

Criteria for IKC Licensed Judges (Compulsory from 01 January 2017)

Important notes regarding Criteria

Module 1: Judges & Stewards Education Programme. – Seminar and Open Book Assessment

Module 2: Points of the Dog - Seminar and Assessment on Structure and Anatomy, Movement and Construction.

Module 3: How to Judge a Dog – General Breed Types, Critiques and Grading. Hands On Assessment.

Module 4: Breed/Group Specific Seminars with Hands On Element – Breed Specific Training.

Judges should be aware of the Rules & Regulations of the Irish Kennel Club.

A Judge should not accept any Breeds or Judge any Breeds either National or International level unless they are qualified under IKC rules

Judges must never sign a blank questionnaire/contract. Questionnaires must not be signed until the Judge is eligible to judge Breeds/Groups he/she is signing for.

Group Judges are expected to be familiar with the Breed standards of all breeds recognised by the Irish Kennel Club within that Group.

All Irish resident Judges must be members of The Irish Kennel Club and hold a valid, current Judges Licence.

Judges should be aware of the dress code. Ladies: Dress, Skirt, or Trousers with Jacket. No Jeans.

Gents: Suit and Tie or Jacket, Trousers and shirt with Tie. No Jeans.

For all progressions up to Best In Show qualification the judge must have attended and successfully completed Module 1 of the IKC's Judges & Stewards Education Programme.

All other progressing Judges must **attend** a Module 1 seminar of the IKC Judges & Stewards Education Programme.

Judges should be aware that there are penalties for double booking. See Guide on Page 7.

A Judge may not judge the same classes at Limited show/Match level or the same Breed/s, Group/s or Variety classes at Open Show level within a six month period.

A Judge may only judge the same Breeds once in a twenty four month period at Championship level.

A Judge may only judge the same Group once in a twelve month period at Championship level.

A Judge may only judge Best in Show once in twelve months at Championship level.

Judges for Stakes Classes may not judge Breeds, Groups or Best in Show at the same All Breed Championship Show.

A Judge may only judge any two of the following three on the day at an All Breed Championship Show – Breeds/Groups/BIS.

Lower Level Shows

First time Judges

- Judges must be at least 18 years of age.
- They must have attended the Irish Kennel Club Accredited Judges Seminar and successfully completed Modules 1, 2 & 3 of the IKC's Stewarding and Judging Education Training Programme.
- They must have two dogs registered in their name or partnership with the IKC for a minimum of four years.
- They must be actively involved in their own breed. i.e. exhibiting, breeding, serving on a Canine Club Committee etc.

Judges shall be assessed. In order to progress to Championship level the Judge must pass two out of the three assessments. Please see note regarding Assessments on Page 8.

Championship Shows

First Group

Rate of progression: 1 + 3 + 4+ Unlimited Breeds

For all progressions up to Best In Show qualification the Judge must have attended and successfully completed Modules 1 of the IKC's Judges & Stewarding Education Programme.

First Breed

- Judges must be at least 21 years of age.
- All Judges must Judge their own breed on first appointment.
- They must have attended the Irish Kennel Club Accredited Judges Seminar and successfully completed Modules 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- They must have two dogs registered in their name or in partnership with the IKC for a minimum of seven years.
- They must have judged at lower level on at least three occasions. At least two of these appointments must be under IKC rules and at least two appointments must be relevant to the Judge's Breed/Group.
- Written critiques on all dogs judged are required and must be written at the time of judging and submitted by the Scribe on the completion of Best of Breed. The Scribe should be independent and unrelated to the Judge. The Show Secretary shall forward same to the IKC along with the show returns.
- Judges awarding Green Stars on their first occasion shall be assessed. In order to progress further they must pass this assessment.

Please see note regarding Assessments on Page 8.

First Progression to other Breeds. (Three Breeds)

- 18 months must have elapsed since successful completion of the first championship appointment.
- The Judge must have judged a minimum of five exhibits on their first championship appointment. Allowance may be made in numerically small breeds where the Judge has received a positive assessment.
- The Judge must have judged at lower level on at least four occasions, one of which must be after their first championship appointment.
- The Judge must have successfully completed a further Group specific Module 4 Seminar.

Judges will be assessed on this appointment. Please see note regarding Assessments on Page 8.

Second progression to other Breeds. (Four further breeds)

- 12 months must have elapsed since their first progression.
- The Judge must continue to steward at least once each year.
- Judges may be assessed on this appointment.

Completion of First Group. (No Limit to Number of Breeds)

- 12 months must have elapsed since their last progression.
- The Judge must continue to steward at least once each year.

