

CANCELLATION OF THE KUSA CLASSIC 2021.

CONFIRMATION THAT THE KUSA FCI INTERNATIONAL (AFRICA) FCI-C.A.C.I.B.® SHOW IS GOING AHEAD

It is with sadness and disappointment that the KUSA Classic Organising Committee (KCOC) is obliged to inform the South African dog-showing fraternity that COVID-19 has prevailed once more and compelled the cancellation of the KUSA Classic 2021. After thorough research over the past few weeks, and in consultation with the sponsor, the KCOC concluded that a KUSA flagship event of the magnitude and repute contemplated by the sponsor, and expected by our exhibitors, was neither practicable, nor feasible, during these unsettled times.

The KCOC's research revealed several impediments relating to the assembly of a panel of foreign Judges (a key requirement) on South African soil at the present time, of which the following are among the most important:

- The erratic flight services from and to several foreign destinations
- The prohibition of travel to South Africa imposed by several countries
- The prohibitive cost of fully-refundable flight tickets
- The difficulty faced by foreigners in obtaining visas to visit South Africa
- The cost of COVID-19 PCR Tests within 72 hours of travelling to South Africa
- The cost of COVID-19 PCR Tests within 72 hours of leaving South Africa (This would entail the cost of a mobile nurse conducting the nasal swabs at the dog show as well as the laboratory costs.)
- The extortionate cost of travel insurance at the present time
- The quarantine imposed by several countries on their returning citizens
- The general uncertainty in the travel industry and the potential cost implications associated with flight cancellations, positive COVID tests, etc.

The actual and potential costs of hosting a panel of foreign Judges in South Africa at this time, even if they were to be found somewhere in the world, would not only decimate the available KUSA Classic budget, but is likely to leave KUSA with a massive deficit once the additional Show expenses have been met. Obviously, the KCOC cannot expose KUSA to such serious financial risk.

In order not to deprive exhibitors of the dispensation granted by the FCI to certain of its Sections, including the Asia, Africa & Oceania Section, of which South Africa is part, whereby International Championship may be attained under local Judges, the KUSA FCI International (Africa) International FCI-C.A.C.I.B.® Show will go ahead over the weekend of 25 & 26 September 2021 under a panel of distinguished local Judges. A Show Schedule will be published as soon as possible and the KCOC appeals to exhibitors to support this Show and avail themselves of the opportunity to accumulate credits for their dogs towards International Championship under this generous concession.

Although the cancellation of the KUSA Classic cluster of Breed Shows may come as a disappointment to many, the KCOC assures our exhibitors that the decision was taken in the best interests and safety of all concerned and with due regard for the financial security of KUSA.

Please note: The Dog Dancing Competitions on Friday, 24 September and Saturday, 25 September 2021, are unaffected. The KUSA Nationals for Dog Dancing on the 24th, and the Championship Show for Dog Dancing on the 25th, will go ahead as scheduled.