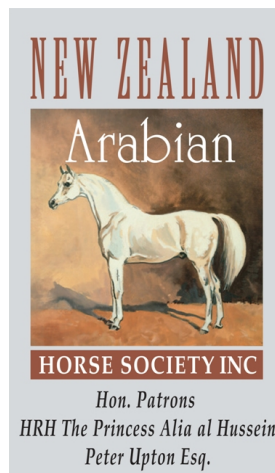


The New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc)



**RULES FOR JUDGING & SHOWING**  
**ARABIAN HORSES**  
**2023/2024**

**ALL COMPETITORS, SHOW OFFICIALS & JUDGES  
SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH ALL SECTIONS OF THIS RULE BOOK**

## DEFINITIONS

**THE SOCIETY:** means the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc).

**NZAHS:** means the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc).

Words implying the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter genders where the context reasonably permits.

**JUDGES:** the word “Judge” applies throughout to Judges approved by the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc). Approved Judges will be in four categories: Senior, Junior, Learner and Guest.

**SENIOR JUDGE:** a Senior Judge is an individual who is entitled to officiate alone at any show. A Senior Judge may be accompanied by a Learner Judge, with not more than one Learner Judge in the ring at any one time. A Senior Judge may also carry an International Judge accreditation. This entitles him to officiate alone at any show outside New Zealand.

**JUNIOR JUDGE:** a Junior Judge is an individual who may judge alone at any show other than Class “A” or “AA” Shows. Junior Judges may not be accompanied by a Learner Judge. Before any Junior Judge can become a Senior Judge they must pass any such examinations (written or practical) as the Society may from time to time require.

**LEARNER JUDGE:** a Learner Judge is an individual who has a desire to become a Judge, to whom, upon application, the Society has granted permission to accompany a Senior Judge in the show ring. There is no limit to the number of times a Learner Judge may participate. A Learner Judge has no authority but may consult with the Senior Judge during classes. The Senior Judge concerned must give a written report regarding the Learner Judge's ability to the Society. It is urged upon all Senior Judges as an important and obligatory duty to give the opportunity to Learner Judges to accompany Senior Judges in the show ring. Before any Learner Judge can become a Junior Judge, the Society must be in receipt of at least two favourable reports from two different Senior Judges and must pass any such examinations (written or practical) as the Society may from time to time require.

**GUEST JUDGE:** a Guest Judge is a person who is a qualified Arabian Horse Judge from a World Arabian Horse Organization (WAHO) approved Society, or any other person approved by the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc).

**STUD BOOK:** means the Arabian Horse Stud Book of the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc).

**REGISTER:** means the Register of Derivative Horses (including Anglo Arabian, Partbred and Derivative horses containing not less than 12.5% Arabian blood) that is produced from time to time by the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc).

**ROLL OF MERIT:** is the method by which recognised shows are accorded gradings by the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc). Horses taking Champion and Reserve Champion awards at these shows accumulate points for Roll of Merit awards in various sections. No show shall receive or maintain Roll of Merit (ROM) Grading status that does not take on the NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing Arabian Horses and does not comply with the stipulation that results be forwarded to the Society office immediately after the Show.

**SHOW GRADINGS:** unless otherwise advised, such show gradings will consist of the following: “AA” – New Zealand National Championships Show and “A” – North Island and South Island Championship Shows and other shows as approved by the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc) from time to time.

**AGE:** the age of all horses and ponies to be calculated as from 1<sup>st</sup> August. Every horse foaled before 1<sup>st</sup> August in any year shall be deemed to be one year old on that date (this includes imported horses).

**FILLY:** means a female under four (4) years of age which has not had a foal.

**COLT:** means an entire male under four (4) years of age.

**MARE:** means a female four (4) years of age and over.

**DRY MARE:** a mare that is not in foal and has not been covered in the current season.

**WET/BROOD MARE:** a mare that has a foal at foot or has foaled and weaned a foal in the current show season. Proof that she has foaled or lost a foal in the current show season may be required. A Wet/Brood Mare cannot compete in Ridden Sections.

**IN-FOAL MARE:** a mare that has been covered in the current show season and has a positive pregnancy test. A vet certificate of proof of mare being in foal (minimum 15 day scan) may be required.

**STALLION:** means an entire male four (4) years of age and over.

**GELDING:** means a male which has been castrated. To be eligible for applicable classes, geldings must be castrated at the time of the show.

**“AA” CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP AGE CLASSES** will be as follows:

- Juniors – foal and yearling
- Intermediate – two (2) year old and three (3) year old
- Senior – four (4) years and over

**“A” CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP AGE CLASSES** will be as follows:

- Juniors – foal, yearling, two (2) year old and three (3) year old
- Senior – four years and over

**ELIGIBILITY OF PUREBRED FOALS FOR SHOWING AT A SHOW RUN UNDER NZAHS RULES FOR JUDGING & SHOWING ARABIAN HORSES:** Horses to be shown must be registered with the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc), or in the case of foals, be eligible for registration. Eligibility is defined as being: that the sire and dam of the foal are DNA typed at the time of close of entries for the show and that the breeder/exhibitor is, through full and current financial membership of the NZAHS, eligible to register the foal that is being entered for the show.

