

**Equestrian Australia Show Horse Committee – Mid-year Rule Review**  
**(For implementation 1 January 2022 – EA BOARD APPROVED)**  
**(22 November 2021)**

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
5. State Horse of the Year and Rider Championships	5.11 Judge Selection	Clarification of Judge Selection Requirements	<b>5.11 Judge Selection</b> Judges must be selected from the current EA Show Horse Judges list (qualified National or State) <b>and have had a minimum 2 years at State level. The randomly selected judges will be presented to the State Show Horse Committee for ratification.</b>
6. Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships	6.12 Judge Selection	Clarification of Judge Selection Requirements	<b>6.12 Judge Selection</b> All <del>State HOTY and National</del> Australasian Horse and Rider Championships judges will be selected from the EA Show Horse National Judges List and will be randomly selected by EA National Office. The randomly selected judges will be presented to the National Show Horse Committee for ratification. <del>Judges will then be selected in a random order, then allocated on a rotation basis to each state, ie. Judge 1 VIC, Judge 2 NSW until all states have their required number of judges.</del>
8. National Judges Accreditation Scheme	8.1 General 8.2 Overseas Judges 8.3 Recognition of Current Competency	Update of Pathways for Judges under Accreditation Scheme	Please see accompanying attachment <b>8. National Judges Accreditation Scheme</b>
12. ANNEXURE C – Requirements to attain EA Show Horse Judge Accreditation	12. TABLE – Requirements to attain EA Show Horse Judge Accreditation		Please see accompanying attachment <b>12. ANNEXURE C – Requirements to attain EA Show Horse Judge Accreditation</b>

## AMENDMENTS TO THE EA NATIONAL SHOW HORSE RULES (RULES) <sup>1</sup>

### Introduction

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 EA Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships were postponed until 2021 with the announced intent that all horses and riders qualifying at their 2020 State Horse of the Year Event would be eligible to compete at the rescheduled 2020 Nationals.

The EA Show Horse Committee has decided that the 2020 and 2021 Nationals will be conducted as one combined event between 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022 (**Event**). <sup>2</sup>

The Rules, as amended by these amendments, shall apply to the Event and for a period of 60 days following the last day of competition at the Event as provided for below. Thereafter, the Rules shall revert to those in place and effective as of 1 January 2021 as provided for in the “Sunset Clause”.

To make it easier to follow the amendments, the current rule appears in black type and the amendments in red type. Words that are deleted from the current rule are struck through. Where appropriate, examples are provided to illustrate how the amendment will work in a particular situation.

**The rule updates shown in red have already been approved by the EA Board, however, there have been a small number of additional updates (wording clarification) required which is shown in blue.**

### Current Rules

For the avoidance of doubt, save as amended by these Amendments or any other amendments properly made, the Rules remain in full force and effect.

### Sunset clause

These Amendments shall apply up to and including the last day of the Event. From midnight on the last day the Event these Amendments shall cease to have any continuing force or effect (save that they shall apply with respect to any Appeal Committee or Disciplinary Proceeding commenced or thereafter arising from the Event) and the National Show Horse Rules shall revert to those in place and effective as of 1 January 2021.

These Amendment were approved by the EA National Show Horse Committee on 12 April 2021. The Amendments were revised in October 2021 and approved by the EA National Show Horse Committee by email.

<sup>1</sup> EA National Show Horse Rules effective as at 1 January 2021

<sup>2</sup> The Event is being organised by the EV Show Horse Committee on behalf of the EA National Show Horse Committee pursuant to Article 106 of the EA General Regulations. The Event will be run in accordance with the EA General Regulations, the EA National Show Horse Rules and all applicable EA rules, policies and regulations.

