

**SHOW HORSE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALASIA  
INC.**

**COMPETITION RULES**

**FEBRUARY 2005 EDITION**

**COMPETITION RULES**

As adopted by The Show Horse Council Of Australasia Inc. (S.H.C.)

(formerly known as The Hack Council Of New South Wales Inc.)

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**1.0 APPLICATION OF THESE RULES.** Any breach of these Rules may result in DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

- 1.1 These Rules shall apply to ALL Competitions conducted by the SHC and/or an Affiliate of the SHC and/or to ANY SHC Affiliate's Member and/or his/her Horse, when competing at ANY Show.
- 1.2 These Rules shall apply in their entirety to any person who is a Competitor/Exhibitor/ Owner/Lessee/Rider/Handler/Responsible Officer/Owner's Agent/Judge and/or to any Horse that competes at any Show conducted in accordance with the SHC Competition Rules. It is the responsibility of all persons aforementioned to ensure he/she is familiar with these Rules. It is the absolute liability of those persons to participate in accordance with these Rules. Ignorance of a Rule shall not be accepted as a defence to an infringement of any Rule listed herein.
- 1.3 In accordance with these Rules, at any Show, a Horse/Rider/Handler must be eligible, at the time of competition, to compete in any class/event that such Horse/Rider/Handler is/has entered. Any Horse/Rider/Handler must not compete in any class/event if any ineligibility exists.
- 1.4 These Rules shall be read in conjunction with THE CONDITIONS OF ENTRY that apply to any Show that is recognised by the SHC. At any recognised Show, the Conditions of Entry for such Show shall be binding on any Competitor/Exhibitor and/or Exhibit.
- 1.5 Infringement of any Rule may result in the Show Horse Council imposing disciplinary action against the offender.
- 1.6
  - a) According to these Rules, where an offence is investigated and the Show Horse Council determines that there has been a breach of these Competition Rules, it may impose such disciplinary action as it considers to be appropriate, including without limitation (1) a reprimand - (2) a monetary fine (payable at such time as the Show Horse Council may determine - (3) withdrawal and/or withholding any award or prizemoney - (4) disqualification - (5) suspension and/or banning the offender from competition - (6) where an exhibit (horse) is involved in any incident where disciplinary action is imposed, such exhibit may incur a ban from entry in any Official Show Horse Council Event for such period as determined by the Show Horse Council - (7) suspension and/or termination of membership and/or privilege/s for such period as determined by the Show Horse Council, including Registrations, Transfers etc.- (8) any other penalty provided for in other Regulations of the Show Horse Council.e.g. Drug Rules.
  - b) Where disciplinary action is imposed by an Organisation where a reciprocal arrangement is agreed on, the offender will be ineligible to enter or compete in any Official Show Horse Council Competition while under such suspension and/or until any such fine is paid.
  - c) The Show Horse Council may, at its absolute discretion and at any time, recognise and act upon any penalty or disqualification imposed by any other similar Society, Organisation, or Body in Australia on any person or exhibit.
- 1.7 **Publication of Results of Disciplinary Procedures.**
  - a) The Show Horse Council may publish to (1) all Royal Show Societies in Australia, (2) the relevant Breed Society, (3) the Body with which the exhibit is registered, or is eligible for Registration, (4) The Agricultural Societies Council of N.S.W. Inc., the

result of any proceedings before the Disputes/Disciplinary Committee in which a person has been found guilty of a breach of any Show Horse Council Competition Rule, General Rule or Special Rule.

- b) The Show Horse Council shall have no liability to any person in respect of any publication referred to in paragraph a).
- c) Where the Show Horse Council has been advised in writing of a breach of Rule, found proven, and/or Penalty imposed by 1) any Royal Show Society, 2) a Breed Society, 3) a Body with which the horse is registered, (4) The Agricultural Societies Council of N.S.W. Inc., the Show Horse Council may consider and/or impose upholding of any such Penalty.

#### **1.8 Non Liability of the Show Horse Council.**

No person shall have any claim against the Show Horse Council, or member of Council, employee or agent of the Show Horse Council in respect of any act, matter or thing done in good faith during or in connection with the proceedings before the Disputes/Disciplinary Committee.

- 1.9 These Rules shall be read in conjunction with the Rules and Regulations of the Show Horse Council. The SHC reserves the right to interpret these Rules where any dispute arises.

### **2.00 ATTIRE - COSTUME.**

#### **2.1 CHILDREN UNDER 17 YEARS.**

Informal Costume - To be worn in Riding and Hack Classes where the age of the rider is restricted to under 17 years of age.

Hacking jacket – Traditional or double vented, conservative colour including black, not too much trim.

Jodhpurs (canary, fawn or banana in colour). Joddy Clips acceptable.

Jodhpur boots - (brown or black in colour).

Collared shirt with tie.

Helmet with safety Harness (meeting recognised Safety Standards).

Hair should be neat & tidy. Girls – Hair net optional.

**Optional** - Cane, Crop, Spurs, Vest, Gloves – leather or string backed. Hair Ribbons & Accessories - not too obtrusive.