**IMPORTED HORSES:** Imported horses may not be shown until New Zealand registration (including DNA information) is completed and a certificate issued.

**HORSE OWNERSHIP:** All horses shown must be registered with the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc) and exhibited in the name of the bona fide owner or lessee. All leases must be registered with the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc).

**PROGENY CLASSES:** Progeny Classes shall have at least two exhibits, entered under the name of the Sire or Dam, one handler per animal. They shall be shown and judged under the same requirements for Halter classes. The emphasis shall be placed on reproductive likeness, uniform quality and similarity of breed characteristics and conformation.

**JUNIOR HANDLER CLASSES:** Junior Handler classes may be further broken down in sub-section age groups but handlers are considered to be “Junior Handlers” when they are under the age of 17 years. Junior Handlers may not carry a whip in their respective Junior Handler classes.

**NOVICE RIDER/HORSE/PONY:** A Novice rider/horse/pony is one that is yet to win six (6) classes in any conformation classes (eg Novice or Open) provided by any All Arabian Breed Show/A&P Show. Novice classes may be offered as: 0-2 wins and 0-5 wins. Novice horses may compete in Open events.

**OPEN CLASSIFICATION:** Open classification is more than six (6) wins in any conformation classes provided by any All Arabian Breed Show/A&P Show. Novice horses may compete in Open events.

**AMATEUR HANDLER/RIDER:** An Amateur HANDLER is one who, regardless of his equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, in the past three years has not directly or indirectly accepted as payment, goods or money for services usually provided by a professional in the areas of halter training of horse or handler, halter preparation including conditioning, or showing in halter. An Amateur RIDER is one who, regardless of his equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, in the past three years has not directly or indirectly accepted as payment, goods or money for services usually provided by a professional in the areas of breaking, riding, training/schooling under saddle, driving, or showing under saddle.

The following activities shall not affect the Amateur status of a person who is otherwise qualified:

- a) The writing of books.
- b) Accepting remuneration for judging or stewarding.
- c) Speaking at workshops, clinics, seminars or training days in a voluntary capacity where they do not accept a fee for their services.
- d) Receiving prize money or goods/services as prizes.
- e) Having the occupation of farrier, veterinarian, stable hand or groom.
- f) Owning or operating a saddlery, stud or breeding farm or boarding stables.

Spouses and immediate family of a trainer are also able to be classed as Amateur, as long as they are not involved with the breaking, training, schooling, riding or showing of any of the horses the trainer is being paid to work.

The Amateur Handler/Rider is not required to own the horse that they show.

No coaching, verbal instructions or signals are to be given from the sideline or in the Marshalling area whilst awaiting the class.

**WHIP LENGTH:** Whip used in halter classes must not exceed 145cm from handle to end of the tail. For ridden/performance classes, whips must not exceed 76cm.

**EXCESSIVE USE OF THE WHIP:** Excessive use of the whip will result in the handler or rider being required to leave the ring on the instructions of the Ring Steward or Judge.

**WHIP OR WELT MARKS:** Horses with whip marks (welts) will not be judged.

**BITTING OF STALLIONS OR COLTS:** Biting of stallions and colts is optional (under NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing Arabian Horses) but exhibitors are reminded that they must abide by the rules of the show at which they are competing.

**CAPTURED CHAINS:** Some shows (run under NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing Arabian Horses) may require captured chains. Competitors are advised to check the requirements of the shows at which they compete.

**SHOWING FOALS:** Foals shall not be shown in halters with chains. Chains may be captured or substituted with a leather (or equivalent) strap under the jaw.

**INCITING:** Handlers are not to incite horses on the showgrounds. Any incident observed by any Show Official or NZAHS Councillor which is considered to reflect abuse or cruel practice to an exhibit may result in immediate disqualification from all events in which that exhibit is entered. Stallions shall not be faced up to each other in the main ring or the collecting ring areas.

**SHOWING STALLIONS AT HALTER AND/OR UNDER SADDLE:** Stallions shall not be shown at halter or under saddle by any person aged 18 years or under. Proof of age of handler will be required. Stallions shall not be shown in any Junior Handler Class.

**FALSE TAILS:** False tails are acceptable in all classes for both Purebred and Derivative Arabians.

**PLAITING:** In Halter and Ridden classes, Purebred horses may be shown plaited without penalty. Horses should have natural, ungingered tail. Derivative horses may be shown in both Halter and Ridden classes plaited or unplaited without penalty.

**CLIPPING AND TRIMMING:** Horses which are shown with ears and tactile hairs unclipped and with a full mane shall be judged on their merits and without penalty. Removal of facial tactile hairs and trimming of ears and mane is optional however eyelashes must not be removed.

