



THE KENNEL CLUB

AHWSG MEETING OVERVIEW

Martin Tait representing the ALC attended the AHWSG meeting and although the formal minutes have yet to be released noted the following.

The meeting was extremely interesting and highlighted again how much behind the scenes work The Kennel Club upholds to ensure the welfare of Canines in the UK. Many items were covered across various disciplines and 1 topic on agility and 2 which was general across all disciplines a rough outline is below. It is noted that the COVID 19 Pandemic has had a significant impact on research projects.

The Seesaw, no further progress made.

Fitness/Heart rate recovery, again no progress due to Covid19 however, it was noted that once the viability of the parameters of the study have been established then we should look to expand to cover as wide a range of breeds/grades as possible.

Heat related illness, a lot of discussion ensued following this report and several comments and further development was suggested, the difference in body temp and the effects on the dog in different scenarios I.e. the raised body temp of a dog in work against the forced increase of body from being left in a contained space.

Finally I asked if we had any further research in warm up routines and specifically if having a warm up jump would prevent injury (this was from an injury prevention viewpoint rather than increasing performance. This was added to the list of ongoing research.

Agility related items

Fitness/heart rate recovery

The Sub-Group noted an update from Dr Wills on progress on a potential research project at Hartpury University. Due to Covid-19 related restrictions, students had not been able to undertake research requiring experimental data collection. However Hartpury University is currently advertising potential project ideas to students for 2021 so it is hoped there may be uptake of the above project.

See-saw

The Sub-Group had previously agreed that Dr Doyle and Dr Wills would liaise to progress research on absorption of forces on the see-saw, which would be suitable for a student at Hartpury. Similar comments apply as for the fitness/heart rate recovery research in respect of the difficulties of experimental data collection.

Martin Tait