#### **ADULTS 17 YEARS AND OVER - INFORMAL**

Hacking Jacket – Traditional or Double vented, conservative colour.

Not too short and not too much trim.

Breeches or Jodhpurs - canary, fawn or banana in colour.

Long boots or Jodhpur Boots - black or brown in colour.

Shirt & tie or Stock and ratcatcher shirt.

Hard Hat, Bowler, Top Hat or Helmet (meeting recognised Safety Standards).

Hair should be neat & tidy.

**Optional** - Cane, Crop, Spurs, Vest, Stock, Gloves - leather or string backed, Hair Net. Accessories - not too obtrusive.

#### **SHOW HUNTER CLASSES**

Hacking Jacket: Tweed or similar, conservative colour.

Breeches or Jodhpurs - canary, fawn or banana in colour.

Long boots or Jodhpur Boots - black or brown in colour.

Hard hat or Helmet (meeting recognised Safety Standards).

Other as per Informal.

## 2.2 **TURNOUT** – refer to Section 10 in Show Horse Council Manual.

### **Formal - Adults only (Ladies):**

A hard safety type black bowler, a lanyard is optional. A hairnet is appropriate for ladies.

A collarless white shirt with doubled cuffs with holes for cuff links, Cuff links.

White starched stock, Stock Pin, Waistcoat, preferably of woollen Tattersalls check.

The Riding Jacket should be of woollen Cavalry twill fabric, dark in colour, single vent back.

Breeches should be woollen Cavalry twill (blend or a good quality stretch fabric may be acceptable) in beige, yellow or cream colour.

Black leather top boots with garter straps. Spurs should be plain stainless steel dummy type.

Gloves: String cotton backed with leather palms; Hacking cane - plaited or plain pigskin.

Both Formal and Semi-Formal are acceptable in Gentlemen's Turnout Classes.

### **Semi-Formal - Adults only ( & Gentlemen's Turnout):**

Bowler or velvet covered Hunting cap.

Collared shirt with cuff and tie - plain tie bar and cuff links.

All remaining attire the same as required for Formal classes.

### **Children:**

Velvet Helmet with safety Harness (meeting recognised Safety Standards) in colour to blend with clothing.

Collared shirt with cuffs, preferably white or cream - plain cuff links.

Tie of a colour to blend with the clothing, attached to shirt with plain tie bar.

Waistcoat in discreet check or plain colour to match jodhpurs.

Riding Jacket of wool type tweed fabric or plain colour, not too dark and not black.

Jodhpurs should be woollen Cavalry twill, wool blend or good quality stretch fabric, beige, yellow or cream in colour.

Leather Jodhpur boots - brown or black in colour.

Gloves as for formal attire.

Hacking cane as for formal attire.

Spurs - should be stainless steel dummy type.

Jewellery should not be worn. Avoid Accessories and loud colours.

## 2.3 **JUDGES:**

2.3.1 A Judge may dress in a riding outfit (refer 2.1) or smart dress attire. When judging outdoors both ladies and gentlemen should wear a hat. A hat is optional when judging indoors.

A gentleman should also wear a coat and tie.

Attire should always be clean, tidy and appropriate for the competition being judged.

It is advisable to wear suitable shoes. Wind-cheaters, tee shirts, jeans, running shoes, thongs etc are not considered to be acceptable standards of dress.

## 2.4 **STEWARDS AND OFFICIALS.**

2.4.1 Attire should always be clean, tidy and appropriate for the competition or Show. It is advisable to wear suitable shoes and a hat for outdoor Shows.

## 3.00 **CLASSES AND AWARDS**

- 3.1 Recommended minimum Pony classes:
  - Not exceeding 12hh
  - Over 12hh and not exceeding 12.2hh
  - Over 12.2hh and not exceeding 13hh
  - Over 13hh and not exceeding 13.2hh
  - Over 13.2hh and not exceeding 14hh
- 3.2 Recommended minimum Galloway classes:
  - Over 14hh and not exceeding 14.2hh
  - Over 14.2hh and not exceeding 15hh
- 3.3 Recommended minimum Saddle Horse classes:
  - Over 15hh and not exceeding 15.2hh
  - Over 15.2hh and not exceeding 16hh
  - Over 16hh and not exceeding 16.2hh
  - Over 16.2hh
- 3.4 Recommended minimum Show Hunter Pony Classes
  - Not exceeding 12.2hh
  - Over 12.2hh and not exceeding 14.hh
- 3.5 Recommended minimum Show Hunter Galloway Classes.
  - Over 14.hh and not exceeding 14.2.hh
  - Over 14.2.hh and not exceeding 15.hh
- 3.6 Recommended minimum Show Hunter Hack Classes
  - Over 15.hh and not exceeding 16.hh
  - Over 16.hh
- 3.7 Led classes for Mares & Geldings, in each height section, are an option.
- 3.8 Classes such as NOVICE, NEWCOMER, ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE/ PRELIMINARY, LADIES, GENTS, RIDDEN BY A CHILD, AMATEUR etc. are recommended in addition to the classes stated in 3.1 to 3.6. (see Definitions)
- 3.9 A NEWCOMER hack is one that has not been shown under saddle, (racing excepted), prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in its first year of being shown. Once shown under saddle, such horse ceases to be a Newcomer on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December that same year. All horses in Newcomer classes shall be shown in a snaffle bit.
- 3.10 A MAIDEN hack is one that has not been placed in any Individual ridden hack class at any Official Show.
- 3.11 A NOVICE hack is one that has not been placed 1st in any Individual ridden hack class at any Official Show.
- 3.12 An ELEMENTARY hack is one that has not been placed 1st on more than three occasions in any Individual ridden hack classes at any Official Shows.
- 3.13 An INTERMEDIATE hack is one that has not been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Individual ridden hack class at any Royal Show, and including the R.N.A. Bathurst, Toowoomba and Launceston Royals.