Exhibitors are reminded that trimming of whiskers, eye or inner ear hair/whiskers are NOT permitted for horses/ponies competing at Equestrian Sport New Zealand (ESNZ) or New Zealand Pony Clubs Association (NZPCA) or Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand (RAS) affiliated A&P Shows/Events.

**HEIGHT CERTIFICATE:** Is required for any class with a height stipulation. Competitors must be able to produce on request a Life Certificate or certificate issued in the current show season.

**PERFORMANCE CARD:** The NZAHS Performance Card comes into effect 1 August 2021 and is to be used at NZAHS All Arabian Shows AND when competing in the Arabian Breed Section at a RAS Affiliated Show/Event, to record all wins, whether Novice or Open, until 6 wins are achieved.

Exhibitors competing at RAS affiliated Shows/Events in Open Sections and/or classes defined by height, must carry a current RAS Certificate for their Horse/Pony to record these wins and must produce it upon request of any authorised Show/Event personnel. Any competitor unable to produce such certificate means the exhibit is ineligible to compete, and will forfeit any awards.

The NZAHS Performance Card and/or RAS Certificate must be carried at NZAHS All Arabian Shows and must be produced upon request of any authorised Show/Event personnel. Any competitor unable to produce such Card or Certificate means the exhibit is ineligible to compete, and will forfeit any awards.

The number of Novice wins is to be counted at the time of the Show/Event, not the time of entry. If a Novice entry exceeds the permitted number of wins by the day of the Show/Event, the competitor must advise the Secretary's Office.

**RIDDEN HORSES:** Must not be shown with martingales, tie-downs, bell boots, side reins and bandages. Horses must be 3 years and over in all Ridden classes.

**SAFETY HELMETS:** All riders must wear an approved safety helmet that complies with the safety standards accepted by Equestrian Sport New Zealand (ESNZ), New Zealand Pony Clubs Association (NZPCA) and the Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand (RAS). Such helmets shall be tagged with a compliant visible tag. RED tag from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2023. **YELLOW** tag from 1 August 2023. Any rider whose helmet is not appropriately tagged will not be permitted to enter the ring.

**PUREBRED CLASSIC HEAD:** Purebred Classic Head is judging of the head only. Horses enter the ring at the walk and line up ready for inspection. Sufficient room should be left between each horse to allow heads to be viewed from various angles. This class is also found in the Derivative Section but may be termed "Quality Derivative Head" or similar. The same ring criteria applies.

**CLASSIC TROT:** Classic Trot exhibits should enter the ring at the trot showing lengthening strides. Exhibits are judged between two definite markers. Only the trot is judged.

**CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES:** In each section of the programme, all class winners are eligible to compete for Champion. Each exhibit which has qualified for the championship must be given an individual workout. For Reserve Champion, the steward shall call the second placed horse in the class from which the Champion has been selected and place it in line with the class winners to be judged equally for the title of Reserve Champion. The Judge's decision is final.

**ONE HORSE/ONE HANDLER & ONE HORSE/ONE RIDER PERMITTED PER CLASS:** It is on the onus of the Handler/Rider with more than one horse eligible for a Championship to nominate the horse they will lead/ride and organise further Handler(s)/Riders(s) for any other eligible horse(s).

**ARABIAN NATIVE COSTUME:** Traditional Bedouin garb or Royal ceremonial dress. Natural materials are preferable, such as wool, cotton and leather in black, white, brown, dark blue, red, yellow and dark green. Blue beads, shells, silver and other traditional items such as authentic embroidery and jewellery may be worn.

**ARABIAN SHOW COSTUME:** Anything which makes an attractive picture reminiscent of the Arabian Nights legends or folklore of Eastern countries is acceptable.

**COSTUME LENGTH:** Show or Native costumes/tassels etc must not go below hocks or knees.

**PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE:** At shows run under NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing of Arabian Horses, testing for prohibited substances may take place. Prohibited substance (drug) means any substance affecting the performance or the behaviour of a horse by its action on the central or peripheral nervous system, the cardiovascular system, the musculo-skeletal system or the urogenital system.

**RANDOM SWABBING:** Random swabbing of an exhibit may occur at the discretion of the Show Committee. In the event of a positive result, the exhibit will be disqualified from any further classes and will forfeit any awards gained. Taking of specimens: Every exhibitor shall, upon request of a Show Official, permit a specimen of blood, urine or saliva or other substance to be taken from their exhibit for testing. Refusal to comply may result in disqualification from the applicable show.

## HORSE DEFINITIONS

**PUREBRED:** A horse of pure Arabian lineage and one acceptable to the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc.) and/or those of a Recognised Society, and to the World Arabian Horse Organization (WAHO).

