

COMMONWEALTH CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA

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CCHS GUIDELINES HANDBOOK

(This is not an official Rulebook)

for Members, Committees, Judges and Competitors.



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This Document was formed with the Approval of the Executive of The Australian Stock Horse Society Limited, and the CCHS are thankful for this approval and the use of their Events Handbook as a resource.

PREFACE

The purpose of the following Guidelines is:

- To provide information that the Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society Australia may think is desirable for the promotion and development of Clydesdale related activities.
- To establish comparable information for the Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society Australia members as with other Australian Horse breed organisations having similar aims and endeavours.

DEFINITIONS

CCHS Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society Australia

CCHS - GUIDELINES HANDBOOK

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1 Statement of Purposes (as per Stud Book)

THE COMMONWEALTH CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA (FEDERAL COUNCIL)

1. The name of the incorporated association is "COMMONWEALTH CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA (FEDERAL COUNCIL) INCORPORATED" (hereinafter called "the Society").
2. The purposes for which the Federal Council of the Society is established are:-
 - (a) To maintain the purity of the Clydesdale breed of horses throughout Australia, and to promote the breeding of these horses free from hereditary unsoundness.
 - (b) To collect, verify, preserve and publish the pedigrees of these horses in a Stud Book, to be named the Commonwealth Clydesdale Stud Book.
 - (c) To investigate suspicious or doubtful pedigrees of Clydesdale horses and other alleged misrepresentations relating to them, and to publish the results of such investigations at the discretion of the Council.
 - (d) To arbitrate upon, investigate and settle disputes and questions relating to these horses.
 - (e) To promote, in any further way, the interests of the breed, and the advancement of agriculture in Australia.
 - (f) To purchase take on lease or in exchange or otherwise acquire any lands, buildings, easements or property real or personal which may be requisite for the purposes of or conveniently used in connection with any of the objects of the Society and to sell demise mortgage give in exchange or dispose of the same and to make improvements to the same and to construct and erect such buildings and works thereon as may be thought desirable for this purpose.
 - (g) To hire and employ Secretary's clerks managers servants and workmen and to pay to them, their beneficiaries or successors, and to other persons in return for services rendered to the Society, salaries wages gratuities and pensions.
 - (h) To draw make accept endorse discount execute and issue promissory notes, bills of exchange, bills of lading and other negotiable or transferable instruments.
 - (i) To invest and deal with the moneys for the Society not immediately required upon such securities and in such manner as may from time to time be determined.
 - (j) To borrow or raise and give security for money by the issue of or upon bonds, debentures, bills of exchange, promissory notes or other obligations or securities of the Society or mortgage or charge upon all or any part of the property of the Society.
 - (k) To take such steps by personal or written appeals, public meetings, or otherwise, as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purpose of procuring contributions to the funds of the Society, in the shape of donations, annual subscriptions or otherwise.
 - (l) To do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above purposes and the exercise of the powers of the Society.

1.1 Objects

The Society is established for the purposes expressed in the Statement of Purposes and particularly to maintain the purity and improve the breed of Clydesdale Horses and to promote the interests of breeders of Clydesdale Horses.

1.2 Breed Standards

Uniformity of type has long been a marked characteristic of the Clydesdale, and there is no breed of heavy horse so famous for its quality, cleanness of joints, hardness of bone, cleanness and correct setting of hock and length and slope of pastern, whilst for action, the Clydesdale is unrivalled. The general appearance of the Clydesdale can be assessed whilst the horse is standing in the optimal position of supporting itself equally well on each leg. The Clydesdale is also observed when in motion, at walk and trot. The preferred characteristics are as follows:

The height of the Clydesdale horse may range to over 17 hands. When the horse is fully matured it should be evenly balanced. Viewed from the side, the body should show plenty of depth, and from the front or rear should appear broad and thick. The depth of the body, through the chest and length of leg, should be approximately the same. Such proportions allow the Clydesdale's weight to be used to the best advantage.

Quality in the horse is manifested especially in the bone, skin and hair. As well, the general conformation should indicate a degree of superiority. The bone of the Clydesdale should be hard and dense, with a strong, compact cellular structure. The hair or "feather" down the back of the cannon is an indication of the quality of the bone, and should be long, fine and straight.

The head of the Clydesdale should be in proportion to the body. The face may be straight or slightly Roman nosed. The muzzle should show thin rather than heavy lips, which should come together evenly and with a wide-open nostril. The eyes should be rather oval than round, prominent, reasonably large and have thin smooth eyelids. When the iris of the eye is colourless, the eye appears to be white with a "wall eye" as a result. The sight of such an eye is quite as good as that of having a dark coloured iris. There should be plenty of width between the eyes and the forehead should be slightly arched, tapering away above the eyes to the poll. The ears should be pointed, of medium size and thin of texture, having a covering of fine hair.

The neck should be of moderate length, muscular yet not too thick, arched and well laid into the shoulder. The head should merely set into the neck at the right angle. A good head, neck and shoulders denote character, giving the animal a good outlook.

The shoulders should be moderately sloped and provide a sufficient collar bed. The shoulders should be fairly wide, well muscled, and the top should be carried close to and tapered into the back. The arm of the Clydesdale should be comparatively short, wide and muscular. This places the leg sufficiently under the body to provide the desirable position and action. The knee, viewed from the front, should be broad and flat, tapering to the cannon and, when viewed from the side, should be straight from the shoulder to the fetlock joint. The tendon at the back of the knee should contribute to give depth and strength.

The cannon of the foreleg should be long, wide, lean and flat as viewed from the side. The tendons should show prominently. The long hair or "feather" should spring from the back of the tendon and not from the sides of the cannon. It should be soft to touch and straight. The fetlock should be wide, when viewed from the side, and narrow viewed from the front, fine and well directed. The pastern should be fairly long and sloping, so as to relieve concussion in the course of action.

The foot must be sound and healthy. A good hoof head, with wide open heels and strong quarters, is preferred, otherwise a horse may have a tendency to develop unsoundness. The feet should preferably receive attention from when the animal is a foal until it is fully matured.

The chest of the Clydesdale should be deep, wide, low, and of large girth, indicating strong constitution with ample space for vital organs. The back should be short, broad and strongly supported, and slightly inclined upwards towards the croup. The loin should be short, wide and strongly muscled. This portion of the back should be short and as wide as possible, and the ribs long, well sprung and close together.

The flanks should be low and full.

1.2 Breed Standards (Cont.)

The hind quarters are the great source of driving power. The hips should be wide, but in harmony with general body proportions, and well-muscled. The croup should be long, as seen from the side, wide as viewed from behind, and with sloping arch from the hips to the setting of the tail. It is important that the tail be attached high.

