

The Australian Stock Horse Society Limited

EVENTS HANDBOOK

Youth Events

Section 6

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This Handbook contains the Rules and Regulations for Australian Stock Horse Events and Competitions for THE AUSTRALIAN STOCK HORSE SOCIETY LIMITED, as approved by the Board of Directors, and is effective from 1st April 2004.

Please note that from 1st April 2004, all prior regulations will be superseded and are null and void. The Board shall determine any question not provided for by these regulations. Alterations to the regulations by addition, deletion or amendment will be effected by resolution of the Board.

NOTICE

Branches and Management Councils may only conduct the events listed in this Handbook. The Board of Directors must approve any other event being considered by a Branch or Management Council prior to advertising the said event. The Society's Public Liability Insurance Cover will not cover Branches and Management Councils that act outside Approved Events or run events in conjunction with other committees or organisations.

YOUTH EVENTS

1. ENCOURAGING YOUTH

- 1.1. The objectives of Youth Events are to provide opportunities for young people who currently own or show Australian Stock Horses. With the aim of promoting good horsemanship, sportsmanship and leadership, this can be achieved by youth learning to accept Judges' decisions.
- 1.2. Branches and Management Councils conduct events for Youth members as follows: Led, Hack, Working ASH, Ridden, Utility, Dressage, Campdrafting, Sporting, Challenge, Time Trial, etc. The procedure for running these events and the judging criteria will be consistent with the information provided in this Handbook under the appropriate sections.
- 1.3. To further encourage Youth members, Branches and Management Councils provide special awards for youth competitors in other events, eg, Highest Scoring Rider Under 18 Years in Open Challenge.
- 1.4. Juniors (under 13 years of age) are permitted to ride mares or geldings other than registered Australian Stock Horses, in Branch conducted Youth events only (not State or National events) to encourage children to become part of the Society.

2. PROTECTIVE HEAD GEAR

- 2.1. Competitors under 18 years of age must wear an equestrian helmet approved by the current Australian Standards Association or international equivalent, which must be securely fastened under the chin when mounted anywhere within the perimeter of the grounds, including all public areas, as well as in Led and Handler events. Youth Judging Competitions are optional or at the discretion of the organising committee.

3. AGE GROUPS

- 3.1. **Age Groups** for competitions are as follows:
 - 3.1.1. Children – under 8 years (ridden and/or led).
 - 3.1.2. Junior – 8 years and under 13 years.
 - 3.1.3. Juvenile – 13 years and under 18 years.
 - 3.1.4. Associate – 18 years and under 21 years.

4. HANDLING OR RIDING STALLIONS

- 4.1. Under no circumstances, are competitors, under 18 years of age, permitted to handle or ride stallions within the perimeter of the grounds.

5. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- 5.1. Any unsportsmanlike conduct by competitors, their parent/s or legal guardian/s, shall jeopardise the competitor's right to compete. At any time, the Judge or Show Committee has the right to issue a warning to the offending person or persons. Failure to comply with the warning may disqualify the competitor from further classes in the Show.

6. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- 6.1. Adult supervision for saddling and marshalling of youth competitors is advisable and helpful for organisers.
- 6.2. If a horse becomes unruly at any stage while in the ring, the rider shall be asked to dismount and leave the ring.
- 6.3. Competitors should not be allowed to enter or leave the ring moving at full speed.
- 6.4. When obstacles are required in certain classes, they must be sensible and suited to the abilities and ages of competitors.

YOUTH JUDGING COMPETITIONS

7. GENERAL RULES

- 7.1. 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 and Management Councils are encouraged to conduct Youth Judging Competitions in Led and Ridden sections.
- 7.2. The minimum age for Youth Judging Competitions is 8 years.
- 7.3. In a Youth Judging Competition, competitors are asked to judge four horses and place them accordingly. The results are compared to the placings done by the Horse Assessment Judge. Additionally, a Competitor Assessment Judge also evaluates the competitors on personal presentation, attitude and manner.
- 7.4. Competitors must be correctly attired - neat, clean and tidy. The recommended attire for Branch events and compulsory attire for State and National Finals is as follows:
 - 7.4.1. Light coloured, long sleeved shirt with collar.
 - 7.4.2. Australian Stock Horse green tie.
 - 7.4.3. Australian Stock Horse long sleeved, green v-neck pullover.
 - 7.4.4. White or fawn coloured jodhpurs or stockman cut trousers.
 - 7.4.5. Short, elastic-sided riding boots.
 - 7.4.6. An equestrian helmet approved by the current Australian Standards Association or Australian style felt hat are optional or at the discretion of the Committee.

8. COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 8.1. Responsibilities for Committees conducting a Led or Ridden event are as follows:
 - 8.1.1. It is recommended that Committees use two official Judges. These judges are as follows:
 - 8.1.1.1. Horse Assessment Judge
 - 8.1.1.1.1. Led segment - conformation, type temperament and movement.
 - 8.1.1.1.2. Working segment - ability, temperament and movement.

8.1.1.2. Competitor Assessment Judge

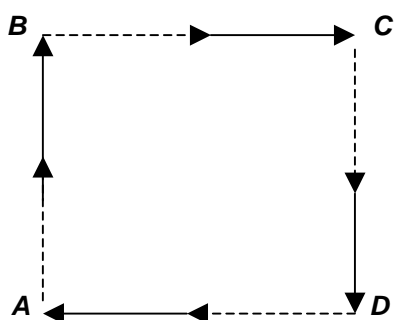
8.1.1.2.1. Personal presentation, attitude and manner.

- 8.1.2. Four registered Australian Stock Horses must be selected and handlers or riders available. Ideally horses should be of the same sex and age. Selected horses must be over the age of 4 years for safety reasons. No stallions are allowed.
- 8.1.3. Consider the age and experience of potential competitors when selecting horses. For less experienced competitors, ensure there is a good variation amongst the horses to be judged. It is recommended that the horses selected have not previously been judged on the day of competition.
- 8.1.4. The horses must be clearly identifiable from a distance with 1, 2, 3 and 4 by breastplates or rump stickers.
- 8.1.5. Competitors must wear identification numbers for ease of judging their presentation, attitude and manner. Armbands or back numbers are to be used, especially where competitions have a large number of entries.
- 8.1.6. Sufficient judging cards must be available for competitors. These are obtainable from the Society.
- 8.1.7. A Hormel Slide may be obtained for assessment of the judging cards. A Branch member who understands the slide would also need to be available.
- 8.1.8. Hormel Slides may be obtained from: Agricultural Societies Council of NSW Inc, PO Box 1047, Hunters Hill NSW 2110. Telephone: 02 9879 6777. Website: www.agshownsw.org.au
- 8.1.9. Clipboards, pencils, erasers, sharpeners and clear plastic bags (in case of wet weather) must be available for competitors or competitors requested to bring their own.
- 8.1.10. Ribbons must be made available for the Horse Assessment Judge to place on horses. It is important to utilise the normal judging format and ring etiquette for the benefit of youth competitors, which also provides spectators with the opportunity of seeing how the horses were placed.
- 8.1.11. Ribbons must be made available for the placing of competitors.
- 8.1.12. The committee must advise competitors of any time restrictions for the completion of judging. A timekeeper and stopwatch must be available.
- 8.1.13. The committee must organise pencilers to assist competitors judging the working segment.

9. LED SEGMENT - JUDGING PROCEDURES

- 9.1. The youth competitors are assembled in the centre of the judging ring as the horses numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 enter the ring.
- 9.2. The Horse Assessment Judge will then line the horses up side by side, but far enough apart for groups of competitors to walk around them. The competitors are split into a maximum of 4 groups (preferably 3 - 6 competitors per group).
- 9.3. Competitors are allowed 2 minutes per horse (timed) for assessment before they are asked to move on to the next horse.
- 9.4. The competitors will complete the judging card for each of the four horses on the following segments with a comment (where desired) and a score out of 10 points:

- 9.4.1. Neck and head.
 - 9.4.2. Forelegs.
 - 9.4.3. Shoulder and wither.
 - 9.4.4. Body and coupling.
 - 9.4.5. Hindquarters.
 - 9.4.6. Hindlegs.
- 9.5. Each group will then be moved to points A, B, C and D where the horses will be paraded.
- 9.6. The horse handlers are then asked, one at a time by the Horse Assessment Judge, to parade their horses around the four segments of the square pattern. The first half of each segment is conducted at a walk and the second half at a trot, halting at each marker as set out below:

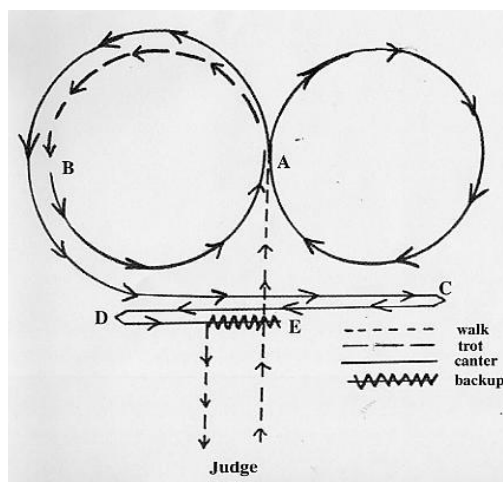


- 9.7. The competitors will complete the judging card for each of the four horses on the following segments with a comment (where desired) and a score out of 10 points:
- 9.7.1. Carriage and movement.
 - 9.7.2. Straightness of action.
 - 9.7.3. Manners.
 - 9.7.4. Presentation.
- 9.8. The competitor will 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.
- 9.9. The horses will then be paraded on the circle for a final assessment before judging cards are finalised and handed in.
- 9.10. Once all judging cards are handed in, only then will the Horse Assessment Judge line the horses up in place order and the ribbon presentation done. The Horse Assessment Judge then has an opportunity to speak to the competitors about the placings.
- 9.11. The Horse Assessment Judge and the Competitor Assessment Judge will hand their judging cards to the Steward for scoring. If the Hormel Slide is being used, the Horse Assessment Judge will provide the Steward with the marginal scores between placings.

10. WORKING SEGMENT - JUDGING PROCEDURES

- 10.1. Competitors and pencilers are assembled in front of the judging ring and the horses lined up, side by side, in the middle of the ring.
- 10.2. The riders are asked, one at a time by the Horse Assessment Judge, to put the horses through their paces in accordance with the working pattern.

- 10.3. The competitor will complete the judging card for each of the four horses on ability, temperament and movement as they work out. Each section of the pattern has a maximum score of 20 points as follows:
- 10.3.1. Walk to A. Trot half circle to B. Canter to left.
 - 10.3.2. Continue left circle. At A simple change. Canter to right.
 - 10.3.3. Continue right circle. At A flying change. Canter to Left.
 - 10.3.4. Continue left circle toward C. At C haunch turn to right. Canter to D. Haunch turn to left.
 - 10.3.5. Canter to E. Stop. Back-up 4 paces. Walk to Judge.
- 10.4. The diagram of the pattern is as follows:



- 10.5. At the completion of each horse's pattern, the competitors are allowed 2 minutes per horse (timed) for assessment before the next horse will be judged. Provision for a general comment on each horse is provided on the card.
- 10.6. After the judging of the last horse, final assessment is made by the competitor before judging cards are finalised and handed in.
- 10.7. Once all judging cards are handed in, only then will the Horse Assessment Judge line the horses up in place order and the ribbon presentation will be done. The Horse Assessment Judge then has an opportunity to speak to the competitors about the placings.
- 10.8. The Horse Assessment Judge and the Competitor Assessment Judge will hand their judging cards to the Steward for scoring. If the Hormel Slide is being used, the Horse Assessment Judge will provide the Steward with the marginal scores between placings.

11. SCORING THE COMPETITORS

- 11.1. Hormel Slide – The Hormel Slide system of scoring is the most accurate and preferred.
- 11.1.1. Horse Assessment Judge
 - 11.1.1.1. Under this system, after the horse judging segment is complete, it is necessary for the Horse Assessment Judge to grade the horse's difference by establishing a margin score between placings. The total of the three marginal scores must be higher than 3 points, but must not exceed 15 points.

