

JUDGE'S PROTOCOL

1.0 PREAMBLE

These rules have been prepared to guide both current and future Panel Judges, Show Societies, exhibitors and the Committee as to the rights and responsibilities and standards of behaviour expected of Judges on the APSB Panel, as well as these Judges expectations of behaviour towards them whilst performing adjudicating duties in line with their position as a Panel Judge. This document is a "living" document and may be amended from time to time as the Committee sees fit.

It is regarded that the most important quality that the Judge should carry with them from their acceptance of a position on the Panel of Judges is that of integrity. It is of paramount importance that a judge, from the time of acceptance of a judging position as offered to them by a Society or Group, maintain absolute integrity at all times, and particularly when before a class, place the animal highest that they prefer on the day without fear or favour.

It is also of vital importance that Panel Judges and prospective Judges be fully aware and conversant of the standards for each breed that the Judge is entitled to adjudicate upon. Further, if there are breeds within a program that the Judge is not fully aware of, then it is that Judge's responsibility to become aware of the relevant breed standards. A Panel judge should not deviate from the breed standards as prescribed. It is also the Judge's responsibility to ensure that they have an up to date copy of the current Rules and Regulations of the Society.

A Judge must report to the Committee if any contact is made, or attempted, in breach of these Rules.

2.0 Definitions :

Committee - refers to the Victorian Branch Committee of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society

Federal Council - refers to the Federal Council of the APSB

Member - refers to financial member of the APSB

Immediate family - shall include the following: husband, wife, parent, step-parent, grandparent, child, in-laws of the same relation stated above, de facto relations, brother and sister, business partners, employers and employees.

Panel - refers to the official Panel of Judges prepared by the Australian Pony Stud Book Society, Victorian Branch

3.0 Society Procedures

- 3.1. The Committee may from time to time and at any time prepare a list of judges (here forth referred to as the Panel) and appoint persons to this Panel such persons as it sees fit, to adjudicate events of all levels at events where the objects, intents and interests of the Society are promoted and encouraged.
- 3.2. All persons who consent to be appointed to the Panel agree, as a condition of taking up their appointment, to be bound by these Rules.
- 3.3. The Committee may from time to time and at any time:
 - 3.3.1. Invite a person to the Panel: and
 - 3.3.2. Remove a person from the Panel
- 3.4. Grounds for removal of any person from the Panel shall include, but not be limited by, the following
 - 3.4.1. Under suspension from the Society, or denial of any privilege thereof, the individual will be removed automatically from the Panel.
 - 3.4.2. Failure to comply with the Society's Rules and Regulations
 - 3.4.3. Failure to comply with these Rules
 - 3.4.4. Conduct themselves in a manner that is in any respect not in the best interests of the Society.Removal under the preceding paragraphs shall be absolute, with no provision for automatic reinstatement.

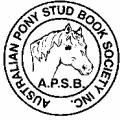


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- 3.5. The Panel of judges shall be reviewed annually (date to be decided by the Committee) or other such date as the Committee may from time to time decide.
- 3.6. A member shall cease to be a Judge if the appointment is not reviewed at the annual review, or if the appointment is terminated as referred to above.
- 3.7. A reviewed panel of Judges shall be published by the Committee annually.
- 3.8. Any Judge who shall fail in the observance of these Rules or whose conduct in any respect, shall be, in the opinion of the Committee, derogatory to the character, or prejudicial to the interests of the Society may be removed from the Panel of Judges at any time, by the Committee.
- 3.9. The Committee reserves the right to amend, add to or subtract from these Rules, provided that no such amendment, addition or subtraction from these Rules shall have a retrograde effect, nor shall be effective until published for the benefit of all members of the Society and members of the Judges Panel.

