

1. Proposal by Claudia Wagstyl, Katja Pohlers, Anneke Freudenberger

Presentation of the Patella complex of problems

Hereby we want to make an application for the members meeting in May in Lenzkirch, that the various surveys/expertises concerning the patella topic, collected thoroughly by the vice chairwoman Christine Szakacs, may be presented to the meeting.

Rationale:

The surveys/expertises allow us to include more insight and knowledge. Since we find the Patella topic in dogdance, we should incorporate these surveys/expertises and think about how we want to deal with them during dogdance competitions, to permit fair play for all participants and to enable a harmonic cooperation between all participants (judges, teams, trainers) in the future.

The following supporters back the application:

Carmen Hertier, Christine Szakacs, Carmen Schmid, Cora Czermak, Petra Funk, Karin Baumann-Togni

2. Proposal by Britta Kalff

Judgingsheets

This application results unfortunately from various observations.

Filled in judgingsheets have to be handed in after the start IMMEDIATELY at the receiving office or other official bureau and must NOT be altered anymore after closing of the respective class or the competition.

If there are SEVERE discrepancies while filing the results, these could be discussed eventually together with the head judge of the competition and be corrected.

(mistakes in writing, slip of the pen, writing 1 instead of 10).

Unfortunately it was observed on various occasions that during reporting and after the sum-up of results points were altered.

This is an unfair NOGO and increases rumors in favoritism/personal preference.

3. Proposal by Carmen Schmid

Membership in DDI at official starts

I hereby request that starters who want to start in official classes of DDI tournaments, prove a valid membership in the DDI.

So far, everyone was eligible to start DDI tournaments, whether they were members or not. Non-members only had to buy a license book, which is free for members. The infrastructure of the DDI, Judge beings, regulations, assistance in tournament organization etc is a valuable asset, its benefits should be reserved mainly to members.

In order to make membership in the DDI more attractive, I request that non-members in the future may only start in fun classes. Once you want to start in official classes, you should be a member of the DDI. Starters from non-DDI countries, who could be disadvantaged by membership in the DDI,

could be issued a one-year license for € 22, -. With this license, they will then be eligible to start at all DDI tournaments within one year. (Registration is required of course)□

At the same time, I request a change to the preamble of Dogdance international eV. Instead: In order to be able to start on tournaments, neither the citizenship, a pedigree proof, an association affiliation, an association membership or preliminary examinations, nor any obligatory elements should be prescribed.□

New: In order to be able to start on tournaments, neither the citizenship, a pedigree proof, an association affiliation or preliminary examinations to be submitted, nor any obligatory elements should be prescribed.□

Thus the DDI members would have an advantage and the non-members an incentive to officially join the DDI.□□

4. Proposal by Carmen Schmid

Cost of starts at the final for qualifications

□

I hereby request that in the future the costs for the finals in finals for OPEC 7WM qualifications as well as German Open / Crufts qualification be taken over by the DDI.□

In the past the costs for 10 to 12 starts in the final in freestyle have been covered by the organizer. If there are more than 20 teams, the class must be split according to rules. The best 5-6 teams of each group then meet in the final to decide the official qualification.□

A qualifier is in any case associated with considerable additional costs for the organizer: in addition to the extra costs for the 4th performance judge specified in the regulations, the organizer must therefore carry 10 -12 unpaid starting places. In addition, there will be double cup sets for the groups, because the cup set sponsored by the DDI will be awarded to the finalists.□

□

Therefore, I apply for the future in the event of a final in freestyle and HTM the startup costs are borne by the DDI.□

5. Proposal by Carmen Schmid

Sponsoring Animonda on tournaments.□

□

All organizers of a Dogdance tournament according to DDI regulations can order at Animonda completely uncomplicated high-quality prizes, pockets with food cans for all starters and for the places 1-3 of all classes per 10 kg dog food and possibly a food container, as well as judges sheets, certificates and starter folders and the Animonda fence as a ring border sent for free.□

In addition, organizers of trade fair tournaments so far receive a financial compensation for trophies etc of max 400, - Euro, because there is a bigger promotion effect Animonda.□

In consultation it has been found that Animonda assumes that all the organizers are DDI members, but this is not always the case.□

The sponsorship was negotiated by the DDI. Therefore I do not consider it fair that organizers, who are not members of the DDI, receive up to 400, - € cash, in addition to the use of the DDI infrastructure (eg judges, DDI Homepage to promote their tournament) and in addition to the property prizes.

□

Therefore, I request that the financial support is only granted to organizers who are also members of the DDI. In view of the amount of the financial contributions, the DDI - membership fee should probably be possible, and membership would also be an official appreciation of the DDI and its achievements.

6. Proposal by Claudia Moser

Nomination of Teams for international Competitions such as OEC, WC, Crufts

The Organiser of the Qualification Tournaments (OEC, WC, Crufts) can announce the ranking after the competition.

But the official nomination of the teams will be done only by the DDI. This also includes later nominations or changes in the team due to people withdrawing.

