

SCHEDULE 10: APPENDIX 1

GROUP COURSE KUSA BREED JUDGES' LEARNING PROGRAMME

(Effective 01-03-2026)

Before embarking on the KUSA Breed Judges' Learning Programme (KBJLP), interested persons may apply to the KUSA Office to receive the free booklet: "How to apply to become a Breed Judge", which will contain detailed guidelines regarding the qualifying criteria, the application process and relevant information.

The KUSA Breed Judges' Learning Programme comprises 5 levels of progression, as outlined in Schedule 10, Regulation 2.

THE 10 NUMERICAL GROUPS OF THE FÉDÉRATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FCI) DEFINED

FCI Group 1 – Sheepdogs and Cattle dogs (except Swiss Cattle dogs) – FCI Key Group
FCI Group 2 – Pinscher and Schnauzer – Molosoid and Swiss Mountain and Cattle dogs – FCI Key Group
FCI Group 3 – Terriers – FCI Key Group
FCI Group 4 – Dachshunds
FCI Group 5 – Spitz and primitive types – FCI Key Group
FCI Group 6 – Scent hounds and related breeds
FCI Group 7 – Pointing Dogs
FCI Group 8 – Retrievers – Flushing Dogs – Water Dogs
FCI Group 9 – Companion and Toy Dogs – FCI Key Group
FCI Group 10 – Sighthounds

THE 7-GROUP CLASSIFICATION UNDER KUSA AND THE ELEMENTS FROM THE FCI GROUPS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE RESPECTIVE KUSA GROUPS

Gundog Group – FCI Groups 7 & 8
Herding Group – FCI Group Key Group 1 + Breeds from FCI Key Group 5
Hound Group – FCI Groups 4, 6 & 10 + Breeds from FCI Key Group 5
Terrier Group – FCI Key Group 3
Toy Group – FCI Key Group 9 + Breeds from FCI Key Group 5
Utility Group – FCI Key Group 9 + Breeds from FCI Key Group 5 + Key Group 2
Working Group – FCI Key Group 2 + Breeds from FCI Key Group 5 + Key Group 1

1. LEVEL 1: CANDIDATE JUDGE

1.1. QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- 1.1.1. An Applicant wishing to apply to join the KBJLP must meet the following criteria:
- 1.1.1.1. must be at least 18 years of age
 - 1.1.1.2. must be a permanent resident of South Africa or Namibia
 - 1.1.1.3. must be a member in good standing of KUSA for a continuous period of five (5) years as at date of application
 - 1.1.1.4. must have a minimum of seven (7) years demonstrated involvement, which must include experience in as many of the following as possible:
 - a) ownership of a KUSA-registered dog
 - b) exhibition of a KUSA-registered dog to Breed Championship status

- c) recorded as the breeder of a KUSA-registered litter
- d) ring stewardship at Championship and/or Non-championship Shows
- e) Club administration, committee work, show organisation or any other KUSA-approved canine activity

1.2. APPLICATION

- 1.2.1. The Applicant must select a Qualification Path as more fully set out in Annexure "A" to this Appendix.
- 1.2.2. The Applicant must gather the following material in support of his application to enter the KBJLP:
 - 1.2.2.1. a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae recording the following:
 - a) motivation for wanting to judge and setting out the reason(s) for selecting the chosen Qualification Path (*see Reg 1.2.1 above*).
 - b) a summary of involvement in canine activities and achievements (*See Reg. 1.1.1.4. above*).
 - 1.2.2.2. the completed application form.
- 1.2.3. This application, together with all supporting documents, must be forwarded to the KUSA Office.
- 1.2.4. The JEC shall, at its sole discretion, be entitled to conduct an interview or discussion with the Applicant for the purpose of satisfying itself of the Applicant's eligibility and/or to address any concerns relating to the chosen Qualification Path. The KUSA Office will notify the Applicant of the JEC's decision on the application and, if successful, will advise the Applicant to make payment of the Registration Fee. The Applicant will, after approval by the JEC, be referred to as a "Candidate Judge".
- 1.2.5. Once payment of the Registration Fee has been processed, the KUSA Office will advise the Candidate Judge that access has been granted to the Study Guides, downloadable through the Judge's Membership Portal.
- 1.2.6. Should the application be unsuccessful, the KUSA Office will provide the JEC's reasons why the Applicant's application to join the KBJLP had been unsuccessful. The Applicant may reapply once all the qualifying criteria have been met.

1.3. SUPPORT MATERIAL

- 1.3.1. The Candidate Judge will receive access to comprehensive support material, covering all aspects of the KBJLP, including progression and preparation for examinations.

1.4. REQUIREMENTS

- 1.4.1. **Introduction and Orientation Course:**
 - 1.4.1.1. The Candidate Judge shall be obliged to participate in an Introduction and Orientation Course, delivered as a virtual webinar or in-person seminar, presented nationally or locally to attendees in a provincial area (as may be required from time to time), initiated and arranged by the JEC on a date determined and published by the JEC.
 - 1.4.1.2. The frequency and reach of the Introduction and Orientation Course shall be determined by the number of Candidate Judges who had been approved to join the KBJLP.

