

## 2024: REMIT FIVE (5) – LIFE MEASURE: REMOVAL OF SHOES

NAME OF ORGANISATION	
Association / Society or District proposing Remit	Equestrian Rulebook Review Working Group Committee
PROPOSER	
Name, designation, email & phone # so you can receive any enquiries.	Working Group – any enquiries can be forwarded to RAS Head Office – <a href="mailto:enquiries@ras.org.nz">enquiries@ras.org.nz</a>
REMIT	
Outline the Remit proposal that you are putting forward.	<b>Measuring – M:</b> Provide instances where the requirement to remove shoes for a life measure are optional taking into account previous consistent measures, the height of the horse, and animal welfare.
CURRENT RULE(s)	
Rule(s) number(s) and wording of current rule(s) this remit seeks to change.	<p><b>M7 Life Measures</b></p> <p>a) A RAS Life Measure may be issued to horses/ponies eight years old and over, or upon attaining a height of 168 cm (except where otherwise described in these rules) provided they have been suitably branded and/or micro-chipped. (See M10 b) and M10 c))</p> <p>b) Measuring is to be carried out by a RAS Measuring Steward in the presence of another RAS Measuring Steward, both of whom shall sign the RAS Certificate.</p> <p>c) Applicants must produce a completed RAS Life Measure Form, completed by a practicing Veterinarian.</p> <p>d) Applicants requiring a RAS Life Measure must have the Horses/Ponies shoes removed and the hooves trimmed.</p> <p>e) The top copy of the completed Life Measure Form to be forwarded to RAS Head Office and the first carbon copy of the Life Measure Form shall be forwarded for registration to the District Secretary, immediately following issue. The second carbon copy to be filed at the Approved Measuring Stand.</p>
PROPOSED NEW RULE(s)	
Rule(s) number(s) and wording of new proposed rule(s).	<p><b>M7 Life Measures</b></p> <p>d) Applicants requiring a RAS Life Measure must have the Horses/Ponies shoes removed and the hooves trimmed, <b>UNLESS</b> the Horse/Pony has presented for three (3) consecutive annual measures from the age of eight (8) years which are within 0.5cm of each other, in which case shoes are optional; or if the Horse is over 168cm, in which case shoes are optional. If shoes are fitted, only 0.5cm allowance shall be made. No allowance shall be made for thin or worn racing plates or shoes.</p>
RATIONALE	
Outline the reason for the remit – e.g. “the current rules states 3 days. Our proposal states 2. The proposal reduces the waiting period by 1 day. Also note any circumstances or events which may have prompted this remit.	<p>If a horse/pony has measured consistently withing the 0.5cm parameter with shoes on, then there should be minimal deviation with the shoes removed and the feet trimmed.</p> <p>If a horse has attained 168cm it is already 5cm taller than the next height division down. Nothing is gained by removing shoes and trimming the feet. Feedback has been received from farriers from different areas of the country and overwhelming they agree it's not appropriate to remove shoes for measuring with the following reasons given:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Farriers often cover a very large region and set runs accordingly</p>

	<p>sometimes weeks between visits. Standard time 3 to 7 weeks before they can get back to the area.</p> <p>A horse who has been shod is likely to not cope with ridden work and many should not be ridden barefoot due to shallow soles, weak feet and other reasons if they cannot be reshod immediately.</p> <p>Taking the shoes off could also cause the horse to stand hunched thus affecting the height.</p> <p>All the farriers spoken to said they felt it was totally pointless and the fact that the same horse can get an annual measure with shoes and compete, it makes no sense to remove them for a life certificate.</p> <p>The cost and logistics involved of getting a farrier to remove shoes and then replace them. As noted above this may not be able to be completed immediately which is detrimental to the welfare of the animal.</p>
<b>CONTRA</b>	
<p><i>Outline what might be the downside or negative.</i></p>	<p>None</p>

- **REMIT IS NOT SUPPORTED by the National Measuring Convenor**