Qualification to Judge First Group.

- The Judge must have judged eight breeds, with entries, within the Group.
- The Judge must have judged a minimum of sixty dogs in that Group at Championship level under IKC Rules.
- A minimum of one exhibit must be present in each breed. (This relates to **Group status only** and will not prevent a progressing Judge from progressing further within the specified timeframe as set down in the criteria).
- Six months must have elapsed since completion of the eighth breed.
- Group Judges are expected to be familiar with the breed standards of all breeds recognised by the Irish Kennel Club within that Group.

Second Group

Rate of progression: 1 + 3 + 4 + Unlimited Breeds

For all progressions up to Best In Show qualification the Judge must have attended and successfully completed Module 1 of the IKC's Judging and Stewarding Education Programme.

First Breed

- The Judge must have completed 14 breeds, in their previous Group.
- Twelve months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- They must continue to steward at least once a year.
- They must have successfully completed Module 4 (An Irish Kennel Club Accredited "Hands On" Seminar) relevant to this Group.
- They must have lower level experience within this Group on at least two occasions.

First Progression to other Breeds. (Three Breeds)

- Twelve months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- They must continue to steward at least once a year.

Second progression to other Breeds. (Four further breeds)

- Twelve months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- The Judge must continue to steward at least once a year.

Completion of Second Group. (No Limit to Number of Breeds)

- Twelve months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- The Judge must continue to steward at least once a year.

Qualification to Judge the Group.

- The Judge must have judged eight breeds, with entries, within the Group.
- The Judge must have judged a minimum of sixty dogs in that Group at Championship level under IKC Rules.
- A minimum of one exhibit must be present in each breed. (This relates to **Group status only** and will not prevent a progressing Judge from progressing further within the specified timeframe as set down in the criteria).
- Six months must have elapsed since completion of the eighth breed.

Third and Fourth Groups

Rate of progression: 6 + 6 + Unlimited Breeds

All progressing Judges must **attend** a Module 1 seminar of the IKC Judges & Stewards Education Programme.

- 12 months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- The Judge must have completed 14 breeds in previous Group.
- The Judge must have stewarded at least once a year up to completion of third Group. Thereafter they are encouraged to Steward annually.
- They must have attended a Module 4 Seminar (An Irish Kennel Club Accredited Seminar) relevant to these Groups.
- The Judge must have lower level experience, relevant to the Group, on at least one occasion.

Qualification to Judge Third Group.

- The Judge must have judged eight breeds, with entries, within the Group.
- Six months must have elapsed since completion of the eighth breed.

Qualification to Judge Fourth Group.

- The Judge must have judged eight breeds, within the Group.
- Six months must have elapsed since completion of the eighth breed.

Fifth and Sixth Groups

Rate of progression: 8 + Unlimited Breeds

All progressing Judges must **attend** a Module 1 seminar of the IKC Judges & Stewards Education Programme.

- 12 months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- The Judge must have completed 14 breeds, in previous Group.
- They must have attended a Module 4 Seminar (An Irish Kennel Club Seminar relevant to this Group).
- Judges at this level are encouraged to steward regularly.

Qualification to Judge Fifth and Sixth Groups.

- The Judge must have judged eight breeds, within the Group.
- Six months must have elapsed since completion of the eighth breed.

Seventh and Subsequent Groups

Rate of progression: No Limit to Number of Breeds

All progressing Judges must **attend** a Module 1 seminar of the IKC Judges & Stewards Education Programme.

- 12 months must have elapsed since last progressing appointment.
- The Judge must have completed 14 breeds, in previous Group.
- They must have attended a Module 4 Seminar (An Irish Kennel Club Seminar) relevant to this Group).
- Judges at this level are encouraged to steward regularly.

Qualification to Judge Seventh and Subsequent Groups.

- The Judge must have judged eight breeds, within the Group.
- Six months must have elapsed since completion of the eighth breed.

Unlisted Breeds

An eligible Judge is one that has judged eight breeds within that Group.

Best in Show

To qualify as a BIS Judge he/she must have judged a minimum of twenty-eight Breeds, with entries, over a minimum of two Groups. The Judge must have judged at least two Groups. The judging of Best in Show does not entitle the Judge to award Green Stars to any additional Breeds other than those for which he/she was previously qualified.

Stakes classes

These may only be judged by a Best in Show Judge or at Group Championship Shows by an appropriately qualified Group Judge.

Puppy Groups

These may only be judged by a Best in Show Judge or an appropriately qualified Group Judge.