1.5. LEVEL 1 EXAMINATION:

- 1.5.1. On the successful completion of the Introduction and Orientation Course, the Candidate Judge may apply to write the Level 1 Examination, which comprises Paper 1 and Paper 2, without reference books or material, held quarterly. A Candidate Judge may write only one (1) paper per quarter, either Paper 1 or Paper 2, in any order.
- 1.5.2. Registrations for any examination shall close no less than thirty (30) days prior to any examination date announced by JEC. No late registrations will be accepted and the date on the Proof of Payment accompanying the Examination Registration Form will serve as the Candidate Judge's Registration Date.
- 1.5.3. **PAPER 1**
Paper 1 shall comprise of two (2) sections:
 - 1.5.3.1. Canine Physiology (150 marks) [All Relevant Study Guides]
 - 1.5.3.2. KUSA Regulations & Procedures (50 marks), which will include:
 - 1.5.3.2.1 The Articles (content applicable to Members & Judges);
 - 1.5.3.2.2 Schedule 01 - Disciplinary Rules (content specifically applicable to Judges);
 - 1.5.3.2.3 Schedule 03 - Regulations for Championship Shows;
 - 1.5.3.2.4 Schedule 04 – Regulations for Non-Championship Shows
 - 1.5.3.2.5 Schedule 09 - KUSA Code of Ethics applicable to KUSA Members in general
 - 1.5.3.2.6 Schedule 09 Appendix B – Code of Conduct and Practice applicable to Judges
 - 1.5.3.2.7 Temporary Exclusion Order (TEO) Manual
 - 1.5.3.2.8 The FCI Show Judges' Regulations
- 1.5.4. The format of the examination will be a combination of multiple choice, naming and labelling questions.

- 1.5.5. Paper 1 will carry 200 marks with a minimum pass requirement of 80%.
- 1.5.6. The duration of the examination shall be no longer than 3 hours.
- 1.5.7. Examination papers will be marked by either the online examination platform or the JEC Examination Officer. Results will be confirmed after being moderated by at least one qualified Moderator.
- 1.5.8. Examination Candidates will be formally notified by the KUSA Office of their success or failure in the examination, citing the percentages achieved in the various sections.
- 1.5.9. No correspondence will be entered into following the examination.
- 1.5.10. If the Candidate is unsuccessful, he may register to rewrite the examination at any future examination opportunity.

1.6. PAPER 2:

- 1.6.1. On the successful completion of the Paper 1 examination, the Learner Judge may apply to sit the Paper 2 examination, without reference books or material.
- 1.6.2. Registrations for any examination shall close no less than thirty (30) days prior to any examination date announced by JEC and the date on the Proof of Payment accompanying the Examination Registration Form will serve as the Learner Judge's Registration Date. No late exam registrations will be accepted.
- 1.6.3. Paper 2 is an examination that comprises questions relating to the KUSA Breed Standards (200 marks) for the chosen Course (Group).
- 1.6.4. The format of the examination will be multiple choice, naming, and labelling questions.
- 1.6.5. Paper 2 will carry 200 marks with a minimum pass requirement of 80% (eighty percent).
- 1.6.6. The duration of the examination shall be no longer than 3 hours.
- 1.6.7. Examination papers will be marked by either the online examination platform or the JEC Examination Officer. Results will be confirmed after having been moderated by at least one qualified Moderator.
- 1.6.8. Examination Candidates will be notified by the KUSA Office of their success or failure in the examination and a percentage mark shall be given.
- 1.6.9. No correspondence will be entered into following the examination.
- 1.6.10. If the Examination Candidate is unsuccessful, he may register to rewrite the examination at any future examination opportunity.

If the Candidate is successful in passing both Paper 1 and Paper 2, he may progress to Level 2.

2. LEVEL 2: LEARNER JUDGE

2.1. STUDY PATH ADHERENCE

- 2.1.1. A Learner Judge must follow the Qualification Path selected when he initially applied to join the KBJLP.
- 2.1.2. A Learner Judge may take on the Junior Showmanship Course, to supplement his chosen Qualification Path, provided that the Group(s) which he is/are studying is/are not regulated by the FCI as one of the Key Groups.

2.2. REQUIREMENTS

- 2.2.1. The Learner Judge will be assigned a Group Mentor by the JEC Assessment Officer for the duration of each level of study.
- 2.2.2. Learner Judges are encouraged to consult with their assigned Group Mentor for guidance and support when completing the Learning Modules and for the duration of each level of study (as required).
- 2.2.3. Details of Level 2 study requirements are outlined below (See Reg. 2.3.)
- 2.2.4. The order of progression through Level 2 is prescribed as follows:
 - 2.2.4.1. Module 1: Breed Hallmarks Assignment, whereafter a Learner Judge may be cleared for
 - 2.2.4.2. Module 2: Judging Appointments.
 - 2.2.4.3. At any time during the completion of Level 2, but only after having completed Module 1 (Breed Hallmarks Assignment), the Learner Judge may:
 - a) complete Module 3: Shadow Judging;
 - b) complete Module 4: Ring Stewardship;
 - c) accumulate the required number of Breed Seminars (Module 5);
 - d) complete Module 6: Critique Writing
 - 2.2.4.4. complete Module 7: the Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment
 - 2.2.4.5. Portfolio submission
- 2.2.5. Assessment will be conducted for each module, either during or after completion, as advised.
- 2.2.6. Eligibility for progression to Level 3 for any Course depends on the approval of the Portfolio, which serves as proof of successful completion of all modules.

