



## **EBKA AGM on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

### **Exam Officer Report**

#### **Module Exams**

In 2022 three people took module exams and all were successful. 2 people passed Module 2 and the other Module 6. Simon Nicholson achieved a distinction in Module 2 and received the Ted Hooper award and £50. In completing Module 6, Stephanie Green gained the Intermediate Theory Certificate. These modules were all completed in March 2022 and certificates were presented at conference.

There were no candidates for the exam session in November 2022.

Two candidates are set to take Module exams on March 18<sup>th</sup> 2023. One candidate is taking module 1 online, the other Module 7 in-person. The vast majority of module exams (80%) are now being completed online.

#### **Basic Assessments**

In 2022, 19 beekeepers took their basic assessments and all of them passed. Six people passed with Distinction and were given a Miss Avey Award and £50. Ten people passed with credit. Certificates were awarded at Conference in November. The majority of recipients did not attend so their certificates were sent on to them.

Members gaining their Basic came from the following divisions: Braintree-1; Chelmsford-2; Colchester-5; Harlow-1; Epping Forrest-3; Romford-2; Saffron Walden-5

#### **Bee Health and Husbandry**

There were no applicants for these assessments in 2022

#### **EBKA awards**

This is a reminder that in the autumn of 2021 the CEC agreed new awards to recognise examination achievement. Fifty pounds will be given to anyone achieving a distinction in the Basic. New awards were set up for those taking higher assessments in which it is only possible to pass or fail. An award of £80 for a pass in the General Husbandry and £100 for a pass in the Advanced Husbandry were agreed.

#### **BBKA changes made to the Module exam process in 2022/23**

The Examination Board has revised the refund policy for exams as publicised in BBKA news. Candidates email receipts, the application form and documents on the website have all been updated accordingly. The new policy is:

**Refund Policy:** Refunds will only be considered in the event of illness, injury of the candidate or sudden death of an immediate family member occurring within two (2) weeks prior to the Examination or Assessment. The Examination Board Secretary must be informed before the commencement of the examination or assessment and full details will be submitted to the Board Secretary within two weeks of being requested. The Board will then decide whether the Examination or Assessment fee is forfeit. This paragraph will be applied sympathetically.

**Module Syllabi:** The module syllabi have been updated in response to feedback. The revised syllabi will apply from March 2023. The 2022 syllabi and the 2023 syllabi are both available on the website. The changes are mostly fairly minor but please make sure that any study groups are aware and are using the correct syllabi.

**Written Module Exam changes:** Following the introduction, in April 2020 of online exams, the uptake of in-person examinations has fallen across the country. In light of this, in August 2022, the BBKA examinations board proposed that people would not be able to take in-person written exams in their locality after November 2022, and from 2023 would need to attend one of 3 regional centres to hand write exams. It was proposed to reduce this to one centre in 2024 (Stoneleigh), and then as of 2025 phasing out in-person written exams entirely.

Along with other divisions across the country this proposal was challenged by the EBKA at the ADM. As a result the BBKA have modified arrangements so that In-Person exams can go ahead with less than four candidates, but to ensure safeguarding, an invigilator and one other, unrelated, responsible volunteer from an area association need to be present. In addition, nearby divisions may collaborate so that candidates from more than one division may attend a location more convenient to all concerned.

Stephanie Green  
EBKA Exam Officer  
27/2/23