**ANGLO ARABIAN (Section AA)** is one derived from Arabian and Thoroughbred blood exclusively, provided that:

- a) The Arabian horse must be registered in the New Zealand Arabian Horse Stud Book.
- b) The Thoroughbred horse must be named and registered in the New Zealand Stud Book maintained by the Racing Conference of New Zealand.
- c) Horses representing a blend of Arabian and Thoroughbred blood in any proportions, when interbred or when back crossed to either parental breed to produce an Anglo-Arabian, are also eligible for registration in the Anglo-Arabian section.
- d) ***Resultant progeny of any such mating must contain a minimum of 12.5% Arabian blood.***

**PARTBRED (Section PB)** may consist of the following:

- One registered Purebred Arabian parent.
- Two registered Partbred (PB) parents.
- Two Society Approved Section PB parents.
- One registered Anglo-Arabian (AA) and a registered Section PB parent.
- One registered Anglo-Arabian (AA) and a Society Approved Section PB parent.
- Or any other combination of these.
- ***Resultant progeny of any such mating must contain a minimum of 50% with a maximum of 99.9% Arabian blood***

**PARTBRED SC (Section C)** may consist of the following:

- Two Registered Section C parents.
- Two Society Approved Section C parents.
- One registered Partbred (PB) with One registered Section C parent.
- One registered Partbred (PB) with One registered Section D parent.
- One registered Partbred (PB) with One unregistered Section UR parent.
- One Registered Anglo-Arab with One registered Section C parent.
- One Registered Anglo-Arab with One registered Section D parent.
- One Registered Anglo-Arab with One unregistered Section UR parent.
- ***Resultant progeny of any such mating must contain a minimum of 25% with a maximum of 49.9% Arabian blood.***

**SD (Section D)** may consist of the following:

- Two registered Section D parents.
- One or Two Society Approved Section D parents.
- One registered Section C parent with One unregistered UR parent.
- One registered Section C parent with One registered Section D parent.
- ***Resultant progeny of such mating must contain a minimum of 12.5% with a maximum of 24.99% Arabian blood.***

### **APPROVED SOCIETY STUD BOOKS:**

For horses/ponies not registered with the New Zealand Arabian Horse Society (Inc.) it is the responsibility of the breeder to provide parent verification from an Approved Society Stud Book back to the Purebred Arabian blood line that contributes to the claim for percentage of Arabian blood. Such lines must be unbroken and all ponies/horses must be registered with an Approved Society for applications to be eligible. Proof of pedigree shall be in the form of copies of registration certificates or stud book entries for all ponies/horses back to the Purebred Arabian blood line. Approved Society Stud Books:

- New Zealand Welsh Pony & Cob Society
- New Zealand Riding Pony Society
- Pony Breeders Society of New Zealand
- New Zealand Warmblood Association
- New Zealand Hanoverian Society

## **SECTION A – REQUIREMENT OF A JUDGE**

### **REGULATIONS GOVERNING JUDGING AND SHOWING**

1. A Judge shall not be an exhibitor or manager at any show at which he is officiating.
2. A Judge shall not adjudicate in any show in which a member of his family, his employee or any of his or their horses are competing, unless the relationship is terminated three months prior to the show.
3. No horse may be shown before a Judge that has been sold by the said Judge or his employee within a period of three (3) months prior to the show, unless the sale or purchase has been made at a public auction.
4. No one may show a horse before a Judge from whom he has leased the said horse.
5. A judge may not officiate more than once within 160 kilometres during any three (3) month period.
6. A Judge shall not, during the period of a show at which he is judging, be the house guest of a person who is exhibiting at such show or whose family is exhibiting at such show.
7. A Judge should report his arrival at the town where the show is being held to the Show Secretary as soon as possible. Judges not showing up at the prescribed time without reasonable explanation will be liable for suspension.
8. Failure of a Judge to attend a show to which he is committed to perform his duties and to officiate in the classes to which he is assigned shall constitute cause for disciplinary action by the NZAHS, except in cases of extreme emergency. In the event that a show shall find it necessary to substitute a Judge for one who is officially designated, the restrictions of 1-7 above shall be non-effective.
9. A Judge must order from the ring any unruly horses whose actions threaten to endanger other exhibitors or their entries. Any horse which becomes free from its handler or rider in the judging arena, due to equipment failure or handler or rider error may not be disqualified provided that:
  - a) They do not leave the ring
  - b) They can be caught quickly without delaying the class in progress
  - c) Do not pose a danger to other competitors or the public

The final decision as to whether a horse is or is not disqualified shall rest with the Judge and shall be final.
10. A Judge shall have the authority to place a horse in whatever position in a class he thinks the merit of the horse justifies. His decision shall be final in all cases and is not a verdict by the Society.
11. No exhibitor shall approach a Judge with regard to a decision unless he first obtains permission from the ring steward who may arrange an appointment with the Judge at a proper time and place. The ring steward shall remain present during this meeting.
12. A Judge shall not confer with spectators without the presence of a ring steward.
13. A Judge shall not discuss with an exhibitor the purchase or sale or lease of any horse during a show at which he is officiating.
14. Good judging depends on a correct observance of the fine points and the selection of the best horses for the purpose described by the conditions of the class. A Judge serves three interests: exhibitors, spectators and his own conscience. Onlookers often pay to get in and they want to understand what happens.
15. The attention of Judges is directed to the difference in requirements between novice and open classes. Refer to the definitions for each as included in these rules.
16. A Judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing Arabian Horses. He is expected to possess a thorough knowledge of such rules.
17. A Judge shall not solicit judging appointments.
18. Whilst judging classes, the Judge will refrain from smoking, drinking alcohol or taking any substance that may impair his ability to judge effectively.
19. The use of mobile phones whilst judging is not permitted.