2.3. LEARNING MODULES

2.3.1. MODULE 1: BREED HALLMARKS ASSIGNMENT

The rationale for this Module is to encourage the Learner Judge to understand and be able to identify the most important Breed Hallmarks and/or specific characteristics of the relevant breeds and to present these in a format most useful for the Learner Judge's individual style of learning and for practical use during judging.

- 2.3.1.1. The Learner Judge will be provided with a non-exhaustive list of Breed Hallmarks and/or specific characteristics that succinctly encapsulate the essence of the breeds being studied in the Course(s).
- 2.3.1.2. Learner Judges must compile a graphic presentation of the Breed Hallmarks and/or specific characteristics. Learner Judges are advised to consult their Group Mentors plus any of the support material available to guide the successful completion of this Module.
- 2.3.1.3. Learner Judges will be expected to prepare this assignment in a format of their own choice in order to facilitate their own particular learning style and practical application.
- 2.3.1.4. The Learner Judge must submit the completed Breed Hallmarks Assignment to his Group Mentor for assessment.
- 2.3.1.5. If initially unsuccessful, Learner Judges will have the opportunity to revise or redo the assignment until the appropriate Breed Hallmarks and characteristics have been satisfactorily presented.
- 2.3.1.6. Once approved by the Group Mentor, the Breed Hallmarks Assignment must be stored in the Portfolio, but the Learner Judge must have them to hand at any future judging appointments where he would be encouraged to refer to them.
- 2.3.1.7. The assigned Group Mentor will notify the JEC Assessment Officer of the successful completion of the Breed Hallmarks Assignment, who will record the Learner's credits and progress in collaboration with the KUSA Judges' Department.

2.3.2. MODULE 2: JUDGING APPOINTMENTS

The rationale for this module is to gain practical experience in the multi-skilled task of judging at Conformation Shows. The writing of brief critiques encourages the finding of sound reasons for judging decisions and promotes a culture of positive judging.

- 2.3.2.1. The Learner Judge may accept and will be cleared for judging appointments on the successful completion of the Level 1 Examinations and Module 1: Breed Hallmarks Assignment. The acceptance of judging appointments when ineligible to do so on account of non-compliance with the Regulations, shall be deemed as wilful misrepresentation of judging qualifications and be subject to disciplinary action.
- 2.3.2.2. The Learner Judge will need to judge:
 - a) at least eight (8)* different breeds in the chosen Group
 - b) at least sixty (60)** exhibits
 - c) at a minimum of three (3) Non-championship Shows, at least two (2) of which must cover the whole Group, subject to Regulations 2.3.2.4 and 2.3.2.8 below.
- 2.3.2.3. No more than twenty (20) exhibits in one breed* may be credited to the quota.
- 2.3.2.4. At least one (1) of the judging appointments must be in a different geographical Centre from the one in which the Learner Judge resides; more are encouraged.
- 2.3.2.5. The Learner Judge completes the standardised Critique Form during his judging, in which details and numbers of the exhibits judged are entered, as well as a brief Critique on each Best of Breed winner. Should none of the dogs entered be eligible for Best of Breed, but only for Best Baby Puppy, the Learner Judge shall complete the Critique on the Best Baby Puppy. At Non-championship Shows where the winner of the Champions Class does not compete for Best of Breed, the Learner Judge shall complete the Critique on the Best Champion in Breed. If, for reporting purposes, there is a choice between Best Champion in Breed and Best Baby Puppy in Breed, the Champion shall take precedence.
- 2.3.2.6. On completion of the judging appointment, the Learner Judge must request the Show Secretary to endorse the Critique Form. The Show Secretary will acknowledge having signed off on said Critique Form in the normal Return of Show Levies form, which is required to be forwarded to the KUSA Office as per normal procedure.
- 2.3.2.7. On receipt of the Return of Show Levies form from the Show Secretary, the KUSA Office will record and update the Learner Judge's progress and grant clearance for future judging