- 11.1.1.2. The slide assesses each competitor's incorrect decision depending on the Judge's margin between the horses placed and scores each competitor (out of 50 points) accordingly.
- 11.1.1.3. Further details on the use of a Hormel Slide are provided when purchasing the slide.
- 11.1.2. Competitor Assessment Judge
 - 11.1.2.1. The judge assesses each competitor and scores them as follows:
 - 11.1.2.1.1. Competitor's presentation, approach to judging and suitability of comments – 10 points.
 - 11.1.3. The points allocated by the Hormel Slide and the points allocated by the Competitor Assessment Judge are added together to achieve a final score. The competitor with the highest score will be declared the winner.
- 11.2. Manual Scoring System – If the Hormel Slide is unavailable, the following system is used:
 - 11.2.1. Horse Assessment Judge
 - 11.2.1.1. All placings in the same order as the Horse Assessment Judge - 90 points.
 - 11.2.1.2. 1st and 2nd placings correct, 3rd and 4th placings reversed - 70 points.
 - 11.2.1.3. 1st and 4th placings correct, 2nd and 3rd placings reversed - 50 points.
 - 11.2.1.4. 1st and 2nd placings reversed, 3rd and 4th placings correct - 30 points.
 - 11.2.1.5. Any two horses placed correctly but not in any of the above orders - 20 points.
 - 11.2.2. Competitor Assessment Judge
 - 11.2.2.1. The judge assesses each competitor and scores them as follows:
 - 11.2.2.1.1. Competitor's presentation, approach to judging and suitability of comments – 10 points.
 - 11.2.3. The points allocated by the Horse Assessment Judge and the points allocated by the Competitor Assessment Judge are added together to achieve a final score. The competitor with the highest score will be declared the winner.
 - 11.3. To obtain a combined segment result, the competitor's final scores (after assessment) for the led and working segments are added together to obtain a combined score. The competitor with the highest combined score will be declared the winner.
 - 11.4. In the event of two or more competitors being equally placed, the Horse Assessment Judge may ask the competitors to speak in relation to the horses presented and give an explanation of their placings. The order in which the competitors participate in this request is by drawing from a hat.

12. STATE YOUTH JUDGING FINALS

- 12.1. To be eligible for State Finals conducted by Management Councils, competitors must win a Youth Judging Competition at Branch level. If the winner is unable to participate in the State Final, the second placegetter becomes eligible to compete.
- 12.2. If no Youth Judging Competitions have been held at Branch level, Management Councils may conduct State Finals without qualification at Branch level.

13. NATIONAL YOUTH JUDGING FINAL

- 13.1. The National Youth Judging Final has representatives from each Management Council and showcases some of our very best youth in the country.
- 13.2. The age limit for National Youth Judging is 13 years and under 21 years. At Branch and State level, participants younger than 13 years can compete but are not eligible for the National Final.
- 13.3. To be eligible for the National Final, competitors must win the State Youth Judging Final conducted within the previous twelve months. If the winner of the State Final is unable to participate in the National Final, the second placegetter becomes eligible to compete.
- 13.4. Management Councils are entitled to only one representative.
- 13.5. Management Councils and Branches are requested to subsidise travelling expenses for the representative to the National Final.
- 13.6. The Society will provide accommodation for participants in the National Final.
- 13.7. A parent or guardian must accompany each competitor, under the age of 18 years, to the National Final.

