



## **NOTES FROM THE ACTIVITIES HEALTH & WELFARE SUB GROUP (AHWSG)** **MEETING HELD ON 15 APRIL 2021**

The Dog Health Group at its meeting on 22 October supported the sub group's recommendation for publication of a statement in order to draw the attention of the dog owning community to the sub groups work.

It was released on 14 April 2021 and if you haven't already seen it you can use the following link:

[www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media-centre/2021/april/statement-from-the-activities-health-and-welfare-sub-group/](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media-centre/2021/april/statement-from-the-activities-health-and-welfare-sub-group/)

There was a discussion around heart rate recovery of dogs competing in various disciplines. I thought it would be of interest to the Obedience Liaison Council to consider the topic of heart rate recovery as it may be interesting to carry out research into heart rate levels in dogs preparing to compete in obedience, with particular reference to physical and mental stress.

It was highlighted that there was considerable variability in anticipation levels in dogs prior to competing, some remaining calm and some becoming highly excited.

It was likely that the degree of excitability would be dependent on the experience levels of both the dog, and the handler.

The Council is requested to consider whether it would support such research, and if so, to provide details as to its potential benefits.

It is hoped that the Health Symposium planned for later this year will be made available on line, as the cost of travel, overnight stay etc may prevent some interested individuals from attending.

In the current list of existing issues of opportunities for investigation, 'Colour Recognition in Dogs' is still on the list. I thought if this research / investigation goes ahead it would be of interest to the OLC from the point of view of send away markers, retrieve articles etc.

Date of next meeting: 16 September 2021 via Microsoft Teams The Dog Health

Group meeting dates are as follows:-

16 June 2021

20 October 2021

Carole Patrick  
Obedience Liaison Council  
Member for Scotland