

End of Season Roundup 2019

Dear All,

Here we are at the start of another new year and as usual here is a round up of last years' activities. I seem to be getting later with this EOSR but it's useful to wait until after the January Exam Board meeting so I can tell you who the new Board members are. We only had one nominee this year so if you know any Master Beekeepers who might be interested please encourage them – nominations are due in September.

Many thanks for all your hard work and nice emails which I don't always have time to answer in kind but they are appreciated.

Happy New Beekeeping Year. Regards Val

General Items

Sarah continues to take on more of the exam administration so is an additional port of call if you have any queries. Her contact details are at the end.

Watch out for the revised Procedure Manual which will be published on the website shortly.

A reminder for Local Exam Secretaries to check Basic Applications for additional support needs – these need to be addressed at the local level but please contact me or Sarah if you have any queries. Also if a candidate is re-taking an assessment please make sure you use a different assessor.

Board focus for 2020

Show Judge Assessment – clarifying and improving the process.
Module updates for 2021 – updating and rather than all the history being in module 8 moving it into individual modules as appropriate.

Please let me know by email if you have any suggestions for these areas

Syllabus changes

All the current syllabi now have **Applicable from January 2020** on the first page. These will be updated again in October. Any changes to criteria will be in bold.

Changes:

Basic Certificate: A distinction level will be introduced from 2020.

Candidates achieving 90% or more will get a Distinction, those getting 75%-90% will get a Credit and 50%-75% is still a pass.

Microscopy Certificate: there have been significant changes to this assessment which was last reviewed in 2015.

- The task of making a pollen slide from a pollen load has been introduced.
- References to brood diseases have been removed.
- The task of calibrating a microscope is now discussion only.

Show Judge Certificate: The entry requirement for 6 stewarding experiences has been reduced to 4 experiences. For the assessment the stewarding experience has been increased from 4 to 6 experiences. So the total is still 10. Also the wording has been clarified.

Questions and answers

Q: Can a video diary be acceptable for the junior assessment?

A: Yes it is acceptable - maximum 20 minutes and must do a diary and a project – one video will not cover both parts of the assessment

Q: Can I assess Basic candidates if they have attended a one day course?

A: If the breadth of the syllabus is covered for one day or more then you cannot assess them for 12 months.

Examination Dates 2020

ALL MODULE Examinations

March– 21st March 2020

(Applications in by 10th February 2020)

ALL MODULE Examinations

November– 14th November 2020

(Applications in by 30th September 2020)

Future module dates

2021 March 20th November 13th

Advanced Certificate in Beekeeping Husbandry
29/30/31 May and 12/13/14 June 2020 depending on numbers (Applications in by 28th February 2020)

General Certificate in Beekeeping Husbandry date by arrangement through the Examinations Board Secretary (Applications in by 28th February 2020)

Microscopy Certificate

21/22 November 2020 other dates as required

(Applications in by 31st August 2020)

BEE HEALTH CERTIFICATE

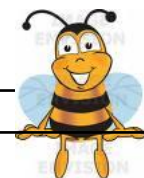
By arrangement with the Local Examinations Secretary (Applications in by 28th February 2020 last date for Assessment 31st July)

BEE BREEDING CERTIFICATE

Date by arrangement through the Examinations Board Secretary (Applications in by 28th February 2020)

Basic and Junior Certificate date by arrangement with the County Examinations Secretary

(Applications 1 month before assessment last date for Basic Assessment 31st August)



Fees in 2020 - four changes

EXAMINATION/ASSESSMENT	FEE
JUNIOR	£5
BASIC	£20
MODULES	£30 each
BEE HEALTH	£40
BEE BREEDING	£80
GENERAL HUSBANDRY CERTIFICATE	£80
ADVANCED HUSBANDRY CERTIFICATE	£120
SHOW JUDGE	£40
MICROSCOPY	£60
CORRESPONDENCE COURSES	£60 each

The 7 elected Exam Board members are

Marin Anastasov (Chair)
Julie Coleman **Helen Hughes – new member**
Shirley Bond Celia Perry
Lynne Ingram Stuart Roberts

The Moderators are:

Head Moderator: John Hendrie
Assistant Mods: Margaret Murdin and Sean Stephenson

Please let Sarah know if you change your address or contact details.

Website:

- There is now a sample answer scheme for Module 3.
- Watch out for a 'latest news' box on the Exams and Assessments page which we will be adding to advertise any changes.

This interesting list shows the top 5 Areas for members with the Basic Assessment

Area	% of members
TWICKENHAM & THAMES VALLEY	57%
BORNEMOUTH & DISTRICT	44%
SHROPSHIRE NORTH	44%
MEDWAY	43%
SURREY	42%

The % of current members with the Basic Certificate is 23%

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATION RESULTS
Module Results November 2018

Module	Number of Candidates	Pass	Credit	Distinction	Fail	Pass Rate
1	61	21	3		37	39%
2	44	15	16	11	2	95%
3	35	16	7	4	8	77%
5	23	4	8	8	3	87%
6	18	8	5		5	72%
7	16	4	9	1	2	88%
8	9	2	4	1	2	78%
Total	206	70	52	25	59	71%

Module Results March 2019

Module	Number of candidates	Pass	Credit	Distinction	Fail	Pass Rate
1	100	32	29	17	22	78%
2	44	9	20	9	6	86%
3	63	29	14	12	8	87%
5	15	7	2	1	5	67%
6	46	12	19	5	10	78%
7	25	10	10	1	4	84%
8	23	5	8	6	4	83%
Total	316	104	102	51	59	81%

Practical Assessment Results 2019(2018)

2019(2018)	Applied	Assessed	Pass	Credit	Pass rate
Junior Certificate	41(31)	37(22)	37(22)		100%(100%)
Basic Certificate	802(718)	741(648)	222(212)	497(424)	97%(98%)
Bee Health	87(52)	73(42)	66(40)		90%(95%)
Bee Breeding	1(-)	(1)-	1(-)		100%(-)
General Husbandry	54(45)	34(30)	26(17)		76%(57%)
Advanced Husbandry	19(26)	16(25)	8(17)		50%(68%)
Microscopy (to date)	7(14)	7(13)	6 (12)		86%(%)
Show Judge (to date)	0(1)	- (1)	- (1)		-(100%)

Q: What do you get if you cross a bee with a door bell? A: A hum dinger!

My email address val.francis@bbka.org.uk Telephone: 01226 286341

Also Sarah Snelson in BBKA Head Office can help with your enquiries:sarah.snelson@bbka.org.uk Tel :.02476 696679 extension 2003

Unofficial Dates – no change here

Now don't hold me to these, but if all goes to plan these are some more dates you might find useful:

Invigilator payments: voucher with exam packs

March Module results to candidates: 3rd week in May
November Module results: 2nd week in January

March Module results in BBKA News: July
November results in BBKA News: March

Practical results: Basic and Junior up to 2 weeks, all others may take up to 6 weeks.

Module Certificates to Area Secretaries: End of January and 3rd week in June.

Basic Assessor List Updated: 3rd week in May

Practical Certificates to Area Secretaries: 1st week October

Assessor expenses paid: End of October

This is what we will aim for in 2020.

Changes to the module exam process:

In November we included, in the exam pack, an exam card for each candidate. Exam ID's are no longer pre-written on the exam papers. Instead the candidate is asked to write their number (as provided on the card) on every page. The new system was a big success and a more secure process.

Other Certificates Awarded 2019(2018)

Intermediate Theory Certs 49(40)
Advanced Theory Certs 26(21)
Master Beekeepers 6(19)