YOUTH HANDLER CLASSES

14. JUDGING PROCEDURE

- 14.1. Youth Handler Classes are to be judged strictly on the handler's ability to show a horse in a led class. No consideration is to be given to the horse other than grooming and presentation. The horse is only a prop to show the ability of the handler.
- 14.2. The procedure for judging is as follows:
 - 14.2.1. The horse and handler enter the ring at a brisk 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 brisk, alert manner.
 - 14.2.2. 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.
 - 14.2.3. The Judge will then call upon individual handlers to present their horses, and parade to his/her request. When turning, it must be to the right to give the Judge full view of the horse. Know where the Judge is at all times, so as not to obstruct his/her view of the horse.
 - 14.2.4. The handler must always keep position in the line and allow reasonable space between the horses on either side. If asked to change position in the line, the horse must be backed out of the line and approach the new position from behind.
 - 14.2.5. The handler must be alert and courteous and respond quickly to instructions from the Judge or Steward.
- 14.3. Unsportsmanlike behaviour may cause elimination.
- 14.4. This event will be Judged on the following guidelines:
 - 14.4.1. The horse is to be clean and well presented. No consideration will be given to the horse's conformation and type.
 - 14.4.2. The horse must be shown in a bridle with a snaffle bit that is well fitted, neat and clean. A show whip is permitted and must not exceed 1 metre in length.

- 14.4.3. The handler is to be well presented (coat not necessary). ASHS attire is preferred.
- 14.4.4. Showmanship to be judged on the handler's ability to show his/her horse.
- 14.5. In order to gain maximum points, avoid the following:
 - 14.5.1. Failure to recognise and correct faults of the horse's position.
 - 14.5.2. Kicking, hitting or having leg contact with the horse.
 - 14.5.3. Talking with other contestants.
 - 14.5.4. Failure of the horse to lead properly.
 - 14.5.5. Failure to stop the horse before turning when at a walk or trot.
 - 14.5.6. Failure to back the horse when necessary.
 - 14.5.7. Loud voice commands to the horse.
 - 14.5.8. Turning the horse in the wrong direction.
 - 14.5.9. Blocking the Judge's view of the horse.
 - 14.5.10. Causing the Judge to move to avoid being bumped or stepped on.

YOUTH POINT SCORE COMPETITION

15. GENERAL REGULATIONS

- 15.1. The Youth Point Score Competition is a National Competition.
- 15.2. Only current, competition eligible Members of the Society may enter the Competition.
- 15.3. The horse must be a Registered Australian Stock Horse and owned by a Financial Member of the Society to be eligible for nomination.
- 15.4. The competition commences 1st January and ends 31st December each year.
- 15.5. One performance card is to be completed for each horse and rider combination. There is no limit to the number of horse and rider combinations entered. If a competitor has two or more horses entered in one category, ONLY the highest scoring horse in that category will be eligible for the annual award.
- 15.6. Age groups for the competition will be as follows:
 - 15.6.1. Junior – under 13 years.
 - 15.6.2. Juvenile – 13 years and under 18 years.
 - 15.6.3. Associate – 18 years and under 21 years.
- 15.7. All performances attained in Open or Youth Competitions are accepted provided they are open to All Breeds or restricted to Australian Stock Horses. Performances at Shows, Rodeos, Pony Clubs, Gymkhanas, etc are acceptable for this competition.

16. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION

- 16.1. Competitors must attain performances in one or more of the following sections:
 - 16.1.1. Campdrafting/Cut Out.
 - 16.1.2. Sporting Events.
 - 16.1.3. Hack Events - not rider classes.

- 16.1.4. Riding Classes.
- 16.1.5. Dressage.
- 16.1.6. Eventing.
- 16.1.7. Led Horse Classes.
- 16.1.8. Junior Handler Classes.
- 16.1.9. Polo and Polocrosse.
- 16.1.10. Working Australian Stock Horse and Utility classes.
- 16.1.11. Showjumping.
- 16.1.12. Endurance (Novice/Open).

17. SUBMISSION OF POINTS

- 17.1. All performances must be fully completed on a Youth Pointscore Competition Card and returned to the Society within 14 days after 31st December.
- 17.2. The guardian of the competitor must sign a statement of legitimacy to verify all performances.
- 17.3. Performances attained by competitors will be awarded points as follows:
 - 17.3.1. 3 points for 1st placing.
 - 17.3.2. 2 points for 2nd placing.
 - 17.3.3. 1 point for 3rd placing.
- 17.4. The horse and rider combination with the highest point score for each section of the three age divisions will be announced the winner.