SECTION B

ORGANIZATION OF SHOW

Saddle Horse Shows are organized under the specifications laid down by the Saddlebred Society of South Africa. The rules developed by this Society are recognized at every show although some small shows have a skeletal plan using only one Judge and only one Steward who acts as the Ringmaster.

Organized Regional Championship Shows may use three Judges or one Judge, there must be at least one senior Judge on a three-Judge panel, or, in the event that only one Judge is used he/she must be a senior Judge. A program of classes, developed by the committee is used. This remains fairly flexible according to the needs of the exhibitors.

The South African National Saddle Horse Championships which are held annually will be judged by four senior Judges. Whether Judges will be invited from the United States 1, 2, 3, or 4 will be decided annually by the Board or AGM. All judges will be nominated by the Sub-Unions and their names will be submitted to the Board. Nominations may also be made at an AGM. The South African Judges will be voted in at the Annual General Meeting and the Board or the AGM will appoint the American Judges. *(AGM decision 2021)*

REQUIREMENTS FOR SADDLEBRED REGIONAL SHOWS
Approved at Council meeting of 29 August 2019

The following requirements must be met before a show qualifies for Regional Show status:
- There must have been the participation of a minimum of Saddlebreds at the previous year's show as determined by the Council from year to year (currently 80).
- There must be a minimum of built stables available for Saddlebreds as determined by the Council from year to year (currently 120).
- A minimum of 1 Senior qualified, paid-up Saddle Horse judge - or 3 qualified, paid-up Saddle Horse judges of which at most may be two (2) junior Saddle Horse judges. To ensure that judges are qualified and fully paid members of the Judges Association of SA they must be approved by the relevant Sub-union Management.
- The infrastructure of the town where the show is held should lend itself to providing adequate accommodation.
- The standard show program must be approved by the Sub-Union.
- The software provided by the Saddle Horse Society (Gaitkeeper Horse Show Management) must be used by the show organizers (i) for entries, (ii) during the show, and (iii) the results must be provided to the office in that program's format.
- The Sub-Union must levy the applicable drug fee per Saddlebred entry as annually determined by Council, (currently R80)
- The Sub-Union must charge a donation per Saddlebred entry as annually determined by Council, and payable to the Society for the benefit of the National Horse Trust, (currently R10.00).
- The Sub-Union must always ensure that all exhibitors, subscribers, or the responsible person sign the necessary indemnity documents before each show and send it to the Society after the show.
- The Sub-Union must ensure that all Veterinary Treatment Certificates are submitted and forwarded to the Society after the show.
- The Sub-Union must ensure that the results, together with the judges" cards, are sent to the Society after the show.
- All exhibitors must be paid-up members of a sub-union, which is not necessarily the sub-union in which the regional show is presented.
- An official application must be submitted to the Council for Regional Show status by the relevant Sub Union, confirming that the above requirements are met.

Once regional show status has been granted by the Council, it will not automatically lapse if there is non-compliance in any respect.

The status of the regional show awarded will only lapse if such a request is made by the relevant sub-union to the Council and the Council decides accordingly. Such a decision cannot be retroactive. *(Revised by Council 12.10.2022).*

REQUIREMENTS FOR SADDLEBRED CLUB SHOWS

The following requirements must be met before a show qualifies for Club Show status:
- There must have been the participation of a minimum of Saddlebreds at the previous year's show as determined by the Council from year to year (currently 30).
- There must be a minimum of built stables available for Saddlebreds as determined by the Council from year to year (currently 35).
- One judge is sufficient.
- All exhibitors must be paid-up members of a sub-union, which is not necessarily the sub-union in which the club show is presented.
- An official application must be submitted to the Council for Club Show status by the relevant Sub Union, confirming that the above requirements are met.
- Once club show status has been granted by the Council, it will not automatically lapse if there is non-compliance in any respect.
- The awarded status of the club show will only lapse if such a request is made by the relevant sub-union to the Council and the Council decides accordingly. Such a decision cannot be retroactive.
- Included here is a brief description of the show organization with points listed in alphabetical order:
  Announcer's Clerk – Checks horses for the announcer and supplies names of sponsors, exhibitors, and horses.
  Awards Clerk – Welcomes and introduces the sponsors and organizes the presentation of prizes.
  Arena – Ideally the size of an arena should be + 45 meters x 90 meters. The announcer and other arena officials may be accommodated outside the arena with the Judges, Ringmaster, and/or Steward/s having access to the center, or alternately provision may be made in the center of the arena for all of the show officials.
  Communication – No one besides the Stewards or Ringmaster may communicate with the Judge and/or Judges on matters regarding horses and/or exhibitors at the show until the show has finished.

