

# Welcome to the Breed Education Co-ordinator Meeting

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MARCH 2025





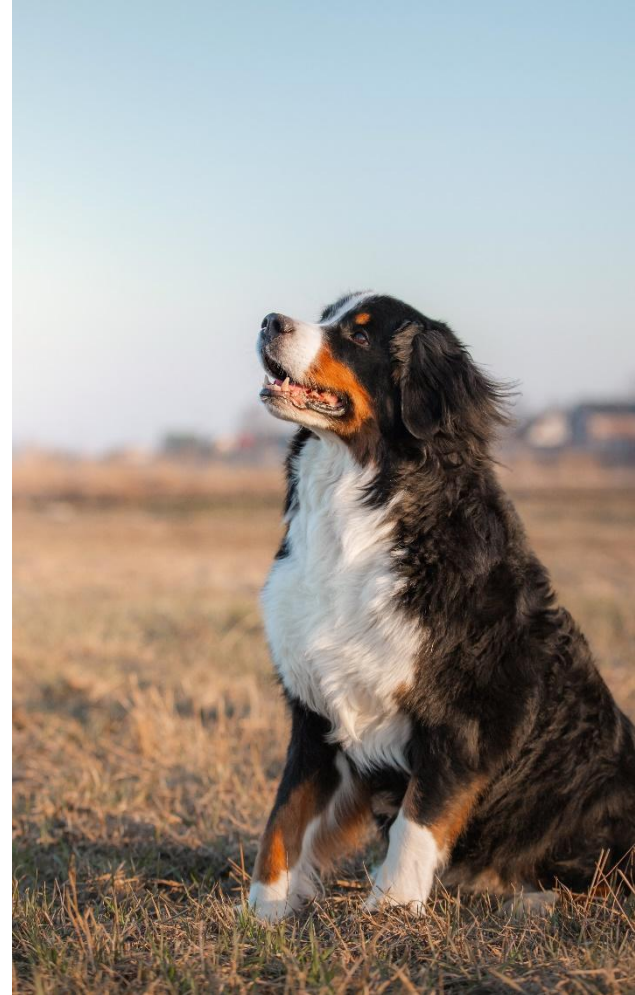
# Introductions and Meeting Etiquette

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- Welcome from: Jeff Horswell, Helen Kerfoot, Lorraine Yarnley, Olivia Ellis, Min Witheyman

*This webinar is aimed at supporting and informing those Breed Education Co-ordinators who may be new to the role, and as a refresher to those who may have been in the role previously*

- Use of relevant platform of delivery – mute, raise hand, reactions, Q&A chatroom, questions, camera etc. 
- The meeting provides an opportunity for discussion and help with questions. you can type questions into the Q&A or raise your hand icon to ask and you can then unmute yourself and enable your camera if you choose to. 
- Respect for fellow participants and different levels of knowledge, we will answer as many questions as possible and welcome feedback/suggestions.
- Full information available at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/events-and-activities/dog-showing/judging-dog-shows/breed-education-co-ordinators/](https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/events-and-activities/dog-showing/judging-dog-shows/breed-education-co-ordinators/)



# Agenda

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This evening's agenda will include:

- Breed Education Co-Ordinator Role
- The need for BECs to encourage judges to register on the Judges Education Programme (JEP)
- Mentoring and Observation
- Breed Specific Assessments
- Judges Education Programme refresher
  - Grandfathering
  - Eye for a Dog Assessment reminder
- Q&A - ideas and suggestions for consideration



# Breed Education Co-ordinator Role

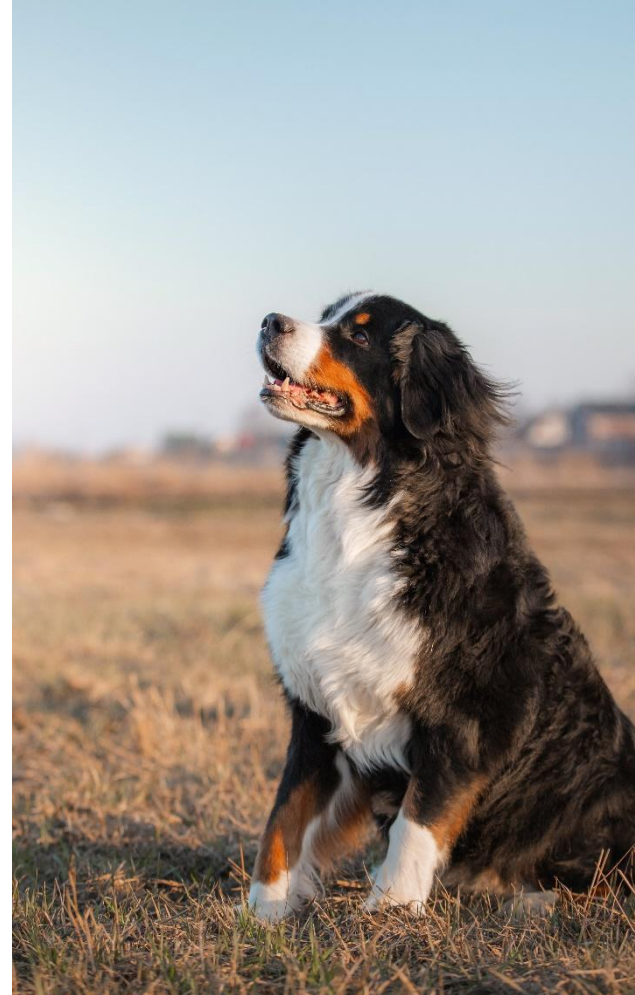
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March 2025