- appointments. No clearance for future judging appointments shall be granted without this procedure having been completed correctly.
- 2.3.2.8. A minimum of three (3) judging appointments must be observed by a Licensed Judge or the Group Mentor assigned to the Learner Judge by the JEC Assessment Officer, provided a Licensed Judge or the Group Mentor is available to fulfil such observation.
 - 2.3.2.9. The Licensed Judge may provide verbal feedback and guidance on the Learner Judge's performance and endorse the completed judging Critiques immediately on completion of the judging appointment.
 - 2.3.2.10. The Learner Judge must store all his judging Critiques in his Portfolio.
 - 2.3.2.11. At one (1) of the observed appointments, the Licensed Judge or the Group Mentor will make a formative assessment of the Learner Judge's judging skills and ring management on the official Judging Skills Assessment form and provide verbal feedback and guidance immediately on completion of the judging appointment.
 - a) If the minimum approval rating is not achieved in all sections of the Judging Skills Assessment, the Learner Judge will be required to undergo one or more subsequent Judging Skills Assessments, until a successful rating is achieved.
 - b) Upon qualifying as a Senior Judge, i.e. licensed for four (4) Groups, no further Judging Skills Assessments will be required.
 - 2.3.2.12. The Learner Judge must make and forward a copy of the signed and completed Judging Skills Assessment Form to the JEC Assessment Officer. The original Judging Skills Assessment form, and any subsequent original Judging Skills Assessment Form(s) (if applicable), must be stored in the Portfolio.
 - 2.3.2.13. On the successful completion of the required three (3) observations (see 2.3.2.8), the Learner Judge may continue to judge, without observation(s), in any geographical Centre, in order to make up the required quota (see 2.3.2.2) if not yet achieved.
 - 2.3.2.14. On completion of all requirements outlined under Judging Appointments 2.3.2. above, the Learner Judge may continue to judge at Non-championship Shows in any geographical Centre, without observation(s), or writing of Critiques, until the Learner Judge feels ready to complete Module 7 (Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment).

*(*Note: For purposes of calculating the number of breeds for quota requirements, one breed, regardless of varieties within that breed, accommodated in a single Breed Standard, counts as one breed. Breed-varieties with separate Breed Standards count as different breeds. For sake of clarity, refer to Schedule 2 Appendix A1).*

*(**Note: The total breed entry recorded in the Learner Judge's Critiques, as confirmed in the Return of Show Levies form, will be credited towards the final total requirements of 60 exhibits across all varieties).*

2.3.3. **MODULE 3: SHADOW JUDGING**

The rationale for this module is to grant the Learner Judge an opportunity to experience some of the typical challenges and situations within the ring at Championship Shows by closely observing the techniques and decisions of an experienced Judge, together with the opportunity to discuss such techniques and decisions.

- 2.3.3.1. The Learner Judge selects to shadow a Licensed Judge in the relevant Group or Breeds, and any size or coat varieties thereof, licensed at that level for at least five (5) years, or an International Judge, at a Championship Show.
- 2.3.3.2. The Learner Judge must apply in writing – at least 2 weeks before the event – to the Show Secretary who must obtain permission from the Officiating Judge on the Learner Judge's behalf.
- 2.3.3.3. Learner Judges who fail to follow the procedure in Reg. 2.3.3.2. will not be accommodated.
- 2.3.3.4. The Learner Judge must shadow the judging of all the breeds in that Group (or a particular Breed if completing a Specialisation Course) over at least two (2) appointments/shows.
- 2.3.3.5. Before the commencement of the show, the Learner Judge will meet the Officiating Judge, advise him of the content of this specific "Shadow Judging" module and invite advice and guidance on relevant judging techniques. During this interaction, the judging and observation techniques (particularly with regard to the meaningful placement of hands and methods of measuring), are to be encouraged.
- 2.3.3.6. The Learner Judge must be present in good time before the judging of selected Group/Breeds and may leave after conclusion of the judging of all Group/Breed challenges/awards.

- 2.3.3.7. The Learner Judge accompanies and observes the Officiating Judge's technique as closely as possible in the ring without excessive intrusion. The Learner Judge is not permitted to spend the duration of the Shadow Judging session seated at the judge's table under the gazebo.
- 2.3.3.8. No public or overheard criticism of particular exhibits will be permitted by either the Officiating Judge or the Learner Judge, but the Officiating Judge is permitted to offer advice discreetly on appropriate judging techniques and the identification of hallmarks.
- 2.3.3.9. Proof of all Shadow Judging Assignments must be endorsed by the Officiating Judge on the official form and stored in the Portfolio.
- 2.3.3.10. The Learner Judge completes an Observation Report following each Shadow Judging session, which must be stored in the Portfolio.
- 2.3.3.11. Learner Judges are permitted to enter their own dogs in another Group as long as it does not clash with the Shadow Judging commitment and provided that the judge being shadowed is not officiating in such other Group.

2.3.4. **MODULE 4: RING STEWARDING**

The rationale for this module is to increase opportunity for the Learner Judge to become fully familiar with procedures and KUSA Regulations within the ring. Working in the Group ring being studied also allows considerable indirect learning in between ring stewarding duties.