The thigh should be short, but heavily muscled. **The hock** is one of the most important points of the horse, as it is in this joint that the strain on the muscles, during action, is concentrated. The hock, should be broad, viewed from the side, and narrow, viewed from the rear, its point being prominent, and the joint as a whole, when viewed from the side should be well supported by a wide cannon below. The hock should be turned slightly, and close to each other, the cannon straight not 'sickle hocked' when viewed from the side. The hocks should not show fullness or swelling.

The hind cannons, like the front ones, should be broad when viewed from the side and thin when viewed from the front. They should be perpendicular, in line with the hind quarters. The hind fetlocks, as in the case of the front ones, should be wide, whilst the pasterns are less oblique than those of the fore legs. The hind feet are somewhat smaller than the front ones, not as round, but with good hoof heads and wide-open heels.

The hind legs, like the front ones, should be set into the body, not on the outside of the quarters, but well under, so that the muscles on the quarters project wider than the muscles on the thighs. The toes of the hind feet should incline slightly outward. There should be a good length from the point of the hock to the ground.

The action of the Clydesdale should be even, the hind and fore action should be in unison. The hind feet should be planted forward as deliberately as the fore ones, which should be evenly carried forward. At the walk, the hind foot should cover the imprint of the front foot as a minimum. Short stepping is a fault in the working horse. The hocks should be turned slightly inward. In trotting, the Clydesdale horse should bend the legs at the knees and hocks, and, from the hind view, the inside of the hooves or shoes should be seen at every step.

Reference: An article printed in August 1928 by the CCHS in their "Horse News Annual" in relation to a description of the Clydesdale.

1.3 Stud Book Entry Regulations

1. Entries for the Stud Book will only be received from financial Members of the Society on the distinct understanding that the entrant agrees to inspection, if necessary, also to pay half the cost of such inspection and to accept the decision of the Federal Council after receiving its Inspector's report.
2. All entries must be made on the Society's official forms, and must be forwarded direct to the Secretary, together with the prescribed fees.
3. The Secretary shall collect all fees payable on entries lodged and take all necessary steps within their power to certify to the correctness of such entries. Before the publication of any volume of the Stud Book, all entries shall be finally examined by an Editing Committee appointed by the Federal Council, and any queried entries shall be referred by this Committee to the Federal Council whose decision shall be final.
4. The Federal Council reserves the right to refuse any entry if deemed necessary in the interests of the Society, without assigning a reason, and also reserves the right to cancel the registration of any animal, the pedigree of which already appears in a published volume, if it is proved to its satisfaction that the information published is incorrect.
5. The onus shall rest on the entrant in all cases of satisfying the Federal Council of the undoubted purity of all animals submitted for registration.
6. Members will be held responsible for the accuracy of all information supplied, and the Federal Council may refuse to permit any alteration to be made to any pedigree submitted for inclusion in the Stud Book, and may cancel the entry, if the particulars originally supplied are proved incorrect.

1.3 Stud Book Entry Regulations (Cont.)

7. The Society will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may be sustained by any one through the inaccuracy, omission, alteration or cancellation of any entry.
8. The application for the registration of a stallion in the Commonwealth Clydesdale Stud Book must contain name, date of birth, colour, and an accurate description of any white markings, particulars of brands and the name and address of the breeder and present owner, in addition to the pedigree of the animal.
9. Each stallion bred in the Commonwealth must be the progeny of a registered sire (which is of “Clydesdale breeding”, as defined in Regulation 10) and his dam must be registered in the numbered section of this Society’s Stud Book. Such stallions must also have been recorded as progeny in accordance with the Regulations, if born prior to the 1st August 1985.
10. Stallions bred in Great Britain or Ireland and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland or the progeny of sire and dam so registered (born in transit) will be eligible for registration at half fee.
11. Stallions bred overseas and registered in Stud Books including the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland, must be proved to possess three (3) pure crosses of “Clydesdale breeding” (that is to say, their sire, the sire of their dam, the sire of their second dam, be of “Clydesdale breeding” as defined in the following paragraph). (Such stallions will also be accepted at half fee).
12. The term “Clydesdale breeding” means a stallion entered in the Commonwealth Clydesdale Book, or Volume 1 of the Australian Clydesdale Stud Book, or entered as a Clydesdale in Volumes 1. – X. of the Draught Horse Stud Book of Australia, or in Volumes 6, 7 and 8 of the New Zealand Draught Horse Stud Book, or bred in Great Britain, Ireland or New Zealand and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland or the New Zealand Clydesdale Stud Book.
13. The application for the registration of a gelding in the Commonwealth Clydesdale Stud Book must contain the registered name, date of birth, colour and an accurate description of any white markings, particulars of brands and the name and address of the breeder and present owner, in addition to the pedigree of the animal.
14. Each gelding bred in the Commonwealth must be the progeny of a registered sire (which is of “Clydesdale breeding”, as defined in Regulation 10) and his dam must be a registered (numbered) mare already entered in this Society’s Stud Book and must have been progeny recorded in accordance with the Regulations, if born prior to 1st August 1985.
15. Geldings bred in Great Britain or Ireland and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland will be eligible for registration.
16. Stallions castrated are eligible for transfer to the gelding register at no fee.
17. Progeny recorded colts can be adult registered directly into the gelding register, if born prior to 1st August 1985.
18. The application for the registration of a mare in the numbered section of the Commonwealth Clydesdale Stud Book must contain the name, date of birth, colour and an accurate description of any white markings, particulars of brands and the name and address of the breeder and present owner, in addition to the pedigree of the animal and a complete list of all progeny bred from her to date.
19. Each mare bred in the Commonwealth must be the progeny of a registered sire (which is of “Clydesdale breeding”, as defined in Regulation 10) and her dam must be a registered (numbered) mare already entered in this Society’s Stud Book and must have been recorded as progeny in accordance with the Regulations, if born prior to 1st August 1985.
20. Mares bred in Great Britain or Ireland and registered in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland, or the progeny of sire and dam so registered (born in transit) will be eligible for registration at half fee.

