

P Regulations

REGULATIONS FOR THE ROYAL KENNEL CLUB LIAISON COUNCILS

As at 1 January 2026

1. General. The Royal Kennel Club shall recognise liaison councils to act as advisory bodies on the matters of the immediate concern of each liaison council. The Liaison Councils represent the interests of everyone involved including clubs, organisations, judges and individual participants. They serve as a vital communication link between the community and The Royal Kennel Club, working collaboratively to shape, support, and grow the relevant activity.

There are 7 Liaison Councils:

Agility Liaison Council
Dog Showing Liaison Council
Field Trials Liaison Council
Heelwork to Music Liaison Council
Obedience Liaison Council
Rally Liaison Council
Working Trials Liaison Council

The terms of reference for each liaison council are available on the Royal Kennel Club website. [Already competing in field trials? | The Royal Kennel Club](#)

2. Terms of Office. The term of each liaison council shall be 3 years. Fresh elections shall be conducted prior to the expiry of each term to elect representatives for the following term. Representatives are eligible for re-election.

3. Liaison Council Membership

- a. No person may serve on more than one liaison council and members of the Royal Kennel Club Board may not serve on any Royal Kennel Club Liaison Council.
- b. In the event of there being more applications than representatives, interviews may be undertaken (except for the Field Trials Liaison Council, see below)
- c. Should a vacancy occur between elections, a bye-election may be held in accordance with the appropriate foregoing provisions.
- d. Members of all liaison councils must be at least 18 years of age; there is no upper age limit.



- e. The liaison councils will be made up of the following representatives:
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| Agility Liaison Council - | 11 representatives |
| Dog Showing Liaison Council - | 11 representatives |
| Field Trials Liaison Council - | One representative for not less than every 3 field trial societies holding Qualifying Stakes (Open Stakes) |
| Heelwork to Music Liaison Council - | 7 representatives |
| Obedience Liaison Council - | 9 representatives |
| Rally Liaison Council - | 7 representatives |
| Working Trials Liaison Council - | 7 representatives |
- f. The election of representatives to the Field Trials Liaison Council shall be by application from eligible field trial societies. Field trial societies which hold only non-qualifying stakes shall secure representation through an appropriate elected representative in the same sub-group.

4. Meetings. The following provisions shall apply.

- a. The Secretary of the Royal Kennel Club or his nominated member of staff shall be the secretary of each liaison council.
- b. At the first meeting of a newly-elected liaison council, a chair and vice-chair shall be elected for a 3 year term by those present. In the event of a chair or vice-chair resigning their office, or their office becoming vacant through any cause, a liaison council shall, at the next meeting, elect a representative to fill the vacancy and the election shall be valid for the remainder of the 3 year term.
- c. The quorum for any liaison council shall be at least half of the members of the elected liaison council.
- d. Each representative present at a liaison council meeting shall be entitled to one vote on each motion except, in the case of equality of votes, the chair of the meeting shall have a second or a casting vote.
- e. A liaison council may, subject to the approval of the relevant Committee, appoint such ad hoc working parties / groups as it may deem necessary to consider any specific matters.

5. Minutes and action reports. After each meeting of the liaison council, the secretary of the liaison council shall prepare minutes for the approval of the chair of the liaison council and shall then send a copy to each representative. Such minutes will then be published and from time to time, further reports on the actions taken by the Royal Kennel Club in regard to the matters raised will also be published.

6. Royal Kennel Club Committees. The following provisions shall apply relative to Royal Kennel Club Committees:



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- a. Liaison Councils will be represented on Committees of the Royal Kennel Club in accordance with the relevant Committee Terms of Reference in place.
 - b. Any liaison council representative nominated as a candidate to sit on a Committee of the Royal Kennel Club may not act as chair of both that liaison council and the respective Committee during the same term of office.
 - c. All elections will be by secret ballot.
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N Regulations - Royal Kennel Club Council Associates

As of 1 January 2026

Regulations N8 and N9 have been removed with effect from 1 January 2026.

~~N8. All delegates and representatives elected to attend Royal Kennel Club Liaison Council meetings who are not members or associates of The Royal Kennel Club automatically become council associates and will remain so during their tenure of office on the council.~~

~~N9. No subscriptions will be required from council associates and each will receive the publications to which ordinary associates are entitled together with the council associate's card and a season 'pass', not transferable, admitting him to Crufts and will be eligible to vote in such Committee elections as shall from time to time be permitted under the Rules and Regulations of The Royal Kennel Club.~~

~~(Deletions struck through)~~

~~Effective date: 1 January 2026~~