- 2.3.4.1. The Learner Judge is required to attend and complete at least one (1) Ring Stewardship Workshop or Seminar. Proof of attendance will be required if a Ring Stewardship Workshop or Seminar was attended prior to registering for Level 2 studies, in which case, credit will be given and compulsory attendance will not be necessary, provided such Workshop or Seminar was not held more than two (2) years prior to the Learner Judge being eligible to complete this Module.
- 2.3.4.2. The Learner Judge is required to serve as a Ring Steward at a minimum of one (1) Non-championship Show and one (1) Championship Show, preferably in the Group the Learner Judge is studying.
- 2.3.4.3. The Ring Stewardship appointments may be completed in any order and not necessarily before the first judging appointment, although this is strongly advised. The Learner Judge may serve additional appointments as a Ring Steward in the Group he is studying or any other Group, but these appointments will not be credited towards the Module requirements.
- 2.3.4.4. Ring Stewardship experience gained before acceptance into the Learning Programme does not count towards this Module requirement.
- 2.3.4.5. Proof of Ring Stewardship must be endorsed by the Show Secretary and stored in the Portfolio.

2.3.5. **MODULE 5: BREED SEMINARS**

- 2.3.5.1. The Learner Judge must attend or participate in a minimum of six (6) Breed Seminars/Workshops/Webinars provided that:
 - 2.3.5.1.1 at least four (4) Breed Seminars/Workshops/Webinars are arranged, endorsed or supported by JEC; and
 - 2.3.5.1.2 two (2) Breed Seminars/Workshops/Webinars may be arranged, endorsed or supported by another FCI NCO, Kennel Club or Breed Club; it being specifically recorded that such Breed Seminars/Workshops/Webinars are based on the Breed Standards applied in South Africa for the respective breeds.
- 2.3.5.2. The Learner Judge must record full details of place, presenter, date, references and proof of attendance on standardised forms which are to be stored in the Portfolio.
- 2.3.5.3. Credit will be given for previously attended Seminars covering the Group or breed(s) being studied, providing proof of attendance is provided.

2.3.6. **MODULE 6: CRITIQUE WRITING WEBINAR**

- 2.3.6.1. The Learner Judge must attend a Critique Writing Seminar or Webinar presented by the JEC at any time after he has completed Module 1.
- 2.3.6.2. Proof of attendance will be required if a Critique Writing Seminar or Webinar was attended prior to commencing Level 2 studies, in which case, credit will be given and compulsory attendance will not be necessary, provided such seminar or webinar was not held more than 2 (two) years prior to the Learner Judge being eligible to complete this Module.

2.3.7 MODULE 7: PRACTICAL HANDS-ON JUDGING ASSESSMENT

This module can only be completed if Modules 1 to 6 have been completed and signed off by the Group Mentor.

- 2.3.7.1 Under the supervision of two (2) Licensed KUSA Judges with a minimum of five (5) years' experience, together with the JEC Examination Officer, the Learner Judge will undergo a Hands-on Practical Test on a minimum of six (6) breeds listed in Schedule 02 Appendix "A2", fulfilling the following requirements:
- A verbal commentary or feedback on the examination of each breed
 - Placement of the exhibits in the breed as if Championship Show regulations were applicable;
 - Placement of the breeds in the Group from 1st to 4th, explaining the reasons for the position of each placement.
- 2.3.7.2 It is the responsibility of the Learner Judge to notify the KUSA Judges' Department when ready to undertake the Hands-on Practical Test as specified in 2.3.7.1 above. The KUSA Judges' Department will liaise with the JEC Assessment Officer and JEC Examination Officer, who will coordinate the setting up of this Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment.
- 2.3.7.3 The JEC will take all steps reasonably necessary to facilitate the Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment in all major metropolises, but this would always be dependent on the number of Learner Judges, availability of suitably qualified Licensed Judges and a sufficient number of breeds/dogs necessary to comply with Regulation 2.3.7.1. Learner Judges may be required, at their own cost, to travel to another Province or City to complete this Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment.

2.4. PORTFOLIO

- 2.4.1. The Learner Judge keeps a Portfolio to record successful completion of all learning Modules 1 to 7.
- 2.4.2. Once the Learner Judge has completed all the requirements of Level 2, the Portfolio is submitted to the KUSA Judges' Department for final review.
- 2.4.3. If found to have met all requirements satisfactorily, the KUSA Judges' Department will review and submit the Portfolio to the JEC Examination Officer for final approval. Once approved, the KUSA Judges' Department must notify the Learner Judge of such successful completion.
- 2.4.3. If certain requirements are incomplete or of insufficient standard, the KUSA Judges' Department, JEC Assessment Officer or Examination Officer (as may be required), will advise the Learner Judge and guide remedial procedures in order to facilitate successful completion.

