

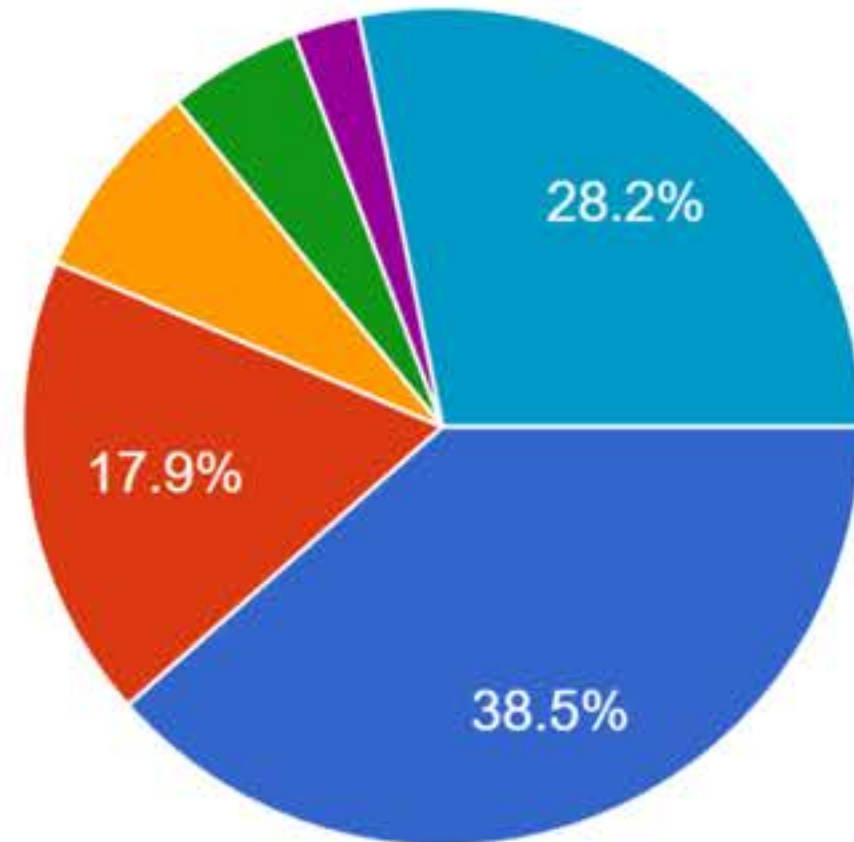
# HTM Judges Survey 2025



# Current Judging Status

Pick the option that best describes your current Judging status.

39 responses

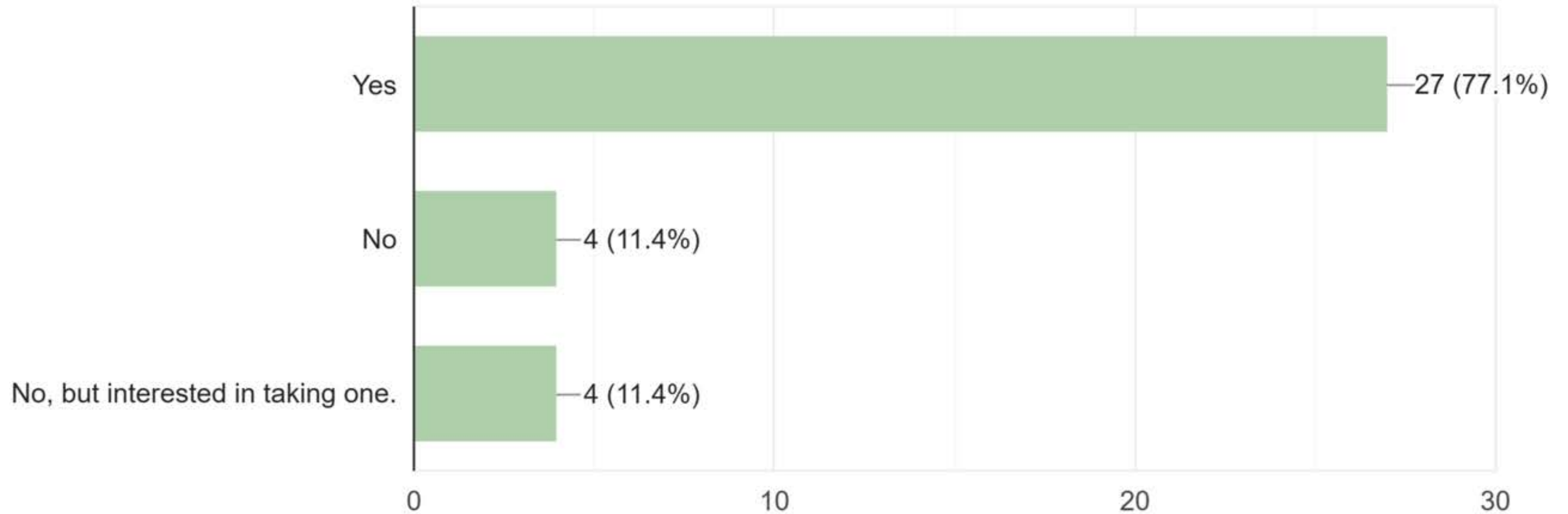


- Judging HTM/Freestyle with over 10 + Years experience
- Judging HTM/Freestyle with 5 - 9 Years experience
- Judging HTM/Freestyle with 1 - 4 Years experience
- First year of Judging HTM/Freestyle
- Currently undergoing mentorship
- I compete, but I'm not ready for judgin...
- Have no intention in Judging

# Seminars

Have you taken part in a practical seminar?