# Breed Education Co-ordinator

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- One BEC for each breed, appointment by breed clubs/breed council
- Administrative role
- Oversee education and training of judges for the breed
- Main point of contact for The Kennel Club and prospective judges
- All Breed Education Co-ordinators are listed on The Kennel Club website
- Three-year term of office from Jan 2025



# Responsibilities of a Breed Education Co-ordinator?

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- Encourage judges to register on the JEP platform
- To identify the need for educational opportunities *and increase the pool of mentors and observers to support the process*
- To assist breed clubs in co-ordinating breed appreciation days
- To develop and keep updated in case of changes to the multiple-choice breed standard exams for use at breed appreciation days in line with Kennel Club guidance
- To facilitate the mentoring process
- To arrange for judges to be observed at the appropriate time/show, *ensuring that these judges are ready*
- Full list to be found on The Kennel Club website

# Registering on the Judges Education Programme Platform

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*Please remind your breed judges...*

***All judges must be listed on the JEP platform. It is part of the Show Regulations***

- There are mandatory requirements before you can judge
- Education is now in a logical sequence
- Judging competency is assessed
- Transparent approval system
- An online platform for all judges



# Mentoring and Observation

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March 2025



# Mentoring

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*Once a judge has registered at Level 2, they are eligible to be mentored*

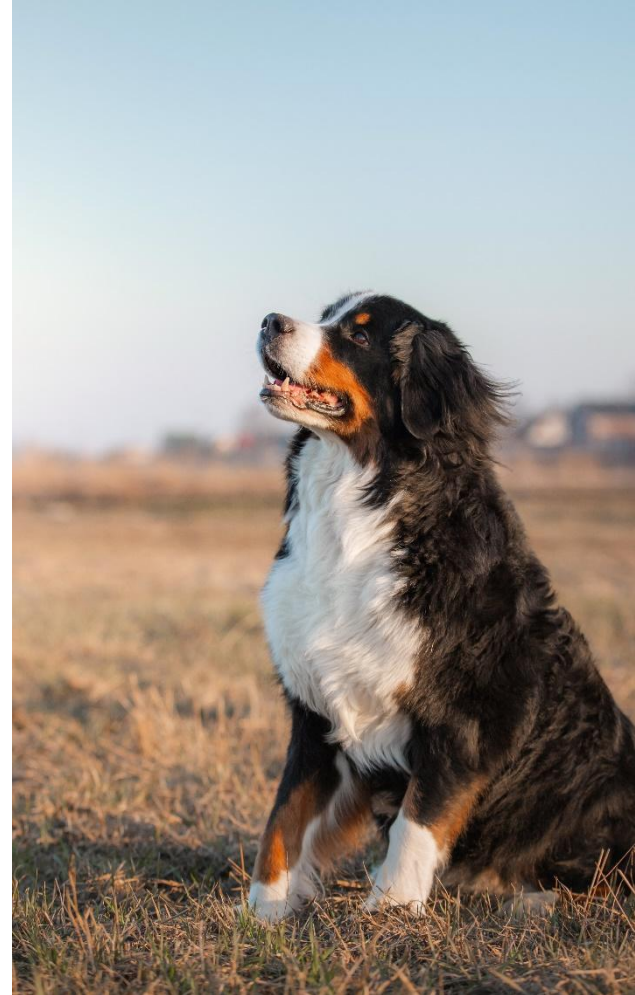
- In the context of the Judges Education Programme (Breed Shows), mentoring is a learning and development experience where a Mentee is assisted by a Breed Mentor in developing breed specific skills and knowledge.
- A Mentee must undergo a minimum of three mentoring sessions, with a minimum of a year between the first and third session, before they can be observed in a judging scenario.



