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Education – General Overview

7.1 Contacts

For further detail please contact the Education Convener of the SBA whose name is printed each month inside the front cover of *“The Scottish Beekeeper”*, and is also given later in section 11.3 of this Manual.

7.2 Introduction

The SBA Education Committee has three main aims:–

- to disseminate knowledge about bees and beekeeping.
- to actively promote beekeeping and membership of the SBA.
- to operate an examination system for those who wish to obtain qualifications in beekeeping.

7.3 Teaching

The SBA believes that it is of paramount importance to teach people about bees and their place in the environment, how to manage them profitably without causing alarm and inconvenience to the general public and how to derive pleasure and satisfaction from studying their biology and behaviour.

With this aim in mind, the SBA actively encourages Members and prospective Members to attend classes, whether or not they are interested in obtaining formal qualifications. Local Association Secretaries should be requested to organize classes at Basic Beemaster level and either teach the classes themselves or arrange for one of the numerous Expert Beemasters to take the classes for them. Where a need for more advanced classes can be identified, Members of the SBA Education Committee will be delighted to assist.

The Education Committee runs classes for the Basic and Expert Beemaster examinations, (including Modules), Honey Judge examination, Queen Rearing, Morphometry, the identification and treatment of Pests and Diseases, in Microscopy and in Candle making and the making of Wax Foundation. Please ask the Education Convener if you would like a class to be organized. Classes will be advertised in *“The Scottish Beekeeper”*.

The Annual Convention, organized at venues up and down the country, is intended to introduce prominent experts from home and abroad to lecture on topical subjects.

Touring Lecturer. Each year the SBA organizes a lecturer to speak to beekeepers in five localities throughout the country.

7.4 Promotion of Beekeeping

7.4.1 General

SBA Members actively promote beekeeping at local shows and community events, also at the major honey shows including the Royal Highland Show and the Scottish National Honey Show at Dundee. The SBA has invested in a number of wall charts, large colour photographs, and other publicity materials. Please contact the Publicity Convener for details.

7.4.2 Promotion of Beekeeping in Schools

The SBA is keen to encourage as widely as possible an interest in bees and beekeeping in children. There are a number of observation hives available for placement in schools. This scheme is administered centrally by the SBA Promotion of Beekeeping Officer.

In order for this to prosper it is essential that Local Associations also appoint their own Schools Liaison Officer whenever possible. The Officer's remit should be to establish contact with schools and encourage local beekeepers to give talks to children. The SBA Promotion of Beekeeping Officer is able to provide supportive material in the form of posters, projects and ideas. He, in turn, is keen to hear of any initiatives with schools at a local level.

