



**NZ Dog Judges
Association Inc**

NZDJA

Summer 2017

BOARD

PATRONESS:

Annette Buxton

PRESIDENT:

Ray Greer

Ph 09 292 9449

shelton117@outlook.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Kaye Finlayson

Ph 03 347 0059

kenterprizes@xtra.co.nz

SECRETARY

Debbie Hull

Ph 07 849 3467

rclassi@xtra.co.nz

TREASURER

Vacant

REGION CHAIRPERSONS

REGION 1

Kathleen Hardwick

Ph 07 826 4554

daxford@xtra.co.nz

REGION 2

Linda Strongman

Ph 07 828 4750

lynmar@xtra.co.nz

REGION 3

Betty Parker

Ph 06 355 9126

bettyparker@clear.net.nz

REGION 4

Lavina Diamanti

Ph 03 578 6998

lavina.diamanti@gmail.com

REGION 5

Mark Lawrence

Ph 03 318 8120

markl-cathm@xtra.co.nz

From the President—*Ray Greer*

Hello members...this is the first of a direct newsletter to our members. We currently propose to produce this on a quarterly basis and along with our judges page in the Dogs World magazine we hope to cover-off against what needs to be passed in front of us as judges and kennel club members. The exact makeup and direction of the two publications is yet to play out, but this newsletters goes to members of the judges association, whilst the Dog World is received by all member households.

As the board we have refocused on our core responsibilities, and that is on the training of judges to a level that are of a world standard. This, at times, requires

regulatory changes, but we have resolved that any such changes are best left to our annual conference where the greatest scrutiny exists to any such proposals. Mid-year changes will have to meet a high threshold of need to be considered.

We welcome any feedback and suggestions from anyone that assists us in achieving our goals. The contact details of myself and other board members are shown in this newsletter, and we invite you to be part of our interactive organization

Finally I would like to wish all our members compliments of the season and a prosperous new year

Theory Examinations

The applications for the theory examinations close on 31st January 2018. All applications with completed, accompanying documentation and payment MUST be in the secretary's possession by this date. No late applications can be accepted. Please ensure you allow sufficient time for postage. We also suggest you email the Secretary with advice of your

application or alternatively scan and email your application and arrange bank deposit for payment.

Please send all applications to
The Secretary,
NZDJA,
394B Rotokauri Road,
RD 9, Hamilton 3289
Ph +64 7849 3467
Email: rclassi@xtra.co.nz

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Practicing Certificate

November 2017 Dog World outlined the recent amendments to the NZDJA Judges Regulations. One of the more significant of these was the implementation of a Practicing Certificate for our members. For several years there has been discussion at conference regarding an additional requirement for ongoing training and participation from those judges who are either All Breeds or no longer wishing to study for further groups. This new regulation is a result of that discussion at conference level and the relevant changes were passed at the 2017 AGM. The concept of practicing type certificates is not new to many canine authorities throughout the world, & what has been adopted here is quite mild in comparison. This is not compulsory but all judges are encouraged to continue with education and mentoring trainee judges. The certification, once issued, lasts for 2 years and is achieved by accumulating 50 credit points as detailed in the regulations. Participation at your branches' regular activities will, in most cases, give you the required credits but in addition to this, acting as Show Manager, Group Leader or NZDJA Examiner plus judging at Champ Shows have all been included to give

credit points. This additional qualification will be identified on the NZDJA Website and you will also be able to include in your resume. Attached to this newsletter is a record card together with an application for promotion.

The following list details the activities eligible for points as prescribed in the regulations

- ◆ Officiating as Show Manager at open or Ch. Shows
- ◆ Judging at Ch. Shows
- ◆ Attendance at a judging workshop
- ◆ Participation in a tutorial role in seminars, workshops, lectures or group discussions
- ◆ Hosting a kennel visit
- ◆ Active participation on the Association Board or on a NZKC Committee focusing on breeds or breeding
- ◆ Acting as a guide for ringside observation
- ◆ Acting as a group leader
- ◆ Acting as a NZDJA Judges Examiner

"One of the more significant of these was the implementation of a Practicing Certificate for our members."

2018 Important Dates

January 31st
Applications for promotion close.

March 20th
Theory Examinations

June 24th
Annual Conference

July 21st & 22nd
Practical Examinations
Auckland

July 28th & 29th
Practical Examinations
Christchurch

Studying for theory exams

Theory exams can be challenging for many of us, especially as we advance in years. For some of us, this is quite possibly the first exam we have sat since leaving secondary school. How well you do in the exam can be influenced by your method of study and your ability to recall facts. We are all different and some methods work better than others. Here are some study and exam tips that may be helpful.

- ◇ Start studying as soon as you can. A year is not too long.
- ◇ Break the breed standards down into sections. One method is to copy onto card, cut up into sections, eg general appearance, head etc and write the name of the breed on the back. Then put all the same cards together and study the same section of each breed comparing the variances and similarities
- ◇ Play “flash” with the cards, turn them all up the same way, read the description, identify the breed and check the back of the card to see if you are correct. Have 2 piles, 1 with correct answers and the other, incorrect. Keep going until you can answer a high percentage correctly.
- ◇ Write out the breed standard in long hand, numerous times, cross referencing with information on the form, function and history of the breed.
- ◇ List all the heights in order, smallest to tallest and compare those of similar height. .
- ◇ Write out a list of all the breeds which have similar feature, eg round eyes. Make up a silly “ditty” that helps you remember this list of breeds.
- ◇ Don’t forget to study regulations, glossary of terms and anatomy. This is worth 20 points. Get together with others sitting exams and have a study group on these.
- ◇ Try and get a copy of an old paper to study. The questions will not be the same but will give you an indication of the format and style.
- ◇ When in the exam, don’t panic—remember to breathe!!
- ◇ Record your details on the front page. Very important!
- ◇ Don’t be tempted to start answering straight away, take five minutes to read the paper from beginning to end.
- ◇ Go to the last 20 questions and start with them. You should know most of them.
- ◇ By now, you will have relaxed a bit and will be less nervous. Now go through the paper and answer all the questions you absolutely know the answer to. Don’t worry about the others yet.
- ◇ Once you have done that, then tackle the rest of them.
- ◇ Finally, check your paper to make sure you have answered all the questions.
- ◇ Good luck.