# Mentoring

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- If more than three sessions are felt necessary by the Mentee, or based upon feedback from Mentors, the BEC and Mentee will come to a consensus about additional mentoring sessions.
- Mentors will indicate if the mentee is ready to progress and highlight any concerns/points to be covered at a future session



# Mentors

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The Breed Education Co-ordinator (BEC) will submit to the Judges Education Team:

- A list of proposed Breed Mentors who meet the criteria set out in the COBP and have indicated their willingness to act as a Mentor.
- A list of proposed Breed Mentors who do not meet the criteria set out in the COBP but who have indicated their willingness to act as a Mentor, have the support of at least 50% of breed clubs or breed council, or the sole breed club, with the rationale as to why they should be included.
- Those who meet the criteria can be utilised straight away.



# Mentors

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There are 3 categories of Mentors:

- Persons who have bred/owned at least 2 UK champions in the breed (Champion or Show Champion) and awarded CCs at least 2 times.
- Persons who are group judges for the relevant group and have awarded CCs at least 2 times in the breed
- Persons who do not meet the criteria above but are supported by at least 50% of breed clubs (except where there is one breed club, and they have the support of that club) or by the breed council and the KC Judges Committee.

# Review of lists

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- Please review your lists and advise the office of any changes, for example those deceased or no longer able to mentor
- Please ensure there are sufficient mentors (30 is a good target in all but the smallest)

# Organising Mentoring

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Mentoring may take place in 4 different scenarios:

1. Group mentoring with a hands-on element, organised by a breed club - this scenario can only be used once
2. One-to-one at the ringside
3. As a judge for Special Award Classes at a breed club show
4. As a Student Judge in the ring with Mentor/Judge at a show

In **ALL** mentoring scenarios, Mentees **MUST** contact the respective BEC to request a mentoring session and not the Breed Mentor.

The full Mentoring Organisation Guide for the above 4 scenarios can be found in the COBP.

# Mentoring Records and Feedback

Upon completion of each mentoring session, the Mentor must provide feedback to the Mentee using the Mentoring Record Form (Appendix E).

- A copy of the Mentoring Record Form must be completed by the Mentor on the day the mentoring session takes place.
- This must be given to the Mentee for their records and to update their online account once this facility is available. A copy must be sent to the BEC by the Mentee so that their records might be updated. Mentees are responsible for retaining this.

JUDGES EDUCATION PROGRAMME (BREED SHOWS)  
CODE OF BEST PRACTICE FOR BREED MENTORING  
**MENTORING RECORD FORM – CONFIDENTIAL**

This form is to be used to record what takes place at the mentoring session. It is hoped that it is an enjoyable experience for both parties, and it should provide opportunities to ask questions and discuss points at any time. Please ensure that the mentoring session is carried out in a respectful manner, avoiding being overheard. The discussion between the Mentor and Mentee **must remain confidential at all times**.

At the end of the mentoring session, both the Mentor and Mentee should sign the form which is to be retained by the Mentee and a copy sent to the BEC for their records.

Mentee's Name:							
Mentor's Name:							
Breed:							
Type of Mentoring: <i>(please indicate)</i>		One-to-One		Group Mentoring		Date:	
		Special Award classes		Student Judge			
Number of dogs discussed/judged:		Show/Location:				Length of session:	
TICK for 'subject covered in sufficient detail' or CROSS for 'more discussion recommended'. If not possible to cover a subject leave blank.							
	Suggested areas for discussion <i>(delete those not covered)</i>			TICK/ CROSS	Comments – <i>Continue overleaf if required</i>		
A	Which exhibits catch the Mentee's eye initially and why?						
B	Breed type, proportions and size						
C	Heads						
D	Construction and movement						
E	Coat and colour						
F	The differences between a puppy and adult						
G	Mentee's placings						
H	Breed-specific way of evaluating the breed						
Mentor comments: <i>Please include constructive comments to enable the Mentee to identify learning points:</i>							
Please tick this box if it is your opinion that the mentee is ready to progress, please leave blank if you believe the mentee requires further mentoring/education and you must state why in your comments.							
Mentee comments: <i>Are there any points you wish to cover at a future mentoring session which the BEC can inform the next Mentor of:</i>							
Signature of Mentor:				Signature of Mentee:			
For completion by BEC:							
Date form received by BEC:							
No. of Mentoring sessions complete:							

# Observation

*It is important to ensure judges are ready to be observed, and mentors have 'signed them off'*

- Observation forms an important part in the learning and development experience of a judge. The observation takes place when a judge is observed while in the act of judging.
- The observer is there to ensure the judge can demonstrate sufficient ability in terms of knowledge of the breed being judged and ring manner.
- To be eligible to undertake an observation session, judges must:
  - Have completed a minimum of three mentoring sessions





# Observers

- Judges should ensure that they have completed all of their mentoring sessions and contact the respective BEC to alert them to a suitable judging appointment for which the observation may be carried out in a timely manner.
- The BEC should then arrange for a Breed Observer to attend the appointment and complete an Observation Record Form following the completion of the judging and discussion with the judge on their appointment. All Observations are to be arranged by the BEC only.

