

# WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC JUDGES REGULATIONS

Committee of Management (COM) approved regulations August 2 2022

*It is the exhibitors' responsibility to ensure eligibility for a class, and if ineligible, the exhibitor must withdraw*

## **A three- tier structure now applies with judges advancing from Tier 3 to Tier 1 depending on judging experience and assessment.**

The aim of the new system is not to cause a competition for advancement but rather, to enable judges to receive sufficient experience and training prior to being asked to judge major shows. *Judges will be held accountable should they accept appointments they are not eligible to judge according to their Tier status.*

### Tier 3 judges are eligible to judge:

- Welsh & Part Welsh classes at non WPCS of A events and non-medal award shows.
- Futurity events at any show with at least one Tier 1 judge.

### Tier 2 judges are eligible to judge:

- Led Welsh & Part Welsh classes at WPCS of A & non-WPCS of A events excluding State All Welsh Shows, National Show, Royal Shows and Overseas shows.
- Bronze medal events.
- Futurity events at any show.
- Ridden & harness classes at WPCS of A events providing they are approved to judge these events.

### Tier 1 judges are eligible to judge:

- Led Welsh & Part Welsh classes at all shows in Australia and Overseas.
- Gold, Silver & Bronze medal events.
- Ridden & harness classes at WPCS of A events providing they are approved to judge these events.

1. The Committee of Management may at any time appoint a List of Judges comprising such persons as it sees fit, to adjudicate events at royal, District & other shows where the objects & interests of the Society are promoted & encouraged
2. The Committee of Management may from time to time & at any time:
  - 2.1 appoint a person to the List of Judges; &
  - 2.2 remove any person from the List of Judges.
3. A person who accepts appointment to the List of Judges agrees to be bound by these Judges' regulations & by the regulations of the Society as a condition of their appointment.
4. At least once every three years, a judge must attend a Judges Seminar run under the Society's auspices. Failure to do so could lead to the judge being removed from the List of Judges.
5. The Committee of Management may at any time remove a person from the List of Judges if that person has, in the Society's opinion, not observed these regulations or the regulations of the Society or their conduct is in any respect not in the best interest of the Society.
6. A judge should reply promptly to an invitation to judge at a show &, having made the commitment, honour it. If you are, at short notice, unable to officiate, you should inform the show secretary immediately. Where possible a Judge should accept at least one Judging appointment per year.
7. Because judges are representing themselves & the Society, they should always be punctual & look their best, being correctly & neatly attired. A judge should wear a suitable hat.
8. A judge's conduct & behavior should be beyond reproach & a judge must exhibit propriety & integrity when judging events, & be unbiased & fair.
9. While conducting a ring, the safety of the competitors, spectators, stewards/marshalls must be the judge's first consideration.
10. A judge cannot judge & exhibit in the same class \*CATEGORY at the same show, with the exception of Foal Futurity, handler & Young Judges' classes.  
*\*Categories –refer to the standard All Welsh program*
11. Judges cannot judge the same section within 100kms radius within a 90-day period unless approved by the COM.

12. A judge cannot adjudicate in any class in which immediate members of his family are competing.
13. A judge cannot judge a progeny group sired by a stallion or out of a mare owned by the judge.
14. A Judge cannot judge an exhibit in hand, under saddle or in harness;
  - which he or his immediate family has bred.
  - where the judge or his immediate family have been rewarded in cash or kind for instruction\*\* in the previous 6 months.  
*\*\*excludes group instructions.*
  - owned, produced or driven by a person who they or their immediate family have or had a business partnership (excluding stud fees) within the previous 6 months. (Business partnerships include current leases, joint memberships or ownership of an animal.)
  - which they or a member of their immediate family sold to the exhibitor in the 6 months preceding the show or event.
  - which they or a member of their immediate family have had or have a financial interest in during the previous 6 months.
  - produced, ridden or driven by a person who has carried out those duties for the judge in the previous 6 months.
  - owned by an exhibitor for whom he/she has produced exhibits in the previous 6 months.
  - if there is a current lease of a horse in place between the judge & the exhibitor.
15. From the date of acceptance of an appointment, a judge must not accept hospitality from an exhibitor until after the conclusion of the event.
16. While in the marshalling area, & when entering & departing the ring, exhibits must be at no faster pace than the WALK. Once exhibitors are in the ring they must remain at the walk unless instructed otherwise.
17. **\*\*The maximum number of ridden combinations on the circle at any one time in a class must not exceed 12\*. Classes may be judged in divisions. (\*Excludes lead-rein)**
18. A fall of exhibit, rider or driver in any ridden or harness class will result in disqualification from that class the rider must remount in the ring. (Refer to harness guidelines in the event of a fall in harness classes.)
19. Once a class has been judged, it should not be re-judged.
20. A judge must not refer to a show catalogue or steward's list either before or during judging, nor can a judge be in possession of a show catalogue whilst in the ring.
21. A judge should not discuss any exhibitor's animal's faults with stewards or other competitors.
22. A judge may order any person from the ring for improper conduct or any other proper cause.
23. If the judge, steward or ringmaster considers an exhibit to be dangerous or acting in a manner that is disruptive they may request that the exhibit is removed from the ring after issuing one prior warning.
24. A judge may withhold an award if, in their opinion, no animal is worthy of the award.
25. A judge may request an exhibit to be measured.
26. A judge may refuse to judge any exhibit they consider to be unsound.
27. A judge may lodge a written complaint concerning the behavior, demeanor, dress condition & the like (in respect of the exhibitor or exhibit) to the relevant show secretary or secretary of the Society within 30 days.
28. A judge must be prepared to meet any requirements as set down from time to time by the Committee of Management.
29. Exhibits must not be subjected to unnecessary, unreasonable or un-justifiable pain, suffering or injury.
30. Where a Judge is aware the judging of an exhibit is an infringement of the rules listed above then the judge must refrain from judging that exhibit & the exhibit is to leave the ring.

31. Judges must comply with all legislative, legal requirements & Government health orders current on the day & date of the event to be eligible to judge.

### **HARNESS CLASS INCIDENT GUIDELINES**

#### **Harness – gear, vehicle fitness**

In line with the safety rules for riders, a driver who has fallen from a vehicle in a harness class is ineligible to continue in that class.

As a guideline, if there is no damage to the animal, vehicle or harness, the unit should be driven from the ring by an experienced person. \* If there is a possibility that the animal is injured or the gear &/or vehicle have been damaged, then, in the interests of safety, a judge may request that the horse/pony be unhitched from the vehicle & led from the arena.

**CLIPPING & TRIMMING:** Trimming is permissible only including the ears, throatlatch, lower jaw, jawline. Clipping of the eye area, muzzle & inside ears is discouraged.

**BODY CLIPPING:** Welsh exhibits 3 years old and under must not be body clipped for showing purposes. Welsh Exhibits 4 years and over which have been clipped for performance activities can be shown. Exhibits MUST compete in performance classes at the show to be eligible for in hand classes.

Clipping of Part Welsh is optional.

**SPURS:** only correctly fitted dummy spurs are permitted in all saddle classes, excluding children's, leading rein or first ridden classes. In dressage – spurs are allowed as per EA regulations. Spurs must be correctly fitted & any misuse or abuse will result in disqualification.

**CHILDRENS EVENTS:** dressage whips & spurs are not permitted; hacking canes/ crops are acceptable. Only snaffle bits may be used.