1.3 Stud Book Entry Regulations (Cont.)

21. Mares bred overseas and registered in Stud Books including the Clydesdale Stud Book of Great Britain and Ireland must be proved to possess two (2) pure crosses of “Clydesdale breeding” (that is to say, their sire, the sire of their dam must be of “Clydesdale breeding”, as previously defined in the Rules). (Such mares will also be accepted at half fee).
22. The registration of any Australian-bred animal in any Stud Book published outside the Commonwealth will not be recognised by this Society, and any such animal must comply with the regulations governing registration in this Society’s Stud Book before it or its progeny will be accepted.
23. The progeny of Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer will be accepted by the Society as per the following.
 - (a) The Progeny of artificial insemination is permitted to be registered provided:
 - (i) The prescribed forms are completed and lodged with the Registrar
 - (ii) DNA typing of stallion, mare and progeny is carried out and is available to the Society.
 - (iii) All Mares used for Embryo Transfer must be free of hereditary unsoundness and will require a CCHS Veterinarian Certificate of Soundness as per regulations for Stallions.
 - (b) The Society will not be held responsible for any loss/damage incurred by AI procedure undertaken by any veterinarian or technician listed in any publication of the Society.
 - (c) The registration of progeny by embryo transfer is permitted providing the DNA typing of the stallion, mare and progeny is carried out and is available to the Society and the Society is furnished with adequate notification of the procedure by the veterinary Surgeon involved. Up to 10 foal registrations per mare per breeding season is permitted.
24. A maximum of 20 foals can be registered by one stallion in a breeding season.
25. All eligible animals imported from overseas must (on arrival) be registered in this Society’s Stud Book, and the application must be accompanied by a certificate of registration from the Secretary of a recognised Stud Book published in the country from which such animal was imported.
26. For each animal born after 1st August, being the progeny of registered (numbered) parents, official application for registration must be received by 31st July of that breeding season. Failure to comply with this regulation shall incur a penalty fee of double that of the registration fee, in addition to the registration fee in respect of each animal, providing application is lodged within the following breeding season.
 - (a) Each such application shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Service as from the 1st August 1981, if the breeder is not the owner of the sire.
 - (b) After 24 months post foaling season, parentage is to be determined by three-way DNA identification (including progeny, sire and dam). All associated costs shall be borne by the applicant. After 36 months, post foaling season, an animal shall be ineligible for registration.
 - (c) The Society will only register or enter the progeny of stallions of which a Veterinary Certificate has been lodged with the Secretary stating that such sire is free from hereditary diseases and unsoundness as prescribed by Federal Council from time to time. This requirement applies to stallions born after the 1st August 1981.
 - (d) If born in Australia after 1st August 1982, be branded within twelve months of foaling or when sold, whichever is sooner; and
 - (i) If bred in the State of Queensland be branded with the breeder’s registered brand over a breeding number over the last numeral of the year of foaling.
 - (ii) If bred in a State of the Commonwealth of Australia other than Queensland, be branded on the near shoulder with the breeder’s brand and be branded on the off shoulder with the breeding number over the last numeral of the year of foaling.
 - (iii) The breeding number shall indicate the order in point of time in which the animal was foaled in relation to other animals (regardless of sex) of such first owner bearing the same brand and tendered for registration. No two foals of the same first owner shall be branded with the same number.

1.3 Stud Book Entry Regulations (Cont.)

The year of ageing Clydesdales commences on 1st August each year. Imported Clydesdales are to be branded with the importer's brand.

27. Animals which are already recorded as progeny of their dams in the Stud Book must be registered as adults before their progeny can be accepted, if born prior to 1st August 1985.
28. Notification of transfer by the vendor within sixty days from date of sale of any animal registered or recorded in the Stud Book is compulsory. When a female is being transferred, it must be Stated whether or not she has been served, and, if served, the name of the stallion and the date of service must be given. Such transfers must be made on the Society's official forms, in respect of all sales effected on or after 1st October 1925, and be lodged with the Secretary, together with the prescribed fee. Failure to comply with this rule will entail a penalty as determined from time to time per head on the vendor, in addition to the transfer fee, and no transfer for an animal will be accepted unless its registration has been completed.
29. Every breeder must register a separate stud name, of not more than two words and shall not exceed 16 characters, for use exclusively as a prefix to the names of animals bred by them. The final granting of any application for the registration of a stud name shall rest with the Federal Council, which will, as far as possible, safeguard stud names registered with the Clydesdale Horse Societies of Great Britain and Ireland, and New Zealand. (No fee). Each stud name must carry its own individual stud brand.
30. The purchaser of a stud shall have no right to the previous owner's prefix, except with the written sanction of the previous owner and with the approval of the Federal Council.
31. An animal's name shall not exceed 36 characters, including the breeder's prefix, which must be used and no stud prefix other than the breeder's will be permitted as any portion of the name. Names, once registered, cannot afterwards be changed.
32. No animal imported after 1st January 1927, will be accepted for registration while the name contains any registered Australian stud prefix, unless such animal had been named when recorded as a foal by the breeder in a recognised Stud Book published in the country where the animal was bred.
33. The breeder of an animal is the owner of its dam at date of foaling.
34. All deaths and castrations of registered animals must be notified within sixty days.
35. It shall be the duty of all Members to keep proper records of their stud breeding activities, such records to be open for inspection at any time by any person appointed by any Branch or the Federal Council.
36. Stallion Inspection – Provisional Certificate - A stallion cannot be inspected for a Certificate of Inspection before the age of 2 years. At 2 years a stallion can be inspected for a Provisional Certificate of Inspection and a DNA sample is to be collected and sent to be tested by the CCHS preferred laboratory. This number will be recorded on the Certificate of Registration. The Provisional Certificate will cover the stallion up to the age of 5 years, at which time it will expire. This inspection is not necessary if the stallion is not used for breeding purposes until over 5 years of age.
37. Life Certificate - From 5 years a stallion must be inspected for a Life Certificate of Inspection, if no DNA sample is on file at this time a sample must be collected if further progeny is to be registered. This number will be recorded on the Certificate of Registration.
Please Note - The age of a colt or stallion is to be calculated from the 1st August.
38. DNA Testing –
 - (i) All stallions for breeding purposes born after the 1st August 2010 must be DNA tested at the time of Provisional Certificate Inspection.
 - (ii) DNA testing of females and parent verification is not compulsory.

