

Royal Agricultural Society

RAS Remit Ten - Equestrian – Judges

Name of Proposing Organisation/Association/District:

Nelson A&P Association

Contact details

Email: equestrian@richmondpark.nz
Liz Harvey (027) 434 3037

Remit

To make it public knowledge who is appointed to judge equestrian sections at a show when a schedule is open for entries.

Current Rules

Not applicable, new rule

Change

Addition of the following rule:

EEFSL 5(4) All affiliated Shows/Events must include in their schedule the names of judges appointed to adjudicate in the various sections of their show.

Rationale

It is acknowledged that Show Secretaries are under huge pressure leading up to shows. This rule will alleviate some of that pressure by removing the phone calls and emails they receive from competitors wanting to know who the judges are.

It will also mean that judges will need to be appointed prior to release of the schedule thereby reducing the workload of the Secretary in the busiest period during the weeks leading up to the show.

Rule EEFSL 7(a) lists multiple situations where a competitor is ineligible to compete under a judge. Judges must be identified in sufficient time to ensure the terms of this rule are not breached.

Even though there are 9 rules referring to judge and competitor conflict of interest, judges are often not known so there is no way of being aware of any conflict of interest until show day which causes delays and problems swapping judges between rings - keeping in mind that judges are also not permitted to judge the same sections within a 200km radius within any two

calendar month period in accordance with rule J10. Announcing Judges with the schedule will save last minute stress and problems for show organisers and will make complying with the rules much simpler for everyone.

There is considerable expense and time to prepare an animal, enter and attend a show. It is unfair to the competitor to discover after closing of entries or on the day of competition that they are unable to compete under a judge appointed in their section.

It will remove the difficult situation that arises when a judge suddenly discovers they are unable to judge an animal that is presented in their ring.

Contra

There is a possibility show organisers may think competitors won't enter if the competitor simply doesn't agree with who the judge is. On the contrary we believe it is more likely to make more people enter if they are informed, instead of potentially deciding not to enter if they don't know who is judging, which is what frequently happens now.