



31.12.2025 - APPROACH OF TOTAL JEP AND DEMISE OF TRADITIONAL JUDGES LISTS –

JUDGES will be aware from 1st January 2026 The Kennel Club Judges Education Programme (JEP Breed Shows) will become the sole system under which judges may continue their education towards eventually awarding Challenge Certificates in the Breed.

Any Judge currently listed A3, who has not been formally 'approved' to award CC's in the breed (ie having received an invitation, confirmed by the KC) or submitted a Grandfathering application by the deadline of 31st December 2025, will be considered JEP Level 2 and required to complete the JEP Level 3 criteria before progressing to JEP Level 4 (CC approved).

The Kennel Club and indeed the Cocker Spaniel Club are keen to assist judges, who have come far by the traditional route, making progress to A3 level which will enable them to make a Grandfathering application to the KC before the deadline.

Grandfathering information/application is available from The Kennel Club Website - <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/events-and-activities/dog-showing/judging-dog-shows/>

The Club appreciate there are no doubt experienced Judges who would meet the 'Kennel Club A3 criteria' but who may fall short in fulfilling specific CSC Criteria - due to lack of, say, Breed Club appointments; and/or they may have judged plenty of dogs and attended a Breed Specific Seminar and passed the Hands-on Assessment in the past prior to the introduction of the (Breed Council) 'Judges Competence Assessment' (JCA).

To that end the Cocker Spaniel Club will consider A3 applications from well qualified judges who meet the "Kennel Club A3 Criteria" and JUDGES are invited to submit an Application to be considered for A3 Listing.

THE KENNEL CLUB A3 CRITERIA

- Attended the Requirements of a Dog Show judge seminar and passed the exam.
 - Passed Points of the Dog assessment
- Attended Conformation and Movement Seminar
 - Stewarded for a minimum of 12 full days.
 - 7 years proven involvement in pedigree dogs.
- Owned or bred 3 dogs in the stud book (first breed only) **(save in exceptional circumstances)**
- Attended a Breed specific seminar (essential for first 3 breeds, **optional but recommended for all subsequent breeds**)
- Attended and passed a hands-on assessment for the breed run in accordance with the KC code of best practice (essential for the first 3 breeds, **optional for all subsequent breeds**)
- Judged the required number of dogs for the breed with a good geographical spread.
(Cockers are Tier 5 – 180 dogs required)
- For Gundog breeds – attended a Field Trial or Open Gundog Working Test for the relevant sub-group (one time requirement)

The Kennel Club has no requirement for a specific number of breed clubs or general open shows judged, nor for a specific number of classes judged as long as the overall number of dogs judged meets the criteria and there is a good geographical spread.

Please refer to the Club Website – www.thecockerspanielclub.co.uk – for current CSC Judges Lists Criteria and Application forms.

The next meeting of The Cocker Spaniel Club Committee will take place in November 2024 when it will consider Judges Applications. 2025 meetings will take place in the Spring, Summer and Autumn – dates to be confirmed.

An application will only succeed having been considered and discussed in Committee and where the experience and qualification of the applicant is agreed to be of an acceptable A3 level standard, albeit short on current CSC A3 criteria.

APPLICATIONS may be submitted, by email or post, together with relevant additional information/certificates to the Judges List Administrator:

Sally Ellison. Email: sally.ellison@hotmail.co.uk

Woodbind Cottage, Court Mill Lane, Wadeford, Chard, Somerset TA20 3AX. Tel: 01460 62871