CCHS - Section 1– Studbook & Membership

1.4 Membership

1. Any person interested in the breeding of Clydesdales desiring to become a Member of the Society shall forward their name and address and application for Membership, together with the amount of annual subscription as determined from time to time to the Secretary of the Society, and, on receiving their acknowledgement, shall become possessed of the rights and privileges of the Membership until the expiry of the then current financial year, subject to the approval of the Federal Council, which may, if deemed advisable, decline to receive any person as a Member without assigning any reason therefore.
2. Upon application to transfer the registration of an animal to a non-Member, said non-Member is granted free Membership of the Society for the remainder of the then current financial year. Free Membership can only be granted if the non-Member has never previously been a Member of the Society.
3. No Member whose subscription is in arrears shall be entitled to vote at any Meeting, be elected to any office, or enter animals in the Stud Book.
4. Any Member of the Society, who in the opinion of the Federal Council may be guilty of misrepresentation, deception, fraud or improper conduct in relation to the registry, entry in the Stud Book, ownership, age, record, sale or exhibition of any animal, or who may, in the opinion of the Federal Council, be guilty of any conduct or practice unbefitting a Member of the Society, or calculated to discredit the Society, may, after due enquiry, at which such Member shall be entitled to be present for the purpose of making any Statement in their defence, be declared by the Federal Council to have forfeited their Membership, and the said Council may, in its uncontrolled discretion cancel the registration of any or all animals appearing as their property in the Stud Book.
5. Any question or questions from time to time arising as to the interpretation of any of these Rules, or any question arising on any subject within the scope of the Society's authority not otherwise provided for shall be decided by the Federal Council, whose decision shall in such cases be final and binding on all Members, and all Members shall be bound by these Rules.
6. Life Member: A person who the Federal Council determines is worthy of Life Membership shall meet the following criteria
 - (1)Current Financial Member
 - (2)Contribution of nominee of CCHS
 - (3)Service to promotional activities
 - (4)Executive positions held in State / Federal (Groups)
 - (5)Service to Members may include:
 - (a) Adjudication
 - (b) Field Days
 - (c) Exhibition Involvement
 - (d) Mentoring Roles
 - (e) Knowledge of the CCHS
 - (f) Service and length of time on Committee of CCHS / Other Roles
 - (g) Have owned, bred and shown Clydesdales within the CCHS Membership
 - (6)Should any Member wish to nominate another Member for life Membership with the Society, a letter of intent is to be forwarded to the State Committee thirty (30) days prior to the State Annual General Meeting.

1.4 Membership (Cont.)

- (7) If nominations are endorsed at State level, such nominations are to be forwarded to the Federal Secretary prior to the next scheduled Federal Council Annual General Meeting.
- (8) The Federal Council can bestow a Life Membership on a Member at any time if in its opinion they meet the criteria but have not necessarily been nominated by a State Committee.
7. The Secretary shall keep and maintain a register of Members in which shall be entered the full name, address and date of entry of the name of each Member and the register shall be available for inspection by Members at the address of the Secretary.
- (1) Any Member wishing to relinquish their Membership can do so by written notice to the Secretary of the Society, but no such decision shall relieve any Member from payment of any back subscriptions or other monies due by them to the Society at the time of such resignation.
- (2) Upon the expiration of a notice given under sub-clause (1) the Secretary shall make in the register of Members an entry recording the date on which the Member by whom the notice was given, ceased to be a Member.
- (3) Upon a Member failing to pay the required annual subscription within 60 days after the expiry of Membership (30th June) a re-joining fee set by the Federal Council must be paid to reactivate a previous Membership.
8. Any Member of the Society, who in the opinion of the Federal Council has refused or neglected to comply with the Rules of the Society or has been guilty of conduct unbecoming as a Member or prejudicial to the interests of the Society, will be subject to the Disciplinary Procedure.
- (1) Where disciplinary action is necessary, the Federal Secretary shall notify the Member of the reason. The first warning will be in writing and will be recorded in the Federal Council minutes.
- (2) If the problem continues, the matter will be discussed by the Federal Executive and a second warning in writing will be given to the Member and recorded in the Federal Council minutes.
- (3) If the problem continues, the Member will be invited to a Federal Council Meeting, for the purpose of making a Statement in their defence. If a final warning is to be given, then it shall be issued in writing and recorded in the Federal Council minutes.
- (4) After resolution by the Federal Council, the Member may be:-
- (a) Suspended from Membership of the Society for a specified period; or
 - (b) Expelled from the Society
- (5) If the Member is a Federal Council Member, they are not entitled to vote.
- (6) If after any warning, a period of twelve months elapses without any further warnings or action being required, all adverse reports relating to the warning must be removed from a personal file, if maintained.
- (7) If a dispute should arise over the disciplinary action, the course of action to be followed is that of the Grievance Procedure.

2.1 Federal Judges Panel Assessment Process

- CCHS State Branches are to nominate Members to Federal Council who are recommended or deemed suitable for inclusion to be assessed for the Federal Judges Panel. Applicant's must be endorsed by their own State Branch each time when nominated for Federal assessment.
- Federal Council is to discuss and vote on nominees' suitability and decide where and when an assessment will take place.
- The Federal President is to arrange a suitable day and time for the assessment.
- Three independent assessors will be appointed from the Federal Judges Panel.
- Applicant's will be notified in writing by the Federal Secretary as to the time and place of the assessment.
- The State President is to arrange suitable horses (minimum of three) for the assessment class and also a suitable venue.
- Assessors are to notify the Federal President of the assessment result. The applicant's will be notified by the CCHS Federal Secretary in writing within 14 days from assessment.
- The CCHS Federal Secretary will also notify the applicant's respective State Branch within 30 days following the assessment.
- Following successful assessment of the applicant and presentation of a current Working with Children accreditation, the Federal Executive will give final approval before adding the candidate's name to the Federal Judges Panel.
- The Unsuccessful applicants are eligible for reassessment after 2 years following their previous assessment. The unsuccessful applicant and can apply to the Federal Council for reassessment.
- Upon further assessments at least one Member of the previous assessment panel is to be one of the three adjudicators.
- All applicants are to present themselves suitably attired for judging.
- The assessors' decisions are deemed final and no appeal process will be accepted.
- It is CCHS policy that all Federal Judges must have a current Working with Children (WWC) or each State equivalent accreditation to be included on the panel.

2.2 State Judges Panel Assessment Process

- That a Probationary Judge be required to attend, to each of the Panel Judges' satisfaction, a minimum of 3 Shows or Judging Training Days. It is also expected that a number of different Senior Judges be 'shadowed' under this mentoring process so that a broad experience be gained.
- That any nomination of a Probationary Judge for State Assessment be approved by a Panel of 3 Judges established by the State President - at least 1 Federal Judge and 2 others - State or Federal level.
- That the Assessment Process include the Probationary Judge's knowledge of **Breed Character and Standards**, Conformation, Unsoundness, Movement and Action, Ring Etiquette and the General Knowledge of the Clydesdale Breed's origins and traditions.