3. LEVEL 3: LICENSED JUDGE

3.1. PROVISIONS OF THIS LEVEL

- 3.1.1. On the successful completion of the requirements of Level 2, the KUSA Office will acknowledge the Learner Judge as a Licensed Judge.
- 3.1.2. A Licensed Judge is permitted to judge at Non-championship or Qualifying Shows and may award Challenge Certificates (CCs) at Championship Shows in the Group(s) for which he has gained licence(s), subject to required time restrictions (*See Schedule 10, Reg. 3.*)
- 3.1.3. Licensed Judges are requested to volunteer their services, whenever possible, at Non-championship Shows to assist Club Organisers and also to keep in good practice.
- 3.1.4. A Licensed Judge may accept appointments outside of South Africa and Namibia.
- 3.1.5. A Licensed Judge is qualified to award FCI *Certificat d'aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté* (FCI-C.A.C.I.B.®) to breeds within the qualified Group(s) at South African-hosted FCI International Shows only, until a period of two (2) years has passed from the date of the qualifying examination.
- 3.1.5.1 During this two (2) year period:
- 3.1.5.1.1 A Licensed Judge who has opted to do a *single Group Course* only, will be allowed to apply through the KUSA Office, to embark on further educational studies, to become compliant with the FCI Regulations for those breeds which form part of the FCI Group, but do *not* form part of the KUSA Group. Having successfully applied and completed the educational studies as referred to under Regulation 6 of Schedule 10 Appendix 1 – Group Course, the Judge may accept invitations to award FCI-

C.A.C.I.B.®s to breeds within the qualified Group(s) at FCI International Shows outside of South Africa.

- 3.1.6. If the Licensed Judge has an interest in guiding future Judges, he may complete the JEC Mentors' Course to allow him to serve as a Mentor for the Groups for which he is Licensed.

4. LEVEL 4: SENIOR JUDGE

4.1. PROVISIONS OF THIS LEVEL

- 4.1.1. The KUSA Office will acknowledge the Licensed Judge as a Senior Judge as soon as he has gained licences for four (4) Groups.
- 4.1.2. A Senior Judge is permitted to judge at Non-championship or Qualifying Shows and may award Challenge Certificates (CCs) at Championship Shows in the four (4) Groups for which he has gained licences, subject to required time restrictions. (See *Schedule 10, Reg. 3.*)
- 4.1.3. A Senior Judge is qualified to judge Best in Show and Best Puppy in Show at All-breeds Championship Shows.
- 4.1.4. Senior Judges are requested to volunteer their services, whenever possible, at Non-championship Shows to assist Club Organisers and also to keep in good practice.
- 4.1.5. A Senior Judge may accept appointments outside of South Africa and Namibia.
- 4.1.6. A Senior Judge is qualified to award an FCI '*Certificat d'aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté*' (FCI-C.A.C.I.B.®) to breeds within the qualified Groups at South African-hosted FCI International Shows only, until a period of two (2) years has passed from the date of completion of Level 2, whereafter a Senior Judge may accept invitations to award FCI-C.A.C.I.B.®s to breeds within the qualified Groups at FCI International Shows outside of South Africa. The JEC may waive this requirement at its sole discretion, provided that such waiver will not be contrary to the FCI Show Judges Regulations (as amended from time to time).
- 4.1.7. If the Senior Judge has an interest in guiding future Judges, he may complete the JEC Mentors' Course to allow him to serve as a Mentor for the Groups for which he is Licensed.

5. LEVEL 5: ALL-BREEDS JUDGE

5.1. PROVISIONS OF THIS LEVEL

- 5.1.1. The KUSA Office will acknowledge the Senior Judge as an All-breeds Judge as soon as he has gained licences for all seven (7) Groups.
- 5.1.2. An All-breeds Judge is permitted to judge at Non-championship or Qualifying Shows and may award Challenge Certificates (CCs) at Championship Shows in all seven (7) Groups, subject to required time restrictions. (See *Reg. 3.*)
- 5.1.3. An All-breeds Judge is qualified to judge Best in Show and Best Puppy in Show at All-breeds Championship Shows.
- 5.1.4. All-breeds Judges are requested to volunteer their services, whenever possible, at Non-championship Shows to assist Club Organisers and also to keep in good practice.
- 5.1.5. An All-breeds Judge may accept appointments outside of South Africa and Namibia.
- 5.1.6. An All-breeds Judge is qualified to award an FCI '*Certificat d'aptitude au Championnat International de Beauté*' (FCI-C.A.C.I.B.®) to breeds within the qualified Groups at South African-hosted FCI International Shows only, until a period of two (2) years has passed from the date of completion of Level 2, whereafter an All-breeds Judge may accept invitations to award FCI-C.A.C.I.B.®s to breeds within the qualified Groups at FCI International Shows outside of South Africa. The JEC may waive this requirement at its sole discretion, provided that such waiver will not be contrary to the FCI Show Judges Regulations (as amended from time to time).
- 5.1.7. A KUSA qualified All-breeds Judge will only be recognised as an FCI All-breed International Judge after the commencement of twelve (12) years since passing the qualifying examination for his first Group, provided the Qualification Path for such status was adhered to as set out in Annexure "A".
- 5.1.8. If the All-breeds Judge has an interest in guiding future Judges, he may complete the JEC Mentors' Course to allow him to serve as a Group Mentor for all Groups for which he is a Licensed Judge.

