



JUDGES PANEL

There are three broad categories namely:- A) RIDDEN, B) HARNESS AND C) BREED

A) and B) RIDDEN AND HARNESS

The judges in these categories should have the experience to undertake the task. They need not be members of the WP&CS. However, in their C.V they should produce evidence that they are members of an appropriate society or group, such as the Carriage Driving Society, are on that society's full judges list or probationary judges list and have the necessary experience and qualities to perform their duties to the benefit of our Society. In brief, they know what they are doing, their opinion earns respect and they are polite.

Where conformation against breed standards is required to be considered (this might apply to the Victorian All Welsh) then a Breed judge would be appointed in addition if the ridden or driving judge is not qualified. This is an acceptable practice.

C) BREED: Basic qualification to be considered for eligibility.

- 1) Is a member in their own right of the WP&CS of A or a Welsh Pony & Cob Society affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society in Wales for a period of at least five years.
- 2) Currently on the judges panel of a Welsh Pony and Cob Society as defined in (1) above
- 3) Has been a member of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia or a Welsh Pony and Cob Society affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society in Wales for a period of not less than five years and is currently not debarred from membership of that Society

Applicants under 1) and 3)

Before acceptance on to the list, the applicant should make an application supported by two panel judges and where appropriate their RPG Sub Committee. The application would include a C.V outlining a list of shows judged or stewarded, ponies shown and owned, showing results and other judging panel appointments.

Before attending an assessment day the applicant must have attended two Judges' Seminars conducted by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc., four shows as a probationary judge with an approved judge, officiating.

When the application has been approved by the COM the applicant will be invited to attend an assessment day where they will judge a class of at least four ponies of one section gender and age group (eg stallions). Their judgement, both placement and reason, will be assessed by a team, (at least two not more than three) of JUDGES ASSESSORS who will report back to the COM on the suitability of the applicant for consideration by the COM for possible inclusion on the judges list.

After due consideration the applicant may be included on the judges full list or a probationary judges list.

Inclusion on the full judge's list is on condition that the applicant:

- a) Attends a judges seminar organised by the WP&CS of A at least once every two years.
- b) Upholds the aims and objectives of the Society

Inclusion as a probationary judge is seen as a category to encourage younger members of the Society. They would undertake to attend at least two judges' seminars organised by the WP&CS of Australia and at least four (4) shows with a full judge and with the agreement of the show organisers and keep a record of their participation. The judge whom they accompany will report on their ability, demeanour etc to the COM. After providing evidence of attendance at four shows the application will be reviewed along with the Judges reports and a decision made regarding their inclusion on the full judge's list or a further period on the probationary list.



GUIDELINES FOR THE JUDGES ASSESSMENT

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT WILL ORGANISE ASSESSMENT DAYS AS REQUIRED

OBJECTIVE

- a) To improve the overall standard of judging of Welsh Ponies and Cobs
- b) To encourage members (less experienced) of the Society to become judges.
- c) To apply a rudimentary quality control system to the selection and training of judges.

PROCEDURE FOR INCLUSION OF MEMBERS ON THE IN HAND PANEL OF JUDGES

1. Applicants must have been members of the society for the past 5 consecutive years.
2. Applicants must be a member in their own right at the time of application, membership only supports 1 panel judge per membership (therefore if 2 persons of a joint membership both intend to become judges, an additional membership will be required to be taken out).
3. Applicants to be 21 years of age or over at the time of application.
4. Prior to applying, applicants must have attended 2 approved WP&CS judges' seminars in the preceding 2 years.
5. Applicants will be required to apply in writing to the Society's Office on the appropriate form, by the 30th June each year, to be assessed in the following year.
6. Once the applicant has been approved for assessment, they must undertake 4 probationary judging positions prior to being assessed:
 - The applicant is responsible for contacting panel judges & show societies to arrange probationary judging positions.
 - One stewarding position at an All Welsh Show, Welsh in hand classes will be acceptable as probationary judging.
 - The applicant is responsible for ensuring that the panel judge has the appropriate forms to complete & submit to the office.
7. The WP&CS will contact applicants to advise of assessment days.
8. On the assessment day applicants are to ensure that they are dressed as for a judging appointment & that they have studied the handbook prior to attending, paying special attention to any regulation changes that may have been notified through the Society's Action magazine since the issue of their handbook.
9. Four animals from 2 of A, B, C or D sections will be required to be assessed.
10. Animals are to be shown & judged as per the in hand showing workout.
11. Once all ponies have been judged, all applicants leave the judging arena & return one at a time to discuss their reasons for placings etc. with the assessors.
12. Assessors also take this opportunity to question the applicants & will assess:
 - a. Their judging procedure
 - b. Class placings
 - c. Knowledge of conformation & movement
 - d. Knowledge of breed characteristics & type
 - e. Personal presentation & demeanour
 - f. Knowledge of regulations

Evaluation will be rated as follows:

- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

To pass the assessment, applicants must attain a minimum of 5 Very Good or Good assessments in the above categories as assessed by both assessors..