## SECTION B

### GENERAL

1. Horses must be entered under their full NZAHS registered name and number. Proof of registration may be required by show organisers.
2. The Judge shall make an individual examination and check the action of all horses brought before him in all halter classes. He should have the ability to examine each horse quickly and reasonably and have the ability to compare horses against each other and place them accordingly.
3. The normal procedure used in judging In Hand/Halter classes is as follows:
  - Horses enter at the walk or trot.
  - They circle the ring at the walk as directed by the Judge or Steward.
  - The horses will be lined up on one side with sufficient space between them for safety.
  - Each horse shall walk to the Judge and stand for inspection. The horse should then be asked to walk a few paces, then trot in a straight line away from the judge (a marker or reference point can be used). The handler should be asked to turn right with the trot maintained through the corner, in order to assess balance and proportion, topline and tail carriage, length of stride and engagement. The stride should be lengthened in a straight line across the Judge's vision.
  - Horses must be serviceably sound and in good condition.
4. **Requirements for Assessment:** An exhibit should:
  - Stand still for the Judge to inspect it.
  - Be able to perform the workout as directed. The Judge may allow a second workout if the horse suffers outside interference such as a loose horse galloping through the ring.
  - Not show any evidence of cruelty or distress from whip marks, spur marks, bleeding or drug abuse.
5. Transmissible weaknesses and/or unsoundness shall be counted strongly against.
6. **Artificial Markings:** Any change of colour or markings other than mane, tail or hoof is prohibited. These include artificial (painted) stars on foreheads, where no white hair exists.
7. Removal of tactile hairs and trimming of ears and mane is optional, but eyelashes must not be removed. Horses which are shown with ear and tactile hairs unclipped and with a full mane shall be judged on their merits and are not to be penalised.
8. Where entries are small, it is acceptable to combine Derivative classes. This is usually done on the basis of height or age. This decision is made by the applicable show committee.

## **SECTION C**

### **PROTESTS**

1. A protest may be made to the Show Secretary by an exhibitor for any violation of these rules. It must be:
  - (a) In writing, signed by the protestor.
  - (b) Accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00.
  - (c) Received by the Show Secretary within one hour of the alleged violation.
2. A protest must state full name and address of the accused and contain a complete and definite statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation. Precise details regarding the violation of the rules is necessary. The protest-maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest by personal testimony at a hearing or by sworn statements, witnesses or other evidence.
3. NON-PROTESTABLE DECISIONS:
  - (a) The soundness of a horse, when determined by an official veterinarian of the show is not protestable.
  - (b) A Judge's decision, representing his individual preference, is not protestable unless it is alleged to be in violation of the rules.

## **SECTION D**

### **RING STEWARDS**

1. To be appointed as Ring Steward any reputable person shall furnish evidence that they are capable through ability and experience and have a thorough knowledge of the rules of the Association. The Ring Steward should always present themselves in a neat well-groomed fashion, with their clothes appearing fresh and tidy.
2. If the class is too large, the Steward will inform the Judge of the numbers in the incoming class so that the Judge may divide the class if they so wish.
3. The Ring Steward will notify the Judge when all horses are present for each class and call their attention to those which are absent so that the class card can be marked. The Ring Steward will ensure that the Judge knows how many horses should be placed (regardless of ribbons being awarded) according to numbers in the class so that breed points may be recorded.
4. The Ring Steward has the responsibility of checking entries for eligibility and riders and horses for proper attire, equipment and appointments. In classes so designated, they must see no person rides more than one horse.
5. The Ring Steward should act as mediator between Judge and Exhibitor, and/or Spectators.
6. The Ring Steward must have in mind that they have been selected to help the Judge, not advise them. They shall carefully refrain from discussing or seeming to discuss the horses and/or exhibitors with the Judge. Stewards shall not take part or be seen to take part in any of the judging. When they are not actively engaged in any of their duties, they shall place themselves in such a position as not to interfere with the judging and the view of the spectators. They must not allow the exhibitors to crowd up the ring or arena and should, at all times, endeavour to keep the possibilities of an accident to a minimum. The Judge may request the Steward to move and place horses as he advises. When the ring or arena is small and the class entries are large, he should survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the Judge is ready for them to be judged. At the Judge's request, they have the authority to ask an exhibitor to remove their horse for the safety of other horses or spectators. It is necessary that a competent Ring Steward be used; one who can control the conduct of the horses and exhibitors in the ring or arena, who can keep the classes moving smoothly and who is well versed in the Rules of the Society. The Ring Steward also has the authority to remove unsportsmanlike exhibitors from the ring at the Judge's request.
7. After ribbons have been given out the Steward should have the placegetters circle the ring or arena for the benefit of the spectators.
8. Horses owned or trained by immediate members of their family or by the Ring Steward cannot be shown in an event where the Ring Steward is officiating. If due to labour shortages in small shows, it is found to be necessary for exhibitors to assist, they should not do so until they have finished exhibiting. At National Shows, no Secretary on the day should be exhibiting.
9. The Ring Steward is responsible for hosting the Judge on the day.
10. A good Ring Steward makes the work of the Judge much easier by relieving the Judge of details.

