

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Why did you want to be a judge?

- Because Judges do more winning?
- To travel with someone else paying for it?
- Your friends / partner / parents think you would be good at it.
- It's the prestige which goes with it.
- You love dogs and love judging and get an absolute thrill when you find a beautiful dog and award it highly.

What type of judge do you want to be?

- The one that shares the prizes around so everyone likes you?
- The one the puts up their friends.
- The one that always awards the top winning dogs?
- The one that doesn't care about what anyone else thinks?
- Or do you want to be the judge that is knowledgeable, makes sound decisions, is honest & fair, is easy to host and ensures every exhibitor gets the same time and consideration.

You will be judged too!

- You might be judging the dogs but the exhibitors and clubs officials are judging you.
- You will be judged on your knowledge of the breeds you are judging.
- Your ability to apply that knowledge.
- Your ability to judge the dogs at an appropriate speed.

- Your ability to examine each dog thoroughly and breed specific.
- Your personal presentation
- Your demeanour in and out of the ring
- The way you interact with the exhibitors.

Your Knowledge

- Ribbon Parade level
- Open Show level
- Championship Show level.
- Specialty show level.

Applying that knowledge

- Knowledge is nothing if you cannot apply it to the dogs in the ring.
- You need to understand the breeds.
- Breed history, Form and Function
- Could this dog do the task it was bred for?
- Don't be afraid to refer to your breed standards.

Controlling your ring

- Ringcraft is important.
- Judging at an appropriate speed.
- A slow judge can hold up a whole show
- Check your timing regularly

Physical Examination

- Are you a massager or TTT (teeth, topline, testicles!) judge?
- Get in under the coat!
- Feel the shoulders, the forechest, the ribbing, the loin, the tail.
- Don't be fooled by clever grooming or handlers
- Plane the heads
- Be consistent

Personal Presentation

- Clean and tidy
- Suits
- Tie pins
- Comfortable shoes
- Dress for the season
- Always take raingear

Demeanour

- Smile
- Be nice and be friendly but be professional
- Get plenty of sleep
- Don't ever judge with a hangover
- Be the judge that clubs want to invite back again

Be a team player

- You are now part of the wider team of judges
- You are considered a senior member of the dog world
- You must abide by the code of conduct
- Everytime you step in to the ring you are representing the whole team of New Zealand judges.
- Don't let the team down

Be a master in the
craft. Be the very best
judge you can be.