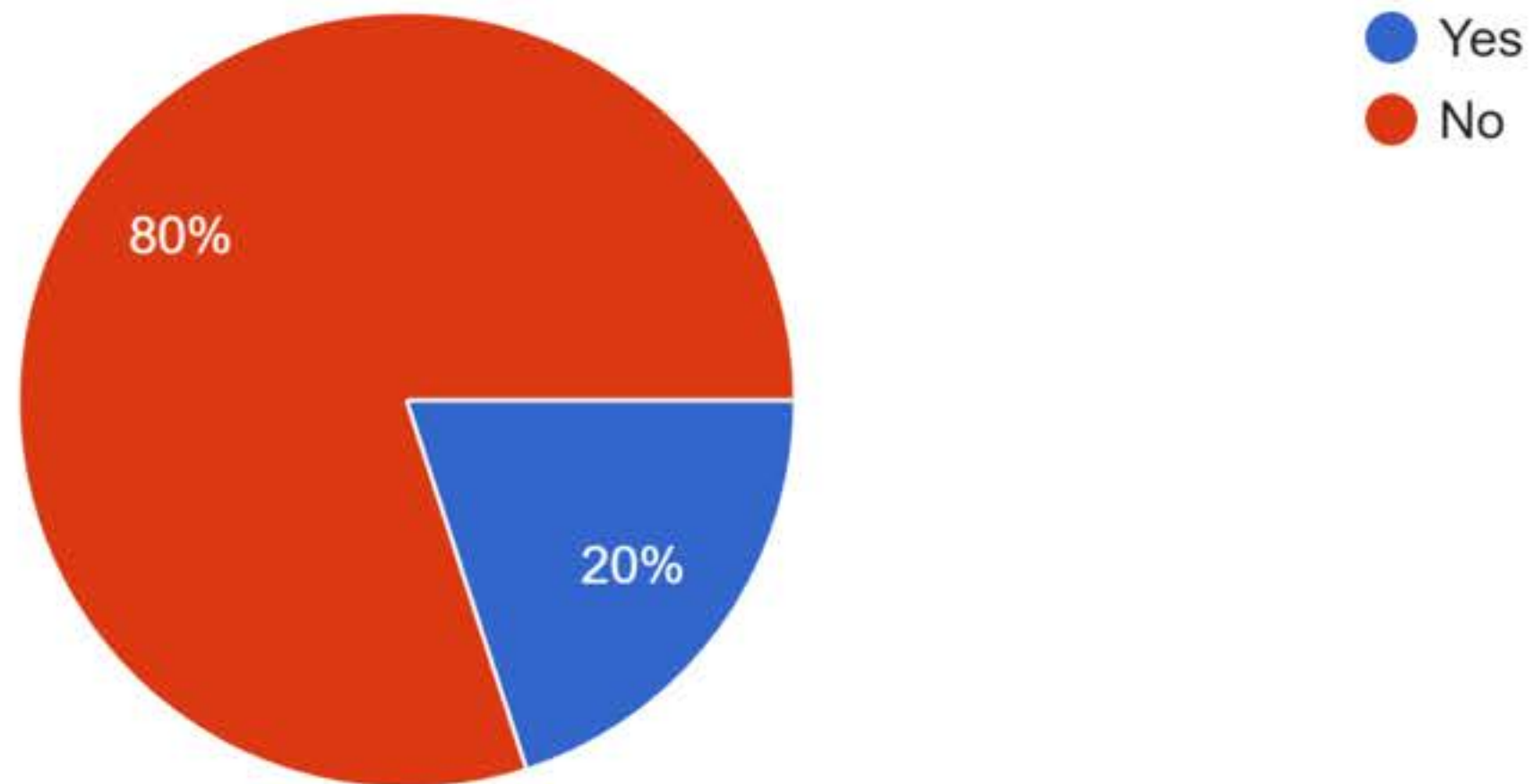
35 responses



# Mentoring

Have you taken part in the mentoring scheme for new judges?

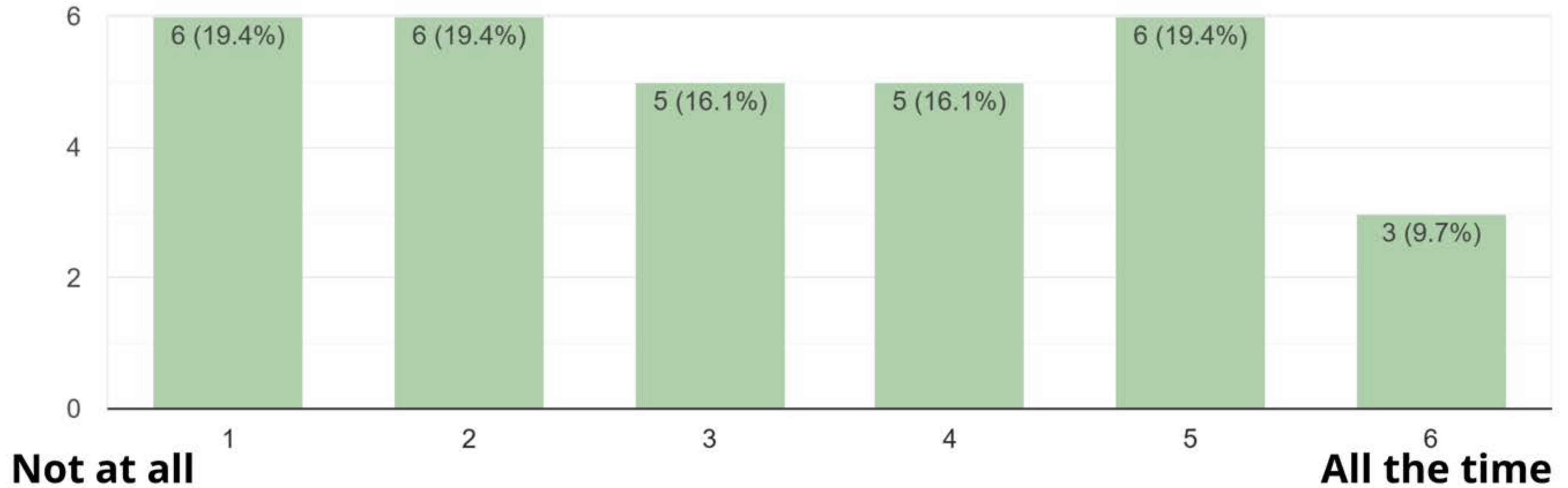
35 responses



# Judging Appointments

On a scale of 1 to 6, how often do you get asked to judge?

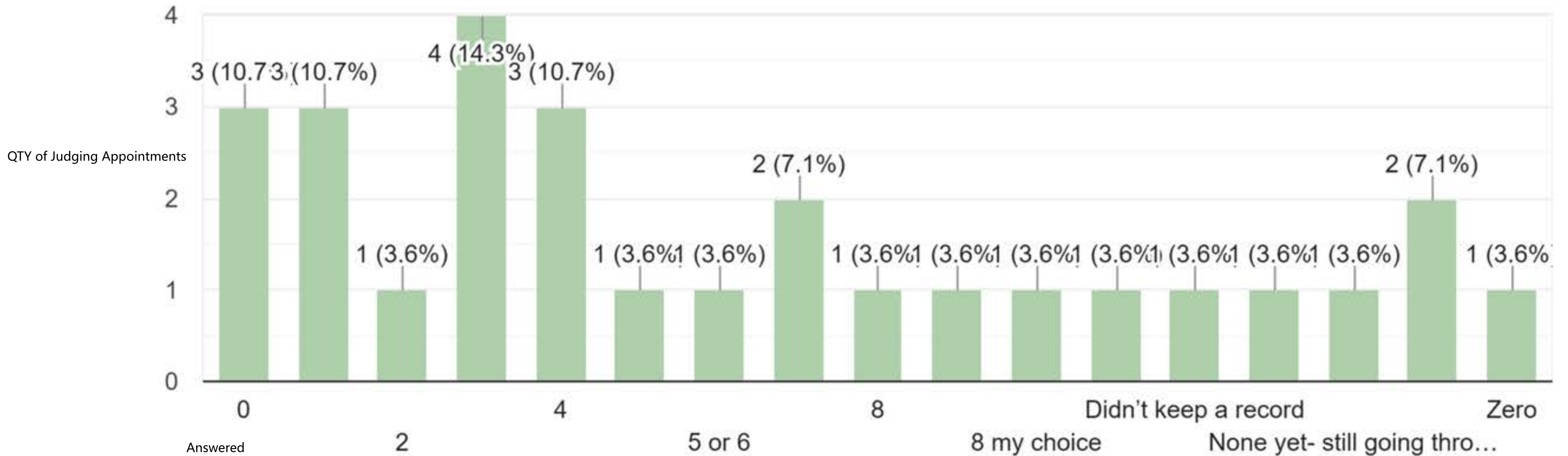
31 responses



# Judging HTM

Roughly how many Heelwork classes have you judged this year?

