



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

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
5. State Horse of the Year and Rider Championships	5.11 Judge Selection	Clarification of Judge Selection Requirements	5.11 Judge Selection Judges must be selected from the current EA Show Horse Judges list (qualified National or State) 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.
6. Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships	6.12 Judge Selection	Clarification of Judge Selection Requirements	6.12 Judge Selection All State HOTY and National 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. 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.
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 8. National Judges Accreditation Scheme
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 12. ANNEXURE C – Requirements to attain EA Show Horse Judge Accreditation

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 trainee 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.**

~~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 approval before appointment. The EA National Office records successful candidates on the EA Show Horse Judges List

8.4 Interstate Transfer

When a Judge moves interstate and transfers their membership to their new EA Branch Office, all horse ownership, performance, and officiating records are transferred by the database system with the membership details.

8.5 Lapsed Accreditation and Leave of Absence

A judge is considered a Lapsed Judge if they have not been accredited for more than 12 months. Judges who have not re-accredited for less than 12 months may re-accredit and return to the list by fulfilling the requirements of 8.1.2.

After 12-months and less than three years, the following requirements will be necessary for a judge to be returned to the EA Show Horse Judges List:

8.5.1 Be a current member of EA

8.5.2 Attend the next available Official EA Show Horse Judges seminar

Upon satisfactory completion of 8.5.1 and 8.5.2 the Judges reaccreditation form should be forwarded to the EA National Office. Upon receipt of an application fulfilling all requirements, the EA National Office will process the accreditation and the Judge will be returned to the EA Show Horse Judges list without the need for any further examination.

8.6 Lapsed for Three or more Years

Judges who have been absent from the EA Show Horse Judges list for 3 or more years:

8.6.1 must attend and participate in an Official EA Show Horse Judge Seminar

8.6.2 will be required to complete and pass the upgrading requirements for their existing level before being returned to the list (refer to Annexure C ~~8.3.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.3~~).

8.7 Leave of Absence

Judges may apply for a leave of absence from judging commitments which will be granted for up to a 12-month period. Judges should apply to the EA National Office in writing for a leave of absence and provide a date of reinstatement. The National Office will record the period of the leave on the EA Show Horse Judges List.

8.8 Officials Code of Conduct

All EA Officials must be current EA members. All EA Members are bound by the EA's General Code of Conduct. Further to this, people in certain roles, such as Coaches and Judges may be required to abide by additional codes of conduct. EA Judges are subject to the requirements of the EA Officials Code of Conduct. Codes of conduct and all codes are available at www.equestrian.org.au

8.9 Complaints against Accredited EA Show Horse Judges for Judging Standards

8.9.1 Complaints need to be forwarded, in writing and marked Confidential, to the State Branch CEO, together with either video or supporting statement/s by other EA member/s.

8.9.2 The State Branch CEO should respond to every written complaint and is required to keep accurate records on these matters.

8.9.3 All records are considered highly confidential.

8.9.4 If the State Branch CEO considers that a complaint against a particular Judge warrants further consideration, they are to:

8.9.4.1 Require the judge to provide a response in writing with details of the complaint.

8.9.4.2 If necessary, require the Judge to undergo mentoring or attend a seminar.

8.9.4.3 If warranted or appropriate, the judge may be downgraded one level but only after the State CEO has explored all avenues.

8.10 Complaints against Accredited EA Show Horse Judges relating to Behaviour

Refer to rule 1.5 and the EA Member Protection Policy at www.equestrian.org.au .

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"> • Be a Current member of EA • Be an accredited and currently registered EA State Show Horse Judge for previous 2 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA approved Show Horse Judge seminar in the previous year • Complete the Open Rule National Judge Book Test with a pass mark of 80% • Nominated by two EA National Judges with written nomination (or state committee) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acted as an EA State Judge 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 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 • Assisted with a positive assessment a minimum two times with two different EA National Judges in the previous two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA Show Horse Officials Update Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA
State Judge	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acted as an EA Provisional Judge minimum of four times 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 • Assisted with a positive assessment a minimum two times with two different EA National Judges in the previous two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA Show Horse Officials Update Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA
Provisional Judge	<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 • Endorsements from four suitably qualified people within the industry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of four attendances at Show Horse events as an unofficial a judge, steward, or competitor previous two years • Assisted with a positive assessment a minimum two times two different EA State or high Judges in the previous two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend an EA Show Horse Officials Update Clinic/Course every 3 years and other stipulated reaccreditation requirements set by EA