

## **Surrey Exam Secretary report 2021/2022**

Before I get onto the numbers, in January this year, I heard that due to candidates' successes above the basic level in 2021, BBKA awarded Surrey BKA the George Knights award which came with a small monetary award for Surrey.

This year there were candidates for the basic assessment from seven of the eight of Surrey divisions. In total 45 candidates (up 5 from last year) took and passed the basic assessment, with 11 of those candidates achieving a distinction and 25 a credit. Over 50% of those candidates came from just 2 divisions.

Special mention should be made of Kingston BKA who fielded 5 candidates for the junior assessment this year and all 5 candidates passed.

Four candidates took and passed the Honey Bee Health practical assessment. There were 2 candidates from Epsom, 1 from Guilford and 1 from Wimbledon BKA.

Two beekeepers passed the General Husbandry assessment in the Summer and as a result one of those beekeepers has now achieved the BBKA status of Qualified Beekeeper.

One beekeeper, Gareth Morgan from Wimbledon BKA, passed the Advanced Husbandry Assessment and as a result is now a Master Beekeeper.

When combining results for the November 2021 and March 2022 written modules, 21 candidates achieved a total of 27 modules passes.

When candidates have passed modules 1,2 and 3 and 1 other, they are awarded an Intermediate theory certificate; once all modules have been passed a candidate is awarded the Advanced theory certificate. As a result of successes in 2021/2022, 3 candidates were awarded the Intermediate theory certificate and 3 candidates were awarded the Advanced theory certificate.

Earlier this year the Exam Board announced that March 2023 would be the last time modules would be held in person and that after that date it would only be possible to take modules on-line. Following representations made to them I understand that they have altered this decision and will now allow 'in person' modules to be taken provided there are at least 4 candidates. In November this year, Surrey had 6 candidates who applied to take modules in person, on the day there were 4 candidates present.

As always my thanks go to Epsom division for use of their facilities in November and March for the written modules and to the many assessors not only from Surrey but beyond who give up their time and experience to assess candidates for the practical exams.

Celia Perry

December 2022