4.0 Conduct and Responsibilities of Panel Judges

- 4.1. A judge should reply promptly to an invitation to judge at a show and, having made the commitment, honour it. If the Judge is for any valid reason unable to officiate, they should inform the show secretary immediately, and make every reasonable attempt to provide a substitute Panel Judge to fulfill the position. The substitute judge must be invited with the full knowledge and to the satisfaction of the Show Society.
- 4.2. Panel judges are representing both themselves and the Society, and as such should always be punctual, and be correctly and neatly attired.
- 4.3. A Panel Judge's conduct and behaviour should be beyond reproach and the Judge must display propriety and integrity and be unbiased and fair.
- 4.4. A Judge must not accept hospitality from an exhibitor or handler in the immediate period prior to or after a show or event.
- 4.5. A judge should not exhibit within the same section they are judging, and should exercise thoughtful discretion as to whether they, or their family, exhibit ponies at the same show or event where they are judging.
- 4.6. A Judge must not refer to, or be in possession of, a catalogue of exhibits for that show or event they are to judge, either before or during judging.
- 4.7. A judge should not at any stage prior to or at the time of judging discuss an exhibit or exhibitors faults with stewards or competitors.
- 4.8. A Judge may not contact, nor discuss the ponies or proposed exhibitors, owners, handlers, or any of their associates, prior to, or during the show.
- 4.9. A judge should not adjudicate any class where any or all of the following scenarios are presented:



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- 4.9.1. Any members of their family are competing
- 4.9.2. Any individual for whom the Judge has boarded, ridden, trained (for show purposes) or agisted any animal, under the said person's ownership or lease, within a period of 6 months prior to the Show. (Stud fees excluded)
- 4.9.3. Any individual who has provided remuneration to the Judge for the board or training of any horse within a period of six months prior to the show.
- 4.9.4. Any individual who has been given tuition by a Judge within the preceding 6 months, or conversely any tutor for the said Judge until a period of six months has elapsed.
- 4.10. No horse should be shown before a Judge that has been sold or leased by that Judge, or his employer, employee or business partner, within a period of 6 months prior to the show. A horse shall be deemed to have been sold or leased when a contract of sale has been signed by both parties and the horse in question, domiciled under the control of the purchaser price and full transfer of the registration paper will not have been completed, provided that proof of intended payment or transfer has been supplied to the Society and/or Breed Society concerned.
- 4.11. A Judge should not judge a horse in which he/she has a share of ownership or from whom he/she can obtain any financial gain. (Stud fees excluded).
- 4.12. A judge must not judge an animal which they have bred.
- 4.13. A judge must not alter or modify competitors' saddlery or equipment.

5.0 Responsibilities of Show Committees - Panel Judge's reasonable expectations

- 5.1. Judges may only be accompanied in the ring by persons appointed by the Show Committee.
- 5.2. Once a class has been judged, it shall not be re-judged other than at the direction of the officiating show committee.
- 5.3. No exhibitor or their family shall approach a Judge with regard to a decision, unless he first obtains permission from the show manager or ring steward, who may arrange an appointment with the Judge at a proper place and time. A member of the Society shall remain in attendance during this meeting. The Judge may refuse such a request
- 5.4. Competitors shall, at all times, behave in a respectful manner to Judges, Show Officials and their fellow competitors.
- 5.5. Once a Judge has commenced judging a class, a pony may not be taken out of the ring without the permission of the Judge. Once a class has commenced, there shall be no change of order, except in a Championship Class when a competitor indicates that he has more than one exhibit eligible to compete. If no other rider available, the pony may be led into the ring, if permission is granted by the Judge.
- 5.6. The Judge's decision shall be considered final. A judge's decision represents an individual preference, and is not protestable, unless held to be in violation of a rule.



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- 5.7. A judge may refuse to judge any animal they consider to be unsound. The judge's decision to this regard is final.
- 5.8. A judge may require an animal to be measured, or require to view an official measurement certificate for any animal.
- 5.9. A judge may withhold any or all awards if, in their opinion, an animal or animals are not worthy of award.
- 5.10. A Judge may order any person, or horse from the competition, for bad conduct of one or both.
- 5.11. The onus shall be on the exhibitor to ensure he/she is eligible for certain classes he/she enters. However, where a judge knowingly permits an eligible competitor to compete both parties will be held in breach of the judge's rules.
- 5.12. Cruelty to horses - any alleged acts of cruelty committed by a member are to be reported to the Committee in writing, supported by at least two other witnesses.

6.0 **Protests**

- 6.1. A Judge may lodge a protest against an exhibitor alleging infringement of the Rules.
 - 6.1.1. Protest must be lodged in writing with the Show Secretary or
 - 6.1.2. Lodged in writing to the Secretary, The Australian Pony Stud Book Society, Victorian Branch.
- 6.2. An exhibitor or Show official may lodge a protest against a competitor/Judge alleging infringement of the Rules.
- 6.3. It is at the Committee's discretion that further action be taken over a protest.
- 6.4. Any person who has a protest lodged against him/her has the right of reply and defense.
- 6.5. Any expense incurred by any parties to the said protests shall be borne by the person concerned.