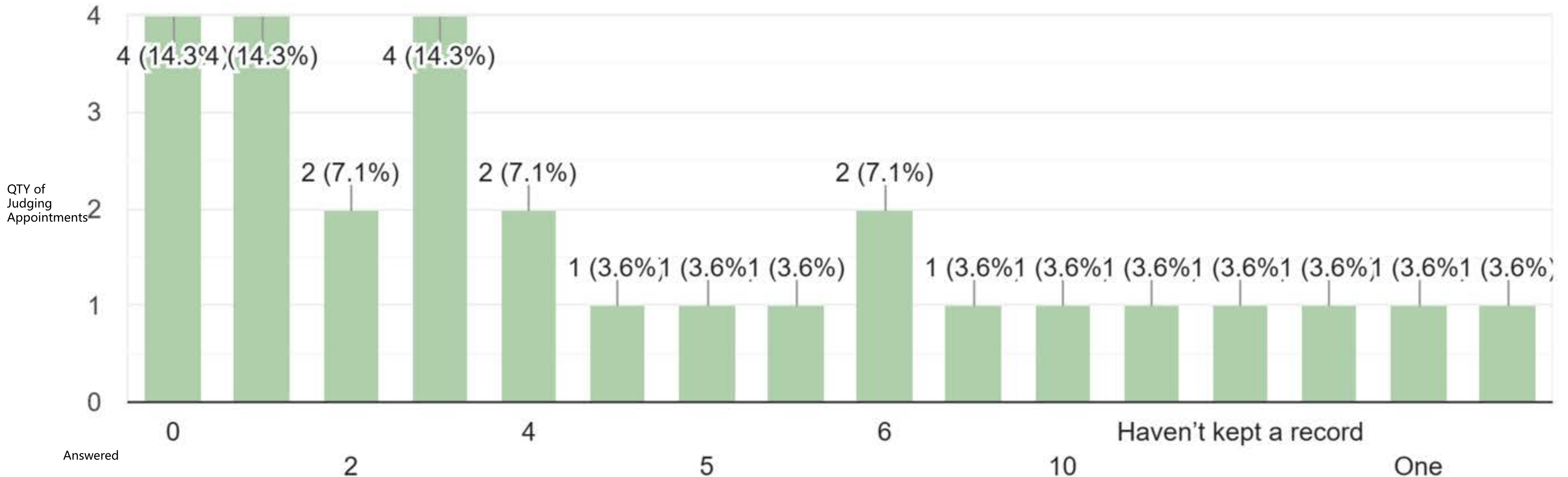
28 responses



# Judging Freestyle

Roughly how many Freestyle classes have you judged this year?

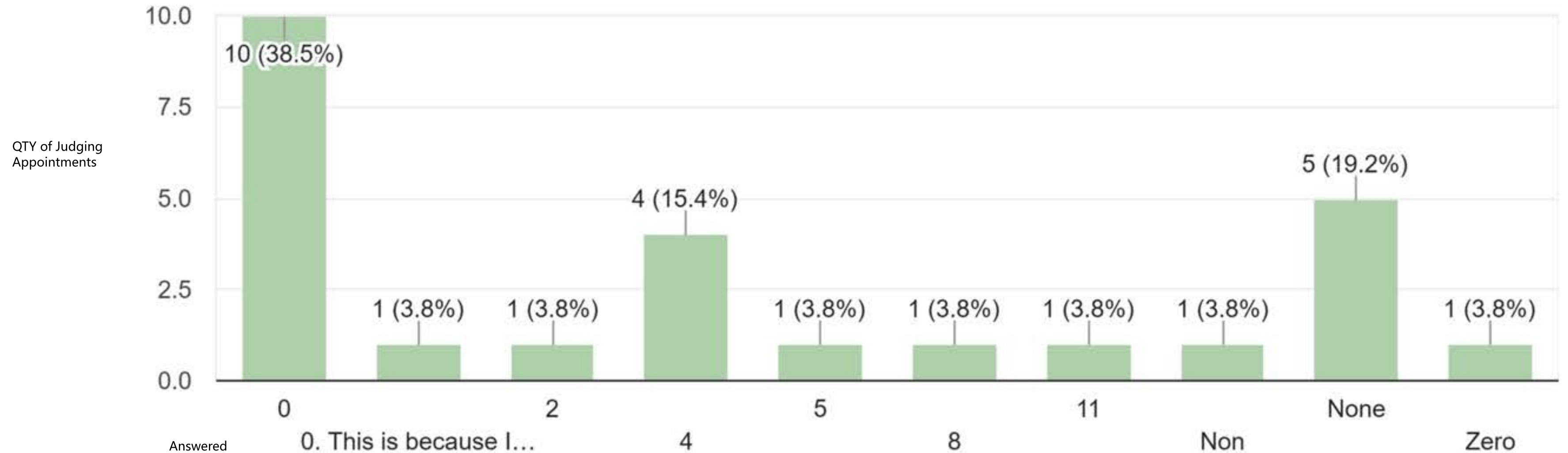
28 responses



# Judging Additional Classes

Roughly how many Additional classes have you judged this year? (Fusion, Dances etc..)

