



CALLING ALL MENTORS!!

I have become increasingly aware that we, as mentors, hold such an important and influential place in the education of our judges. Mentoring is that one on one opportunity to exchange ideas and to encourage our judges to trust us and be confident that they can voice their thoughts to us and expect a response that is non-judgemental. I was wondering how we can do more to help our upgrading lower level judges to find the exam process less stressful and to improve their chances of being successful when they sit their exams, both practical and theoretical. In the long run, we will be improving the quality of our NSW judges and increasing the depth of our own knowledge.

I have scheduled a mentor seminar on April 3rd but before I organise speakers and power point presentations I would love to hear from you. Maybe you would like a totally different approach so I would like to know:

- What your concerns may be;
- What ideas you have to improve the quality of mentoring?
- Do we need to spend more time explaining the exam process?
- For us, do you think we need some “directives” similar to those used on the tests, to help us fill out the shadow judging, sit-in and mentor forms so that they give a true picture of the candidate judge’s strengths and weaknesses?

I have designed a sheet to help you assess specific movements and to make comments relevant to that movement which may save time and show more specifically the areas in which you worked with your mentor candidate. They can then take these reports with them to the next mentor so we can build up a picture of how this candidate is progressing.

This workshop will be for all of us, not exclusively Mentors and I would really like to target your specific ideas so could you take 5 minutes to come back to me with any thoughts you might have so that I can be sure to incorporate them into our evening and make it more worthwhile for you.

Many thanks

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