- 3.14 A PRELIMINARY hack is one that has not been placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in an Open ridden Hack class at any Royal Show including the R.N.A., Bathurst, Toowoomba and Launceston Royals, or has never been the Winner or Runner Up of any State HOTY Title, or has never been the Winner of any HOTY Intermediate or Preliminary Title.
- 3.15 A horse will carry its performance for LIFE regardless of whether it changes its height division. This clause applies to Rules 3.9, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12, 3.13 and 3.14.
- 3.16 It is recommended that where the number of entrants permit, a minimum 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> placings are awarded in a class.
- 3.17 The Champion will be selected from the 1st place winners from each of the eligible classes. Under no circumstances shall a Judge award equal Champions.
- 3.18. The Reserve Champion will be selected from the remaining 1st place winners and the 2nd placegetter/s from the class/s which supplied the Champion.
- 3.19. Supreme Champion will be according to the Show's schedule.
- 3.20. A Judge officiating at an Official Show is under no obligation to award 1st, 2nd or 3rd place (any placing) if he considers such placing not up to standard.
- 3.21 Judges officiating at Official Shows are asked to avoid awarding equal placings.
- 3.22. Except where any ineligibility is officially determined, the Judge's decision is final. A Judge's decision representing his/her individual preference cannot be protested against.
- 3.23 All classes, including Champion, in one division/section should be judged by the same Judge. Where more than 1 Judge come together to judge, at least one should have judged the winner/s that compete for Champion.

#### **4.0 – COMPETITOR/EXHIBITOR PROTOCOL.**

- 4.1 a) It is the Competitor's/Exhibitor's responsibility to ensure eligibility for a class.
- b) Where any ineligibility to compete may occur, the Competitor/Exhibitor (not the Judge) should withdraw from the class/event.
- 4.2 A Competitor/Exhibitor/Owner, should not compete under any Judge where a breach of these Rules may occur. It is the responsibility of the Competitor/Exhibitor to ascertain who is the Judge of any class/event he/she intends to compete in. Where a conflict may occur, the onus, in the first instance, is on the Competitor/Exhibitor to abide by the Rules and withdraw from competition. In the second instance, a Judge should not knowingly judge an ineligible entrant. Ignorance will not be accepted as a defence for breach of the Rule.
- 4.3 The Competitor/Exhibitor shall produce their S.H.C. (Affiliate/Association) Membership Card, Horse Registration Certificate and/or Measuring Certificate for inspection on request of a Show Official, when entering and/or competing in any SHC recognised Show.

- 4.4 A Competitor/Exhibitor or a member of their family shall not approach a Judge with regard to a decision, unless they first obtain permission from the Ringmaster or the Ring Steward who may arrange an appointment with the Judge, at an appropriate place and time. The Judge or Official may refuse the request. A representative of the organising body shall remain present during any such discussion/meeting.
- 4.5 Once judging has commenced, a competing horse shall not be led or ridden in or out of the ring without permission of the Judge and/or Ringmaster.
- 4.6 No rider/horse can compete unofficially or non competitively.
- 4.7 Any alleged acts of cruelty are to be reported to the Show Horse Council in writing. The statement referring to the alleged cruelty should be supported by signed statements from two witnesses.
- 4.8 A Competitor/Exhibitor shall at all times behave in a proper and respectful manner to Judges, Show Officials and their fellow competitors.

#### **5.00 – COMPETITOR/EXHIBITOR/EXHIBIT ELIGIBILITY.**

- 5.1 The Competitor/Exhibitor/Exhibit is INELIGIBLE to compete if:
  - a) 1. The Competitor/Exhibitor is a family member of the Judge officiating in any event in which he/she intends to compete.
    2. The Competitor/Exhibitor is an immediate family member of the Judge officiating in hack and/or riding classes at the show where he/she intends to compete, in any Hack and or riding class (regardless of who may be judging).
  - b) The horse has been owned or leased by the Judge, or a member of his family, or his employer or employee, or business partner/partner within the last 12 months.
  - c) The Competitor/Exhibitor/Owner or his family has provided accommodation for the Judge immediately prior to or during the Show or vice versa . This Rule extends to cover a current Landlord/Tenant relationship.
  - d) Any part of the combination (horse or rider) has been given tuition by the Judge, or a member of his family or business partner/partner within the last 6 months.
  - e) The Competitor/Exhibitor has given the Judge or a member of his family tuition within the last 6 months.