Junior Handling

The qualifications for judging Junior Handling classes are as follows:-

- The proposed Judge is a Junior Handler who has been five years actively involved and is eighteen years or over on the day of the show. He/she may be considered for Junior Handling classes only.
- Or the Proposed Judge will be a Best in Show Judge
- Or the Proposed Judge will be an international professional handler who has excelled in their field with a wealth of experience and success handling various breeds, as proven by research carried out by the Judges Committee and Junior Handler's Association of Ireland.
- Or the Proposed Judge is qualified to Judge Junior Handling in their own country.

Junior Handling Involvement

Credit will be given to those persons who have been actively involved in Junior Handling, both exhibiting and at Club level, for a minimum of five years. In such cases, providing he/she is over eighteen years of age, he/she may be considered for lower level judging. He/she may then be considered for Green Stars providing he/she are over twenty one years of age and has had a dog registered in his/her name with the Irish Kennel Club for a minimum of two years and has been actively involved at breed level. They must meet criteria regarding Modules 1 – 4.

Continuity of Judging Career

Activity

- If a Judge has not been actively involved in dogs during the previous five years he/she may Judge those breeds for which they are already qualified but may not progress at any level until a further period of two years active in dogs has elapsed. Activity may be defined as any combination of ; Exhibiting, Judging, Stewarding, Attending Seminars, Club involvement.

Residency

- A Judge who has not resided in Ireland for a period of five years or more immediately prior to appointment cannot progress, but will still retain judging qualifications achieved.

Substitute Judges

A Substitute Judge must be qualified to Judge the Breed(s) concerned or have judged the appropriate Group on two previous occasions at Championship Show level.

A Judge cannot act as a Substitute if he/she has awarded Green Stars to the Breeds(s) concerned within twenty four months and having judged as a Substitute Judge he/she cannot award Green Stars for the same breed(s) within a further twenty four months.

Once a Substitute Judge has commenced judging – i.e. Breed, Group, Stakes or Best in Show he/she shall complete judging of said Breed, Group, Stakes or Best in Show.

If a substitution becomes necessary during judging, all awards made by the original Judge must stand.

Double Booking

Any Judge who contracts to Judge the following more than once in twelve months:-

- The same Group
- Stakes classes
- Best in Show

Or the same Breed/s in a twenty four month period.

Will,

- On the first occasion receive a formal reprimand in writing from the Irish Kennel Club.
- On a second occasion receive an automatic fine of Fifty Euro.
- On a third or subsequent occasion receive an automatic fine of Two Hundred Euro.

Any decision may be appealed within fourteen days from date of issue.

Judging at International level

A Judge may award CACs to those Breeds in which they award Green Stars.

Having judged the relevant Group on one occasion a Judge may award CACIBs to those Breeds in which they award Green Stars.

Having judged fourteen breeds or more within a Group and having judged the relevant Group on at least one occasion a Judge may award CACs/CACIBs to all Breeds within that Group.

Assessments

Judges commencing their career at Lower level Shows will be mentored on at least two of their first three lower level appointments. The Mentor will speak with them on the morning of the Show and explain the assessment procedure. In order to progress to Judge at Championship level the Judge must pass at least two of the three assessments.

Judges awarding Green Stars on their first occasion will be assessed. In order to progress further they must pass this Assessment. If they are not successful they may be required to complete Module 1, 2 or 3 again according to the Assessors findings. These Judges are also required to pass an assessment at their next lower level Show.

Judges progressing within their first Group may be assessed on a further two occasions and must pass two of the three assessments.

Addendum to Criteria for Progressions through Groups

Groups 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 9

Rate of progression for first time Judges is 1-3-4=8

To move to a new Group he/she must judge a minimum of fourteen Breeds, with entries.

Group 7

The exception above is Group 7 where twelve Breeds, with entries, are required before moving to a new Group.

Group 4

First time Judges judging Dachshunds may judge any number of varieties.

A qualified Group 4 Judge may judge both the Breed and the Group on the same day.

Groups 6 and 10

For the purposes of progressions only Groups 6 and 10 will be amalgamated. Therefore the rate of progression for progressing Judges will be as with all other Groups, i.e. 1-3-4=8.

For the purposes of progressions to a new Group, Groups 6 and 10 will count as one Group.

The first Group to be judged, i.e. Group 6 or Group 10 will be determined by the highest number of Breeds Judged within either section.

(e.g. six Breeds in Group 6 and two Breeds in Group 10. In this case a Judge will Judge Group 6 on their first occasion)

Having judged fourteen Breeds across Groups 6 and 10 a Judge may move to a new Group and will be qualified to judge all Breeds within Groups 6 and 10.