

Equestrian Australia Show Horse Committee – Rule Review
(For implementation 1 JANUARY 2025)

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
1. 1.1.3	EVENTS Childs/Junior Classes	Addition of new Show Horse Category	Childs/Junior classes are for riders 5 years and under 18 years on the 1 st January of each year (excluding Leading Rein). First Ridden Pony/Hunter Ponies to be ridden by a child 5 years and under 12 years of age. Small Pony/Hunter Ponies are to be ridden by a child 14 years and under. The classes are to be judged on the suitability of the horse to be ridden by a child.
1.3.1 f)	Code of Conduct for the welfare of the horse Training and Prepartion		<p>f) Sensory Hairs - Please refer to the current EA General Regulations Article 141 Protection of Horses. Horse's sensory hairs may not be clipped and/or shaven or otherwise modified in any way under penalty of elimination from the event. Individual sensory hairs may be removed by a veterinarian to prevent pain or discomfort for the Horse. Areas of hair that must be clipped, shaven or removed to allow veterinary treatment are exempt from this rule.</p> <p><i>FOR REFERENCE: EA General Regulations as of 1st January 2025:</i></p> <p>Article 141 - Protection of Horses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>In cases of a Horse's illness or injury during an Event the Ground Jury will decide, after consulting the Veterinary Delegate or Commission, whether the Horse may continue in that or subsequent Competitions.</i> <i>A Horse's sensory hairs may not be clipped and/or shaven or otherwise modified in any way nor may the hair in the auricles be removed or shortened within the rims of the auricle under penalty of elimination from the event. Individual sensory hairs may be removed by a veterinarian to prevent pain or discomfort for the Horse.</i> <i>Areas of hair that must be clipped, shaven or removed to allow veterinary treatment are exempt from this rule. Veterinary treatments are exempt from this rule.</i> <i>Horses found competing with clipped/shaven/otherwise modified sensory hairs will be eliminated from the event .</i> <i>From 1st January 2025, horses found competing with hair in the auricles removed or shortened within the rims of the auricle will be issued a recorded warning and from 1st July 2025 will be eliminated from the event.</i>

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<p>2.3.2</p> <p>2.3.2.1</p>	<p>First Ridden Show/Show Hunter Pony</p> <p>Definition</p>	<p>Addition of new Show Horse Category</p>	<p>A First Ridden Show/Show Hunter Pony is one which is suitable as the first pony for a child once able to ride without a lead rein. It must therefore still be a calm and very well mannered pony with suitable paces to give the rider confidence. Ponies not to exceed 12.2hh and the riders must be 5 years and under 12 years old. The ideal pony will have show quality and type but be safe and confidence giving; a pony that will transition from lead rein to open ridden classes. The pony must be willing and obedient to the rider's requests. Ponies must be shown in a snaffle bridle and, on the circle should only be shown at walk and trot. First Ridden Ponies are not to be cantered on the circle. The rider may carry a whip or cane of length not exceeding 75cms. No spurs allowed. Canter is permitted in the workout but should be limited and as part of a very simple workout.</p>																				
<p>3.</p> <p>3.1</p>	<p>DRESS, SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT</p> <p>Show Horse and Childs/Junior Classes – Hack, Galloway, Pony, First Ridden and Newcomer</p>	<p>Addition of new Show Horse Category</p>	<p>3. DRESS, SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT</p> <p>3.1 Show Horse and Childs/Junior Classes – Hack, Galloway, Pony, First Ridden and Newcomer</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="880 667 1973 970"> <tr> <td>Jackets & Waistcoats</td> <td>Dark coloured Riding jacket with optional vest/waistcoat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hats & Helmets</td> <td>EA Approved safety helmets MUST be worn by any person when mounted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shirts & Ties</td> <td>A collared shirt with a tie or ratcatcher shirt with or without a stock</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jodhpurs or Breeches</td> <td>Subtle colours are desirable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boots</td> <td>Must have a heel and a non-grip sole. Must be short boots for riders under 18yo in Childs and Rider classes.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spurs</td> <td>Are permitted when compliant with Rule 3.