13. Once the assessment process is completed, the assessors complete their report recommending either acceptance to the judges panel or areas requiring further knowledge & reassessment. The WP&CS will contact the applicants to advise of their assessment outcome.
14. All Panel judges must attend a WP&CS Approved Judges seminar every 2 years to remain on the panel.



NATIONAL YOUNG JUDGES COMPETITION

Committee of Management approved Regulations 07/04/08

1. The Judge must be on the Welsh Pony & Cob Society's Judges' Panel.
2. The Judge should have good communication skills with young people.
3. Show programs must state that the winner of the state competition has qualified at the State competition and is not necessarily a State resident. Winner can only compete at one state competition.
4. Competitors are to be 10 years & under 25 years of age at time of State competition.
5. Two groups of 4 ponies from the same Section and gender (not stallions) are to be judged by the competitors.
6. The UK Young Farmers calculator is to be used as a objective measure in conjunction with the subjective interviews.
7. Competitors are to write their placing's prior to interview.
8. Competitors will individually attend an assessment where they will be interviewed on their placing's and observations.
9. At the individual interview of competitors, another adult eg. impartial committee member, judge, steward etc to be present.
10. Competitors are not to discuss the competition until the conclusion of the event.
11. Score cards to be the same as the sample.
12. Master scoresheets used are to be the same as the sample so that the stewards can keep tally of the points scored.
13. The Competition is open to members and non-members of the Society.
14. Entry is free

WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED					
JUNIOR JUDGING PLACING CARD					
Competitor's Name:					
Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
				Max Marks	Marks Gained
Competitor's Placing of Animals				50	
Accuracy of Observation				25	
Knowledge Of The Society & The Breed				15	
Dress & Personal Presentation				10	
TOTAL				100	



NATIONAL YOUNG JUDGES COMPETITION

Procedures:

The procedures listed will be followed in the final. The same format must be followed at State and Territory qualifying competitions.

1. All animals will be identified individually. The sequence of identification will be A, B, X, Y. This identification system must be used to meet the requirements of the YFC calculator rule.
2. The Senior Steward will inform the competitors of the procedures that will be adopted.
 - a) Judges and competitors will stand in the centre of the ring.
 - b) Ponies will walk on the circle.
 - c) The steward will then stop the ponies at an appropriate position in the ring and ask each handler to trot their pony on the circle.
 - d) Ponies will be lined up in the centre of the ring in alphabetical order with ample space between each pony to allow the judge and competitors to move freely amongst the animals.
 - e) The steward will then request each pony in turn to come forward, stand up and give an individual work out.
 - f) the individual work out will see the pony walk away from the steward for approximately 20 metres turn and trot back past the steward and around the ring.
 - g) The animals will be lined up again in alphabetical order for final assessment by the Senior Judge and the competitors.
 - h) The steward will allow a realistic time for the competitors to complete their score cards and notes.
 - i) After each ring of ponies is judged the competitors will hand a copy of their placings (not their notes) to the steward.
 - j) Each competitor in turn will in a private location attend an interview with the Senior Judge in the presence of another adult and outline their reasons for the order in which they placed the animals. The animals will be identified by the judge and the competitors by the identification letter allocated to the animal.
 - k) The purpose of the interview is for the Senior Judge to assess their
Knowledge of Conformation Standards of Excellence
Knowledge of Show Regulations Management of the Show Ring
Knowledge of the Society
The Senior Judge should use a consistent questioning procedure with all competitors.
 - l) The order of interviews will be drawn by lots.

Senior Judge's Responsibilities.

- a) The Senior Judge's task is to assess the knowledge of the competitors.
- b) The Senior Judge will place the animals in his order of preference.
- c) The Senior Judge will determine the difference in the quality of the ponies before him by the allocation of a total of 12 points.
For example if there is, in the Senior Judges opinion, very little to chose between his or her first and second choice he may apply a small differential of say two points. The remaining 10 points are then allocated between second and third and fourth.
- d) The Senior Judge must use the 12 differential points wisely so that the competitors' placings can be calculated and a merit score determined.
- e) In the interview it is important that the Senior Judge uses the points system effectively so that a winner can be determined.
- f) The range of questions is similar for each competitor.

Steward's Responsibilities.

- a) Put competitors at ease.
- b) Run the ring on behalf of the Senior Judge and the competitors.
Keep the ring flowing but do not rush competitors.
- c) Thank Handlers.
- d) Collect score cards and calculate score from YFC calculator.
- e) Determining order of interview.
- f) Provide Senior Judge with each competitors placing score card.
- g) Collect interview scores.
- h) Determine score.
- i) Convey results to announcers prior to prize giving.
- j) Organise distinguished person to present trophy.
- k) Ensure trophy and sash's are to hand. Organise photographs.

Show Organiser's Responsibilities.

- a) Ensure Young Judges Kit as allocated by COM is updated & readily available on the day of competition.
- b) Notify the WP&CS Office of the National Young Judge overall winner & runner up within 14 days of the event.



