

SESSS Judging List Criteria A1, A2 and A3 1/1/2021

The SESSS produce consolidated A1, A2 & A3 lists that it supports to judge English Springer Spaniels.

List A1 For persons who have previously been approved by the Kennel Club to award Challenge Certificates in the breed and have completed their first appointment. The SESSS A1 List indicates persons who have their support.

List A2 For persons who fulfil all the requirements of the A3 list and who have been assessed in accordance with Kennel Club requirements and accepted by the Kennel Club for inclusion on the A2 list.

List A3 indicates persons who the SESSS would recommend as being suitable to award Challenge Certificates in the breed but not yet approved by the Kennel Club for inclusion on the A2 list.

They are valid for one year only and will expire on the 31st December each year. New and updated applications to the judging lists will be considered by the SESSS JSC and supported applications will be added to the appropriate list.

The A1 list will be compiled using information provided by the Kennel Club with regard to those persons who have been passed to award Challenge Certificates and have awarded Challenge Certificates at the time of the compilation.

New applicants wishing to be considered for inclusion in the judging lists must, in the first instance, complete an SESSS judging questionnaire. Any person can apply for inclusion on the lists. A judging questionnaire can be obtained from www.sesss.org

Copies of all relevant seminar certificates (where required) MUST be attached to the questionnaire as proof of attendance.

Membership of the SESSS is not a pre-requisite for inclusion on the lists.

The suitability of applicants for inclusion in the Breed's A1, A2 and A3 lists of judges will be considered by the SESSS at its discretion, using the criteria previously detailed as a guide. The decision of the SESSS is final and no reason for non-inclusion will be given. This does not preclude a re-submission of an application in any subsequent year.

Judges who are to be included for the first time on judging lists will be informed of the SESSS decision in writing. A copy of the judging lists will be made available on request or can be found on www.sesss.org

In accordance with the KC recommendation, voting of a person for inclusion on judging lists will be by secret ballot. Voting will take place at an SESSS JSC meeting.

At the start of 2021 the Kennel Clubs new Judges Education Programme, came into force and all judges with appointments from 1 January 2021 must have met the following

Requirements to meet level 3 (A3 equivalent)

To have completed both Level 1 and Level 2 requirements

- Undergo minimum of three mentoring sessions with a minimum of 12 months between first and third session
- Be observed judging a breed club show, breed supported entry show or championship show without CCs
- Complete remaining 10 full-day stewarding appointments (onetime qualification)
- Have owned/bred a minimum of three ESS dogs when they obtained their first entry in The Kennel Club Stud Book – save for exceptional circumstances (one-time qualification for first breed in which a judge awards CCs)
- Attended the appropriate sub-group field trial/open gundog working test for first gundog breed or ring procedure at licensed shows (German Shepherd Dog education programme) online exam (one-time qualification)
- Have achieved the relevant hands-on experience in line with the stated requirements for the relevant stud book band:
 - ESS Band C – 60 dogs

The following types of events may be used to claim hands-on experience numbers:

- Breed classes at championship shows without CCs
- Breed classes at open shows
- Breed classes at limited shows
- Mock/training classes at breed club shows (practical judging days) – only one occasion can be claimed and a maximum of five dogs.
- Dogs judged at Kennel Club approved assessments, maximum of five dogs – only one occasion and a maximum of five dogs. Cannot be used in addition to mock classes.
- Dogs judged at inter or intra-club single-breed matches.
- Special award classes at breed club shows.
- Supported entry shows.
- Dogs judged at single breed dog of the year competitions.
- Overseas appointments.

Dogs judged at the following types of events may *not* be included in a judge's hands-on experience:

- AVNSC and variety classes.
- At fun days.
- Conjointly with other judges at events where the candidate judge is not required to give independent judgment on the dogs.
- Any JEP mentoring sessions.

Eligibility to judge

- Unlimited number of classes for the respective breed at limited, open or championship shows (no CCs)
- Any variety classes groups and best in show at limited shows

Up until 1/1/2026 a dual qualification system will run alongside the JEP scheme.

A3 Criteria For Breed Specialists

For a favourable opinion persons included on this list **should endeavour to meet all of the following criteria:**

- To have had a minimum of seven years judging experience in the breed, with appointments spread over a reasonable geographical area and have the support of the SESSS.
- To have owned and exhibited English Springer Spaniels for a minimum of 10 years.
- To have judged approx **50 classes** in the breed at Open Show level and to have judged a **minimum of 80 dogs**; Appointments to have been spread over a reasonable geographical area.
- **To have judged an English Springer Spaniel Breed Club/Society Open Show.**
- **To have judged at any two shows which have a combined entry of at least 40 dogs present and judged. (Please Note: To achieve the requirement of 2 shows/40 dogs present and judged, a person can combine any combination taken from the following type of shows - Breed Club Open Shows, Championship Shows without CCs, or any other type of Open Shows)**
- To agree to produce a written show critique for the first two placings in each class at Championship Shows and Breed Club Open Shows, and also agree to dispatch the critique to at least one of

A3 Criteria For Non - Breed Specialists Persons included on this list are required to have met **all of the following criteria:**

- To have a minimum of 20 years' experience exhibiting dogs.
- To have a minimum of 7 years judging experience in any one breed (to include 5 years in this breed) and have the support of the SESSS.
- To award CCs in at least one other breed.
- To have judged a minimum of approx. **50 classes** in the breed at Open Show level, and to have judged a **minimum of 80 dogs**. Appointments to have been spread over a reasonable geographical area.

- **Judging at an English Springer Spaniel Breed Club/Society Open Show is highly desirable.**
- To have attended an English Springer Spaniel Breed Seminar that has been organised and run in accordance with the Kennel Club Code of Best Practice.
- To have passed a multi-choice written exam on the English Springer Spaniel Breed Standard
- To have attended and been successful at an English Springer Spaniel Breed Assessment that was organised and run in accordance with the Kennel Club Code of Best Practice.
- Where appropriate, to have attended a Kennel Club Field Trial at Open Stake level, or an Open Gundog Working Test for the relevant gundog sub group (KC mandatory requirement from 1.1.2011); i.e. KC guidance states that if you are attending a Field Trial, you need to attend an Open (ESS) Stake or above. If you are attending an Open Gundog Working Test then you can go to either an Open (ESS) Test or an Open Any Variety (AV) Spaniel Test. You should obtain a marked card signed by the FT Secretary or WT Secretary as evidence of attendance.
- To agree to produce a written show critique for the first two placings in each class at Championship Shows and Breed Club Open Shows, and also agree to dispatch the critique to at least one of the

weekly UK canine journals - all as required by the KC - within three months of the judging appointment save in exceptional circumstances;

☒ To have submitted the application on the SESSS judging questionnaire; and

☒ Also see Note 2 below

Criteria for Overseas Judges Applications will be considered on their individual merit and in accordance with Kennel Club guidance. **Notes:** 1. The SESSS considers that an ESS judging appointment at a Championship Show without CCs does not equate to a judging appointment at an ESS Breed Club/Society Open Show. 2. The suitability of applicants for inclusion in the Breed's A1, A2 and A3 lists of judges will be considered by the SESSS JSC at its discretion, using the criteria detailed above as a guide. The suitability of applicants for inclusion on a list may also be considered on their merit. The decision of the SESSS JSC is final and no reason for non-inclusion will be given. This does not preclude a re-submission of an application in any subsequent year.