- Nominations must be provided to the respective Branch Secretary prior to its Annual General Meeting for consideration and deliberation by the Members in attendance at the Annual General Meeting.
- The State President or nominee is to arrange suitable horses (minimum of three) for the assessment class and also a suitable venue.
- Assessors are to notify the State President of the assessment result. The applicant's will be notified by the Branch Secretary in writing within 14 days from assessment.
- Upon the Successful completion of a Practical and Oral Assessment, the Assessment Panel would then nominate the Member to be placed on the State Panel of Judges.
- As Ambassadors of the Breed, a Panel Judge is required to maintain the high standards befitting the title in the promotion of the Clydesdale Horse.
- The role of any Panel Judge is to further the knowledge and understanding of the Clydesdale Horse.
- The unsuccessful applicants retain the right for a reassessment minimum 12 months following their previous assessment.
- The unsuccessful applicants are eligible for reassessment minimum 12 months following their previous assessment. The unsuccessful applicant and can apply to the State Branch for reassessment.
- Upon further assessments at least one Member of the previous assessment panel is to be one of the three adjudicators.
- All applicants are to present themselves suitably attired for judging.
- The assessors' decisions are deemed final and no appeal process will be accepted.
- It is CCHS policy that all State Judges must have a current Working with Children (WWC) or each State equivalent accreditation to be included on the panel

2.3 Judges: Codes of Conduct

Undertakings

- Members of the CCHS who act in the capacity of Judges:
 - undertake that they will act in accordance with the objects stated in the CCHS Rules at all times.
 - undertake to conduct themselves in a manner fitting and proper to those who are accorded the honour of officiating as CCHS approved Judges of State and/or Federal panels.
 - will endeavour to give totally honest, fair and unbiased opinions at all times, to set exemplary standards in behaviour by being polite and courteous and to award prizes according to the type of class and the performance of horses on the day.
 - will at all times be totally conversant with the description of a Clydesdale type as laid down in the Breed Standards of the CCHS in the Stud Book.

Understanding

- It is the opinions of Judges which contributes to the standard for the Australian Clydesdale, just as it is their behaviour which sets the standard of conduct for competitors, volunteers, other officials and eventually the public perception of the CCHS. Judges therefore have certain responsibilities and obligations to the Society that must be maintained at all times. It is understood that the Rules and Regulations of the Society as adopted for competitions and the behaviour of Judges ensure the Judges' compliance with the objects stated in the CCHS and the above stated Undertakings.

2.4 Judges: Responsibilities and Obligations

- It is the Judge's opinion which contributes to the standard for the breed just as it is the Judge's behaviour which sets the standard of behaviour for competitors, and eventually the public's opinion of the CCHS
- Judges have a certain responsibility and obligation
- The Judge must give a totally honest, fair and unbiased opinion at all times
- The Judge must award prizes according to the type of class and the horse's performance on the day.
- The Judge must aim to arrive at the venue at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement time and advise organizers upon their arrival.
- The Judge must be clear, concise, courteous and tolerant with Stewards and Competitors
- The Judge should set the standard, in suitable dress attire and protective footwear, dressed clean, neat and tidy but also in behaviour, by being polite and courteous.
- Judges should refrain from smoking or using a camera or mobile telephones whilst judging.
- Judges must not be under the influence of alcohol or mind-altering drugs
- The Judge should not be a competitor, exhibitor or inspect or discuss any horse entered in the event in which they officiate before the commencement of judging.
- A Judge shall not adjudicate any class in which immediate members of their family, or associates, of their horses are competing.
- No horse may show before a Judge that has been sold or leased by the said Judge or an associate, within a period of twelve months prior to the show.
- A Judge shall not during the period of the show at which they are judging, be a house guest of a person who is competing at the said show.
- The Judge's decision is final. They have the authority to place a horse in whatever position in a class they choose.
- Once a class has been judged it shall may not be re-judged.
- No Judge shall determine eligibility for registration of any entry in the ring. This is the responsibility of the Committee or Steward.
- A Judge may request any person or horse to be removed from the competition for bad conduct.
- It is always the discretion of the Judge to command their ring and set the required workout.
- Judges of working classes must be conversant with patterns and courses prior to all events.

2.4 Judges: Responsibilities and Obligations (cont)

- A Judge may bring to the attention of the Steward any piece of equipment which is not legal or is considered inhumane.
- Where events not listed in this Handbook are encountered, they are to be judged according to the rules laid down by the Committee on the day.
- When a competitor makes a request through the Ring Steward or other show officials for the Judge's opinion concerning their horse, the Judge shall give their opinion courteously and with sincerity, in the presence of the Ring Steward or official but the Judge is advised not to enter into a lengthy discussion.
- The Judge should never address a competitor by his or her first name.
- The Judge should speak to the Steward before events commence to ensure the Steward is aware of their requirements and to allow the Steward to update or discuss with the Judge any regulation, rule or program requirement.
- A Judge should endeavour to remain calm at all times while judging.
- It is advisable that a Judge has a Steward to act as penciller when scorecards are required.
- When time permits, after the awards are presented, helpful hints to competitors are encouraged, especially hints or helpful suggestions to youth competitors

2.5 Stewards: Code of Conduct**Undertakings**

- Members of the CCHS who act in the capacity of Stewards:
 - undertake that they will act in accordance with the objects stated in the CCHS rules at all times
 - undertake to conduct themselves in a manner fitting and proper to those who are accorded the honour of officiating.
 - will endeavour to set exemplary standards in behaviour by being polite and courteous, to know what is required of them in the context of a CCHS event or competition, to be totally honest and fair at all times, to know the Rules and Regulations of the CCHS, to work co-operatively with fellow Stewards and to support the efforts of those who are officiating as Judges.
 - should be totally conversant with the description of a Clydesdale type as laid down in the Breed Standards of the CCHS.

Understanding

- As the CCHS further refines its competition and event standards and operations, the role of those who officiate in positions other than Judges will become increasingly important. These are the persons who assist in the presentation of competitions, who can be relied upon for their knowledge and experience, who can eventually become or are Judges and who are often the direct link between competitors and Judges. Stewards therefore have certain responsibilities and obligations to the Society that must be maintained at all times. It is understood that the Rules and Regulations of the Society as are adopted for competitions, and the proposed continuing development of standards for stewarding, will establish the means for ensuring Stewards' compliance with the objects stated in the CCHS Rules.