PROBATIONARY JUDGES PANEL

Procedure for Probationary Judges

- The Applicant is to contact the Panel Judge & Show Society for permission to act as Probationary Judge or Steward on the day.
- The Applicant must provide the Panel Judge with the appropriate WP&CS form.
- Post probationary judging, the Panel Judge submit standard form to WP&CS reporting on Probationary Judge.

Guidelines to Judges

As a panel judge you must be willing to oversee a probationary judge during judging appointments & encourage other members to become panel judges for the WP&CS.

On the day of the Show

Ring management

- Involve the probationary judge in discussions with the steward as to how the ring is to be managed and general expectations the panel judge has of the steward.
- Explain to the probationary judge why the ring is to be managed in this way. Discuss with the probationary judge how he/she might have organised the ring any differently and why. This explanation and two-way discussion is particularly important if management of the show ring was noted in the assessment card as an area requiring significant development.
- Explain to the probationary judge that anything said in relation to any pony or exhibitor on the day must remain confidential between the panel judge and the probationary judge.

Knowledge of Show Regulations

- Be alert to any breach of the WP&CS' Show Regulations in any class. Where the panel judge notices a breach, he or she should, if circumstances and time permit, ask the probationary judge if they have noticed a breach and what it is. If this is not possible, the panel judge or steward should deal with the breach and it can be discussed afterwards with the probationary judge.
- If this area has been identified as requiring further development by the probationary judge, the panel judge should make a point of asking the probationary judge a number of questions about the Show Regulations during the course of the day.

Standard of Excellence/Conformation

- The simplest and most efficient way to approach this area is for the panel judge to judge the class, and after completion of the class, ask the probationary judge if they would have placed the animals the same way and why, or any differently, and why.
- Knowledge of both conformation and of breed standards should be obtained from the Probationary Judge.
- Place emphasis on discussing the comparative good points of the animals being discussed, rather than dwelling overly on the faults.
- Be discrete when discussing any pony, reasons for placing ponies in a certain order or any other issue related to judging any class. It is most important that discussions between the probationary judge and the panel judge are not overheard by anyone else; ideally such discussions should take place immediately after the class has left the ring, not while the class is still in the ring.

After Judging is Completed

- Have a debriefing session to discuss the probationary judge's strengths and areas where further attention needs to be paid to skills or knowledge development. This should be approached in a constructive way.
- Complete the probationary judges assessment form, make sure the panel judge completes their part of the form and then send the fully completed form to the WP&CS.

STEWARDED SUGGESTIONS



1. When invited to steward, please accept or refuse as soon as possible.
2. Stewards must be suitably dressed (smart casual), wear a hat and make sure the Judge has a coat, Drizabone etc.
3. Arrive at the Secretary's Office at least half an hour before judging commences or as advised by your invitation – meet the Judge – Collect ribbons and sashes – Are there any trophies? To be presented? By whom? When? Prize Money? Arrangements for Judge's lunch etc.
4. Discuss with the Judge how he/she wishes the Ring to be run – Walk around? Line up? Trot on? Call in what number? What workout?
5. Before start of Judging, decide with the Judge where to line up, where to work out etc., remembering the winners' line up must be left to right and facing the spectators.
6. Inform the Judge how many entries there are as each class is ready – how much time for the class – and if there is a timetable keep the Judge informed if he/she is running early or late.
7. When class is complete ask the Judge to call out 1, 2, 3 left to right – hand one ribbon at a time for the Judge to present.
8. Inform all prize winners that they must parade the Ring – 1st and 2nd to be told when Championship, Reserves and Supremes would be judged.
9. If there is a second Steward, the next class should be ready to enter the Ring at the end of the 1st class.
10. Results of each class to go to the P.A. as soon as possible.
11. Competitors are not permitted to “ask the reason why” of a Judge until the end of judging.
12. Any complaints from competitors should be referred to the Ringmaster or Chief Steward.
13. Try to resolve clashes if at all possible, by conferring with Stewards in other Rings – perhaps an animal with clashing classes could be judged 1st in one Ring and last in the other, with the help of Stewards and Judges.
14. Stewards must not stand next to the Judge – but should be on hand at all times to assist (if asked) with calling in and making sure the line up is in the order of call in.
15. The Steward must at all times control the Ring – behaviour of horse &/or handler, for safety and the comfort of other competitors.
16. The Judge's book should be signed at the end of each class (if practical) by the Judge and Steward. All books, left over ribbons etc., should be returned to the Office at the end of the day.
17. Escort the Judge to lunch, serve morning and afternoon tea (if supplied) when Judge is able to take some.
18. Remember the Steward is the servant of the Judge and the Society – the Judge must be referred to as “Mr. Judge” or “Madame Judge” whilst in the Ring and not “Tom” or “Ethel” (however well known they may be). Offer to hold the Judges hat whilst the Judge presents the ribbons.
19. Championships and Supremes should be judged with some sort of announcement before or during judging and winners should be paraded afterwards.
20. Remember your Judge may be as nervous as you – therefore it is a good idea to sort out the “workings” of the Ring before hand and then maybe “suggest” quietly to the Judge – “do you think, Sir, the ponies could stand ...?”
21. It is HARD, LONG WORK and YOU'LL HAVE A BALL.