Dress Regulation, Handlers – Men are required to wear a dress shirt, (plain white, single colour or small checks) tie, and neat pants. Women are to wear suitable clothing that is considered to be in good taste for the occasion. There will be a fine imposed on handlers that are not dressed according to these rules (the amount will be determined by the Board from time to time). No advertisement of stables/stud names/persons may be visible on clothes, aprons, caps, etc. at any time in the arena.

Dress Regulation, Judges – Men are required to wear a jacket/blazer and tie when judging and ladies are required to wear a jacket with slacks or a dress/skirt when judging. Judges are to dress in keeping with the formality of the sport. All exhibitors and handlers are expected to dress correctly when entering the arena.

Dress Regulation, Stewards – Men are required to wear a coat and tie when stewarding and ladies are required to wear a jacket with slacks when stewarding. Stewards are to dress in keeping with the formality of the sport.

Eligibility – Exhibitors - All exhibitors must be members of the Saddle Horse Breeders Society of South Africa as a breeder (with fully paid membership) or pay an "exhibitor fee" as a show member in order to show at the SA National Championship Show in Bloemfontein. All exhibitors must be members of their respective sub-unions (with fully paid membership) in order to show at the SA National Championship Show in Bloemfontein. All exhibitors, according to their status, need to be members of either the Professional Trainers or the Amateur Union. Junior exhibitors (children) must be members (with full paid membership) of a sub-union to participate in both Regional Shows as well as the SA National Championship Show at Bloemfontein. Exhibitors are required to declare their status as either a Professional Trainer, Amateur, or Junior exhibitor.

Eligibility, Foreign Exhibitors – Foreign teams or foreign exhibitors, (non-residents of South Africa), will be allowed to show as guests and will be required to conform to all rules and standards. Exhibitors may not wear any clothing, aprons, caps, etc. that advertises a stable/stud/person.

Eligibility, Horses – All horses must be registered with the Saddlebred Society of South Africa.

Full Steward's Committee – A full Steward's Committee consists of:
Announcer
Collecting ring Steward
Gate Steward

Ringmaster
Show Entries Clerk
Tabulator
Three Judge's Stewards

Announcer – An Announcer is a qualified Steward, it is the Announcer's job to promote all sponsors, inform the exhibitors of the Judge's requests and decisions, to assist in keeping control of the time limitations, to entertain and inform the public.

Collecting Ring Steward – The Steward that maintains strict time control and informs exhibitors of any delays in the time schedule provides exhibitors with the time „countdown" before each class. This Steward checks exhibitors and their horses for correct equipment, and dress and may assist in identifying possible cross-entries.

Collecting Ring Stewards may check/inspect any horse and not necessarily all of the horses. Exhibitors will have the choice of supplying a groom to assist during inspection if a horse is difficult. This must be done in a safe area and the 3-minute rule will apply. If a horse is not inspected by the Stewards and the Exhibitor is caught with something illegal a heavy fine will be imposed.

Gate Person – This person controls the gate according to strict time schedules and will ensure that late exhibitors will not enter the arena.

Ringmaster – The Ringmaster is in control of the arena. All exhibitors, Stewards, and other officials answer to the Ringmaster. Disqualifications, which constitute measurable facts and any potentially dangerous situations that may occur are the responsibility of the Ringmaster acting in agreement with the judges. The Ringmaster keeps strict control of each class.

Show Entries Clerk – This person need not be a qualified Steward. The person in charge of show entries, the show entries clerk must be competent and aware of possible cross entries between Three-gaited and Five-gaited horses, Fine and Single Harness horses, Pleasure Horses, and all other classes as well as the exception regarding Equitation and Breeding Mare classes. The clerk must be aware of age groups in horses, age groups in Children's classes,
height limit classes, and entries of under 18 years in amateur classes, Ladies and Gentlemen's classes.

Tabulator – The tabulator tabulates the Judge's cards. This may be done personally by a tabulator or by a computer program for the Hi-Low system.

Three Judge's Stewards – A full Steward's Committee includes a Steward for each Judge. This is required at the National Championship show.