6. ADDITIONAL BREEDS – FCI GROUP ALIGNMENT

- 6.1. A Licensed Judge who has opted to do a *single Group Course* only, or has completed certain KUSA Groups, will be allowed to apply to embark on further educational studies, to become compliant with the FCI Regulations for those breeds which form part of the FCI Group, but do *not* form part of the KUSA Group for which he is already a Licensed Judge. Having successfully applied and completed the following educational studies, the Judge may accept invitations to award FCI-C.A.C.I.B.®s to breeds within the qualified Group(s) at FCI International Shows outside of South Africa.

6.1.1. BREED HALLMARKS ASSIGNMENT

The rationale for this Module is to encourage the Licensed Judge to understand and be able to identify the most important Breed Hallmarks and/or specific characteristics of the relevant breeds and to present these in a format most useful for the Licensed Judge's individual style of learning and for practical use during judging.

- 6.1.1.1 The Licensed Judge will be provided with a non-exhaustive list of Breed Hallmarks and/or specific characteristics that succinctly encapsulate the essence of the breed(s) being studied.
- 6.1.1.2 The Licensed Judge must compile a graphic presentation of the Breed Hallmarks and/or specific characteristics. Licensed Judges are advised to consult a qualified Group Mentor plus any of the support material available to guide the successful completion of this module.
- 6.1.1.3 Licensed Judges will be expected to prepare this assignment in a format of their own choice in order to facilitate their own particular learning style and practical application.
- 6.1.1.4 The Licensed Judge must submit the completed Breed Hallmarks Assignment to the JEC Examination Officer for assessment via the KUSA Judges' Department.
- 6.1.1.5 If initially unsuccessful, the Licensed Judge will have the opportunity to revise or redo the Assignment until the appropriate Breed Hallmarks and characteristics have been satisfactorily presented.
- 6.1.1.6 Once approved by the JEC Examination Officer, the Breed Hallmarks Assignment must be stored in the Portfolio, but the Licensed Judge must have them present at and is encouraged to refer to them during any future judging appointment.
- 6.1.1.7 The JEC Examination Officer will notify the JEC Assessment Officer of the successful completion of the Breed Hallmarks Assignment, who will record the Learner's credits and progress on behalf of the KUSA Judges' Department.

6.1.2. BREED SEMINARS

The Licensed Judge must attend a Breed Seminar/Workshop/Webinar arranged, endorsed or supported by JEC or by another FCI NCO, Kennel Club or Breed Club; it being specifically recorded that such Breed Seminar/Workshop/Webinar must be based on the applicable FCI Breed Standard for the respective breed/s.

6.1.3. PRACTICAL HANDS-ON JUDGING ASSESSMENT

- 6.1.3.1 Under the supervision of two (2) Licensed Judges with a minimum of five (5) years' experience, together with the JEC Examination Officer, the Licensed Judge will undergo a Hands-on Practical Test on the relevant breed/s being studied, where verbal commentary or feedback on the examination and placement of each breed being studied will be given to the assessors present.
- 6.1.3.2 It is the responsibility of the Licensed Judge to notify the KUSA Judges' Department when ready to undertake the Hands-on Practical Test as specified above. The KUSA Judges' Department will liaise with the JEC Assessment Officer and JEC Examination Officer, who will coordinate the setting up of this Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment.
- 6.1.3.3 The JEC will take all steps reasonably necessary to facilitate the Practical Hands-on Judging Assessment in all major metropolises, but this would always be dependent on the number of Learner Judges, availability of suitably qualified Licensed Judges and a sufficient number of breeds/dogs necessary to comply with this Regulation. Licensed Judges may be required, at their own cost, to travel to another Province or City to complete this assessment.



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The most recent changes to this Schedule have an effective date of 01.03.2026

ANNEXURE “A” – QUALIFICATION PATH

Based on the [FCI Regulations for Show Judges](#) (valid since 01/04/2025) as amended from time to time.
The FCI Regulations provide for the following qualifications:

1. FCI BREED JUDGE [BREED SPECIALISATION COURSE]
2. FCI GROUP JUDGE
3. FCI ALL-BREEDS INTERNATIONAL JUDGE
4. FCI ALL-BREEDS NATIONAL JUDGE

In addition, South Africa provides the following qualification:

5. JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE

1. FCI BREED JUDGE [SCHEDULE 10, APPENDIX 3 “BREED SPECIALISATION”]

Candidate to follow the steps outlined in Schedule 10, Appendix 3 “Breed Specialisation”.