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buttonholes</td> <td>Permitted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gloves</td> <td>Permitted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whips/Canes</td> <td>Must not exceed 75cm including the tassel (excluding in work area)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jewellery, hair, makeup</td> <td>Hair should be neat, makeup and jewellery must be subtle</td> </tr> </table>	Jackets & Waistcoats	Dark coloured Riding jacket with optional vest/waistcoat	Hats & Helmets	EA Approved safety helmets MUST be worn by any person when mounted	Shirts & Ties	A collared shirt with a tie or ratcatcher shirt with or without a stock	Jodhpurs or Breeches	Subtle colours are desirable	Boots	Must have a heel and a non-grip sole. Must be short boots for riders under 18yo in Childs and Rider classes.	Spurs	Are permitted when compliant with Rule 3.12	Buttonholes	Permitted	Gloves	Permitted	Whips/Canes	Must not exceed 75cm including the tassel (excluding in work area)	Jewellery, hair, makeup	Hair should be neat, makeup and jewellery must be subtle
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<p>3.</p> <p>DRESS, SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT (Cont'd)</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>Show Hunter and Childs/Junior Classes – Hack, Galloway, Pony, First Ridden and Newcomer</p>	<p>Addition of new Show Horse Category</p>	<p>3.2 Show Hunter and Childs/Junior Classes – Hack, Galloway, Pony, First Ridden and Newcomer</p> <p>The dress code for Show Hunter classes is generally conservative and understated. Two very important factors are that everything should (a) fit the rider, and (b) be comfortable to ride in.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="884 312 1980 611"> <tr> <td>Jackets & Waistcoats</td> <td>Tweed riding Jacket with optional vest/waistcoat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hats & Helmets</td> <td>EA Approved safety helmets MUST be worn by any person when mounted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shirts & Ties</td> <td>A collared shirt with a tie or ratcatcher shirt with or without a stock</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jodhpurs or Breeches</td> <td>Subtle colours are desirable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boots</td> <td>Must have a heel and a non-grip sole. Must be short boots for riders under 18yo in Childs and Rider classes.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spurs</td> <td>Are permitted when compliant with Rule 3.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buttonholes</td> <td>Permitted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gloves</td> <td>Permitted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whips/Canes</td> <td>Must not exceed 75cm including the tassel (excluding in work area)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jewellery, hair, makeup</td> <td>Hair should be neat, makeup and jewellery must be subtle</td> </tr> </table>	Jackets & Waistcoats	Tweed riding Jacket with optional vest/waistcoat	Hats & Helmets	EA Approved safety helmets MUST be worn by any person when mounted	Shirts & Ties	A collared shirt with a tie or ratcatcher shirt with or without a stock	Jodhpurs or Breeches	Subtle colours are desirable	Boots	Must have a heel and a non-grip sole. Must be short boots for riders under 18yo in Childs and Rider classes.	Spurs	Are permitted when compliant with Rule 3.12	Buttonholes	Permitted	Gloves	Permitted	Whips/Canes	Must not exceed 75cm including the tassel (excluding in work area)	Jewellery, hair, makeup	Hair should be neat, makeup and jewellery must be subtle	
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<p>5.</p> <p>STATE HORSE OF THE YEAR AND RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS</p>	<p>Addition of new Show Horse Category</p>		<p>5.3 Show Horse, Show Hunter, First Ridden and Leading Rein Classes</p> <p>5.5.1 Childs and First Ridden Classes</p> <p>5.6 HOTY Open classes, Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior, First Ridden, Leading Rein Classes and Rider Classes Horses/Ponies must be</p> <p>5.7.1</p> <p>Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior, First Ridden and Leading Rein - If a horse has competed in a qualifying class at an EA HOTY in the current year in another State it is not eligible to compete in another EAHOTY in the same calendar year.</p> <p>5.8 International HOY Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior, First Ridden and Leading Rein</p>																				

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6.	AUSTRALASIAN SHOW HORSE AND RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS	Addition of new Show Horse Category	<p>6.6 Representative Selection</p> <p>The selection of State representatives will be the sole responsibility of the State Branch concerned and entries must be lodged by the competitor by the closing date of the event.</p>
6.6	Representative Selection		<p>The winner, runner-up and third place getter in the open show horse, open show hunter, First Ridden, Leading Rein and open rider classes and junior/child’s classes from state qualifying events will be invited to compete at the Australasian Show Horse Championships. The 4th placegetter in these classes will not be a reserve for these sections.</p>