Hi-Low System – The Hi-Low System is a method of tabulation whereby the average opinion of three Judges is determined. The three Judges judge entirely independently and communicate, if necessary, through the Steward or the Ringmaster.

The three Judge's cards are posted soon after every class for the public to inspect. Therewith is a brief description of the Hi-Low System:

The Ringmaster will draw lots to decide which Judge will start the day as call Judge, second Judge, or third Judge. This order will rotate with each class.

The tabulator places the marked cards in the order of call Judge, second Judge, and third Judge. Working from left to right and top to bottom the tabulator crosses out all exhibitor numbers that do not appear on at least two cards. He/she then crosses out an exhibitor number where it appears in its highest position on any of the three cards and in its lowest position on any of the three cards and then circles the same exhibitor number where it appears in a middle position.

If an exhibitor number appears in the same position on two cards the tabulator (working from left to right) crosses out the number when it first appears and circles it on the card to the right.

If an exhibitor number appears on only two cards it is added to the bottom of the third card and then crossed out.

See example of a 'clear placing situation' with the three Judges' cards:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
666	224	(666)	
204	666	(224)	
224	(204)	204	
21	100	(21)	
52	105	(52)	
	21		
	52		

See the example of the same card tabulated:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
666	224	(666)	666
204	666	(224)	224
224	(204)	204	204
21	100	(21)	21
52	105	(52)	52
	21		
	52		

All circled exhibitor numbers represent the „placings" and are listed from top to bottom.

Note that # 21 was added to the 2nd Judge's card at the bottom and crossed out. This is by default as the horse got two votes from the Call and 3rd Judge so it is automatically added to the bottom of the 2nd Judge's card for tabulation purposes.

Two of the three Judges must have a number on their card for that number to be added at the bottom of the remaining card. You can see by the tabulation that #666 is first, #224 is second, #204 is third, #21 is 4th and #52 is fifth.

To resolve tie situations:

A Two-Way False Tie occurs when the tabulator finds two numbers circled on the same line. This is how to resolve the tie.

Two-Way False Tie – For two numbers circled on the same line penalty points are counted and the exhibitor number with the least amount of penalty points wins.

Penalty points work according to the position of the numbers on the cards.

1 point is given for first, 2 points for second, 3 points for third, etc.

If a number appears in the first position, second position, and third position that exhibitor number earns 6 points. (1 for the 1st placing, 2 for the second placing, and 3 for the 3rd placing. 1+2+3 = 6 penalty points.)

If another exhibitor number earns a fourth position, a second position, and a first position that exhibitor number earns 7 points.

The number with the least amount of penalty points earns the higher award and the tied number with more points slots in just below.

See the example of a Two-Way False Tie below:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
224	666	(666)	
204	(204)	(224)	
666	224	204	
100	21	(21)	
105	52	(52)	
21			
52			

Note that numbers 204 and 224 have tied for 2nd place. Penalty points are used to resolve this tie, see the diagram below.

	Penalty Points			
	204		224	
	2		1	
	2		3	
	3		2	
	7		6	

Note that number 204 had 2 second-place votes and 1 third-place vote earning a total of 7 penalty points.

Number 224 had 1 first-place vote, 1 second-place vote, and 1 third-place vote earning a total of 6 penalty points thus exhibitor number 224 wins the tie for 2nd place because there are fewer penalty points.

Three-Way False Tie –
If three numbers are circled on the same line the Tabulator counts the penalty points and the numbers with the least penalty- points wins. See the placing of the numbers in the diagram below.

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
224	666	52	
204	21	106	
(666)	(52)	(204)	
(21)	(224)	666	
52	204	224	
		21	

Penalty Points:

Penalty Points			
666	52	204	
1	1	2	
4	3	5	
3	5	3	
8	9	10	

Exhibitor number 666 has the least penalty points so is the winner of this tie. Number 52 slots in second place and 204 in third. The tie resulting between 21 and 224 for 4th place is also resolved with penalty points after which they will slot in the 4th and 5th places.

Two-Way True Tie –
If two exhibitor numbers are circled on the same line and the penalty points are equal the situation is resolved by determining which number was placed higher by two of the three judges. A checkpoint is awarded to a number every time it is placed higher than the number with which it is tied. The number with the most checkpoints wins. See the example below:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
224	204	666	
155	666	224	
666	224	204	
204	155	155	

Penalty points used to break the Two-Way True Tie:
Penalty-points:

Penalty Points			
224		666	
1		3	
3		2	
2		1	
6		6	

Note that the penalty-points are equal in this situation. Now you use checkpoints, see example below.