2.6 Stewards: Responsibilities and Obligations

- The Ring Steward is required to organize exhibitors and their horses in the ring area. They must be able to keep the program moving smoothly and be familiar with the Society's Rules and Regulations.
- The Steward is to assist the Judge where and when required but must not in any way influence the Judge's decision.
- The Steward has charge of the activity in the ring or arena and is to rid the Judge of any unnecessary details.
- The Steward shall act as a mediator between the Judge and competitor.
- If the class is too large, the Steward will inform the Judge of the numbers so that the class may be divided if the Judge so wishes.
- The Steward should assemble the classes promptly to eliminate long delays and keep the program on schedule.
- The Steward shall notify the Judge when all horses entered are present and call their attention to the number that are absent. The Steward will ensure that the judge knows how many horses should be placed.
- The Ring Steward has the responsibility of checking entries for eligibility, persons and horses for proper attire and equipment, and, when required, the accuracy of the Registration Papers and Membership which must be current.
- Stewards shall not take part, or be seen to take part, in any of the judging. When not actively engaged with duties, the Steward should place themselves in such a position as not to interfere with the judging.
- The Judge can request the Steward to move and place horses as they advise.
- If a competitor is not acting in a sportsmanlike manner the Steward, acting upon a request from the Judge, may ask competitors to leave the judging arena. For the safety of other horses, competitors and spectators, the Judge may also request that a horse leave the arena.
- After ribbons have been awarded, the Steward should have the place getters circle the ring or arena for the benefit of the spectators.

2.7 Volunteers Requirements

Volunteers must be at least 12 years of age and not exceed 70 years of age.
(refer to insurance requirements)

2.8 Volunteers: Code of Conduct

Undertakings

- Members of the CCHS who serve as Volunteers at any level of the Society, be it State or Federal:
 - undertake that they will act in accordance with the objects stated in the CCHS at all times.
 - undertake that they will act in a manner which brings credit to the values and professional image of the Society.
 - will endeavour to maintain their knowledge of the Society and of the Clydesdale Breed and to set exemplary standards in behaviour by being polite and courteous to all with whom they come in contact.
 - will always abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Society.

Understanding

- Volunteers make an invaluable contribution to the running of all activities of the Society. Together with the Competitors, they underpin the Society and its values. By accepting themselves as an integral part of the operations of the Society, and by undertaking to act at the same level of integrity and honesty as all others in the Society, the Codes of Conduct will cover each and every person involved with the Society.

2.9 Competitors: Code of Conduct

Undertakings

- Members of the CCHS who participate in activities:
 - undertake that they will act in accordance with the objects stated in the Rules at all times.
 - undertake to compete with animals that are suited to the level of competition, to present themselves and their horses properly prior to and upon entering the ring to know the rules of the competition and those stated in the CCHS Guidelines Handbook and to behave at all times in a sportsmanlike manner and properly and respectfully to Judges, Show Officials and fellow competitors.
 - acknowledge that they only participate in competitions/compete only at a level for which they are eligible.
 - will at all times abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Society.

Understanding

- Persons who compete in CCHS competitions are a most critical component of the industry. These are the persons who present the image of the Society to the public. By undertaking to accept the objects stated in the Rules, competitors commit to continue the practice of presenting themselves and their horses in an exemplary manner, possess the right attitude, and know and abide by the rules.

3.1 Ring Etiquette

- As a Competitor you are on display to spectators as well as to the Judge and it should be remembered that, each time you set foot into the ring, you are there as a representative of the CCHS. Ring manners, consideration of other competitors and for the Judge, are based on everyday good manners.
- Listen to the Judge's instructions and try to carry them out to the best of your ability. If you don't understand an instruction, ask for clarification.
- Look what is happening around you. Be ready to work out when your time comes.
- Learn from experience what it is that shows your horse off best.
- Line up as directed by the Judge's or Stewards directions.
- Don't get too close to other horses in the ring. This allows the Judge to see your horse clearly and safely.
- Don't carry on a conversation in the line-up; wait until the event is over.
- Never address the Judge by their first name. Judges should always be addressed via a Steward and by the title Mr, Mrs, Miss etc.
- Don't go to sleep or slouch in the line-up. Wait until your time comes and stay quietly in line and never smoke.
- Above all, never be critical of the Judge. Regardless of what your opinion is of their judging - keep it to yourself. A Judge can only really please one person per event and is usually there voluntarily. Remember you were not forced to show your horse in front of them.
- All competitors are asked to remain in the line at all times. Once judging has commenced, horses could be eliminated if leaving the judging line.

3.2 Responsibilities of the Handler/Driver/Rider

- The handler/driver/rider is the person responsible for the control of the horse
- The handler/driver/rider agrees to abide by the Rules and Regulations as well as the Code of Conduct of the Society.
- All exhibits participating in events conducted by the Society or other organisations are restricted to horses registered with the CCHS.
- At no time should a horse carry more than one rider or individual whilst at any activity conducted by the Society, for safety purposes.
- When adjusting gear, the rider should dismount to make the necessary adjustments.
- When riding/leading/driving a stallion, the rider must always maintain control of the horse and have contact with the horse's mouth.

3.3 Complaints/Protests

- Any competitor or exhibitor may lodge a complaint in writing to the secretary of the event committee within 30 minutes of the completion of an event.
- The complaint must be accompanied by a fee, set by the organizing committee, and is refundable if the protest is upheld
- The complaint shall be heard by the committee conducting the event and may be dealt with as such committee may direct.
- The event committee will deal with problems involving questions arising at a event not specifically covered by the rules in this book.
- Complaints concerning COMMONWEALTH CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA approved judges/ current members:
- A protest concerning a member of the CCHS Judging Panel may be made to the State Branch. It must be:
 - (a) In writing
 - (b) Signed by the protester
 - (c) Addressed to the secretary of the relevant CCHS State Branch
 - (d) Received by the Society within two weeks of the alleged breach
- A protest must state the full name of the Judge, the subject of the protest or charge and contain a complete and definitive statement of the acts which constitute the alleged breach – precise details are necessary. The maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest or charge by personal testimony at a hearing or by sworn statements, witness or other evidence.

Non-Protestable Decisions

- A Judge's opinion where a horse appears to have a defect in conformation or action is not protestable
- The Judge's decision representing his individual preference is not protestable.
- The Judge's decision made under the relevant Show Rules is not protestable.

Breaches

A Breach is any act prejudicial to the best interest of the Judging Panel, including but not limited to the following:

- Breaches to the Society's Rules
- Breach of the CCHS Guidelines Handbook.
- Acting or inciting or permitting any other person to act in a manner contrary to the Guidelines of the Judging Agreement

3.4 Horse Control

- If an organising committee forms the opinion that a horse and its handler/driver/rider pose an unduly high risk to themselves, other persons or other horses, actions must be taken to prevent that horse and handler combination continuing in that activity.