26 responses

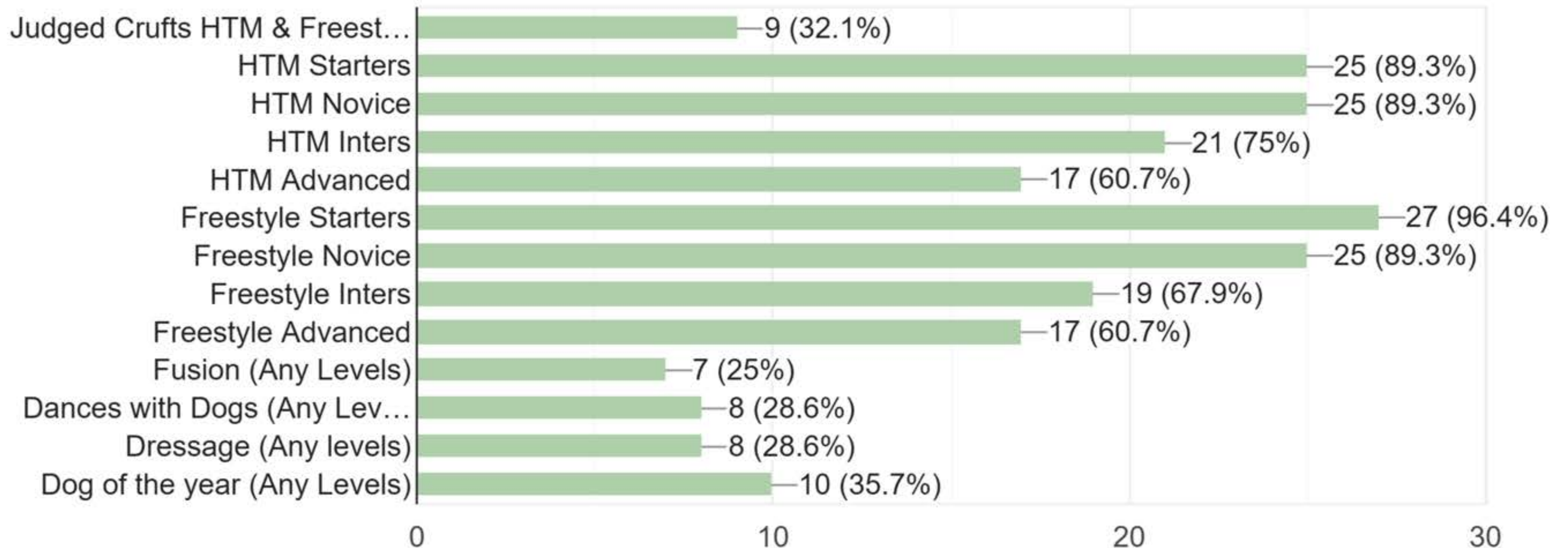


# Level of Judging

Please select all the types of classes and levels you are able or have judged.

28 responses

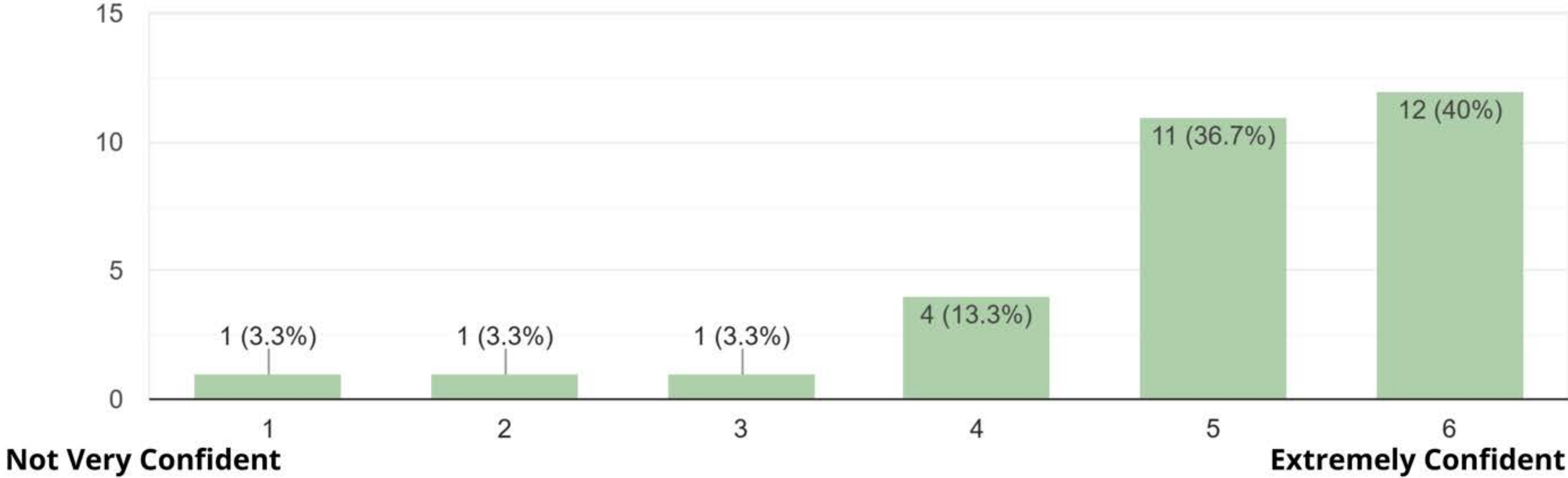
(Various Classes judged)



# Judging Confidence

How confident do you feel in your own judging abilities in the levels you judge at?

30 responses

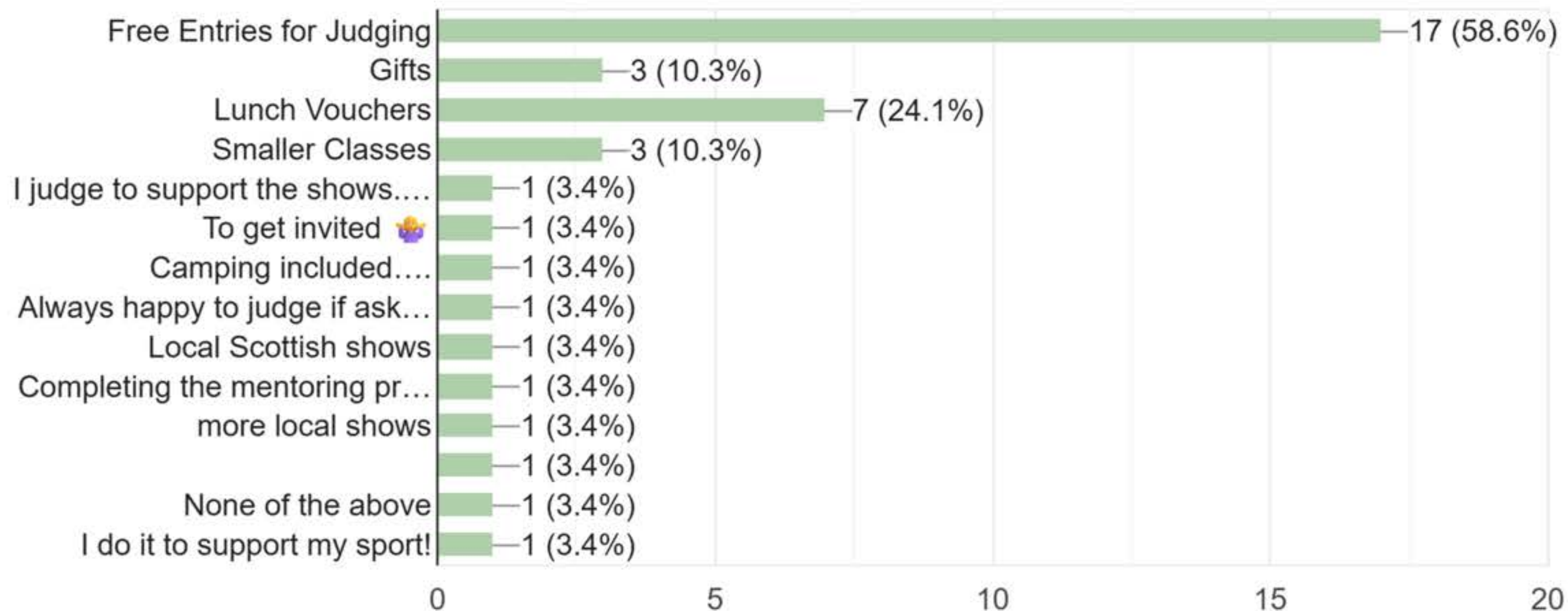


# Judging Perks

What would make you want to Judge more in the future?