## **SECTION E**

### **ARABIAN TYPE AND CONFORMATION**

1. Comparatively small head, profile of head straight or preferably slightly concave below the eyes; small muzzle, large nostrils, extended when in action; large, round, expressive dark eyes set well apart (wall eyes shall be penalised in breeding classes); comparatively short distance between eye and muzzle; deep jowls, wide between the branches; small ears (smaller in stallions than mares), thin and well shaped, tips curved slightly inwards; long, arched neck, set on high and running well back into a well defined wither.
2. Long sloping shoulder well laid over with muscle; ribs well sprung; long, broad forearm, short cannon bone with large sinew; short back; loins broad and strong; croup comparatively horizontal; natural high tail carriage. Viewed from rear, tail should be carried straight; hips strong and round.
3. Well muscled thigh and gaskin; straight, sound, flat bone; relatively large joints, strong and well defined; sloping pasterns of good length; round feet of proportionate size. Height from 145cm to 155cm, with occasional individuals under or over.
4. Dark skin; solid colour except legs and face (white spots on body permissible), fine coat.
5. Stallions especially should have an abundance of natural vitality, animation, spirit, suppleness and balance.
6. All stallions or colts should have both testicles descended into the scrotum, except where a stallion has had one testicle surgically removed and has an appropriate veterinary certificate, a copy of which has been submitted to the show committee prior to the show.

## SECTION F

### **BREEDING AND HALTER CLASSES**

1. In breeding and Halter classes emphasis shall be placed upon type, conformation, substance and quality in this order:
  - (a) TYPE and CONFORMATION as defined in this rule book.
  - (b) SUBSTANCE is defined as the amount of muscular development, depth and width of the body.
  - (c) QUALITY is denoted by flat, clean bone, well defined tendons and joints, refined head and ears, and fine skin and hair.
2. Horses to be shown in hand at Walk and Trot – should stand square on all four feet, not stretched. The Walk should be a definite four beat gait that is brisk, true, flat footed with a good reach (the hind hoof overstepping the front track by some 8 inches). The Trot should be a definite two-beat diagonal gait that is balanced and free moving. Both the Walk and the Trot should be straight and true with a long swift and elastic stride.
3. Handled and shown throughout the entire class by only one and the same person.
4. A suitable strong headstall is mandatory. Throatlatches are optional.
5. Halter classes for Foals shall be shown and judged under the same provisions as above with the exception that foals shall not be asked to trot. Foals must be shown in halters without chains or with captured chains, or straps.
6. **CHAMPIONSHIPS** (refer to the “NZAHS A Class Approved Championships” and the “NZAHS AA Class Approved Championships” as approved and published annually by the NZAHS)
  - (a) Champion and Reserve Junior shall be awarded to foals, yearlings, two (2) year olds and three (3) year olds for “A” Class Championships.
  - (b) Champion and Reserve Junior shall be awarded to foals and yearlings for “AA” Class Championships.
  - (c) Champion and Reserve Intermediate shall be awarded to two (2) year olds and three (3) year olds for “AA” Class Championships.
  - (d) Champion and Reserve Champion Stallion shall be awarded to stallions four (4) years and over.
  - (e) Champion and Reserve Champion Mare shall be awarded to mares four (4) years and over.
  - (f) Supreme Champion (if contested): Class Champion including Geldings are eligible to compete, except at shows where geldings are specifically ineligible to compete for Supreme. There shall be no Reserve Supreme Champion.

## SECTION G

### **MOUNTED ARABIAN COSTUME**

**To be judged 50% on performance and manners, 50% costume**

#### 1. QUALIFYING GAITS

Competitors should enter the ring at a canter in single file (where practical). At the request of the Ring Steward, the horses will halt and line up for costume inspection. This can be done side by side or nose to tail. The horses are shown at a walk, canter and gallop only. Changes of pace may be called for at walk and canter. Trot is NOT used in this class.

The horse shall be ridden boldly, but with due consideration as to the welfare and safety of the horse and other competitors. A rein back may be requested by the judge.