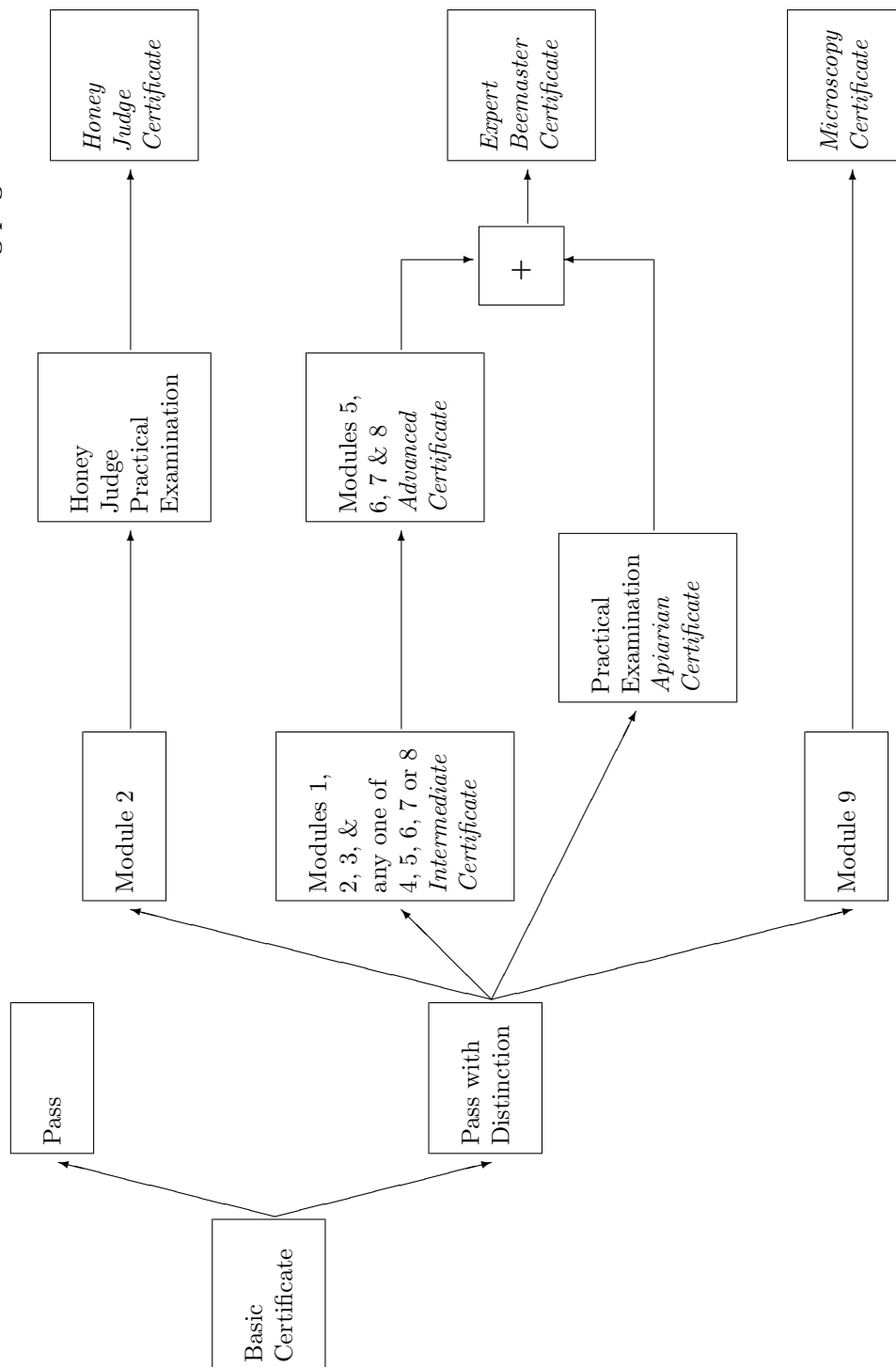
To act as a further incentive to participate in such schemes, a Schools Class has been established, at the Royal Highland Show, and is for ANY exhibit about bees or beekeeping submitted by a school and there will be a £35 book token for the winning entry and certificates for all participating schools.

7.5 Examinations

The SBA believes that studying for, and passing, the various examinations which are available to all classes of Member, is a worthwhile activity which should be encouraged. The SBA examination syllabuses have been fully revised to bring their content and standard of examination up to date and into line with those of the BBKA and to transcribe them into a much more user-friendly format than they used to have.

Examinations for all modules will be held in the month of March. Examinations for modules 1 – 8 will be held each year. Examination for module 9 will be held every second year. Information will appear in the January edition of the Scottish Beekeeper on which examinations are to be held that year.

EXAMINATION STRUCTURE FOR SCOTLAND
 Please also refer to the notes on the following page



7.6 Examination Structure for Scotland

Notes

Candidates who gain the Scottish Advanced Certificate AND the Scottish Apiarian (Practical) Certificate will automatically be awarded the Scottish Expert Beemaster Certificate.

It should be noted that candidates are no longer required to be in possession of the Expert Beemaster Certificate before taking their Scottish Honey Judge Certificate.

7.6.1 Module Titles

Module 1	Honeybee Management
Module 2	Honeybee Products and Forage
Module 3	Honeybee Diseases, Pests and Poisoning
Module 4	Intermediate Honeybee Biology
Module 5	Honeybee Biology
Module 6	Honeybee Behaviour
Module 7	Selection and Breeding of Honeybees
Module 8	Honeybee Management and History
Module 9	Microscopy

The Scottish Intermediate Certificate will be awarded when Modules 1, 2, 3 and any one of modules 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 have been passed.

The Scottish Advanced Certificate will be awarded when Modules 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 have been passed. In order to qualify for the Scottish Advanced Certificate the necessary modules must be passed in a time of not more than ten years.

7.6.2 SYLLABUS BOOKLETS AVAILABLE

1. Basic Beemaster Certificate.
2. Intermediate, Advanced and Expert Beemaster Certificates.
3. Apiarian Certificate.
4. Honey Judge Certificate.
5. Microscopy Certificate.

As reference material associated with this Manual each Local Association should hold two sets of the examination syllabus booklets, from which photocopies can be made. Further copies of the booklets can be obtained from the Education Convener at a cost of £1 per booklet or £3 per set.

A further booklet entitled, "*Guidelines for Honey Judges and Show Committees*" is available from the Education Convener at a cost of £1.

7.6.3 EXAMINATION FEES

Basic Beemaster	£10
Modules 1–8	£10 each
Apiarian	£20
Honey Judge	£20
Microscopy (Module 9)	£20