29 responses

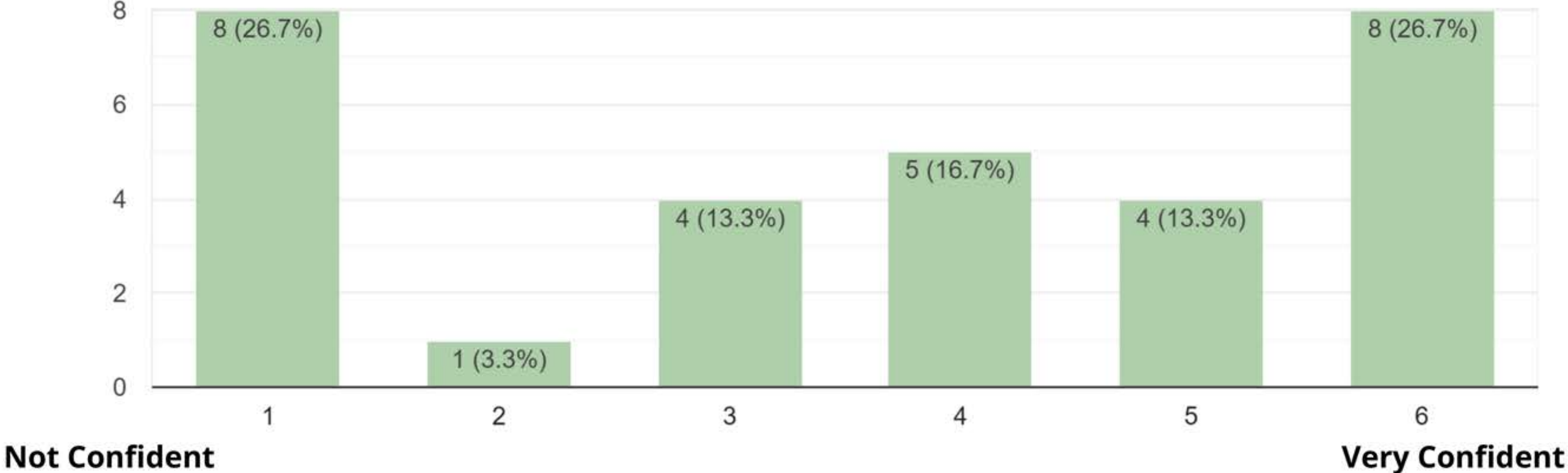
(Multi Choice)



# Future of Judging?

How confident do you feel, that you'll still be judging in the next 5 years?

30 responses

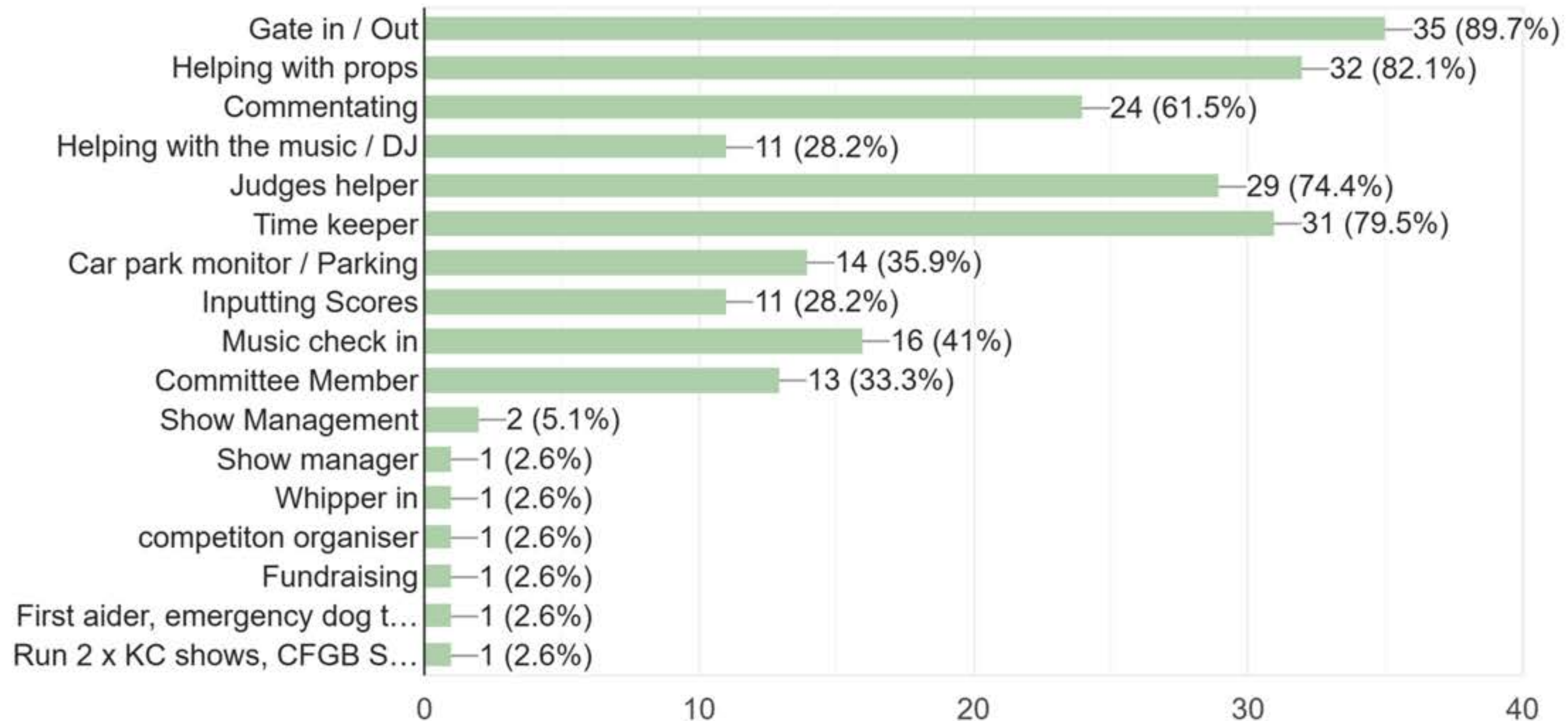


# Helping out At Shows

Do you help out in other ways on show days?