**OBSERVATION RECORD FORM – CONFIDENTIAL**

Both the Judge and Observer should sign the form which is to be retained by the Mentee and a copy sent to the BEC for their records.

Judge's Name:					
Breed:					
Type of show: (please indicate)		Breed club show		Breed supported entry show	
Name of show:					
Date of show:				Number of dogs judged:	
Observer's Name:					
<b>EVALUATION:</b>					
Comprehension of breed standard, including conformation and movement:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Understanding of breed type:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Ability to examine the dogs and judge in a manner specific to the breed:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Ability to justify their placings:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Ring etiquette and conduct:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Points discussed and areas for further study or improvement:					
Observer's comments: <i>Comments should be constructive and enable the Judge to identify learning points where appropriate.</i>					
Judges should have a minimum of four 'VERY GOOD' and above and one 'GOOD' or 'BASIC' OR 3 'VERY GOOD' and above and 2 'GOOD' in the categories above to successfully complete the Observation section.					
Does the Judge meet the level of competency to progress?				YES / NO	
Signature of Observer:					
Signature of Judge:					

**Key**

**Excellent:** The Judge demonstrated an excellent knowledge by identifying all of the salient points  
**Very Good:** The Judge demonstrated a very good knowledge by identifying most of the salient points  
**Good:** The Judge demonstrated a good knowledge and was able to correctly identify a reasonable amount of the salient points  
**Basic:** The Judge was able to only correctly identify a small number of the salient points  
**Poor:** The Judge would benefit from further in-depth study and research of the breed before progressing their judge's education as they didn't identify any of the salient points

**For completion by BEC:**

Date form received by BEC:	
Next action by BEC:	

# Observers

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There are 3 categories of Observers:

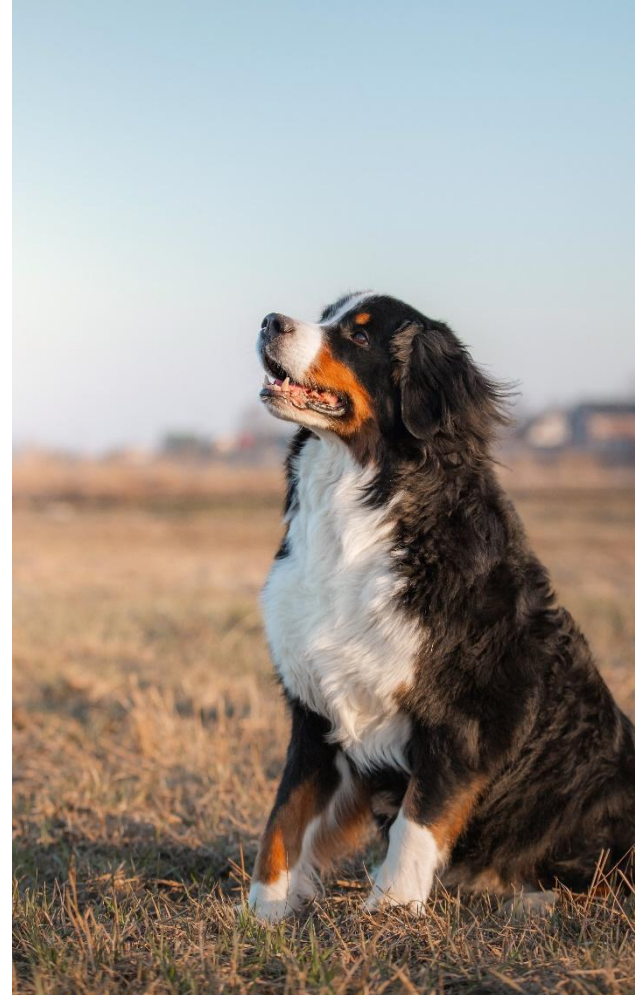
- Persons who have bred/owned at least 3 UK champions in the breed (Champion or Show Champion) and awarded CCs at least 3 times.
- Persons who are a group judge for the relevant group and have awarded CCs in the breed at least 3 times
- Persons who do not meet the criteria above but are supported by at least 50% of breed clubs (except where there is one breed club, and they have the support of that club) or by the breed council and the KC Judges Committee and have been approved to award CCs in the breed. This will normally ONLY apply in breeds where there are insufficient judges qualified as above.