Alternative- or Additional Proposal:

In countries where there exists an official DDI-Suborganisation (such as the GDS in Switzerland) this organisation can be doing the nominations in the name of the DDI.

7. Proposal by Claudia Moser

Nomination of Teamleaders for international Competitions such as OEC, WC, Crufts

The Teamleader for the international competition will be officially nominated by the Board of the DDI (or it's Sub-Organisation of the country).

The Teamleader can either be one of the participating teams but can also be selected outside the Team.

People interested to become Teamleader for an international event can contact the Board of the DDI after the Team has been nominated.

Explanation:

In previous years the teams that have qualified were usually announced directly after the qualifying competition. If there had to be changes, these were done directly by the teamleader or between the participants themselves.

I believe, that the Teams should be officially contacted and then nominated by the DDI (or its Sub-Organisation).

This ensures, that the whole selection process remains transparent and also makes sure, that only teams that are comply to the competition rules are entered.

Also the entries should be handed in by the DDI (OEC and Crufts) or via the FCI-accredited Suborganisations (WC).

This proposal is handed in by Claudia Moser

The board of the GDS (Community Dogdance Switzerland) supports this proposal.

8. Proposition for a reform of the judges education by Petra Funk, Carmen Schmid, Niki Dirnbacher, Carmen Heritier, Cora Czermak, Sandra Schneider, Anneke Freudenberger

Proposal

Instead of a single person an international board of judges takes responsibility – for each DDI member country one representative.

The judges education procedure will become a two-staged process

For new judges:

- The well-established and accepted workshops will be offered.
- The also well-established shadow-judging will stay an important part of the education for new judges

For already active judges the renewal of their status, which has to be done every 2 years, may be done by either

- Attending a standard workshop as it is possible today, or
- Attending the new judges congress, which will be taking place once a year. This congress is centrally organized. Besides standard subjects related to the DDI rules and judging this congress will allow for in-depth specializations. The judges congress also discusses adjustments and innovations regarding the rules. It can recommend these adjustments or innovations to the DDI steering board (Vorstand) for approval/decision.

Rationale

The judges workshops are being held since 2008 in nearly unchanged form and the main responsibility for these lies with one and the same person ever since.

By now many judges have attended these workshop 3-5 times learning the same contents. The often thought of in-depth or specialisation workshops for experienced and advanced judges have never been offered. This drawback shall be ameliorated by the current proposal.

The responsibility for this new judges congress as well as the tasks currently lying with the “responsible for the judges” will newly be taken up by an international board. Thus, the experience of our established judges as well as the creative diversity of personalities can be used in a full-fledged manner in the training and education of the judges as well as in the application of the current rules at our competitions.

For the discussion at the MV Petra Funk will prepare and introduce an appropriate presentation containing more details.

9. Proposal by Marianne Rentsch

Running order for qualification competitions

For qualifications (OEC/WC), the running order has to be drawn.

Rationale:

To reach international standards, the running order for qualifications should be drawn, as it is practiced in major championships.

10. Proposal by Johanna Tischler

Minimum age for dogs competing in class 3

I hereby propose to amend the official Dogdance Regulations:
Page 8 - Official Classes (in general) as second subitem:

The minimum age for dogs to be eligible to compete in class 3 is 3 years on the day of the

competition.

Reasons:

In social networks, but also in personal contact, we notice that there is a tendency to already train young dogs and puppies immoderately. This tendency is unhealthy and we should work against this trend. I would also like to mention, that especially teams in class 3 should be rolemodels. Many young and unexperienced teams overwhelm their dogs, because they try to equal the successful teams at championships, and they don't know that many tricks and tasks can be very unhealthy for puppies and young dogs.

11. Proposal by Heike Vetter

Amendment to the official DDI rules

Concerning the official class Freestyle and HTM, I propose an amendment of the requirements to start in the class **Seniors & Handicap**. Large breeds with a weight over 35 kg should be allowed to compete at an age from 6 years.

New text:

Seniors & Handicap

Dogs from the age of 8, large breeds with a weight of 35 kg (and more) from the age of 6 and dogs with a handicap

Rationale:

Large and heavy breeds hardly can compete under the actual requirements concerning their age because many large and heavy breeds simply do not reach the required age (sorry but true!).

With a reduced starting age there would be a new possibility for large breeds to facilitate a satisfying participation in official classes.

Furthermore it might lead to a vivication in the class **Seniors & Handicap**.

12. Proposal by Claudia Moser

Judges Education DDI – Restructuring

At last years Membership-Meeting, we discussed the need for a reorganisation of the judges education and the need to introduce a judges exam to maintain certain standards.

I will try to explain how this could look like:

Webinars:

Judging Points in Detail

Deductions & Disqualifications in Detail

Health of dog / Judging Seniors & Handicap-Classes

These 3 webinars would be available to all judges or judges aspirants throughout the year. Once a year, those webinars can be changed or adapted if there have been any rule changes.

