



ALC Equipment Panel Report – January 2023

Remit:

The Equipment Panel acts as an advisory group on matters related to agility equipment. It will:

- Review any new equipment for Kennel Club approval prior to use
- Review any modifications of design or materials for equipment currently in use for Kennel Club approval prior to introduction of modified design
- Review currently approved equipment to ensure specifications are still relevant in today's agility arena
- Consider concerns raised by the agility community in relation to equipment
- Monitor equipment issues raised in incident books
- Hold discussions with equipment manufacturers
- Report to the Council at meetings

Electronic Contacts

At the ALC meeting in January 2022, Mr Cavill raised a discussion item surrounding the use of electronic contacts at KC licensed competitions. In summary, there was unanimous support for the use of these but only following a pilot study being carried out to gather more data surrounding their reliability which would then be presented to the council.

An initial plan has been drafted about how such research study would take place, and individuals that have the capacity to facilitate this have been contacted to continue discussions. Tentatively, the panel would like to have gained some research that can be reviewed by the July 2023 meeting.

Review of current equipment manufacturers

The panel continues to work with The Kennel Club to review any equipment flagged that competitors do not feel meets the current specification or is not 'fit for purpose'. There are some reviews that still require follow up and more information will be reported back at the next meeting in July.

This process reinforces the need for competitors to make use of the incident book at events, or retrospective reporting of issues to The Kennel Club within 14 days post event. Multiple reports of the same concerns have then been passed onto the equipment panel to follow up and we thank competitors and The Kennel Club for their support of this process to ensure the equipment we use at competitions is as it should be.

Neil Ellis

Interim Chair

ALC Equipment Panel