# Observers

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The Breed Education Co-ordinator (BEC) will submit to the Judges Education Team:

- A list of proposed Breed Observers who meet the criteria set out in the COBP and have indicated their willingness to act as an Observer.
- A list of proposed Breed Observers who do not meet the criteria set out in the COBP but who have indicated their willingness to act as an Observer, have the support of at least 50% of breed clubs or breed council, or the sole breed club, with the rationale as to why they should be included.
- Please ensure sufficient active observers (ideally 15)



# Organising Observation

- Observation may now take place at any KC licenced show.
- Minimum number of dogs ENTERED. If many absentees a judgement call is needed.
- There is an expectation that where the judge for a breed club show meets the criteria to be observed an observation opportunity will always be arranged.
- Observers should not view this as a tick box experience and need to be vigorous in their assessment.

The full Observation Procedure can be found in the COBP.

JUDGES EDUCATION PROGRAMME (BREED SHOWS)

CODE OF BEST PRACTICE FOR OBSERVATION

## OBSERVATION RECORD FORM – CONFIDENTIAL

Both the Judge and Observer should sign the form which is to be retained by the Mentee and a copy sent to the BEC for their records.

Judge's Name:					
Breed:					
Type of show: (please indicate)		Breed club show		Breed supported entry show	
Name of show:					
Date of show:				Number of dogs judged:	
Observer's Name:					
<b>EVALUATION:</b>					
Comprehension of breed standard, including conformation and movement:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Understanding of breed type:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Ability to examine the dogs and judge in a manner specific to the breed:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Ability to justify their placings:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Ring etiquette and conduct:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Basic	Poor
Points discussed and areas for further study or improvement:					
Observer's comments: Comments should be constructive and enable the Judge to identify learning points where appropriate.					
Judges should have a minimum of four 'VERY GOOD' and above and one 'GOOD' or 'BASIC' OR 3 'VERY GOOD' and above and 2 'GOOD' in the categories above to successfully complete the Observation section.					
Does the Judge meet the level of competency to progress?					YES / NO
Signature of Observer:					
Signature of Judge:					

### Key

**Excellent:** The Judge demonstrated an excellent knowledge by identifying all of the salient points  
**Very Good:** The Judge demonstrated a very good knowledge by identifying most of the salient points  
**Good:** The Judge demonstrated a good knowledge and was able to correctly identify a reasonable amount of the salient points  
**Basic:** The Judge was able to only correctly identify a small number of the salient points  
**Poor:** The Judge would benefit from further in-depth study and research of the breed before progressing their judge's education as they didn't identify any of the salient points

### For completion by BEC:

Date form received by BEC:	
Next action by BEC:	

SR173 / CAT

Version 5

June 2020

# Breed Specific Assessments

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March 2025

# Breed Specific Assessments

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- The Kennel Club will only invite those judges registered at Level 3
- The judges Level 3 information will form the process used for the planning of all Breed Specific Assessments
- Candidates will only be able to attend a Breed Specific Assessment (BSA) once they have met the necessary criteria for Levels 1-3 for the specific breed for which the BSA is being held
- Level 3 criteria also requires hands-on judging experience relevant to the breed. The 5 dogs 'judged' at the assessment can be included in the total number of dogs required, but only if no prior assessment dogs are included.
- A forward plan is being put in place – stand alone event or at a show
- The Kennel Club will organise a BSA with the assistance of the BEC

# Judges Education Programme Refresher

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March 2025

# Judges Education Programme Platform

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- Time saving, no longer need to spend hours finding documents and then filling in paper forms – everything can be uploaded as you go
- Raises the standards of judging by making sure everyone is trained to the same standard
- Full transparency of who can and can't judge
- Level playing field for judges as secretaries can see all available judges and not just those on breed club lists
- Our website is constantly up to date as judges update their details instead of the breed clubs lists which become out of date quickly
- Reduces the amount of work breed clubs need to do to keep judges lists
- One set of criteria per breed rather than individual breed clubs selecting their own criteria





## MY ACCOUNT

 Dashboard




## MY DOGS

 Manage dogs My registrations Puppy Packs

## TASKS

 Pending applications Judges Educational Programme Academy Certificates Seminar diary Health Test Results  
Finder Inbreeding Co-efficient

## ACCOUNT SETTINGS

 My profile My contact details My communication  
preferences My saved cards My subscriptions Update password

# Judges Education Programme (Breed Shows)

A system has been developed for the education, approval and listing of every level of judge, right through to open show judges and those who go on to award challenge certificates and judge champion show groups, and Best in show. The system has been designed taking into account the feedback received from exhibitors, show societies and judges.

