HEELWORK TO MUSIC - SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

from Working Party Meeting 21 June 2011

	Proposed	Recommended	Action
1.	Revision to the wording of the 'score structure' (Regulation L17.e.)	The Working Party recommended revised wording to make the score structure more easily understood by competitors, to guide less experienced judges, and to act as an indication of suitable marking in order to discourage judges from awarding inappropriately high or low marks. The Working Party wished to clarify several related points: • Judges should make use of all the levels when scoring • It should be the performance on the day that is scored • It is important for judges to be consistent in their marking from one competitor to the next • Judges should, when time permits, be ready to speak to competitors after a class and provide feedback.	This item is currently under review by Kennel Club Committees. No further action is required from your club / society. Any changes to the Regulations will be published and a Press Release issued in due course. Changes will take effect from 1 January 2012.
2.	Review the number of judges per class required by the Heelwork to Music Regulations.	The Working Party considered that a reduction in the number of judges required for some or all Heelwork to Music and Freestyle classes might alleviate reported issues over inconsistencies in marking, and assist societies which were experiencing increasing difficulty in indentifying judges willing to accept appointments. It was agreed that societies would be asked for their views on • the merits of amending Regulation L17. (which states that three judges are to be appointed) • whether there was a preference for requiring a single judge, two judges, or three judges per class • whether the required number of judges could be different for different classes (eg more judges for higher classes).	The Heelwork to Music Working Party will discuss this further to help develop the discipline in the best manner possible. **Please email your views or suggestions on the items outlined on the left to John Leslie, john.leslie@thekennelclub.org.uk, by Tuesday 1 November 2011, so they can be discussed at the next Heelwork to Music Working Party meeting.**
3.	Identify specific moves which are unacceptable due to risk of injury or negative impact on the welfare of the dog, and prohibit their use in competition.	The Working Party had previously agreed to circulate a list of moves which were regarded as unacceptable to competitors at dfs Crufts in 2011. This had proved successful and the Working Party agreed that a draft amendment to Regulation L10. (Competing) should be prepared to prohibit such moves, for the Working Party to consider at its next meeting.	The Heelwork to Music Working Party will discuss this further to help develop the discipline in the best manner possible. No further action is required from your club / society.

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4.	Clarification on acceptability of a dog's hair tied back in competition.	The Working Party confirmed that exceptionally long hair on the top knot or ears of any breed may be tied back if it is necessary to prevent the hair from impeding the dog's vision while competing. The ties used must not be decorated. The colour of the ties is not, of itself, to be regarded as decoration even if matching the dog's collar or handler's costume.	Show societies and competitors to note the Working Party's view. No further action is required from your club / society.
5.	Delete from the Regulations the list of items required to be included in Show Schedules in Regulation L12.c.	The Working Party discussed Regulation L12.c. setting out the required contents of the specimen schedule and **recommended** that the Regulation should be amended so as to remove the detailed list of required contents, leaving only the requirement that all Show Schedules must conform to the current Specimen Schedule published by the Kennel Club and available on the Kennel Club website.	This item is currently under review by Kennel Club Committees. No further action is required from your club / society. Any changes to the Regulations will be published and a Press Release issued in due course. Changes will take effect from 1 January 2012.
6.	Clarification on judges amending scores after score sheets had been submitted.	The Working Party considered reports that some judges had on several occasions requested score sheets to be returned to them after a routine had been marked. The Working Party **agreed** that it was not acceptable for judges to amend scores once a score sheet had been submitted, except to correct arithmetical errors or where the need for a general deduction, eg for excessive barking, had been included on their judging notes but not transferred to the score sheet.	Show societies, judges and competitors to note the Working Party's view. No further action is required from your club / society.
7.	Require all shows to make use of the Kennel Club Incident Book to record all incidents occurring and submit copies of entries to the Kennel Club.	The Working Party recommended an amendment to Regulation L4.f. to require show managements to record all incidents in a Kennel Club Incident Book and to submit a copy of all incident reports to the Kennel Club within 14 days of the end of the show. *NOTE* – Kennel Club Incident Books are available to club secretaries free of charge on request to the Kennel Club office.	This item is currently under review by Kennel Club Committees. No further action is required from your club / society. Any changes to the Regulations will be published and a Press Release issued in due course. Changes will take effect from 1 January 2012.