The Arabian horse in costume must be well behaved, athletic and capable of smooth transitions from walk to canter and vice versa. To be shown and judged at a walk, canter and hand gallop (as described in this rule book), extreme or reckless speed to be penalised. Trotting or any tendency to prance shall also be penalised. Horses shall stand quietly and rein back readily.

#### 2. APPOINTMENTS

Bridle may consist of a snaffle bit or if a pelham is used, it must have rounder or single rein only, or a hackamore but it must enable the rider to have full control of the horse. The bridle must have a throatlatch. The use of martingales and/or drop nose bands is prohibited. No tie downs. Costume length must not be below hocks or knees. Costume to be securely fastened. Fringe or tassels in keeping with colourful desert regalia shall be added to equipment. A saddle or pad with stirrups must be used in conjunction with costume.

#### 3. COSTUME

“Arabian Costume” means either one of the following definitions:

- (a) “Arabian Native Costume”: Traditional Bedouin garb or Royal Ceremonial dress. Natural materials are preferable, such as wool, cotton and leather in black, white, brown, dark blue, red, yellow and dark green. Blue beads, shells, silver and other traditional items such as authentic embroidery and jewellery may be worn.
- (b) “Arabian Show Costume”: Anything which makes an attractive picture reminiscent of the Arabian Nights legends or folklore of Eastern countries is acceptable.

Please Note: Costume Classes may be run as one or divided as outlined in these definitions.

No object may be carried in either or both hands other than reins, a portion of aba or a riding crop.

#### 4. SAFETY HELMET

All riders must wear an approved safety helmet that complies with the safety standards accepted by Equestrian Sport New Zealand (ESNZ), New Zealand Pony Clubs Association (NZPCA) and the Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand (RAS). Such helmets shall be tagged with a compliant visible tag. RED tag from 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2023. **YELLOW** tag from 1 August 2023. Any rider whose helmet is not appropriately tagged will not be permitted to enter the ring.

#### 5. JODHPUR BOOTS or similar heeled boots MUST be worn.

## SECTION H

### **RIDDEN ARABIAN**

Exhibits competing in these classes are to be presented and judged as hacks. The quality hack should combine good conformation and soundness, displaying correct paces and rhythm and balance, giving the impression of beauty, elegance and obedience.

The picture of the horse should be pleasing to the eye. It should work lightly off the aids, ideally in self-carriage (lowering of the hindquarters and a raising of the shoulders), not on the forehand. It should show expressive paces whilst remaining obedient. The horse should exhibit correct flexion and bend (ie lateral flexion) at all times along with a willingness to work evenly on both reins. There should be an obvious acceptance of the bridle and no sign of resistance.

Quality, conformation, soundness and presentation, together with manners, paces and correctness of workout will be judged.

RIDERS must wear appropriately approved safety helmets (*refer to Definitions*).

1. (i) To be judged 60% on conformation and 40% on performance, quality and presence.  
(ii) The Judge shall work all horses on a large circle in both directions.  
(iii) All horses shall be inspected for conformation and soundness.
2. **QUALIFYING GAITS**  
To be shown and judged at a walk, trot and canter. An individual work out may be asked. It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride. All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness.
3. **INDIVIDUAL WORK-OUT**  
The individual work-out pattern shall be set by the Judge but should not ask for movements beyond the standard of the class being judged. The Judge may choose to individually work-out only those horses which he has selected to be his finalists.
4. **APPOINTMENTS**  
Ridden Horses must be exhibited in a bitted bridle (except as allowed for in the Mounted Arabian Costume Section). The Bridle shall be light show type either single snaffle, curb and snaffle or pelham bit. Bridle must have a throatlatch. No martingale or tie-downs. English type saddle. Please see the Definitions section for the allowable length of whip to be carried in saddle/performance classes.
5. **TURNOUT GUIDE (NZ Informal) - this has been included for Competitors AS A GUIDE ONLY:**

Bridle:	Double or Snaffle – colour to match Saddle
Saddle:	Leather where possible
Girth:	Leather where possible – short or long
Browband	Plain or decorative
Stirrup Leathers:	To match Saddle
Stirrups:	Rubbers optional
Numnah:	Optional – if worn, to match Saddle outline only, colour to blend
Horse:	Clean flowing mane (or plaited if taking Rules option) and tail Squares or Sharksteeth optional Hooves – oiled or blackened Soles – oiled False Tail – optional Clean and well-groomed horse

## **SECTION I**

### **GAITS**

1. **STEPS, STRIDES, PACES**

There are four steps to a stride at the pace of the walk (4-time)  
There are two steps to a stride at the pace of the trot (2-time)  
There are three steps to a stride at the pace of the canter (3-time)  
There are two steps to a stride at the pace of the rein back (2-time)  
There are four steps to a stride at the pace of the gallop (4-time).

2. **HALT**

At the halt the horse should stand attentive, motionless and straight, with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs and be ready to move off at the slightest indication of the rider. The neck should be raised, the poll high, the head a little in front of the vertical, the mouth light and maintaining a light contact with the rider's hand. The transition from any pace to the halt should be made progressively in a smooth and precise movement.