[GET STARTED](#)[VIEW TUTORIAL>](#)

# F and C Regulation changes

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- All judges must have met the requirements of JEP Level 1 to be able to judge from 1 January 2021
- All breed clubs must actively support the education and training of judges in accordance with The Kennel Club's Judges Education Programme (Breed Shows) (as published and amended from time to time).
- All breed clubs must have involvement in the organisation of a BAD at least once every two years (first two-year cycle ends 31 December 2023)

# The Aspiring Judge

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*Not able to judge or accept any judging appointments*

To progress to a JEP Level 1 Judge, you need to have:

- A proven interest of a minimum of 5 years in one or more aspects of the breeding and exhibiting of pedigree dogs (including show administration or stewarding)
- Undertaken 2 full days of stewarding appointments
- Attended a Kennel Club Requirements of a Dog Show Judge (RDSJ) seminar and pass the exam - both in person or online.
- Attended a Kennel Club Conformation and Movement seminar
- Pass the Points of a Dog assessment conducted by a Kennel Club Accredited Trainer

### - Eligibility to judge

Up to three classes (four if one is a puppy class) for any breed at limited or open shows.

## Evidence

Click each stage to see the requirements and submit evidence. You can save and return to the form at any time.

Breed Experience

NOT STARTED

Stewarding appointments

NOT STARTED

Requirements of a Dog Show seminar and exam

NOT STARTED

Conformation and Movement seminar

NOT STARTED

Points of a Dog assessment

NOT STARTED



# Level 1

## Overview

You have completed all parts for level 1, please now review and submit the application.

+ Requirements to judge

+ Eligibility to judge

### Evidence

Click each stage to see the requirements and submit evidence.  
You can save and return to the form at any time.

Breed Experience COMPLETED

Stewarding appointments COMPLETED

Requirements of a Dog Show seminar and exam COMPLETED

Conformation and Movement seminar COMPLETED

Points of a Dog assessment COMPLETED

APPLY FOR LEVEL 1

**Application Submitted for approval**

Your new level will be shown on your profile when they have been approved by The Kennel Club. Please allow 24 hours, Monday to Friday for this to be processed.

[← My Levels](#)

# Level Submitted Application Submitted

You will receive an email once we have reviewed your application

[FINISH](#)

THE KENNEL CLUB

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# Level 1 Judge

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- Now able to judge up to 3 classes of any breed at Limited/Open Shows (4 classes if a puppy class scheduled)



# Progressing from Level 1 Judge to Level 2

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To attain JEP Level 2 Judge (Breed Specific) you must have:

- Attended an official Breed Appreciation Day (BAD) for the breed you wish to judge
- Passed the Multiple-choice Breed Standard Examination (MCE)
- Completed a Kennel Club online critique writing seminar – can be taken prior to Level 2
- Completed a Kennel Club online stewarding seminar – can be taken prior to Level 2

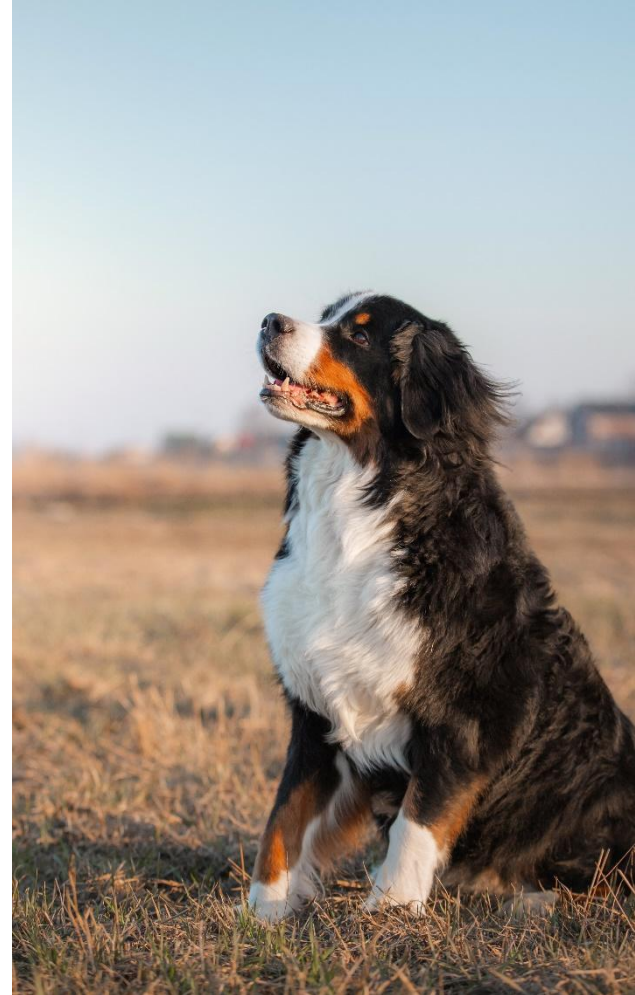


# Breed Appreciation Day

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*Candidates must have met Level 1 criteria to sit MCE*