2. FCI GROUP JUDGE [SCHEDULE 10, APPENDIX 1 “GROUP COURSE”]

- 2.1 A FCI Group Judge is a person who has been approved by KUSA’s JEC to judge at group level one or more groups of the FCI official groups according to the FCI Nomenclature of Dog Breeds.
- 2.2 The group judge’s education has to last a minimum of 1 (one) year each for the first three (3) groups he applies for.
- 2.3 An FCI group judge is approved to award the FCI-CACIB to any breed of said group. Once approved, FCI group judges from FCI NCO are permitted to judge Best of Group (BOG) competitions at FCI-CACIB shows for the group(s) for which they are qualified.
- 2.4 A judge can apply to be educated as a group judge for his first group when he has been a judge for a period of at least **two (2) years** and he has to be a judge for at least three breeds of that group. During these years he has to judge **at least 5 (five) times** the breeds he is approved for. As an alternative he has to wait three years after the approval of his first breed, before he can apply to be educated as a group judge.
- 2.5 After completing his fifth group, a candidate can officially apply in writing to KUSA JEC to be educated for more groups or even as an all-breeds judge.
- 2.6 A judge is considered an “**international judge**” only after becoming a LICENSED JUDGE (as set out in Schedule 10, Appendix 1) and provided that the LICENSED JUDGE (LEVEL 3) in question has judged over a minimum period of 2 years, the breed(s) for which he has been approved in the country where he has legal residence before he is allowed to accept to judge at FCI shows with FCI-CACIB outside the country where he has legal residence.

3. FCI ALL-BREEDS INTERNATIONAL JUDGE

- 3.1 An FCI All-Breeds International Judge is a judge who has been approved by KUSA to judge all breeds of the FCI recognised groups. Only these judges are approved to officiate at FCI-CACIB Shows around the world for all the FCI recognised breeds.
- 3.2 Judges are only considered eligible as FCI All-Breeds International Judges only **10 (ten) years** after the approval as an international judge. Therefore, from the start of judging qualifications, a total period of **twelve (12) years** would need to elapse.
- 3.3 Qualification as an FCI All-Breeds International Judge is subject to the following requirements:
 - 3.3.1 To be educated as an FCI All-Breeds International Judge, the judge must have been approved for at least **five (5) of the FCI Groups** when applying; and
 - 3.3.2 at least **two (2) of the five (5) groups have to be a KEY GROUP** of the FCI, i.e. Groups 1, 2, 3, 5 and 9.
 - 3.3.3 to be considered as an FCI All-Breeds International Judge, the judge has been educated and passed exams in all 10 groups.

The following table represents, by way of example and incorporating the KUSA 7-group system, possible pathways to achieving the FCI All-Breeds International Judge status, but candidates may vary their choices of groups, provided that they adhere to the requirements set out above and in the FCI Regulations for Show Judges (as amended from time to time).

In other words, Candidates would not necessarily need to keep to this specific order as long as they maintain the FCI regulation stipulating *“at least two of his five groups have to be a KEY Group. FCI KEY groups are the groups 1, 2, 3, 5 and 9 in order to attain FCI All Breed International Judge status.*

FCI INTERNATIONAL ALL-BREEDS JUDGE							
12 year s	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
	Path 1	Path 2	Path 3	Path 4	Path 5	Path 6	Path 7
	GUNDOGS	HERDING	HOUNDS	TERRIERS	TOYS	UTILITY	WORKING
	Group 7 Group 8 (2 years)	Group 1 (Group 5) (2 years)	Group 4 Group 6 Group 10 (Group 5) (min 3 years)	Group 3 (Group 2) (min 2 year)	Group 9 (Group 2) (Group 5) (min 2 year)	Group 9 (Group 2) (Group 5) (min 2 year)	Group 2 (Group 1) (Group 5) (min 2 year)
	If Utility,	Utility (1 year)	Utility (1 year)	Toys (min 1 year)	Utility (1 year)	Toys	Utility (2)
	then Toys	Toys (1 year)	Toy (1 year)	Utility (min 1 year)	Hounds (3 years)	Hounds	Toys (9)
	If, Working,	Hounds (3 years)	Terrier (1 year)	Hounds (min 3 years)	Working	Working	Hounds
	then Herding	Working (1 year) [Group 5]	Working (1 year)	Working (min 1 year)	Herding [Group 5]	Herding [Group 5]	Herding [Group 5]
	Hounds [Group 5] (min 3 years)	Gundogs (2 years)	Herding (1 year) [Group 5]	Herding (min 1 year) [Group 5]	Gundogs/ Terriers	Gundogs/ Terriers	Gundogs/ Terriers
	Terriers	Terriers (1 year)	Gundogs (min 2 years)	Gundogs (min 2 years)	Gundogs/ Terriers	Gundogs/ Terriers	Gundogs/ Terriers
Qualified FCI International All-Breeds Judge							

4. FCI ALL-BREEDS NATIONAL JUDGE

- 4.1 These would be judges who have no desire to be educated as FCI All-Breeds International Judges (i.e. who have not followed the pathway or requirements set out in Clause 3 above, but have qualified and been Licensed in all 7 KUSA Groups.
- 4.2 An FCI All-Breeds National Judge may be qualified to judge all recognised FCI breeds at FCI-CACIB shows, but will not be recognised by the FCI as an FCI All-Breeds International Judge.

5. JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE [SCHEDULE 10, APPENDIX 2 “JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP”]

- 5.1 Candidate to follow the steps outlined in Schedule 10, Appendix 2 “Junior Showmanship”