Conducting of clinics, schools or assistance in Group activities such as Pony Club, shall not be considered as tutoring. Individual or Group lesson/s given in a school situation, where schools are conducted on a regular basis (within a 3 month period) with the same instructor, will be considered tutoring.
  - f) The horse has been agisted/boarded with the Judge or the Judge's employer or employee or business partner/partner within the last 6 months.

- .g) The Competitor/Exhibitor has employed or has been employed by or has been a business partner/partner of the Judge within the last 6 months.
- h) The Competitor/Exhibitor has trained a horse owned or leased by the Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partner within the last 6 months.
- i) The Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partner has shown a horse in joint names with the Competitor or a member of the Competitor's/Exhibitor's family within the last 6 months.
- j) The Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partner has ridden a horse for the Competitor/Exhibitor or a member of the Competitor's/Exhibitor's family, or the Competitor/Exhibitor or a member of the Competitor's/Exhibitor's family or business partner/partner has ridden a horse for the Judge or a member of the Judge's family within the last three 3 months
- k) The Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partner has ridden the horse in a Rider or Turnout class and/or in any competition within the last 3 months, or the Competitor/Exhibitor or a member of the Competitor's/Exhibitor's family or business partner/partner has ridden a horse owned by the Judge or the Judges family in a Rider or Turnout class and/or in any competition, within the last 3 months.

5.2 All horses competing in Official competition shall be named.

5.3 The onus is on the Competitor/Exhibitor to ensure that the Horse/Rider/Handler is eligible for any class entered and/or competed in. However, where a Judge knowingly permits an ineligible person or exhibit to compete under him, all parties (Judge, Exhibitor and Competitor) will be held in breach of the Rules.

5.4 A Horse shall be shown at the height shown on its current Measurement Certificate. Any horse not issued with a current Measurement Certificate may be required to be measured prior to competing in any Official Show.

5.5 A Horse shall be entered and shown in its full registered name. Falsification of any information on any documentation (including entry forms) supplied to the SHC shall be considered a Breach of Rules.

5.6 The Competitor/Exhibitor must not make erroneous statements regarding an exhibit.

5.7 It shall be the Competitor's/Exhibitor's responsibility to ensure the horse or rider is eligible and competes in the correct class.

5.8 Stallions shall not compete in Hack, Riding or Turnout classes. Stallions should compete in specific stallion classes. Breed classes may be exempt from this Rule.

#### **6.00 - CRUELTY, DISEASED/INJURED HORSES AND AGE OF HORSES.**

6.1 A Show Official, Ringmaster or Judge may request that any diseased/injured/lame or distressed horse be removed from the ring and/ or the ground.

6.2 Any alleged act of cruelty to a horse competing or present at a Show shall be reported

to the Ringmaster or Show Official. The Show Committee will then bring the matter to the attention of the Show Horse Council in the form of a written report. The report should be accompanied by signed statements from witnesses.

- 6.3 A hack must be at least three (3) years of age to compete in ridden classes at Official Shows.

#### **7.00 – DRUG TESTING/ DRUG AND TREATMENT RULES.**

- 7.1 It is the intention of these Rules that at any Official Show and/or SHC event, all horses shall perform, at the time of competition, without the aid of any drug/s or prohibited substance/s that affect the conduct, performance or appearance of the horse.
- 7.2 Each of the Responsible Officer, Owner and the Competitor/Exhibitor must ensure that the horse for which he/she is responsible is, at the time of Competition in any Official Show, free from any drug or prohibited substance that affect the behaviour, performance or appearance of the horse. Penalties as adopted herein shall apply to any breach of this Rule. It will not be a defence to any charge relating to the breach of this Rule that the Owner, Competitor/Exhibitor or Responsible Officer may have not known that the horse was not free from a drug or substance.
- 7.3 Where a Responsible Officer is not declared, or is not present at the Show, the Owner and the Competitor/ Exhibitor shall be considered responsible.
- 7.4 The Responsible Officer/Owner/Competitor/Exhibitor will ensure that, at the time the horse is drug tested, a suitable person will attend as a witness, to act for him/her, and to sign on his/her behalf any drug testing documents. In any absence the Responsible Officer /Owner/Competitor/Exhibitor will, in all respects, remain accountable according to these Rules.