Those main webinars would be done in German and English and could then be translated into the other DDI-Languages via the Judges Educators from these countries.

That way, all judges and aspirants would hear the same things and could if needed do their repetitions at any time.

Further webinars to additional topics could then in the future be added to the list as a way for the judges to keep learning and improving. Possible topics could be:

Knowledge about different breeds or dogs

Body language in dogs / Learning to detect calming and Stress-Signals

How to read different movement patterns in different breeds

....

I have already contacted the owners of Dog-Ibox as an option for the Webinar-Hosting at a professional platform.

There are other options too, and I will present those at the membership meeting.

Judges workshop

Open to everyone be it judges aspirant, trainers or just Dogdancers interested in understanding the judging process.

To attend before the workshop:

Webinars 1-4

Reading the rules

Reading the judges code of conduct

Perhaps additional material being sent out before the workshop

At the Workshop:

Judging Funklasses

How does it work, Feedback-Rules

How to correctly filling in the feedback-sheet

How to give individual feedback if wished by the participant

Practical training

Judging official Freestyle Classes

How does it work

How to use a judges overview

How to set a standard / How to judge the individual team

Keeping the standard throughout a class, comparative judging

Practical training

Judging official HTM classes

Possible options on how to take notes

How to set a standard / How to judge the individual team

Practical training

Individual questions

Further education for judges

Having repeated the 3 basic webinars within the last 6 months before the workshop.

Having attended at least one additional webinar in the last 2 years

At the workshop itself:

1 half day time to adress individual questions and topics

1 half day practical training Funklasses (incl. Discussion and Feedback between the judges)

1 half day practical training official classes (incl. Discussion and Feedback between the judges)

1 half day discussion of changes and amendments in the rules, topics that need to be discussed, etc.

Judges exam

As discussed at the last membership meeting, I have developed a concept for a judges exam. Due to having the judges education being done by several people in different countries we have the great development of having more and more judges in the DDI. At the same time, this also makes it harder for the judges to know each other, having time to confer and discuss judging with each other. This makes it harder to maintain a similar standard and point of view over all those DDI-Nations. This in my opinion makes it necessary to introduce a judges exam at the end of the judges education.

The exam should consist of a theoretical part as well as a practical part, to cover all aspects of a judges job.

In the theoretical part knowledge of rules and general knowledge about judging would be tested, in the practical part we would test, if the judges (aspirant) can judge different classes, different categories and class sizes.

To standardise the judges education and give all judges the same chance, I suggest, that the exam would be taken by all judges as well as the new aspirants after they have finished their shadow judging.

To minimise the risk decimating the momentary judges list, I would suggest, that the theoretical exam would be held first (either in the 2nd half of 2018 or the first half of 2019).

The practical exam would then be coming at a later stage, once the theoretical exams have been done.

If a judge would fail to pass either the theoretical or practical part, he could as an option just be put on hold (passive) until he has passed the Re-Exam.

Judges aspirants would only be put on the official judges list after having passed the exam(s).

The theoretical part could be done in the evening before a judges workshop oder further education workshop (max. 1.5-2hours).

Also offering some exam-dates the evening before some bigger competitions could be an option to make it easier and accessible for everyone to attend an exam without a lot of hassle.

This could be done at a nearby restaurant or even at the venue...

For the practical exam I have thought about a webinar-based option, where the examinant would show the video and the judges would hand in their notes like in a real competition. At the moment, I am still looking into possible options on how to manage the handing in of the notes.

The advantage of holding the practical exam in that way would be, that it doesn't involve a lot of travelling as everyone could do it at home in front of their computer. In addition, there could be more judges take the exam at the same time.

Also, the exam could be split in several parts and days, to keep the exam-times at a sensible length.

This could be a possible option:

- Date 1: Freestyle 3 – 15 participants
- Date 2: HTM 2 – 8 participants
Senior/Handicap class – 8 participants
- Date 3: Freestyle 1 – 12 participants
Quartett and Trio each 3 participants

Once the definitive layout of the exam has been fixed and has been approved by the committee of the DDI, I would develop the first draft and then test and go through it with the other judges educators from the other countries before the exams would be done for the judges.

This is only a „short“ overview about the exam, if there are more detailed questions and/or

suggestions, I am happy to adress these at the membership meeting.

Kind Regards
Claudia Moser
Judges education DDI

13. Proposal by Katrin Stiller

Official contact for questions, problems and complaints of members

As a longstanding member of the DDI, former DDI-judge, competitor and trainer, I have noted, that there is a clear contact missing, if members have questions, suggestions or problems and no-one really knows, who to contact.

The goal of such a contact-station, that this person is collecting questions, proposals and possible complaints, then will be forwarding these to the Committee of the DDI if any questions or actions need to be discussed and then connects the members with the person in charge.

This would also make sure the Committee of the DDI would be informed and could react quickly if necessary. Also this would in my opinion lead to members feeling more involved and feel that they have influence in the DDI.