- Advertised via The Kennel Club online diary, The Kennel Club Journal, social media and other means
- MCE questions are based upon The Kennel Club breed standard – and use actual wording
- Pass mark of 80%



# Level 2: Afghan Hound Overview

You are 0% complete

+ Requirements to judge

- Eligibility to judge

- Unlimited number of classes for the respective breed at limited, open or championship shows (no CCs).
- Any variety classes, groups and best in show at limited shows.

## Evidence

Click each stage to see the requirements and submit evidence.  
You can save and return to the form at any time.

Breed appreciation day and exam

NOT STARTED

Ring stewarding course and quiz

NOT STARTED

Critique Writing course and quiz

NOT STARTED

# Level 2: Afghan Hound Overview

You have completed all parts for level 2, please now review and submit the application.

+ Requirements to judge

+ Eligibility to judge

## Evidence

Click each stage to see the requirements and submit evidence.  
You can save and return to the form at any time.

Breed appreciation day and exam COMPLETED

Ring stewarding course and quiz COMPLETED

Critique Writing course and quiz COMPLETED

APPLY FOR LEVEL 2 - BREEDS

## Level 2 Judge

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- Now eligible to judge unlimited number of classes of the breed(s) for which you are registered at Level 2 at Open Shows and Championship Shows without CCs
- All classes at Limited Shows



# Progressing from Level 2 Judge to Level 3

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To attain JEP Level 3 Judge (Awaiting Final Assessment) Breed Specific you must have:

- Undertaken a minimum of three successful mentoring sessions within that breed over at least 12 months successfully
- Be observed judging a breed club show/supported entry show/Ch Show without CCs
- Judged a set number of dogs
- Stewarded a total of 12 times (this includes the 2 times at Level 1)
- Have bred and/or owned a minimum of 3 dogs **IN THE FIRST BREED** when they obtained their first entry in The Kennel Club Stud Book – save for exceptional circumstances. (This is a one-time qualification). Process in place to register an exception.
- Attend the appropriate sub-group FT/Open Working event for gundog breeds/GSD exam

< My Levels

# Level 3: Afghan Hound Overview

You are 14.29% complete

+ Requirements to Judge

+ Eligibility to Judge

## Evidence

Click each stage to see the requirements and submit evidence.  
You can save and return to the form at any time.

Mentoring

NOT STARTED

Observation

NOT STARTED

Stewarding appointments

NOT STARTED

Stud book entries

NOT STARTED

# Level 3: Afghan Hound

## Hands on experience

Show Type Remove

Open

Date of Show

06/01/2024

Name of Show

No Data For Chosen Date and Type...

Number of classes judged

0

Number of dogs present

0

+ ADD AN EVENT

Total number of dogs: 0 (out of 25)

SAVE

Feedback

## Level 3 Judge

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- The Kennel Club will monitor number of people at this level and organise assessment
- First assessments have been held, more are being planned
- It is essential that judges register and update their progress to apply for Level 3





# Progressing from Level 3 Judge to Level 4

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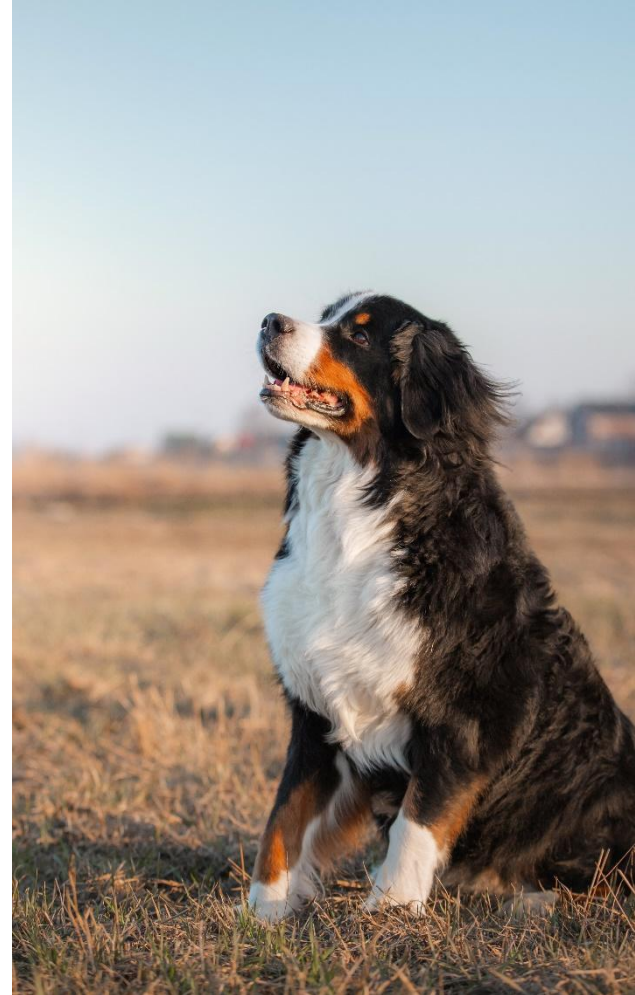
- Pass the Breed Specific Assessment for the specific breed



