



Assessment Day Procedure In Hand panel



Introduction

The Assessment Day will now form the second part of the assessment process on to the panel. Only those applicants, who the panel feel satisfy the criteria relating to experience, will be called to undertake the written test and the practical assessment. A letter will be sent to all candidates following the panel's decision and those required will be sent a timetable outlining the organisation of the assessment day. Candidates are required to dress in a form consistent with judging and hats/bowlers must be worn. All candidates will be required to wear a badge (number only) provided by the Society to enable the Assessors to identify the candidates during the judging period. Assessments days have to be viable in terms of cost and therefore the Society reserves the right to cancel any assessment on the grounds of insufficient candidates. It should be noted candidates can only apply for one section of the Welsh Stud Book at each assessment day.

Assessment Grades

Candidates will be graded at three levels (**Very Good, Good & Fair**) in each of the following categories:

1. Class placings
2. Awareness and knowledge of conformation and movement
3. Awareness and knowledge of breed characteristics and type
4. Breeding and showing experience
5. Communication
6. Knowledge of WPCS current rules.

Success Criteria

To gain entry on to the panel, candidates must attain a minimum of **5** "Very Good" or "Good" grades in the categories being assessed. Any candidate with **1** or more "Fair" grades will receive an automatic failure.

Written Test

Knowledge of Rules will be tested through a multiple choice written test prior to the candidates undertaking the practical assessment. The test comprises of 15 questions that must be answered in 10 minutes. Each questions is worth 1 mark each and candidates will be graded as follows:

14-15 – Very Good **12-13** – Good **11 and under** – Fair

Candidates who require special arrangements for this written assessment should make their needs known on the application form. Every effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

Practical Assessment

Each candidate will be given a marking card, which, on completion, is handed to the stewards. The card has a tear off strip for comments which should be retained by the candidates for reference during their interview. Candidates can make notes at any time during the procedure. Candidates might find it useful to bring along a clip board for their own individual use.

Candidates will be asked to assess four animals which will be identified as A, B, X and Y.

The assessment will be conducted as a normal show class and at no stage during the assessment should candidates handle any of the animals. Candidates will be asked to congregate in the centre of the ring. The animals will be walked around the ring. The steward will stop the animals and each will do an individual trot. They will be lined up in any order.

At this stage candidates will be split into four groups and each group allocated to an animal. The groups will have approximately 2 minutes to judge that animal standing. The animal will then walk away from the candidates and walk back. The animal will then trot away and trot back. At the end of the two minute period, the groups will then be instructed by the steward to move to the next animal and the process repeated until all four animals have been assessed. The animals will then walk round and the candidates will be allowed a further 4 minutes to finalise their placings and notes before handing their completed card to the steward. The candidates will then be escorted back to the waiting room in readiness for their interview with the assessors.

Assessors will judge the animals at the same time as the candidates ensuring that the candidates and the Assessors see the animal on equal terms.

Interviews will be conducted in strict alphabetical order and in 2018 it will go with surnames from A to Z. Interviews will be conducted in a separate room and will last for no longer than 10 minutes. Each candidate will be escorted to the interview room by a steward. There will be three assessors assessing however also in the room will be a timekeeper and also a member of the Judging and Showing Committee. The steward will retire during the interview stage.

The interview is the final stage part of the day and candidates are not permitted to return to the waiting room. Once a candidate has completed their assessment they must leave the assessment and not communicate with other candidates who have not completed their assessment.

Reporting back to candidates

As in previous years assessors will complete a form recording the candidate's grades in each of the six categories being assessed and where appropriate, written constructive comments will be added.

A copy of this form will be posted to the candidates along with their result within five days of the assessment. Assessors are required to maintain in the strictest confidence all comments, allocated grades and any other information relating to individual candidate's assessment. Candidates should NOT contact the WPCS Office following the assessment requesting the outcome of their assessment. All candidates will be sent letters at the same time which should be within five working days.

WPCS Judging and Showing Committee
May 2017