39 responses

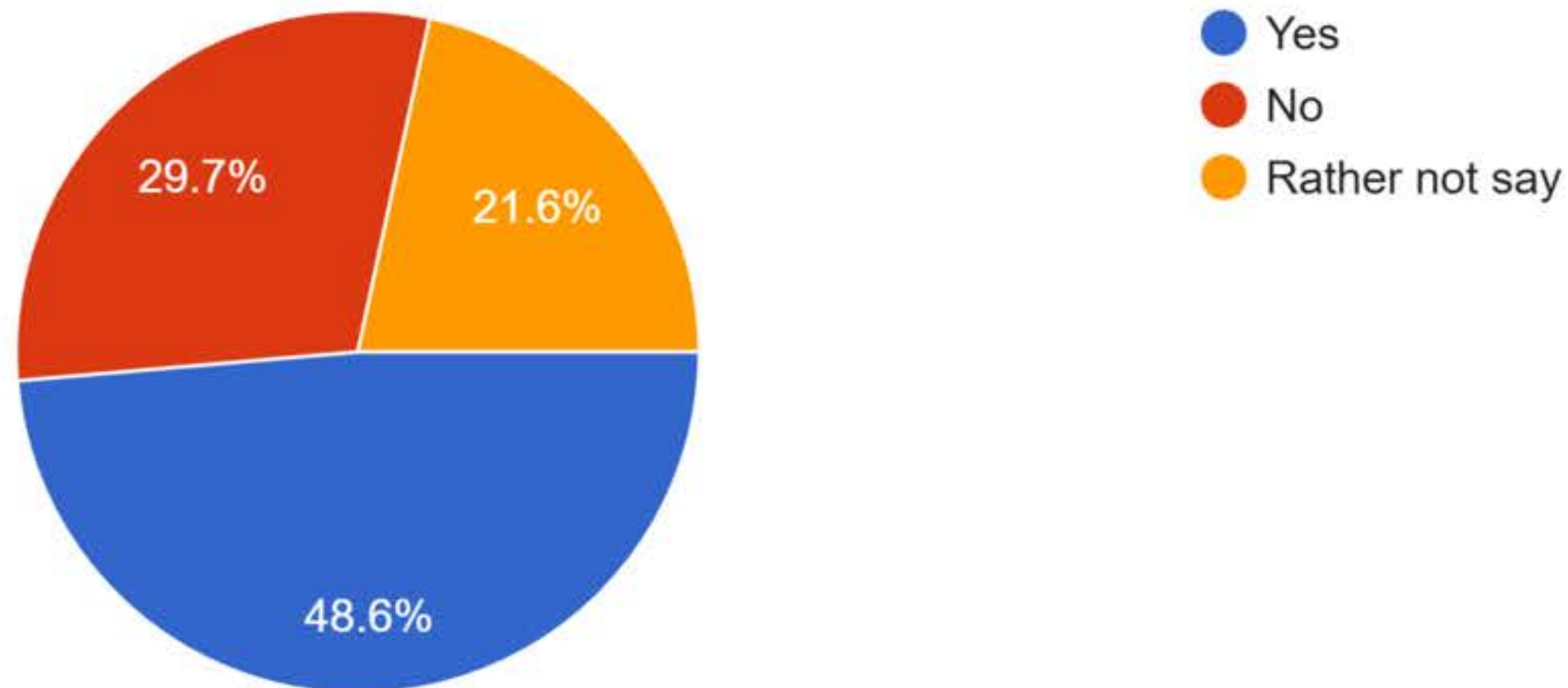
(Multi Choice)



# Offering Judging Services to Show Secretaries

Would you feel happy approaching show Secretaries to offer your services to judge? (If Permitted)