Check-points:

Check-Points			
224		666	
✓		✓	
		✓	
1		2	

Exhibitor number #666 has earned the most checkpoints and is thus the winner of the tie.
Remember that ties can occur between any placings and can be resolved in the same manner.

Combination Tie (True and False)

If three numbers are circled on one line and two numbers are true-tied and one number is false-tied it is resolved by penalty points and checkpoints combined. See the example below:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
224	(224)	224	
666	100	155	
(155)	(666)	(100)	
204	155	666	
100			

Note that #155, #666, and #100 are all circled on the same line. Penalty-points are used with #155 and #666 earning the same amount, resulting in another tie however, #100 has earned 10 penalty points and will slot into 4th place.

See the example below:

Penalty-points:

Penalty Points			
	155	666	100
	3	2	5
	4	3	2
	2	4	3
	9	9	10

Checkpoints are then used to break the tie between #155 and #166.
Remember the number earning the most checkpoints will be the winner of the tie.

Check-Points				
	155		666	
	✓		✓	
			✓	
	1		2	

#155 appeared only once before #166 on all three cards, while #666 appeared twice before #155 on the cards, therefore #666 is the winner of this tie with the most checkpoints.

Three-Way True Tie –
If three numbers are circled on the same line and two of the numbers can be resolved by penalty--points but the third number cannot be resolved a work-out of the three horses is required.

See example below:

Call Judge	2nd Judge	3rd Judge	Placings
224	155	666	
(155)	(666)	(224)	
666	224	155	

Note that #155, #666, and #224 are all tied on the second line. See the effect of penalty-points and checkpoints below:

Penalty-points:

Penalty Points			
155	666	224	
1	3	1	
3	2	3	
2	1	2	
6	6	6	

Note the penalty-points are even here; now use the checkpoints.

Checkpoints:

Check-Points			
155	224	666	
✓	✓	✓	
✓	✓	✓	
✓	✓	✓	
3	3	3	

Note that neither penalty-points nor check-points can resolve this tie. When this occurs a work-out of the three horses is required and the Judges mark their cards again for tabulation.

Three-Way Unbreakable True Tie – If, after a work-out, there is another tie it is resolved by the decision of the Call Judge.

Judges – The Riding Horse Judge's Association of South Africa qualifies South African Judges. Each applicant is tested by a series of exams both practical and written and an apprenticeship, in the show ring, as a junior Judge. Applicants passing the exams and receiving three positive reports from senior Judges at three different shows are eligible for promotion to senior status.

Measuring Steward – The Measuring Steward is attached to the Collecting Ring and will be available to measure horses for all height-limit classes. The Measuring Steward will also check Natural Mane and Tail Horses for any indications of previously cut tail if deemed necessary.

Protests – Protests against a Judge must be made in writing containing a full statement describing the alleged violation. The letter must be witnessed and signed by the protestor and a cheque for the amount stipulated by the committee must be enclosed. This may be addressed to the Riding Horse Judge's Association. The protestor must be prepared to appear personally for testimony in the event of a hearing.

Qualification Data – Horses – National Championships – All Sub-Unions will use the computerized „show program" that is used at the National Championships. In this way all the data regarding placings at Regional Shows will be in the correct format to send to the Saddlebred Society office to be used to determine the necessary qualifications for the National Championship

Show. Training in the use of the computerized „show program" is available through the Saddlebred Society office and the cost thereof will be paid by the relevant Sub-Union.

Records Clerk – Fills in record books.

Rule Changes – No rule changes may be made after the closing date for the entries of any show including the National Championship Show.

Stewards – Stewards are trained and qualified through the Show Horse Steward's Association which is affiliated with the Riding Horse Judge's Association. A good Steward is an expert on the rules and implementation thereof and is required to act quickly and efficiently in the face of potential danger in the show ring. Stewards assist the Judge in every way with the exception of any decisions regarding the judgement of horses and riders. Stewards are invited and/or appointed to various shows.

Steward's Committee – Tabulator – "Once the Judge's cards are handed to the Tabulator, Judge's cards may not be returned to a Steward or a Judge for corrections or changes. Therefore, Judges and Stewards must check cards before submitting cards for tabulation. Check for the correct numbers, duplication of numbers, Judge's signature, and signatures of Judge next to changes or corrections made on the card."

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