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
<b>1. EVENTS</b>  <b>1.1 Conditions of Entry</b>	<b>1.1.3 Childs/Junior Classes</b>	As above	<b>1.1.3 Childs/Junior Classes</b>  Child/junior classes are for riders 5 years and under 18 years on 1st January in each year (excluding leading rein). The class is to be judged on the suitability of the horse to be ridden by a child. Small Ponies are to be ridden by child 14 years and under <b>as at 1 January 2021</b> .
	<b>1.1.4 Horse</b>	As above	<b>1.1.4 Horse</b>  Horses shall be shown at their current recorded height and must hold a current EA height certificate to compete at any EA event EXCEPT <b>at the Event as provided for by rule 6.2</b> <del>the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships at which horses must be shown in the height class in which they qualified at their State Horse of the Year Titles.</del> All certificates are valid for a stated period. Competitors shall carry their EA Registration Papers, Competition Licences (in states where they are issued), EA Height Certificates and EA Membership Card at all affiliated shows and make them available for inspection upon request.
<b>5. STATE HORSE OF THE YEAR AND RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>5.4 Rider of the Year Classes</b>	As above	<b>5.4 Rider of the Year Classes</b>  <del>Riders may only compete in the class for which they are eligible Age is as of 1st January in the year of the National Championships Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior Rider of the Year classes, with exception of Leading Rein (see definition).</del>  <b>Riders may only compete in the class/es at the Event for which they are eligible according to their age as at 1 January 2021 notwithstanding that they qualified at their State Horse of the Year and Rider Championship in a younger age group in 2020 or 2021. For example, a rider who qualified in the rider under 12 years class in 2020 who is aged 12 as at 1 January 2021, must compete in the class for riders 12, 13 and 14 years. A rider who was eligible to compete in the 2020 or 2021 in any of the child/junior classes but who has turned 18 by 1 January 2021 must compete in the rider 18 to 25 years class.</b>
	<b>5.5.1 Childs Classes</b>	As above	<b>5.5.1 Childs Classes</b>  The rider must be aged between 5 years and under 18 <b>as at 1 January 2021.</b> <del>years as of 1st January in the year of the National (Australian) Championships Event.</del>

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
	5.5.2 Leading Rein Classes	As above	<b>5.5.2 Leading Rein Classes</b>  Competitors are reminded that leading rein classes are a horse class. For lead rein riders turning five years - the age of 5 commences from the child's birthday. The under 8 age limit is taken as per the child's age as at 1st January 2021. <del>in the calendar year that the competition is being held.</del> Handler must be 18 years of age and over. For the Event, the age eligibility for the rider shall be the child's age as at the first day of the Event.
6. AUSTRALASIAN SHOW HORSE AND RIDER CHAMPIONSHIPS	6.2 Qualifying Class/es	As above	<b>6.2 Qualifying Class/es</b>  The class a horse qualifies for at State Championships will be the class that the horse competes in at the <del>Australasian Show Horse Championships</del> Event, regardless of changes to a height certificate, <del>save that if a horse qualified at both of its 2020 and 2021 State Championships, it shall only be eligible to compete at the Event in the same class as its 2021 qualification.</del> Example A: if a horse qualified as a galloway at a State Horse of the Year Championship in 2020 and thereafter qualified as a hack at the State's Championship in 2021 (because of a change in height measurement) the horse shall only be eligible to compete at the Event in the hack class/es for which it is qualified. Example B: if a horse qualified as a hack at its State's Championship in 2020 and thereafter qualified as a show hunter at the State's Championship in 2021, the horse shall only be eligible to compete at the Event in the show hunter class/es for which it is qualified.
	6.8		<b>6.8</b> Once a horse has qualified for the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships, the competitor must retain current relevant State membership <del>continuously up to and including the duration of the Event and the registration and</del> in that calendar year and the residency of the horse must be the same at which it qualified for the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships. Once a rider has qualified for the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships, they must retain their relevant State membership <del>continuously up to and including the duration of the Event.</del> <del>for that calendar year.</del>

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
	<b>6.9</b>		<p><b>6.9</b></p> <p>A horse will not be disqualified from representing the State in which it qualified as a result of the change of ownership or lease within the same State. If a horse is sold or leased to another state it is no longer eligible to represent the State in which it qualified. <del>Notwithstanding anything contained in rules 6.8 and 6.9, if a horse qualified at a State Championship in 2020 then changed ownership and residency to a different State and qualified at its new State's championship in 2021, the horse shall be eligible to compete at the Event for its new state.</del> Notwithstanding anything previously referred to, if a horse qualifies at a State HOTY in 2020 and is sold or leased to a person in another State, provided the requirements of Section 5 of the rules are satisfied (including current registration, membership and residency in the new State), the horse is eligible to compete at its new State's HOTY championship in 2021.</p>
	<b>6.10</b>		<p><b>6.10</b></p> <p>A horse and rider which have competed or qualified for State at an Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championship may not compete in any other State's qualifying competition in the period leading up to the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships concerned. Notwithstanding anything previously referred to, if a horse, owner/lessee and rider move to a new State, provided the requirements of Section 5 of the rules are satisfied (including current registration, membership and residency in the new State) both the horse and rider will be eligible to compete at the new State HOTY in 2021. For the avoidance of doubt, a horse and rider qualified to compete at the Event shall only be entitled to represent one State.</p>
	<b>6.11</b>		<p><b>6.11</b></p> <p>A horse competing in the Junior/Child's 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 <del>Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships in that calendar year</del> Event.</p>

