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31 May 2024

Mr J Eggleton Chief Executive Dogs Victoria Locked Bag K9 CRANBOURNE VIC 3977

By email: jeggleton@dogsvictoria.org.au

Dear Mr Eggleton

Request to Change Conformation Point System

At our Border Collie Club of Victoria (BCCV) meeting on 11 April 2024 it was resolved that the BCCV send a letter to Dogs Victoria asking that the conformation point system be reviewed and that the American system, or similar, be considered in place of the current system.

This request has arisen as there has been a lot of discussion recently on social media and amongst show people (both new and old) about the declining number of entries in dog shows. One idea that constantly comes up that could assist with numbers is to change our challenge point system to one similar to overseas, ie where champions compete against each other, the best of the untitled dogs (from normal classes Minor through to Open) gets points and they then compete against the best champion for Best of Breed.

We believe that a change in the point system would encourage more people back to the showring as people will feel they have a chance of getting some points instead of competing week in week out against well publicised supreme and grand champions with little chance of beating them. Supreme/ Grand Champions are entitled to continue to compete especially as a lot are titled at a young age and a new system will give other quality dogs a chance of titling.

Other dog sports are thriving at the moment and that is partly due to the fact they hold regular reviews of their titles and how they are achieved so are constantly improving for the betterment of their sport yet the showring has not seen a change for many years.

We would appreciate if Management Committee (or the appropriate subcommittee) could consider our request and if supportive forward it on to the ANKC for consideration with the possibility of a twelve month trial to see it is feasible long term. We recognise that a lot of work

and thought would have to go into changing the system but we need to start somewhere and do something as numbers are going to continue to decline.

Yours sincerely

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Claire Stipic Secretary

cc: Management Committee