#### **7.5 TREATMENT FORM & MEDICATION RULES**

- a) At any SHC Official Show where Drug Testing is carried out, SHC Treatment Forms are required to be lodged (as per requirements of the Show Committee) for any horse that has been administered any Medication, Drug or Prohibited Substance, within 14 days prior to and/or on the day of competition.
- b) The onus is on the Responsible Officer/Owner/Competitor/Exhibitor to determine whether a Treatment Form should be lodged for any horse he/she has entered/competed in any Official SHC Show where Drug Testing is to be carried out.
- c) The Treatment Form shall be completed IN ALL RESPECTS and lodged as the Rules of the Show specify. Any supporting Veterinary information, as required by the SHC and/or the Show's Rules, must be submitted within the time prescribed.
- d) An incomplete or incorrect Treatment Form may be rejected and if that occurs the Exhibit shall be ineligible to compete.
- e) Where a Treatment Form is lodged, the Ringmaster will advise the Exhibitor/ Responsible Officer of the Ground Jury's decision as to whether or not the horse will be permitted to competed.

- f) If the horse is permitted to compete, lodging of a Treatment Form does not release an Exhibit from being Drug Tested nor from Disciplinary Action by the SHC, should a positive result to a banned substance occur. (This rule shall particularly apply should the result of the drug test be inconsistent with the lodged Treatment Form).
- g) FAILURE TO SUBMIT A TREATMENT FORM in accordance with the Rules of a Show is a BREACH OF THESE RULES and penalty/s will apply.

7.6 The Show Horse Council may carry out random testing for drugs at any fixture at any time and may cause to be made any test of any exhibit to determine whether any stimulant or any drug has been administered to the exhibit and may detain such exhibit for such period as deemed necessary to procure samples.

- a) The collection of samples may involve the collection of urine and/or the taking of blood.
- b) Compliance with this Rule is mandatory to all exhibits when competing at Official events.
- c) Refusal to submit an exhibit for drug testing shall be deemed a breach of these Rules, resulting in disqualification and/or disciplinary action and/or penalties as determined by the Show Horse Council.

7.7 Drug testing shall be carried out in accordance with the relevant Laboratory Sample Collection Procedure Regulations or Regulations as set by The Australian Sports Commission Doping Policy.

**7.8 SET PENALTIES FOR DRUG OFFENCES.**

Advice as to what is considered a Banned Substance which would or would not affect the performance of the horse shall be sought by the Owner and/ or Responsible Officer or Exhibitor of the horse from a Veterinarian prior to the horse competing . (Refer to Appendix – Definitions).

- a) **LEVEL 1:** Use of a Banned Substance which would not affect the performance of the horse at the time of competition.

<b>LEVEL 1</b>	<b>FINE</b>	<b>PRIZE-MONEY</b>	<b>OFFICIAL POSITION</b>
1st Offence	Warning	Not affected	Not affected
2nd Offence	\$200	Loss of	Loss of
3rd Offence	\$500	Loss of	Loss of

**Further Level 1 Offence:** Proceed to Level 2, 2nd Offence.

- b) **LEVEL 2:** Use of a Banned Substance which would affect the performance of the horse at the time of competition.

<b>LEVEL 2</b>	<b>FINE</b>	<b>SUSPENSION</b>	<b>PRIZE MONEY</b>	<b>OFFICIAL POSITION</b>
1st Offence	\$500	12months	Loss of	Loss of
2nd Offence	\$1000	12months	Loss of	Loss of
3rd Offence	\$1000	24months	Loss of	Loss of

- 7.9. If an offence is proven as a result of a positive swab, the cost of drug testing and any associated costs to the Show Horse Council will be applied to the offender.
- 7.10. The Show Horse Council reserves the right to consider waiving of Penalties if special circumstances warrant.
- 7.11. Publication of Results in relation to Penalties imposed arising from Drug Testing shall be in accordance with Competition Rules 1.6 .
- 7.12. The non payment of a Fine and/or costs, as imposed by the Show Horse Council shall, at the discretion the Show Horse Council, debar the person in breach of payment and incur a review of any prior imposed Penalty/s. (A warning of such action and set date of inquiry will be given).

In addition to Drug Rules contained under Rule 7 please refer to Rule 1.6 (a) (6) which may also apply.

#### **8.00 - GROUND JURY.**

- 8.1 A Ground Jury should be appointed for all Official events. It is suggested that the Ground Jury consists of the Ringmaster, members of the organising committee and a person who knows the Competition Rules. The Judge of the section concerned may be consulted.
- 8.2 The Ground Jury reserves the right to change any Judge, programming or other as considered necessary and will adjudicate on any protest and/or dispute and will act on matters as set down in these Rules and the Rules applicable to the Show for which they are appointed.
- 8.3 Where necessary, the Ground Jury will report to the Show Horse Council.

#### **9.0 HEATS AND FINALS**

##### **NUMBER OF COMPETITORS PARADED BEFORE THE JUDGE.**

- 9.1 Where there are large numbers of entries in a class, it is necessary to judge the class in heats. The number of competitors paraded at one time should not exceed 12. For example, if there are 30 competitors in the class, the class would be judged in 3 heats of 10 competitors. The Judge would select the best from each heat, then these would be judged in the final.