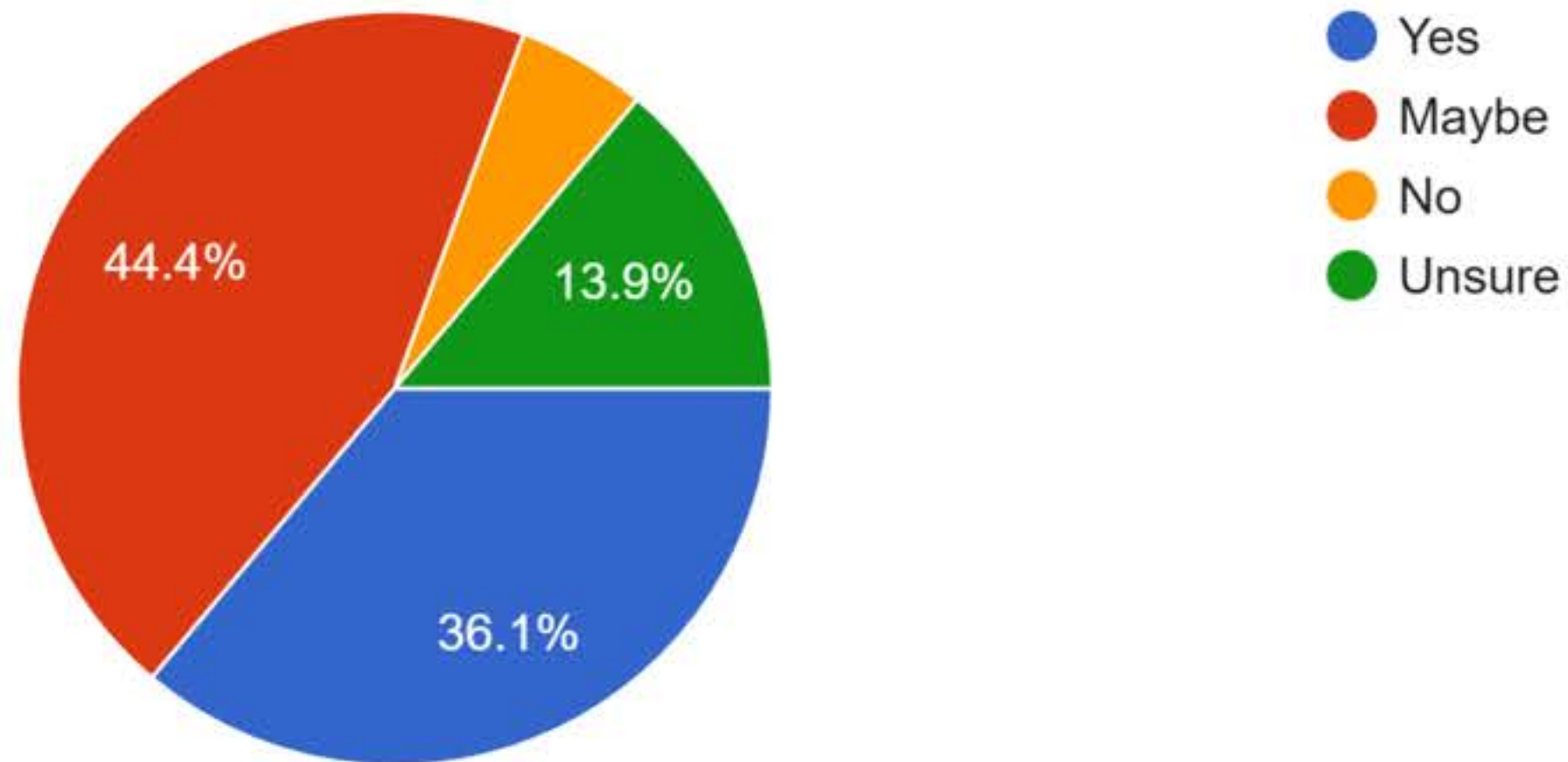
37 responses



# Judges Extra Support

Would you like to see more support for Judges, Such as feedback sessions, Chat Groups, Continued mentoring, Zoom or Teams meetings, etc...

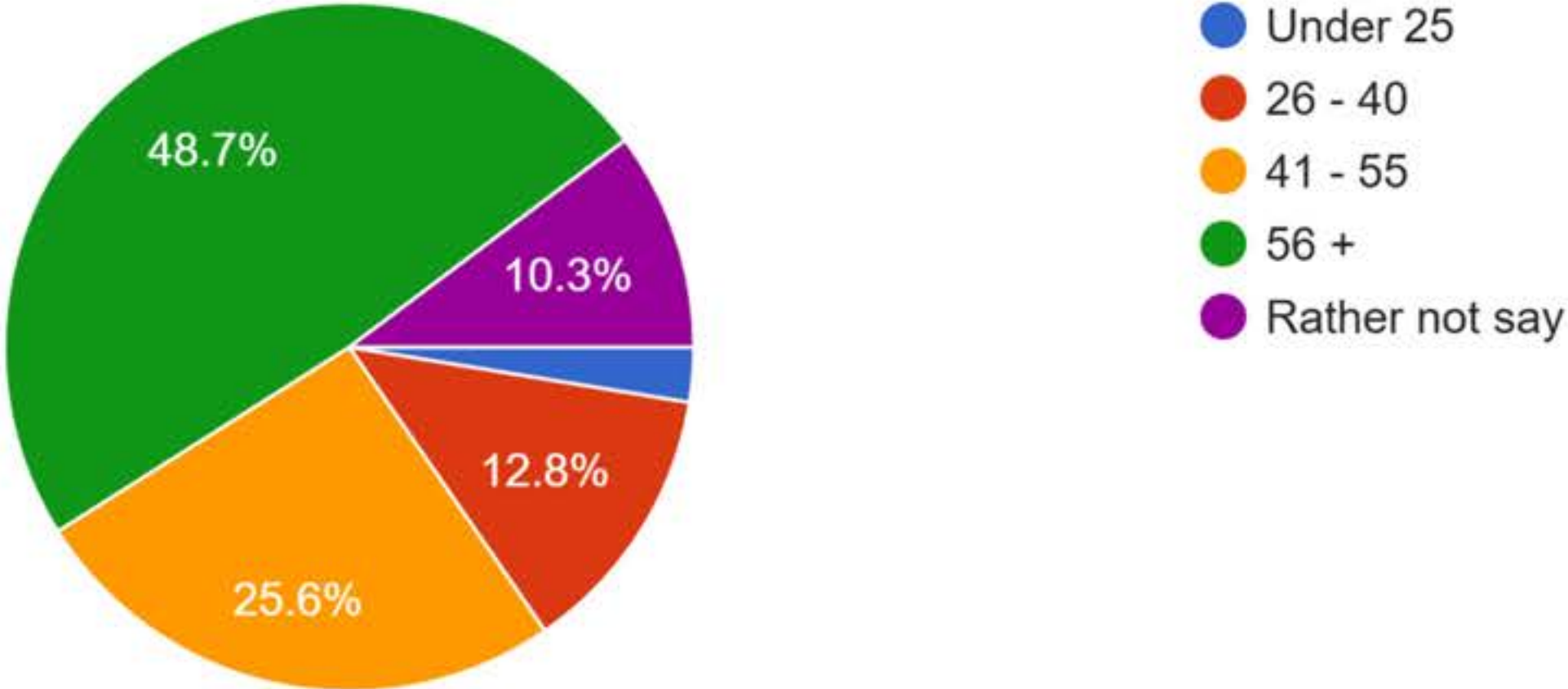
36 responses



# Judges Age Ranges

Which age group do you belong to?

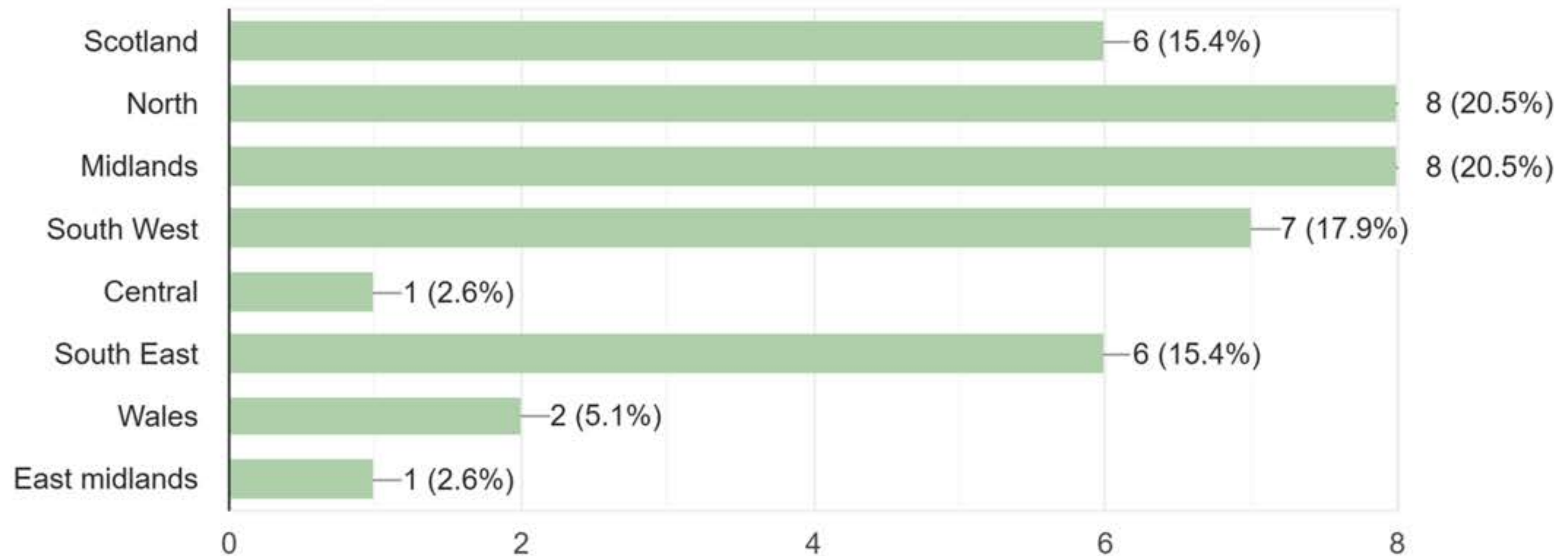
39 responses



# Judges Locations

What regional area are you from?

