

The AHWSG met on 25/4/2024 via Microsoft teams.

The items on the agenda which either do OR may have an impact on the obedience council members and participants are as follows :-

1. Obesity in dogs – this is to stay on the agenda and the KC will refer back to the guidance on “Body Condition Scoring” as and when they disseminate information relating to health and welfare of our competitors dogs.
2. I have requested to undertake some “informal” research into how obedience dogs distribute their weight whilst competing. The current guidance is based on a binary result of “dogs head up high position” vs a more neutral position. The current information does not consider the head position of a “wrapped around” head position. I will be undertaking some stance analysis with dogs which meet a very strict criteria. Representatives from the AHWSG have potentially offered help and resources of specialist equipment. At this stage the research is very much a “starter for ten” and based on stance weight distribution not dynamic distribution. Jacqueline Boyd has asked if I would be prepared to turn the initial project into an official study opportunity for a university student, which I have agreed to subject to the outcome of the initial findings.
3. I asked for clarification of the vet check process during Crufts 2024 and whether it occurred for other disciplines as I had concerns regarding one of the obedience dogs suffering from muscle fatigue and intermittently knuckling.

Kind regards

June Le Fevre, ProfDip Small Animal Physiotherapy, MIRVAP (VP) (ICH), CCFT, FP-MT,  
RCH

Positive Pawformance Ltd  
Veterinary Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Rehabilitation & Fitness