



Becoming a Dog Show Mentor, what is expected?

Once we have put you in contact with a new exhibitor, we would expect you that you would help out with the following:

Where to set up and the rules and etiquette on setting up

Explain the rules and regulations on where and when you are allowed to set up camp. What you need to have to make the day comfortable and enjoyable (canopy, crate or trolley, mat and chair)

What to do with their dog upon arrival and rules on dog behaviour

What to do with their dog when they arrive (toileting etc.) and general dog behaviour (keeping an appropriate distance from other dogs, aggressive dogs etc.)

Basic grooming box requirements

What will your new exhibitor need to prepare their dog and take them into the ring? (Number holder, leash, brushes and appropriate clothing and footwear)

Collecting numbers

Where and how to collect numbers and catalogues and how to use and read them to work out when they will be required at the ring.

Observing the ring before they are in. What are the judge and stewards expecting of the exhibitors? What will they be required to do?

Take your newcomer over to watch some judging before they are required in the ring and run through what they will need to do. Explain how to do a triangle etc. and some stacking basics.

When do they need to be in the ring? Do they need to go back for the CC or Res or for a run off?

Help your newcomer to be at the ring on time and to answer their call. If possible quickly and quietly introduce them to their ring steward as a new exhibitor. Assist them with being ready for the CC, BOB and or Class run offs.

Debrief and what to do with their dog after exhibiting

A quick talk about what happened in the breed, what went well and some quick tips on what to practise and improve or do better next time.

What happens in the Group and are they required?

Be there to watch and participate in Group Specials. Explain the process of who is required and why.



Show Manager

What to do in General specials

Plan to stay to watch and explain General Specials so your newcomer can see what the whole day leads up too.

Some things to remember during the day....

Be a good sport and a good example

Think about your behaviour and attitude and set a good example. In the end the Judge's decision on the day is final. Sometimes we win and sometimes we lose.

Don't be too overwhelming

Showing doesn't always have to be about having the best dog and putting on the best performance. We all have to start somewhere and often it isn't with the best dog! Don't pick a new exhibitors dog apart, just help them to show off what they have. Many people enjoy showing their dog win or lose. They enjoy a day spent with people who have a similar interest, talking about dogs and cheering for their friends and mentors in the ring. Winning or losing doesn't have to define the day.

Introduce them to other exhibitors in their Breed and Group.

Most new exhibitors are eager to learn more about their chosen breed and most long time breeders enjoy passing on their knowledge. Surely a match made in heaven!

Give helpful and practical advice on grooming and presentation.

Most new exhibitors won't be set up at home with the latest in bathing and grooming technology. These things are acquired over time and most of us can remember starting out in the ring with almost nothing. Basic presentation and bathing is the best way to start but if you aren't confident to give simple grooming techniques on the particular breed, help your newcomer to get advice from someone who is.