## 8. NATIONAL JUDGES ACCREDITATION SCHEME

### 8.1 General

As in all equestrian sports, judges must:

- a) Be in possession and have an understanding of the EA National Show Horse Rules and Guidelines handbook and any amendments.
- b) Have an understanding of EA policies and by-laws including the EA Medication Control Policy, the EA Member Protection Policy and the EA Disciplinary By-Laws
- c) Treat requests from competitors to explain their decisions as an opportunity to assist the competitor to improve their performance.
- d) Honour a commitment to judge and if extenuating and unforeseen circumstances prevent this, advise the organising committee at the earliest opportunity.
- e) Ensure that the same conditions apply to all competitors **where they are in the control of a Judge.**
- f) Maintain the same judging standards for all competitors within a competition and at all events
- g) **Aim to Must** have a thorough knowledge **of correct training methods** and understand the requirements of the class they are judging.
- h) Be prepared to judge in prevailing weather conditions.

#### 8.1.1 Show Horse Judge Categories

**8.1.1.1** Provisional Judge – State Committee Appointed

**8.1.1.2** State Judge – State Committee Appointed

**8.1.1.3** National Judge – State Committee Endorsed- EASHC Appointed

Provisional level judges are trained judges and are not eligible to judge at EA Show Horse and Rider of the Year Shows.

**EA** State and National judges are eligible to judge at EA Show Horse and Rider of the Year Shows as outlined in 5.9. To gain accreditation as an EA Show Horse Judge, applicants must meet the accreditation requirements outlined in Annexure C.

#### 8.1.2 Maintaining Accreditation

To maintain accreditation as an EA Show Horse Judge, judges are required:

- 8.1.2.1** Remain a financial member of Equestrian Australia
- 8.1.2.2** Adhere to Official Rules and Guidelines of EA, both National and State-specific rules
- 8.1.2.3** Adhere to the EA Code of Conduct for Officials and FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse
- 8.1.2.4** Attend an accredited Official EA Show Horse Judges seminar once every three years. Seminars will cover many relevant topics such as paces, risk management, communication, role of officials, etc.,
- 8.1.2.5** Submit an EA Show Horse Judges re-accreditation form to the EA National office every third year.

The EA National Office records all upgrades on the EA Show Horse Judges list.

## **8.2 Overseas Judges**

**8.2.1** Overseas judges on a recognised Show Horse Judges panel in their country of origin, who are visiting Australia, may be accepted for judging appointments, ~~having provided sufficient evidence of experience to be endorsed by the EASHC.~~

**8.2.2** ~~However,~~ Overseas Judges visiting and judging in Australia for six months or longer, must become a member of the EA and apply to the relevant State Branch Show Horse Committee for recognition and appointment on to the EA Show Horse Judges list.

## **8.3 Recognition of Current Competency**

Judges accredited with another recognized Show Horse organisation in Australia or overseas may apply to the State Show Horse Committee for inclusion on the EA Show Horse Judges List. In order to be accepted to the EA list, judges must complete:

### **8.3.1 Evidence of previous judging**

together with ~~the endorsements~~ written nominations from ~~four~~ two EA State or National Show Horse Judges. ~~suitably qualified people within the industry.~~

### **8.3.2 Practical assessment in a Judging situation**

~~assessed by a State or National Judge appointed/approved by the State Show Horse Committee~~