#### **10.0 IMPROPER BEHAVIOUR/DISORDERLY CONDUCT AND UNRULY HORSES.**

- 10.1 Improper behaviour/disorderly conduct by either Judge, Show Official, Competitor, Exhibitor or other related person is reportable to the Show Committee. Any incident shall then be reported, in writing, within seven days, to the Show Horse Council. Incidents reported to the Show Horse Council should be accompanied by written signed reports from those involved and from witnesses where possible.
- 10.2 Any Competitor/Exhibitor who, in the opinion of the Show Horse Council, has caused annoyance by loud or unseemly comment upon the decision of a Judge, or upon any act or omission on the part of a Judge, or of any Official on duty in or about the Ring at the time of Competition, such person may be expelled from the Class & the Showground. If the Show Horse Council is satisfied that a person's behaviour has been unseemly or wilfully insulting to a Judge or Official, the person shall be considered in breach of these Rules and, as such, disciplinary action shall be imposed. Where the Show Horse Council is satisfied that improper behaviour has occurred, by the same person, on more than one occasion, such person shall be prohibited from attending any Official Show Horse Council Events for such period as the Show Horse Council may determine.
- 10.3 A Show Official, the Ringmaster and or Judge may request any unruly horse be removed from the ring and or grounds. The competition should not continue until the horse is removed as requested.
- 10.4 Incidents relating to objectionable conduct and or unseemly behaviour by:
- a) a Competitor towards a Judge, Exhibitor or Spectator
  - b) an Exhibitor towards a Judge, Competitor or Spectator
  - b) a Judge towards a Competitor, Exhibitor or Spectator
  - c) a Competitor towards a fellow Competitor
  - d) a Judge towards a fellow Judge
- arising from a competition (either before, during or after such competition) shall be reportable and may result in disciplinary action. The Show Horse Council shall only consider such incidents when it receives in writing, signed reports from those involved and from witnesses where possible.

## **11.0 JUDGE'S BEHAVIOUR AND PROTOCOL.**

- 11.1 A Judge shall not knowingly judge an ineligible exhibit.
- 11.2 A Judge shall not VISIT the horse lines, Owners or Competitors nor INSPECT or DISCUSS any horse entered in the Show prior to completion of judging at the Show.
- 11.3 The Judge's decision shall be final, except where any ineligibility is determined.
- 11.4 When a Judge is unable to fulfil a judging commitment, he shall notify the appropriate Show official as soon as possible.
- 11.5 The Judge shall not appoint a substitute Judge. Only the organising body may appoint a substitute Judge.
- 11.6 An official Show Horse Council Judge shall be reportable to the Show Horse Council for failure to:

- a) Attend a Show to which he is committed.
  - b) Adjudicate in assigned classes.
  - c) Appear on a Showground in time for the advertised commencement of his section, without a reasonable explanation.
  - d) Adhere to the Competitions Rules and S.H.C. Judges Scheme.
- 11.7 The Judge should ensure that a Steward is present during any discussions with a Competitor.
- 11.8 A Judge shall not discuss the sale, purchase or lease of any horse until the completion of the Show.
- 11.9. A Judge shall not adjudicate at two or more Shows within the same A.S.C Group boundaries within thirty (30) days unless judging different sections. Judges are strongly urged to refrain from accepting too many appointments during a show season.
- 11.10 A Judge shall at all times be polite and act in a respectful manner to Competitors, Spectators and Show Officials.
- 11.11 A Judge may direct his steward to remove any person or horse from the competition for bad conduct.
- 11.12 A Judge shall not judge at any Show where a horse owned by him or an immediate Family member/ business partner/partner is competing or taking part, Breed Classes being exempt from this Rule.
- 11.13 When a Competitor makes a request through the Steward or Ringmaster for the Judge's opinion, it is urged that the Judge give his opinion courteously and sincerely in the presence of the Ring Steward or other Show Official. A Judge should refrain from making derogatory comments.
- 11.14 There will be no fraternisation between Competitor and Judge during the Show.
- 11.15 A Judge shall not solicit judging appointments.

**12.0 ORGANISATION OF A SHOW.**

- 12.1 Prior to the Show, the Organising Committee should write to the officiating Judge/s confirming:
- a) Date of Show
  - b) Starting Time
  - c) Expenses which will be paid
  - d) Accommodation arrangements
  - e) Travel arrangements
- 12.2 Prior to the Show, the Organising Committee should forward to the Judge/s:
- a) A copy of the program
  - b) Gate passes, meal tickets
  - c) Directions to the ground

The Show Horse Council recommends that all Judges be paid out of pocket and or travelling expenses, as well as overnight accommodation where necessary. Any further remuneration is strongly discouraged as Show Societies are non-profit organisations and expenses should be kept to a minimum..

- 12.3 On the day of the Show, the Judge should be provided with at least one steward and all refreshments.

- 12.4 The Organising Committee is obliged to provide a suitable area in which events can be conducted. The area should be:
- a) Sufficiently remote from other activities to ensure riders and/or mounts are not endangered in any way, either directly or indirectly, by other activities.
  - b) A suitable environment in which a “hack” could reasonably be expected to perform.
  - c) Of sufficient dimensions to provide a reasonable work-out area for the type of event being judged.