3.5 Stallion Control

- All CCHS Entires (2 years and over) should be securely restrained on all show grounds and venues when not in competition or exercise.
- When being led/ridden or driven CCHS Entires (2 years and over) must have a bit in their mouth and be under the control of the bit.
- Under no circumstances are competitors under 16 years permitted to handle/drive/ride stallions within the perimeter of the grounds.

3.6 Dogs

- Should be on a leash and restrained at all times.

3.7 First Aid

STATEMENT as per Risk Management Manual

Occupational First Aid is an essential part of the CCHS Safety Program. The CCHS will endeavour to provide access to first aid for all persons attending events. At events where horses are present in a competitive manner, First Aid persons must hold a current minimum Level 1 or 2 qualification.

Please refer to CCHS Risk Management Manual for all details

4.1 Horse Presentation

- The horse, at the very least, should be clean.
- The horse, should be neatly presented.

4.2 Harness/Gear Presentation

- Harness/Gear does not have to be new or extremely expensive. Older, well cared for Harness/Gear is adequate and should be safe.
- Ensure that the Harness/Gear is correctly fitted and does not rub or disturb the horse.
- Make sure the Harness/gear used is suitable for the event.
- In Led classes, a show cane is permitted and may be approximately 1 metre in length. In Driven in Vehicle classes, a driving whip is permitted.

4.3 Competitor Attire

- The competitor's attire should be neat – understated dress always gives a more professional appearance. The competitor who conveys a neat impression will probably be viewed more acceptable by the Judge rather than that of a less tidy or flamboyant combination.
- The competitor's attire should be suitable for the type of class in which the combination is competing.
- Jewellery can be dangerous in the show ring, especially rings and long necklaces, so choose carefully.
- The competitor should have neat and tidy hair, or alternatively can wear a hat/cap.

4.4 Protective Head Gear (with Ridden Events)

Competitors must wear an equestrian helmet approved by the current Australian Standards Association, which must be securely fastened under the chin when mounted anywhere within the perimeter of the grounds, including all public areas.

5.1 Notes For Competitors

- For the young, and not so young, showing offers a challenge. Led classes can begin at your local branch show and as your skills increase you can progress and perhaps one day compete at a Royal Show.
- Presentation plays a major role in Led classes and first impressions are important. Take the time to present yourself and your horse in a clean and condition. It takes a great deal of time, effort and dedication to be successful. It is a good idea to watch the professionals and take notice of how they and their horses are turned out.
- Quality food and proper exercise are the first steps to ensuring that your horse looks its best. Rugging and grooming are also important factors when preparing your horse for showing. Stabling may be considered also, but if done for a long period, the white hair of Clydesdales can stain easily.
- When competing, stand your horse squarely on all four feet, and have the hocks close together. Keep the horse posed at all times.
- Stay calm, confident and remain attentive whilst keeping an eye on the Judge and the other horses in the event. At all times be courteous to the Judge and other competitors.
- Be critical of conformation when choosing prospective show horses, choose carefully. A badly conformed horse will not appeal to an experienced Judge and the show venture will be unsuccessful before it starts.

5.2 Judging Procedure

- Judging begins when the horses are led into the ring, as the Judge usually stands back far enough to get an overall view of the horses entering. This allows an immediate assessment of the horses to be judged.
- The horses should be worked around the ring as directed by the Judge. Competitors should avoid bunching in a group, so the Judge can see all the horses competing. A large class can be led on the circle for the Judge to select horses for an individual workout.
- When the Judge has called competitors into the line, they should form an orderly line as directed, leaving sufficient space between each horse so that the Judge can walk freely between the horses. No competitor should talk while waiting in the ring.
- Horses are inspected closely for soundness and overall conformation. The front and back legs should be observed while the horses are lined up.
- The next step is to have each horse walk and trot to the Judges' instructions.
- The Judge should then observe the action and behaviour of the horse.
- Upon completion of all workouts the Judge will place the horses in order of merit.

NOTES FOR JUDGES

- ❖ An approved State/Federal Judge should know all the external points of a horse and have a good understanding of the characteristics that define the Clydesdale horse.
- ❖ A Judge must know how a horse with excellent conformation should look and develop a mental image of the ideal Clydesdale.
- ❖ The Judge should be able to recognise any conformation faults of a horse, including straightness of legs, length of bones, angles of joints, length of neck, and back and overall balance.
- ❖ Allowances should be made for minor blemishes due to previous injuries.

Notes for Judges (Cont)

- ❖ Horses showing conformation faults in led Clydesdale classes should score lower in the Judge's mental assessment.
- ❖ The horse's movement should be rhythmical while going in a straight line. Horses showing movement faults can score lower in the Judge's assessment,
- ❖ The Judge may ask a competitor to leave the ring if their horse becomes unruly at any stage or is dangerous to other competitors.
- ❖ The horse should be relaxed and not show excessive signs of nervousness. Young horses may show some signs of tension when taken to initial outings.

5.3 Driving/Harness Events – Guidelines

Safety Issues:

- Some kind of physical/visual barrier should separate spectators from horses at all times.
- Horses should be enclosed in a specified area/arena when competing, otherwise they are to be contained in a secure area.
- Loading ramp should be in a sound condition, ie, to facilitate the safe unloading/loading of horses (posts/planks to be sound and any gaps/holes to be safely covered/filled).
- Fences/horse stalls where horses are to be secured are to be sound/solid. For tying up purposes, horses can also be secured to owner's own truck/float.
- Use of temporary/non fixed/ obstacles are preferred to ones that are of a fixed nature, ie, obstacles of a fixed nature can be replaced with witches hats).
- Trotting NOT PERMITTED at any time otherwise penalties may be incurred.
- Any persons competing should be current financial CCHS members or have current paid Junior Exhibitor Levy, otherwise they would not be permitted to participate in any competition.
- Refer to the CCHS Risk Management Manual for more information.

Judging Considerations:

- Ideally each class should have between 4 and 8 obstacles or a set of skills/tasks, (if the course is too long, spectators may lose interest).
- The judge can award points for each task or obstacle out of a total of 10 points. The competitor with the least penalty points is deemed to be the winner.
- Time taken for the event will be considered only when two or more of the competitors have equal points.
- Penalty points will be added at the discretion of the Judge for each occasion when the horse trots during the course.
- In classes that are focussed on the Driver, consideration of the driver's ability should be taken into account as well as their accuracy.
- At all times safety must be taken into account, i.e. no dropping of the reins to open a gate, thus having no contact with the horse and the possibility of allowing reins to be caught/tangled in chains, sled or tyre.
- In the event of smaller horses competing against larger horses, the Judge at their discretion may penalise the smaller horse due to its size advantage if classes do not separate them.

