

NOTES FROM JUDGES SEMINAR 17TH APRIL – CHRISTCHURCH

Co-ordinator: Heather Drewett & Steve Tansey

Attendees:

Andrew Haythorne

Nic Furby

Judy Young

Irene Lock

Allan Willox

Carole Logan

Susan Sheppard

Bernadette Thompson

General Discussion making sure everyone was up with the rule changes starting July 1st:
Especially the splits and being aware in Senior how many challenges to be given out.

Weaves:

Discussion on faults with weaves if it was a refusal or a fault. We would like to put a proposal through that these faults all become faults and not both, as we felt once you had a fault you were out of the money anyway. It was an all for vote to take this further.

Dress code for Judges:

There were discussions on some judges not even making an effort and look like some have just put on their comfy clothes and taken off their slippers.

We know that there are some judges that go over the top in their dress code (myself included) and that's a personal choice. Just to at least look like you have accepted the contract with pride and the respect that this comes with. At the end of the day you have been contracted on behalf of the club. I guess in conclusion to this would you judge in clothes that you would normally run your dogs in or do the gardening in? If we are to earn the respect of the competitors – it starts from the moment they see us on the day. It was also noted that agility judges also do have to be as comfortable as possible as this is an active sport & we can be out in the middle for hours on end.

Tyres:

The majority voiced an opinion that, as from July 1st they would not be using the tyre in their courses unless some form of breakage standardization was implemented. Although it was also voiced that by simply checking it before using it a judge at that stage could decide whether or not to put it in their courses.

Safe Placement of Equipment in Course Design:

We had some discussion on the safe placement of tyres and long jumps with some judges still placing them on a bend or corner and the danger of the landing area for the dog. Also the seasaw might look fine on the run up to it but to make sure that when coming back toward the seasaw that the up end is not at any time in an area where a handler can run into it.

Inebriated Judges:

If anyone had a problem where they thought the judge judging on the day was still intoxicated, maybe from the night before or the day in question and thought that whilst judging they might not be able to make consistent accurate decisions in his/her current state, they could approach the show manager with their concerns. But as we know this would have to be very obvious and possibly, instead of a confrontation, that maybe a friend of the judge could have a word and give them a chance to defend themselves or withdraw on their own grounds.