. Claim forms will be available at the meeting.
2. Those resident in Northern Ireland or Scotland may apply in advance for authority to substitute shuttle air travel for standard rail fare, although it is requested that tickets are booked well in advance to take advantage of any reduction in fares.
3. Please give advance notice of matters to be raised under Any Other Business. This assists the Office if research is required. These items are discussed at the discretion of the Council Chairman.
4. Kennel Club Liaison Council Regulations state that the Kennel Club will bear the cost of all reasonable and externally incurred costs connected with a Council, if agreed in advance. Therefore, representatives should apply to the Kennel Club for approval of any costs they may wish to claim prior to the expense being incurred.

THE KENNEL CLUB'S MISSION STATEMENT AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

'The Kennel Club is the national body which exists to promote the general improvement, health and well-being of all dogs through responsible breeding and ownership' *This is to be achieved through:-*

- **Promoting the Kennel Club as the leading national organisation for referral and advice regarding all canine related matters.**
- **Encouraging the responsible breeding of pedigree dogs.**
- **Encourage the responsible ownership of dogs.**
- **Facilitating the breeding of healthy dogs**
- **Promoting the positive benefits of dogs in society.**
- **Promoting and regulating canine activities and competitions.**
- **Providing opportunities for education and training through Kennel Club led initiatives.**
- **Investing in canine health and welfare.**
- **Engaging with the wider dog owning audience/fraternity.**



Liaison Societies for Non-Championship Working Trials Societies

Working Trials Society

Australian Shepherd Club Of The United Kingdom
 Aveley Obedience & Working Trials Society
 Avon Working Trials Training Society
 Aylesbury Canine Training Society
 Banbury & District Dog Training Society
 Billingshurst Dog Training Club
 Birmingham & District German Shepherd Dog Association
 Central Bernese Mountain Dog Club
 Chipping Norton & District Dog Training Club
 Cynllan Lodge Dog Training Club
 Deveron Dog Training Club
 Donyatt Dog Training Club
 Grampian Gundog Club
 Haslemere & District Dog Training Club
 High Peak Dog Training Society
 Hucknall & District Canine Training Society
 Lochaber & District Canine Society
 Midlands Border Collie Club
 Mid Wales Working Gundog Society
 National Australian Shepherd Association
 Newlands Working Dog Society
 North Of England Weimaraner Society
 Northants & Bedfordshire Working Trials Dog Training
 Northern Alsatian & All Breeds Training Society
 Northern Newfoundland Club
 Portland Dog Training Club
 Rough & Smooth Collie Training Association
 Scottish Kennel Club
 Six Counties Working Trials Society
 Slovakian Rough Haired Pointer Club (Provisional)
 South Devon Agility & Dog Training Club
 South Leeds Working Trials Dog Training Club
 Spanish Water Dog Club (Provisional)
 Spey Valley Dog Training Club
 Sporting Irish Water Spaniel Club
 Stonehouse Dog Training Club
 Weimaraner Club Of Great Britain
 Weimaraner Club Of Scotland
 Working Belgian Shepherd Dog Society
 Ynys Mon Dog Training Society

Representative Society

Yorkshire Working Trials Society
 Essex Working Trials Society
 Wessex Working Trials Club
 ASPADS Working Trials Society
 Leamington Dog Training Club
 Southern Alsatian Training Society
 Leamington Dog Training Club
 ASPADS Working Trials Society
 British Association For German Shepherd Dogs
 Welsh Kennel Club
 Scottish Working Trials Society
 Wessex Working Trials Club
 Scottish Working Trials Society
 Surrey Dog Training Society
 North West Working Trials Society
 Midland Counties German Shepherd Dog Association
 Scottish Working Trials Society
 Midland Counties German Shepherd Dog Association
 Welsh Kennel Club
 Icen German Shepherd Dog Club
 Surrey Dog Training Society
 North East Counties Working Trials Society
 ASPADS Working Trials Society
 Yorkshire Working Trials Society
 British Association For German Shepherd Dogs
 Poole & District Dog Training Society
 Leamington Dog Training Club
 Scottish Working Trials Society
 North West Working Trials Society
 Yorkshire Working Trials Society
 Poole & District Dog Training Society
 Yorkshire Working Trials Society
 Lincolnshire German Shepherd Dog & All Breeds
 Scottish Working Trials Society
 North West Working Trials Society
 British Association For German Shepherd Dogs
 Essex Working Trials Society
 Scottish Working Trials Society
 ASPADS Working Trials Society
 Welsh Kennel Club