

## JUDGES

- PCAQ maintains a list of Judges for Official days.
- Clubs wishing to use judges not on this list must apply to PCAQ for approval prior to the event, giving their qualifications and/or judging experience.
- Organisers must ensure that different judging combinations judge each test for the same group of competitors, i.e. it is sufficient to change one of the judges for the next test.
- At least two judges must be used. Exception: Preliminary and Novice competitions may be judged by a single judge who must be of Elementary standard or higher, if circumstances arise which prevent 2 judges being used.
- No judge should be expected to judge more than 40 horses in a day (*Jan09*)
- No judge should judge more than 35 horses in any one class (*Jan09*)
- No dogs or other distractions should be permitted in the car/shelter with Judges. (*Jan09*)
- No judge should be expected to judge for more than 2 hours without a 14 minute break.
- If a judge is required to judge more than one class, there needs to be a minimum of 30 minutes between the last horse in one class and the first horse in the next when they have been judging for more than 2 hours.
- Judges must stay on the grounds for a period of at least 30 minutes after the posting of the placings, so the results should be collated as quickly as possible.

### Positioning of Judges on Arena

- C - 3-5 metres back on the centre line
- M &/or H - 3-5 metres back and 2.5 metres in from the long side
- B &/or E - 3-5 metres back
- The chief judge must be placed at C
- Second/third judge maybe positioned at **B**, **E**, M or H. If a judge is placed at H/M any judge placed at E/B must be placed diagonally opposite the M/H judge.

### Inspection of Arenas

The judge must physically inspect the arena to ensure that:

- The arena is of a satisfactory standard and if necessary have it modified
- Once the competition has commenced the conditions must stay (as far as possible) the same for the following horses.

- The marker letters are the correct distance from the outside of the arena, about 0.5 metres.
- The letter A should be placed at least 10 - 15 metres back from the entry on the centre to be in line with C. (Jan09)

### **Persons who may NOT officiate as a Judge**

The following may not serve as judges:

1. Owners or riders of horses taking part in the competition.
2. Close relatives of those mentioned in (1) above, that means parents may not judge their children.
3. Chefs d'Equipe whose competitors are entered in the competition.
4. Trainers of competitors entered in the competition.
5. Members of the Appeal Committee of the same competition.
6. Judges officiating at a competition are not permitted to coach riders (whom they will be judging) during the previous week.

Note: A trainer is defined as a person who regularly (i.e. six hours of lessons or more in the previous three months, not including rally days) trains or coaches a horse, rider, or combination (not necessarily for remuneration).

### **Dressage Judges Protocol**

- have an open and friendly attitude towards all competitors while being careful not to show familiarity towards those competing
- be aware that judges are responsible for setting and maintaining the image and standards of dressage both in the competition arena and away from it and that, as an ambassador for dressage, they should conduct themselves with dignity, honesty and good manners, especially in difficult situations
- treat requests from competitors to explain their decisions as an opportunity to assist the competitor to improve their performance
- honour a commitment to judge and if unforeseen circumstances prevent this, endeavour to help the organisers to find a replacement
- maintain an objective and fair mind towards all competitors which includes:
  - not taking into account knowledge of riders, horses or past performances
  - guarding against conflicts of interest and avoiding judging in situations where they have a close personal/professional relationship with a competitor or owner
- ensure to the best of their ability the same conditions apply to all competitors
- know and understand the scale of marks and ensure that their

- comments and marks are related
- maintain the same standard for all competitors in a competition and all events
  - possession of a current Dressage Rule Book together with any amendments
  - know the rules and be prepared to coordinate their personal opinion with the principles of the FEI and EA
  - have thorough knowledge of correct training of the dressage horse as per the training scale and understand the requirements of the test they are to judge

### **Code of Conduct for Accredited Dressage Judges**

Accredited Dressage Judges must adhere to the „PCAQ Code of Conduct for Officials“ and PCAQ General Code of Conduct“ and the PCAQ Member Protection Policy.

PCAQ Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse applies to all PCAQ activities. Codes of Conduct and PCAQ Sport Rules and By-laws are available at [www.pcaq.net.au](http://www.pcaq.net.au)

For complaints in relation to violation of any PCAQ Code of Conduct, refer to the PCAQ Member Protection Policy

### **Protocol for Organisers in the Appointment of Judges**

- Invite judges as early as possible prior to competition
- Confirm all arrangements discussed in writing
- Send judge a copy of draw as soon as it is available so that you are not embarrassed on the day by finding that the judge has a ‘conflict of interest’ and cannot judge a relative or pupil.
- Advise judges of full details of competition including tests, starting times, lunch arrangement, etc.
- Make sure invited judge has a phone number to ring on the day in the event of their being delayed
- Give judge detailed instructions of where to report and who to ask for at the beginning of the day
- Organisers must ensure that judges are reimbursed for their expenses. **Travel Claim Forms** to be issued to all judges by the organising committee.
- Judges must be provided with a pencil.