39 responses



# **Competing And Judging** Comments

**Yes.... Most show management make this possible by not having me judge class before i compete etc**

**Yes, nothing shows are quite accommodating**

**When I did a lot of judging, I did compete on those days as well.**

**Class sizes are small compared to other k9 disciplines so it's not a problem**

**Yes. The current consideration of allowing enough time between my judging duties and prep time/wind down time for my dog is enough for me, thanks.**

**Yes, it works well at the moment**

**I've only judged once (Nov HTM)**

**Yes, enough time between judging and competing to allow time to prepare for both roles**

**Yes. I usually find show organisers very considerate and place my running orders accordingly.**

**Usually fine as running orders arranged to give warm-up time.**

**Yes. Classes being spread out**

**Yes, don't normally have any problems to do both**

**It is manageable now I have one dog**

**Yes. Pretty easy to do both.**

**Sensible running orders if judging classes are immediately before or after competition classes.**

**Yes. Nothing more could be done as show sect takes that into account**

**Making sure there is a class between judging and competing or being out at the end of the class if judging the class before**

# **Future Judging Concerns** Comments

**I am concerned by the split between the North and South and the control games that appear to be being played out. I want to support the clubs and the sport but am not happy to support the Kennel Club and the shenanigans it is allowing to happen.**

**Don't have many shows in Scotland or the north (following the appointment of the new LC)**

**I'm old. And no longer willing to do loads of travelling to shows. I have given a lot to different dog sports over the years ...judging, organising fun shows & workshops or participating in demos & displays and I feel I've earned the time to concentrate on my own dogs and life.**

**Concerned on my own anxiety and ability**

**No Scottish shows**

**I want to judge, but need to get out of starters first.**

**Having a really long day if asked to judge the last class of the day**

**Would love to judge but I struggle with understanding who can do the judges training now.**

**I begun to try to organise one for Wales but no one is near us at all. So it seemed a huge ask for anyone to come over.**

**It would be great to have the option of doing the training remotely and in two parts after work rather than all day on a Saturday or Sunday. Or even doing the first part of it as an online course. Teachable courses are so good now that a lot of the discussion could be recorded rather than presented live. And then people could do it at their own pace and revisit it later on.**

**I have retired due to ill health.**

**I took a break from judging this year out of choice . Lack of KC shows within easy reach so I will probably focus on fun shows and video dogs**

**I have done my time! I deserve a break**

# Judging Suggestions

**True representation of people who do the sport to the KC - and also the KC showing competency and transparency in its role within the sport**

**A nice thank you gift, free camping, nice people.**

**Opportunities to judge in Scotland and north of England are far fewer than they were**

**Someone sat with me talking it through as it happens**

**Scottish shows**

**Mentors near to me**

**I think it would be great to have judges ongoing professional development outside of the current Rules and regulations seminar and perhaps an active online group/Zoom sessions - to share ideas, interesting topics, sharing personal experiences and for standardisation of scores and the judging process etc. Also perhaps would be helpful to be more familiar with the European criteria/perspective.**

**Having judges training local to me, and perhaps not all over 1 weekend, the judge trainer being supportive and encouraging.**

**Sitting with a judge at a show and understanding how they are marking the elements x I'd accept them with the terms as is. Free entry would be a good enough incentive for me to accept judging appointments.**

**Nothing - but I will continue to go to judges training seminars and take relevant exams**

# Comments

**I am concerned that Social Media is being relied upon to collect information - it is not reliable in terms of ensuring full coverage of people.**

**The KC should have a list of all judges since we have to complete the examination in order to qualify to judge - it should therefore be possible to have a list of judges who ought to be contacted for consultation.**

**It would not surprise me at all to know that the KC cannot do this despite being the gate keeper to judging. In terms of approaching Show Secretaries to offer to judge, when I began to judge I understood it was an honour to be asked to judge and therefore you thought carefully about how you did it.**

**If judging becomes self-appointed (as much in the world of the KC seems to be) it seems to me that it de-values the role and leaves the sport open to poor standards.**

**The mentoring system is personality driven - mentors stamp their individual interpretation of the R&Rs on their mentees. And interpretations can differ vastly between mentors. Moreover, there are not enough mentors to go around geographically. Plus, the more active and visible you are in HTM, the more often you are asked to judge. You're at the shows and available.**

**It seems Scotland was added after the form was produced and after someone commented (an after thought?).**

**Opportunities for judges seminars and exams will be harder for the same reason there will be less shows in Scotland and north of England. Luckily I've been in the sport a long time and do travel but it's sad to have lost so many shows within easier travelling distance**

# Comments

**Extension of the mentoring scheme to support existing judges**

**How to find out more about preparing to judge in future**

**HTM is a small sport and it is essential that judges can also compete. Although I have taken part in a practical judging seminar I think more of these would be beneficial for the sport.**

**Competitors need to be reminded that they shouldn't impugn a judge's decision**

**Not confident to start judging until I am more experienced and knowledgeable. Plus it concerns me that there is such a wide discrepancy in scoring .Eg I completed my best routine under one judge and received a non qualifying score,then completed a poor routine and got a high score and first place .I feel that. This needs addressing ,but not sure how because it is such an individual interpretation..Not a criticism merely an observation x**

# Comments

**Judges CPD would be great. We have a great CPD options for judging for olthe scent work organisation NNA so happy to let you know more about that if it ever helps.**

**Who knew Show Seminars are a thing?**

**I'd like to see judges limiting themselves so that competitors don't get the same judges for the same classes repeatedly month after month. Advanced judges need to consider greater nuance in the routines and not rely on counting number of steps in a heelwork position (for example).**

**I have shared my comments on the survey with LC chair .**

**Looking at schedules it's often the same judges just rotating around classes, it's easier for show secretaries to ask these known judges so new judges don't get asked so much**

**Judges should attend practical seminars as part of their qualifications. As an Accredited Trainer I find these seminars are far more beneficial than the rules and regs one. Good luck with it all, you are doing a good job**

**It would be nice to see a bigger variety of judges at shows. I have judged A LOT this year!**