### **13.00 PROTESTS.**

- 13.1 A protest can only be placed for alleged violations of the Rules.
- 13.2 At an Official Show, any protest should be in writing and shall be made in accordance with the procedure set down in the Show Schedule.

### **14.00 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE AND OWNERSHIP.**

- 14.1 The person/s named on the horse’s Registration Certificate is/are considered the Legal Owner/s.
- 14.2 No falsification of information, ownership or marking is permitted. Penalty/s shall apply.
- 14.3 Any defaced or altered Certificate or any Certificate containing false information shall be deemed to be invalid.
- 14.4 Where a Certificate is found to be incorrect, the matter must be reported to the Show Horse Council and the Certificate returned to the Registrar.
- 14.5 Any invalid Registration Certificate shall render the horse ineligible to compete at any Official Show.
- 14.6 Where a horse holds a National Saddle Horse Registration and such horse is leased, a Lease Document shall be submitted to the Show Horse Council **Registrar for recording**. All benefits and penalties relating to a leased horse shall be attributed to the lessee.
- 14.7 Any horse owned by a suspended member may not be transferred.
- 14.8 Registration Papers remain the property of the Show Horse Council and may be recalled on request.
- 14.9 For Show Horse Council purposes, in relation to any Application/Transfer/Lease Document relating to N.S.H. Registration, if all information and signature requirements have been provided according to the Rules, the authenticity of the Papers shall not be challenged.

### **15.00 RIDER CLASSES**

- 15.1 A Junior Rider is under 12 years of age.

At Shows conducted in accordance with the Show Horse Council Rules, the Mount of a Rider used in a Rider under Nine years Competition shall be restricted to not exceed a height of 14.0hh.

The Mount of a Rider in a Nine years and under Twelve years Competition shall be restricted to not exceed a height of 14.2hh.

- 15.2 A Senior Rider is 12 years and under 17 years of age.
- 15.3 An Adult Rider is 17 years of age and over.
- 15.4 A Novice Rider is one who has not won a 1st in an individual class at an Official Show. On attaining the age of 17 years a successful Junior may compete as a Novice Adult.
- 15.5 Judges officiating in Riding Classes should not ask riders to change horses.
- 15.6 Age eligibility is determined by the age of the Rider on the day of Competition or, in the case of a Royal/HOTY etc., on the first Competition Day of that Event/Show. See Rule 1.2

#### **16.00 SADDLERY**

- 16.1 Martingales, any kinds of gadgets (bearing, side, running, balance reins etc), any kind of boots or bandages, any form of blinkers are forbidden.
- 16.2 Whips must have a leather keeper at least 5cm long and 2cm wide and must not exceed 72cm in length, excluding the leather keeper (flap).
- 16.3 Spurs other than dummy spurs exceeding 2cm in length are not permitted.
- 16.4 Unsafe, cruel, ill-fitting or unsuitable gear or saddlery must be replaced or removed at the request of the Judge, Ringmaster or Show Official. Failure to comply with such a request will mean the horse and/or rider is ineligible to compete.
- 16.5 The use of a sheepskin (or equivalent) saddle cloth is optional. In a Turnout class, points shall not be deducted for the use of an appropriate Turnout saddle cloth.
- 16.6 A false tail is permitted in all classes including Turnout classes.

#### **17.00 - DEFINITIONS.**

- 17.1 Refer to Appendix "A" of the General Rules.

#### **APPENDIX "A" DEFINITIONS**

In all Show Horse Council General Rules, Competition Rules, Measuring Scheme Rules, any Guidelines, Minutes of Meetings etc, the following shall apply:

- AMATEUR** A person who, for the past three years, has not received any fee, sponsorship, gift or reward or be or have been in any way subsidised or reimbursed for his/her services connected in any respect whatsoever with Coaching, Training, Riding or Showing of any horse for any other person. An award or prizemoney or trophy won as a prize in an official competition shall not affect Amateur status.

- AMATEUR COMPETITION** The horse shown in an Amateur Class must be owned by the Rider who is an Amateur and/or a member of the Rider's Immediate Family, for a period of not less than three months. The horse must not have been shown, or ridden or trained by a Non-Amateur, within the previous three months.
- CLASS** Also referred to as an "Event". A combination of Classes is a Show or Competition.
- COACH** A person who instructs/teaches riding or equestrian skills. The Coach shall not necessarily receive reward for such coaching.
- COMPETITOR** a) The rider in a riding or turnout class.  
b) The person showing the horse, ie. the rider or handler of the horse during competition.
- DRUG** Is any chemical agent that affects living process (see PROHIBITED OR BANNED SUBSTANCE).
- EMPLOYEE** A person who is hired to work for another and/or for a business. This also includes a person who works for another for keep and/or wages, specifically concerned with selling, showing, preparing, training, agisting and/or procuring of horses and/or training of riders.
- EMPLOYER** A person or business who employs another. This also includes a person who employs another for keep and/or for wages, specifically concerned with the selling, showing preparing, agisting, training of horses and/or the training of riders.
- EXHIBIT** The horse competing in an event.
- EXHIBITOR** The person/s entering the horse for competition. The exhibitor will be the owner and/or lessee and/or representative/agent of the said owner or lessee.
- FAMILY** Shall include all identified in the Definition of Immediate Family plus uncle, aunt, nephew, niece and in-law.
- GALLOWAY** Refers to a horse over 14hh and not exceeding 15hh.
- HACK** Refers to a Pony, Galloway or Saddle Horse which is shown in Hack Classes or is used as a mount in Riding Classes.
- HE/HIS** Where the masculine gender appears, it includes the feminine gender.
- HORSE** Refers to a Pony, Galloway or Horse over 15hh.
- IMMEDIATE FAMILY** Spouse, brother, sister, child, parents, grand-parents, grand-children. Step, and persons living in a de-facto relationship, for the purpose of this section, shall be considered to be married. (Refer also to Definition of "Family").