6.11			<p>In the event that a competitor has more than one horse in a class, the rider will be permitted to ride multiple horses, however if at the request of the judges or organising committee that a "go around" is required for all classes then another rider will need to be elected. The nominated rider must adhere to the age restrictions of the class.</p>
6.11			<p>6.11</p> <p>A horse competing in the Junior/Childs, First Ridden, and/or Open Show Horse, Show Hunter and Leading Rein must be ridden by a member from the State or Territory that the horse is representing. The state in which you compete in the HOTY is the state that you must represent at the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships in that calendar year</p>
6.12	Judge Selection		<p>6.12.3</p> <p>When selecting Judges for the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships, the nominated Judge must be on the Equestrian Australia National Judges Panel and have judged at a minimum of one Horse of the Year Shows. Whilst fulfilling these appointments they should have covered a range of classes including Open Show Horse, Open Show Hunter, First Ridden, Leading Rein, Rider and Childs/ Junior classes. The judges’ experience should reflect the prestige of the event they are required to judge. A judge appointed to the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships must not have judged Show Horse/Show Hunter classes, Rider classes, Child’s classes, First Ridden, or Leading Rein classes at a State Horse of the Year, New Zealand Horse of the Year or any Australian Royal Show the current year. Nor have judged at the ASH&RC in the preceding 5 years.</p>
6.13	Workouts		<p>6.13 Workouts</p> <p>Workouts must be provided to all competitors in riding Championships, First Ridden and Leading Rein classes at least 24 hours prior to the competition.</p>

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<p>7.</p>	<p>SHOW HORSE JUDGING SYSTEM</p>	<p>The rule as it reads presently is not clear. Should a scorer be unable to attend an event at short notice, anyone not familiar with the scoring system would be unable to interpret the method of scoring as it is currently written.</p>	<p>7. SHOW HORSE JUDGING SYSTEM</p> <p>The Show Horse judging system is used for the EA Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships and the finals of the EA State Show Horse and Rider Championships. All judges should be aware of the procedure.</p> <p>The three judges must stand separately and judge with no consultation amongst them. At the conclusion of the workouts the three judges mark their first, second and third choices on a preferential judging slip scoring card and hand it to an EA Official steward. The EA Official steward will deliver the scoring card to the EA Official Scorer. The scorer then calculates tallies the preferences, giving three points for a the first preference, two points for a the second preference and one point for a the third preference. The three judges will continue to stand separately until the scorers has ve determined that there is are no equality tyied scores. The three judges must not come together until authorized by the Chief Steward.</p> <p>The horse with the highest number of points is the winner will be the horse with the highest number of points. and The runner-up will be the horse with the next highest number of points. Third place will be awarded to the horse with the next highest number of points. An exception to this rule is when any one horse is given a first preference by two judges. That horse is automatically the winner on six points, even if another horse has one first preference (3 points) and two second preferences (2 points x 2) totalling seven points. This comes about as it should always be a majority rules situation i.e., when two judges pick the same horse – it is automatically the winner.</p>
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<p>7.</p>	<p>SHOW HORSE JUDGING SYSTEM (Continued)</p>		<p>Where the allocation of points brings about a tie, the following steps must occur: If there is an equality/equal score of points by-allocated to any horses, the original preferential scores will be used in the first instance to ascertain if the tie can be broken, and a clear placing determined.</p> <p>a) Should clear placings still not be able to be determined, Individual Re-score eCard will go back to the Judges. The Scorer will record on the Re-Score card, the order of each Judge’s original preference/s (if any), of horses involved with the tie. The Judges will then be given their Individual Re-Score card and then choose the lesser preferential rankings of horses involved in the tie. Where a Judge has not given any preferences to any horses involved in their original preferences, they will be given a blank-Re-Score eCard to put their order of preferences for the tied horses. In the event of an absolute tie – Original preferences, (where 3 horses have all gained a 1st, 2nd and 3rd preference from the Judges, the Chief Steward will bring the 3 Judges together to confer and ascertain 1st, 2nd and 3rd placing.