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Specialist Regulation Changes

Following the direction received from the members at the 2017 AGM, the Board made some significant changes to the promotion requirements for the specialist panel. These were outlined in the NZDJA page in the November Dogworld. Like any changes such as this, sometimes it creates more questions than answers. I have endeavored to answer some of these questions here. For full details please refer to the Judges Regulations on the NZDJA website.

Q. I have been in my breed for 35 years and would like to judge my breed at specialist level. I don't want to judge All Breed ribbon parades and open shows. Can I go directly onto the specialist panel?

A. Yes, you can. Along with fulfilling the qualifying requirements you will be required to sit a written and practical examination.

Q. I am already on the Open Show panel, do I need to sit another exam to go on the specialist panel?

A. Yes, you will be required to sit a specialist theory and practical examination.

Q. I am on the specialist Panel only and have decided I enjoy judging and would really like to do my group exams. What do I need to have completed before I can apply?

A. All judges seeking promotion to their first group are required to have served on the Open Show panel first. To apply for the Open Show panel from the specialist panel you need to have judged at least 150 dogs and been on the specialist panel for at least 12 months. If those numbers of dogs are unlikely to be achieved then you will need to progress via the

normal all breed channel i.e serve on the Ribbon Parade panel first. .

Q. I am an All Breeds judge and have had my group 7 licence for 10 years. I would like to apply for my Great Dane specialist license. Do I need to sit the theory and practical exam for my breed?

A. No examination is required. You will still need to demonstrate your status as a specialist in your breed as per the regulations but you do not need to sit any exams.

Q. I have been on the Terrier group panel for 2 years and would like to apply for my Fox Terrier specialist license. Do I need to sit the theory and practical exam for my breed?

A. Yes, you will need to. The minimum requirement is 5 years on the group panel for the breed you are aspiring to.

Q. There are very few of my breed being shown in NZ but they are popular overseas. Can I still apply?

A. Yes, you can. The change in regulations is about recognizing true specialists, i.e. those who have a superior knowledge and standing in their chosen breed. Some breeders, although the numbers are limited in NZ, have international standing and respect within their breed. When applying, you will need to include evidence of this. This could be in the form of publications you have contributed to, letters from other specialists in your breed, details and evidence of your attendance at international breed events etc. We have not specified exactly what you should include because this will vary between applicants, but you will need to provide evidence to support your application.

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RECENT PROMOTIONS

The following candidates completed the requirements for promotion. Their appointments were approved by the Board and ratified by Executive Council.

Ribbon Parade Panel

- ◆ Shannon Aldous
- ◆ Sam Chrisstoffels
- ◆ Reuben Dixon
- ◆ Meg Hamilton
- ◆ Victoria Jacques
- ◆ Kathy Morton
- ◆ Ryan Schilling.

Open Show Panel

- ◆ Eileen Garlick
- ◆ Michael Hamblyn
- ◆ Sarah Abrey

Toy Panel

- ◆ Ashleigh Rogers
- ◆ Samantha Diggins
- ◆ Caroline Matheson
- ◆ Cathy Wallace
- ◆ Robynne Trainor

Gundog Panel

- ◆ Lavina Diamanti
- ◆ Giselle Fletcher
- ◆ Mark Lawrence
- ◆ Liz MacDiarmid

Hound Panel

- ◆ Diane O'Neill
- ◆ Kaye O'Carroll

Working Panel

- ◆ Jenny Hamilton
- ◆ Lavinia MacKenzie-Goodwin

Non-Sporting Panel

- ◆ Jan Brownlie
- ◆ Wendy Hicks
- ◆ Diane Riley

Specialist Panel

- ◆ Sandie Meads (Griffon Bruxellois)
- ◆ Karla Magnus, (Samoyed)

In addition the following were appointed to the **Aspiring Panel**

- ◆ Kathleen Andrews
- ◆ Shaun Ireland
- ◆ Erica Jellyman
- ◆ Sonia Nicholson
- ◆ Kathryn Stewart.

Jill Brooker

It was with extreme regret that we accepted the apology & resignation of Mrs. Jill Brooker from the board of the NZ Dog Judges Association. Jill acted as our treasurer and a full board member, and was part way through her second two year term in those roles. Jill has been secretary of AKC for a number of years, been a members of the EC of the NZ Kennel Club and also served on the board, so you can see that she has never shied away from doing the hard yards. The NZDJA will miss her.

As per of constitution the board will seek a replacement for Jill from our membership, and this will be an ongoing process of the next few months. Jill had kindly agreed to carry on until we make that appointment and we hope to make this transition as seamless as possible.

**Reminder: -
Subs are now
due. If you
haven't
received an
invoice please
contact us.**