- KNOWINGLY** Acquainted/aware of the truth. Informed of the facts. Where this situation exists it shall be presumed that any breach is intentional.
- LEASE** Where the possession of a horse, but not the ownership, is transferred (and recorded) to another person.
- MEDICATION** Means the administration/treatment with Drug/s or other Substance/s.
- MONTH** Means a **Calendar month**.
- Calendar month** means a period commencing at the beginning of a day of one of the 12 named months and ending:
- (a) immediately before the beginning of the corresponding day of the next named month
- or
- (b) if there is no such corresponding day, at the end of the next named month
- Named month** means “January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November or December.”
- OWNER** The owner/s is/are the person/s named as the owner/s on the horse’s Registration Certificate or ownership document.
- OWNER’S AGENT** The person officially notified (to the SHC) to represent the Owner in his/her absence.
- PARTNERSHIPS** Refers to the state or condition of being a partner and includes the following.
- A) Business Partner -
- Is where a contractual or verbal relationship exists between two or more persons associated as a principal and/or contributor of capital, in a business or a joint venture with a view to profit, benefit or other wise
- B) Partner-
- Is where a state or condition exists where two or more persons have an arrangement, association or a joint interest in any property or possession.
- This includes any venture jointly or independently relating to the owning, preparing, training, selling, agisting and or showing of horses and or the training of riders with a view to profit, benefit or otherwise. Any clause in the rules referring to a business partner shall also apply to a partner and vice versa.
- PONY** Refers to a horse 14hh and under.

**PROHIBITED OR BANNED SUBSTANCE** is any substance or drug originating externally whether or not it is endogenous to the horse including:

Drugs acting on the central nervous system  
Drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system  
Drugs acting on the cardiovascular system  
Drugs affecting the gastro-intestinal function  
Drugs affecting the immune system and its response  
Antibiotics, synthetic anti-bacterial and anti-viral drugs  
Antihistamines  
Anti-malarial and anti-parasitic agents  
Antipyretics, analgesics and anti-inflammatory drugs  
Diuretics  
Local anaesthetics  
Muscle relaxants  
Respiratory stimulants  
Sex hormones, anabolic agents and corticosteroids  
Endocrine secretions and their synthetic counterparts  
Substances affecting blood coagulation  
Cytotoxic substances  
Any substance other than a normal nutrient which by its nature affects the performance of the horse as a whole.

**REPRESENTATIVE** Is a person, not being the Owner, Lessee, Exhibitor or Responsible Officer, who is appointed by the aforementioned, to act on his/her behalf in his/her absence. Official confirmation of such appointment should be in writing, else the appointment as Representative may not be recognised.

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER** Is a person, who must be the Owner or Lessee or Exhibitor of the horse and is the person deemed responsible for the horse in respect to these Rules.

**SADDLE HORSE** Refers to a horse over 15hh.

**SALE** A horse shall be deemed to have been sold when the ownership changes to another person.

**SHOW** Also referred to as "Competition". A Show may be made up of one or more classes or events.

**SHOW HORSE COUNCIL or S.H.C.** Abbreviated term for-The Show Horse Council Of Australasia Inc.

**SINGULAR/PLURAL** Where the singular appears it also includes the plural and vice versa.

**TREATMENT** Means any treatment (administered and/or applied) with any drug/s (see Prohibited Substances) and/or other substance/s that could affect the behaviour, performance or appearance of the horse at time of Competition

**TREATMENT SHEET** Is the Official Form available from the Show Secretary or SHC Official for use by the Exhibitor/Competitor to provide full detail of any medication administered and/or applied to the Horse in the 14 day period prior to and on the day of Competition. The Form shall be completed & returned to the Show Secretary or Ringmaster for consideration by the Ground Jury as to whether the horse shall be permitted to start.

**TRAINER** A person who trains and or prepares and or procures horses for training. The trainer shall not necessarily receive reward for such training.

**TUITION** Instruction of horse or rider in a small group or individually. The trainer shall not necessarily receive reward for such tutoring.

**VESTED INTERESTS** A strong personal interest in the outcome of the judgement, usually resulting in private gain or advantage.