6.1 Encouraging Juniors

- The objectives of Junior events are to provide opportunities for young people who currently own or show Clydesdale horses. With the aim of promoting good horse person ship, sports person ship and leadership, this can be achieved by juniors learning to accept Judge's decisions.
- The CCHS conducts events for Junior competitors. The procedure for running these events and the judging criteria will be consistent with the all CCHS classes (except where otherwise stated).
- To further encourage Junior competitors, Branches provide special awards, eg, Junior Handler classes.
- Juniors (under 13 years of age) may be permitted to compete with mares or geldings other than registered Clydesdales, in branch conducted junior events to encourage them to become part of the Society.

6.2 Age Groups

Age Group for competitions are as follows:

- Junior Competitors are deemed to be under the age of 18 years at the time of the activity sanctioned by the CCHS,

And must have:

- The written consent of a parent or legal guardian before a Junior Competitor is able to partake in CCHS activities.
- Paid a fee known as a Junior Competitors Levy which will be required to be paid and received by the Federal Secretary, so they may partake in Society events if the Junior is not a financial member of the CCHS in his or her own right.

6.3 Safety Precautions

(To be in conjunction with the Junior segment of the Risk Management Manual)

- Adult supervision for application of horse gear and marshalling of junior competitors is advisable and helpful for organisers.
- If a horse becomes unruly at any stage while in the ring, the junior competitor shall be asked to dismount, as applicable, and leave the ring.
- Competitors should enter or leave the ring only at walking pace.
- When obstacles are required in certain classes, they must be sensible and suited to the abilities and ages of competitors.

6.4 Junior Judging Competitions**RULES**

- The way to ensure a high standard of judging is to encourage young members to learn all they can about Judging from existing experienced Judges. Branches are encouraged to conduct Junior Judging Competitions.
- The minimum age for Junior Judging Competitions is 8 years.
- In a Junior Judging Competition, competitors could be asked to judge four horses and place them accordingly. The results could be compared to the placing's done by the Horse Assessment Judge. Additionally, a Competitor Assessment Judge can also evaluate the competitors upon personal presentation, attitude and manner.
- Competitors must be correctly attired – neat, clean and tidy. The recommended attire for Branch events include:
 - ❖ Shirt with/without tie
 - ❖ Jumper/Jacket
 - ❖ Jodhpurs/Trousers
 - ❖ Boots/sturdy footwear
 - ❖ Hat/Cap/Helmet (as applicable)

6.5 Sample Judging Procedure – Led Classes

- The youth competitors are assembled in the centre of the judging ring as the horses are numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 (ideally 4 horse) enter the ring.
- The Horse Assessment Judge should line the horses up side by side, but far enough apart for groups of competitors to walk around them.
- Competitors are allowed approximately 2 minutes per horse for assessment before they are asked to move on to the next horse.
- The competitors can complete the judging cards (as applicable) for each of the horses on the following segments with a comment (where desired) and a score out of 10 points:
 - ❖ Neck and head
 - ❖ Forelegs
 - ❖ Shoulder and wither
 - ❖ Body and coupling
 - ❖ Hindquarters
 - ❖ Hind legs
- The Horse Assessment Judge asks the horse handlers, one at a time, to parade their horses in a requested workout, including a walk and a trot.
- The competitors can complete the judging card (as applicable) for each of the horses on the following segments with a comment (where desired) and a score out of 10 points:
 - ❖ Movement and presence
 - ❖ Straightness of action
 - ❖ Manners
 - ❖ Presentation
- The competitor can then total the points for each horse (maximum 100 points) and the horse placed accordingly, ie, the horse with the highest points being the winner.
- The horses can then be paraded on the circle for a final assessment before judging cards are finalised. The cards can be handed in or held centrally, as determined by the Branch committee.
- Once all judging cards have been handed in/held, only then will the Horse Assessment Judge line the horses up in place order and a ribbon presentation done. The Horse Assessment Judge then has the opportunity to speak to the competitors about the placings.

- The Competitor Assessment Judge assesses and scores each competitor according to presentation, approach to judging and suitability of comments (maximum 10 points). The Horse Assessment Judge and the Competitor Assessment Judge will hand their judging cards to the Steward for final scoring.

6.6 Junior/Adult Handler Competitor Procedure

- Junior Handler classes are to be judged strictly on the handler's ability to show a horse in a led class unless stated otherwise.
- The procedure for judging is as follows:
 - ❖ The horses and the handlers enter the ring at a walk as directed by the Steward. The horse is to be led from the near side. The horse must walk at the same pace as the handler – moving in a forward and alert manner.
 - ❖ When instructed to line-up, the handler must stand the horse squarely on all four feet and must present the horse in a position so as not to hinder the Judge's view of the horse at any time.
 - ❖ The Judge will then call upon the individual handlers to present their horse, and parade to the Judge's request. When turning, it must be to the right to give the Judge a full view of the horse. Know where the Judge is at all times, so as not to obstruct their view of the horse.
 - ❖ The handler must always keep their position in the line and allow a reasonable space between the horses on either side. If asked to change position in the line, the horse should be backed out of the line and approach the new position from behind.
 - ❖ The handler must be alert and courteous and respond quickly to instructions from the Judge or Steward.
- Un Sportsperson like behavior may cause elimination.
- This event will be judged on the following guidelines:
 - ❖ The horse is to be clean and well presented. Consideration should not be given to the horse's conformation/type, as the class is for the competitor.
 - ❖ The horse can be shown in a bridle with a snaffle bit that is well fitted, neat and clean. A show cane is permitted and may be approximately one metre in length.
 - ❖ The handler is to be well presented (coat not necessary). Attire as mentioned previously is preferred.
 - ❖ Showpersonship is to be judged on the handler's ability to show their horse.
- In order to gain maximum points, avoid the following:
 - ❖ Kicking or hitting the horse.
 - ❖ Talking with other contestants.
 - ❖ Failure of the horse to lead properly.
 - ❖ Failure to stop the horse before turning when at a walk or trot.
 - ❖ Failure to back the horse when necessary.
 - ❖ Excessive loud voice commands to the horse.
 - ❖ Turning the horse in the wrong direction.
 - ❖ Blocking the Judge's view of the horse.
 - ❖ Causing the Judge to move to avoid being bumped or stepped on.