</p> <p>b) These pieces of paper-Re-Score Cards are to be retained with the original scoring sheets.</p> <p>c) If the Judges are bought together to decide, then the Chief Steward is to be present during discussions.</p> <p>d) In all National and State Title Classes, the selected 1st to 3rd placings from all three judges are calculated in accordance with the EA Show Horse Judging System to ascertain the Winner, Runner – Up and 3rd Place.</p> <p>e) Top Ten Finalist placings will be determined by following the system below: On the score card, Judge 1 will score 1st to 4th preferences, Judge 2 will score 1st to 7th preferences and Judge 3 will score 1st to 10th preferences. The scorer will use the 4th preference from Judge 1, followed by the 4th to 7th preferences of Judge 2 and finish with the remaining 4th to 10th preferences of Judge 3, until placings to 10th have been allocated. Judges will rotate through positions each class.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p align="center">SAMPLE SHOW HORSE JUDGING SLIP</p> <p align="center">EA NATIONAL SHOW HORSE & RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS OR STATE HOTY</p> <p>Judge:</p> <p>Class Number:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Exhibitor Number</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Preference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td align="center">1st</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td align="center">2nd</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td align="center">3rd</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Signed:</p> </div>	Exhibitor Number	Preference		1st		2nd		3rd
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<p>11</p> <p>11.7</p>	<p>ANNEXURE B CATEGORIES OF SHOW HORSE COMPETITION</p> <p>First Ridden</p>	<p>Addition of new Show Horse Category</p>	<p>11.7 First Ridden</p> <p>A First Ridden Show/Show Hunter Pony is one which is suitable as the first pony for a child once able to ride without a lead rein. It must therefore still be a calm and very well mannered pony with suitable paces to give the rider confidence. Ponies not to exceed 12.2hh and the riders must be 5 years and under 12 years old. The ideal pony will have show quality and type but be safe and confidence giving; a pony that will transition from lead rein to open ridden classes. The pony must be willing and obedient to the rider's requests. Ponies must be shown in a snaffle bridle and, on the circle should only be shown at walk and trot. First Ridden Ponies are not to be cantered on the circle. The rider may carry a whip or cane of length not exceeding 75cm. No spurs allowed. Cantering is permitted in the workout but should be limited and as part of a very simple workout.</p>					
<p>12</p>	<p>ANNEXURE C – Requirements to attain EA Show Horse Judge Accreditation - Table</p>	<p>Equestrian Australia (EA) has recently reviewed the Equestrian Australia’s Education Plan with Sport Integrity Australia (SIA). An outcome of this review is that it has been approved the EA board and SIA that any NEW officials entering EA Officials pathways will be required to take the ASC General Officiating Essential Skills course.</p>	<p>State Judge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a Current member of EA • Be an accredited and currently registered EA Provisional Show Horse Judge for previous 2 years or • Be an accredited State or National Judge with a recognised Show Horse society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA approved Show Horse Judge seminar in the previous year • Complete the State Judge Open Rule Book Test with a pass mark of 80% • Nominated by two EA National Show Horse Judges with written nomination • Complete ASC Community Officiating Essential Skills Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acted as an EA Provisional Judge at EA Show Horse events in the previous 4-5 years or • Be an accredited State or National Judge with a recognised Show Horse society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA Show Horse Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA 	
<p>Provisional Judge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a Current member of EA • Be at least 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA approved Show Horse Judge seminar previous year • Complete the Provisional Open Rule Book Test with a pass mark of 80% • Nominated by two EA State level or higher Judges with written nomination • Complete ASC Community Officiating Essential Skills Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of four attendances at Show Horse events as a judge, steward, or competitor previous two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA Show Horse Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA 				