

Top Tips: Completion of Mentoring Form

Please see examples below of what could be discussed during a mentoring session linked to each section. This is not an exhaustive list – mentors should always ensure references to correct type, conformation and movement are linked to the [KC Breed Standard for the Italian Greyhound](#).

Which exhibits catch the Mentee's eye initially and why?	<i>Ask the Mentee to describe what they see in the exhibits in the ring – to include merits/demerits. Discuss dog(s) that catch their eye and ask them to explain why.</i>
Breed type, proportions, and size	<i>Discuss breed type and what sets them apart from other retriever breeds. E.g. – Shape (topline and underline), head, strength of bone, proportions, and coat. Essentially discussing the General Appearance. Link size to functionality.</i>
Heads	<i>Discuss what is typical. E.g. - ear size and shape, eye colour, proportions of skull to muzzle, shape of muzzle/skull. Also ask Mentee to identify what would be considered untypical.</i>
Construction and movement	<i>Discuss the concept of balance in angulation, proportions and how it all contributes to 'smooth, free and effortless movement'. Correct feet/pasterns will contribute, discuss convergence and how this is different to 'close' movement going/coming.</i>
Coat and colour	<i>Discuss coat colours. It would be beneficial for the Mentor to source 2-3 different dogs with varying coat types/quality to allow the Mentee to feel the differences in texture and density. Mentors should emphasise the importance of the texture, density, and condition over the aesthetic appearance.</i>
The differences between a puppy and adult	<i>Discuss what Mentee would expect to see in a puppy compared to adult, link to growth and development stages in how exhibits look stacked and on the move from all angles.</i>
Mentee's placings	<i>Select 2 or 3 classes and ask the Mentee how they would place the dogs and to explain their reasons. This does not have to correlate with the judge on the day, it is more about providing appropriate justification and identifying their ability to select correct type, construction and movement.</i>

Breed-specific way of evaluating the breed	<i>An opportunity to allow the Mentee to go-over a dog to ensure they know how to correctly assess exhibits and ask them for their thoughts on the dog. Ensure they assess coat and identify this as a breed feature.</i>
Mentor comments: <i>Please include constructive comments to enable the Mentee to identify learning points:</i>	<i>Include comments on how the session went and if you, as the Mentor, feel that the Mentee understands the breed. Include any additional areas of learning you feel the Mentee should develop prior to undertaking anymore formal mentoring sessions. E.g. – gaining more hands-on experience or discussing the breed with experienced specialists/non-specialists.</i> <i>It is important that Mentors provide honest but constructive feedback to Mentees and remember this is a developmental process.</i>
Mentee comments: <i>Are there any points you wish to cover at a future mentoring session which the BEC can inform the next Mentor of:</i>	<i>Please ensure candidates identify points they wish to cover in further detail during future mentoring sessions, this will help with the structuring of future sessions to ensure gaps in knowledge are sufficiently covered. Mentees should also feel able to provide constructive feedback on how they felt the session went and if there are any elements they felt could be improved.</i>

NOTE - All Mentor/Mentee comments should be discussed openly at the end of the session to ensure all feedback is agreed and points for development are clearly identified. Mentees will need to ensure their level of understanding is high to be able to successfully work through their future Mentoring sessions, Observation and Level 4 Assessment to maximise their chances of passing.

Should you have any questions regarding the completion of mentoring forms or how to structure a mentoring session, please contact the BEC using the contact details below.

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