### **8.3.2 Open Rule Book test**

Judges must complete the **relevant** ORBT with a pass mark of 80%

**8.3.3** Judges must have attended an accredited Official EA Show Horse Judges seminar in the previous 3 years

~~Successful completion will entitle the judge to be accepted as a State or National Level Judge, according to the recommendations of the assessing EA Judge.~~

The State Show Horse Committee will forward a copy of successful applications to the EA National Office whenever recognition is granted. Applications for National status will be sent to EASHC for

**12. TABLE – Requirements to attain EA Show Horse Judge Accreditation**

Judge Level	Initial Requirements	Theory Requirements	Practical Requirements	To Maintain Accreditation
National Judge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a Current member of EA</li> <li>• Be an accredited and currently registered EA State Show Horse Judge for previous 2 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an EA approved Show Horse Judge seminar in the previous year</li> <li>• Complete the Open Rule <b>National Judge</b> Book Test with a pass mark of 80%</li> <li>• Nominated by two EA National Judges <b>with written nomination (or state committee)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acted as an EA State Judge <b>at any EA State Show Horse and Rider Championships plus have judged at a minimum of 3 other Show Horse events including EA, SHC or Royal Shows minimum of two times at EA Show Horse events in the previous 4 years</b> over a wide range of classes including show horse and rider classes or riding classes in the preceding 5 years at a Royal Show, or EA State Horse and Rider of the Year Show</li> <li>• <b>Assisted with a positive assessment a minimum two times with two different EA National Judges in the previous two years</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an <b>EA Show Horse Officials Update</b> Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA</li> </ul>
State Judge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a Current member of EA</li> <li>• Be an accredited and currently registered EA Provisional Show Horse Judge for previous 2 years or</li> <li>• Be an accredited State <b>or National</b> Judge with a recognised <b>Show Horse</b> society</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an EA approved Show Horse Judge seminar in the previous year</li> <li>• Complete the <b>State Judge</b> Open Rule Book Test with a pass mark of 80%</li> <li>• Nominated by two EA National Show Horse Judges <b>with written nomination</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acted as an EA Provisional Judge <b>minimum of four times</b> at EA Show Horse events in the previous <b>4 5</b> years or</li> <li>Be an accredited State <b>or National</b> Judge with a recognised <b>Show Horse</b> society</li> <li>• <b>Assisted with a positive assessment a minimum two times with two different EA National Judges in the previous two years</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an <b>EA Show Horse Officials Update</b> Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA</li> </ul>



Provisional Judge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a Current member of EA</li> <li>• Be at least 18 years of age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an EA approved Show Horse Judge seminar previous year</li> <li>• Complete the <b>Provisional</b> Open Rule Book Test with a pass mark of 80%</li> <li>• Nominated by two EA State level or higher Judges <b>with written nomination</b></li> <li><b>▲Endorsements from four suitably qualified people within the industry.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of four attendances at Show Horse events as <del>an</del> <b>unofficial</b> a judge, steward, or competitor previous two years</li> <li><b>▲Assisted with a positive assessment a minimum two times two different EA State or high Judges in the previous two years</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an <b>EA Show Horse Officials Update</b> Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA</li> </ul>
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### 13. ANNEXURE D – Notes for Organising Committees

This section is designed to help the organisers of a Show horse event or competition and is also useful as a reference to ensure that nothing of importance is overlooked. Events vary from small fixtures lasting a few hours to championship events occupying two or more days. The magnitude of the secretarial and fieldwork involved will vary accordingly and organisers must use their judgment to adapt whatever is suitable.

#### General Considerations

- ☐ set a date that does not conflict with other events in the immediate area because it is a drain on judges, competitors and helpers
- ☐ select the competitions to be offered keeping in mind the size of the anticipated venue
- ☐ if an event is to be Official need to apply to the EA State Branch, some months in advance, for approval of date(s)
- ☐ form an event OC and allocate tasks to members in accordance with the experience and help available
- ☐ choose and book a suitable venue and consider the following facilities:
  - secretary – central location
  - camping canteen/catering
  - stabling and/or yards – safe – either on the grounds or locally close by for any visiting horses
  - parking for spectator vehicles and horse transport
  - scorers – quiet area
  - toilet and shower block

#### Budget

Complete a budget, which should show a profit or at least break even after expenses are met. Depending on the size of the event, some of the following may not be required:

INCOME	EXPENSES
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