## Level 4 judge

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- Approved to award CCs in specified breed
- Additional Level 4 benefits - eligible to judge varieties, Groups and Best in Show at Open Shows
- For all subsequent breeds follow the process as a Level 2/Level 3 Judge in each of those breeds (BAD/Mentoring/Observation)



# Grandfathering

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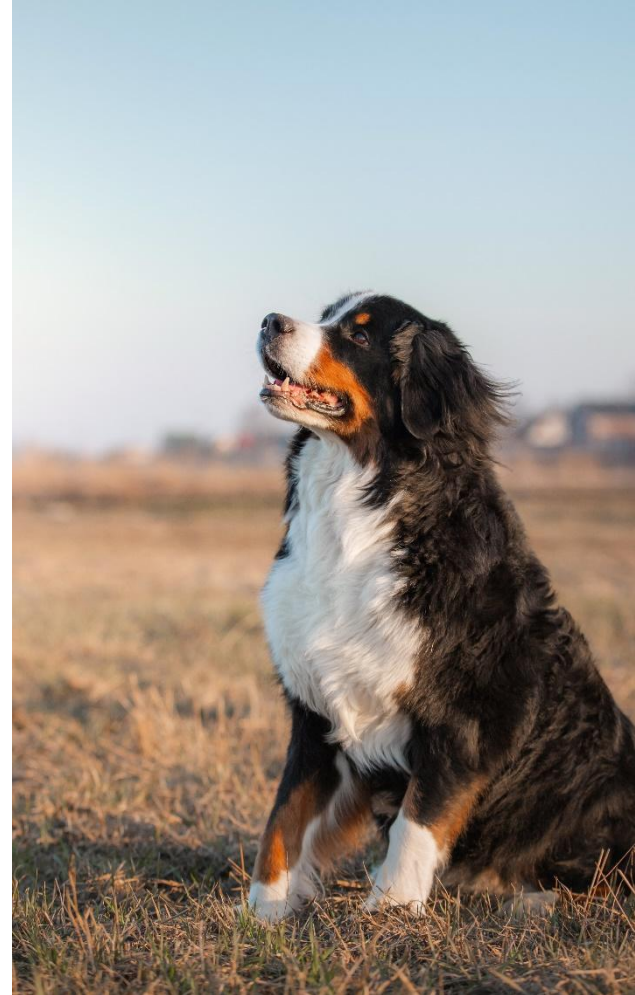
- Eligible judges may submit an application form for consideration to be pre-approved to award Challenge Certificates.
- Candidates can self-nominate provided they are included on 50% of breed club/council A3 list and/or have a pre-existing JDP credit pass for the relevant breed. Each judge must also meet all The Kennel Club's mandatory requirements for approval to award CCs.
- All applications made using the grandfathering system are still subject to approval by the Judges Committee and Kennel Club Board. Judges are only able to make one submission per breed.
- **Closing date 31.12.2025**

# Eye for a Dog Assessment

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*Mandatory to progress beyond 3 breeds*

- Developed with the Finnish Kennel Club
- One-time only assessment
- Extension of the Conformation & Movement seminar
- Practical hands-on assessment
- Not breed-specific
- Can take once approved to award CCs 1 breed



# Transition Arrangements (2021-25)

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- Existing system ends 31 December 2025.
- Shows in 2026/27 can nominate judges under the existing system but questionnaires must be with The Kennel Club by 31.12.25
- Judges may accept appointments using either system, subject to meeting the necessary requirements in the F Regulations

## Further Information

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**[www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/jep)**

**<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/events-and-activities/dog-showing/judging-dog-shows/breed-education-co-ordinators/>**

**[judges.education@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:judges.education@thekennelclub.org.uk)**

# Q&A

# Ideas & Suggestions

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March 2025

# Thank You

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March 2025





**THE KENNEL CLUB**