3. **ORDINARY WALK (Approximately 100m per minute)**

A free, regular and unconstrained walk of moderate extension. The horse should walk energetically but calmly with even and determined steps, distinctly marking four equal spaced beats. The rider should keep a light and steady contact with the mouth.

4. **COLLECTED WALK (Approximately 80m per minute)**

The horse moves resolutely forward, with his neck raised and arched. The head approaches the vertical position, the light contact with the mouth being maintained. The hind legs are engaged with good hock action. The pace should remain marching and vigorous, the legs being placed in regular sequence. Each step covers less ground and is higher than at the ordinary walk because all the joints bend more markedly. The hind feet touch the ground behind the footprint of the forefeet. In order not to become hurried or irregular, the collected walk is slightly shorter than the ordinary walk, although showing greater mobility.

5. **LENGTHENED WALK**

The horse should cover as much ground as possible, without haste and without losing the regularity of his steps. The hind feet touch the ground clearly beyond the footprints of the forefeet. The rider lets the horse stretch out his head and neck without however, losing contact, the head being carried in front of the vertical.

6. **FREE WALK**

The Free Walk is a pace of rest in which the reins being stretched to their utmost, the horse is allowed complete freedom of his head and neck.

7. **THE TROT**

The trot is a pace of two-time on alternate diagonals separated by a moment of suspension. The trot always with free, active and regular steps, should be moved into without hesitation. Must be mannerly, cadenced, balanced and free moving. The quality of the trot is judged by the general impression, the elasticity and regularity of the steps and impulsion, while maintaining the same cadence.

8. **ORDINARY TROT (Approximately 255m per minute)**

This is a pace between the lengthened trot and the collected trot. The horse goes forward freely and straight, engaging his hind legs with good hock action, on a taut but light rein, his position being balanced and unconstrained. The steps should be as even as possible. The hind feet touch the ground in the footprints of the forefeet. The degree of energy and impulsion displayed at the ordinary trot denotes clearly the degree of suppleness and balance of the horse.



9. COLLECTED TROT (Approximately 200m per minute)  
The neck is raised, thus enabling the shoulders to move with greater ease, the hocks being well engaged and maintaining energetic impulsion, notwithstanding the slower movement. The horse's steps are shorter, but he is lighter and more mobile. The collected trot is executed "sitting" unless otherwise instructed.
10. LENGTHENED TROT (Approximately 275m per minute)  
The horse covers as much ground as possible. He lengthens his stride, remaining on the bit with light contact. The neck is extended and, as a result of great impulsion from the quarters, the horse uses his shoulders, covering more ground at each step without his action becoming much higher. The ordinary trot and lengthened trot are executed "rising".
11. ORDINARY CANTER (Approximately 300m per minute)  
This is a pace between the lengthened canter and the collected canter. The horse, perfectly straight from head to tail, moves freely, with a natural balance. The strides are long and even and the pace well cadenced. The quarters develop an increasing impulsion. Very active. The horse's mobility is increased without any loss of impulsion.
12. LENGTHENED CANTER (Approximately 410m per minute)  
The horse extends his neck; the tip of the nose points more or less forwards, the horse lengthens his stride without losing any of his calmness and lightness.

## **SECTION J**

### **RULES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF SHOWS**

**(Shows as approved and published annually by the NZAHS)**

#### **“AA” Classification Show – New Zealand National Arabian Championship Show**

1. Clubs/Hosts must comply with the “AA” Class Show Classification Application Requirements as specified by the NZAHS.
2. Clubs/Hosts must run their event using the approved NZAHS “AA” Class Show Approved Championships.
3. Clubs/Hosts must run their event under the NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing Arabian Horses.
4. These rules will override and supersede anything that may have been previously published in relation to an “AA” classified Show, including those published by the RAS.
5. Special attention needs to be made to qualifications for showing for purebred foals and to the allowable age of handlers/riders of stallions and to the new safety helmet regulations.
6. No entries taken on the day.
7. Schedule and Judge(s) are approved by the NZAHS Council.

#### **“A” Classification Show – North Island & South Island Championship Shows & other shows as approved by the NZAHS from time to time**

1. Clubs/Hosts must comply with the “A” Class Show Classification Application Requirements as specified by the NZAHS.
2. Clubs/Hosts must run their event using the approved NZAHS “A” Class Show Approved Championships.
3. Clubs/Hosts must run their event under the NZAHS Rules for Judging & Showing Arabian Horses.
4. These rules will override and supersede anything that may have been previously published in relation to an “A” classified Show, including those published by the RAS.
5. Special attention needs to be made to qualifications for purebred foals and to handlers/riders of stallions and to the new safety helmet regulations.
6. Schedule and Judge(s) are approved by the NZAHS Council.

#### **There are no “B” or “C” Classification Shows**