

# **THE CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE SOCIETY OF GB**

## **JUDGES GUIDELINES**

The Concours d'Elegance Society of GB has a Recommended Judge's List, however, shows may use any judge who they deem suitable in order to simplify organising shows and to keep costs realistic. Championship shows should be judged by a Judge of the Recommended Judge's List.

A judge shall not attend a show exhibitor's part, or any other activity connected with a show on the day previous to the show at which he or she is officiating where that part or activity may cause the said judge to have contact with a breeder, owner exhibitor or horse entered in the following day's classes.

A judge shall not visit the horses' stall area nor speak with owners, trainers, exhibitors or owners' representatives nor inspect or discuss any horse entered in the show before judging is completed.

Judges may be asked to give fair and reasonable commentary on placings and decision after each class.

Handlers must not converse with the Judge except to briefly respond to questions

A horse may never be shown before a judge that has been owned or trained by the said judge, or by his or her family or employer. No horse owned by family members of the judge may be shown, and family members of the judge are ineligible to be exhibitors at the show. For the purpose of this rule 'training' shall be deemed to include any form of continuous, repeated or regular activity designed to bring the horse to a desired condition.

## **STEWARDS AND OFFICIALS**

Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Ring Steward

The Ring Stewards must help the judge, not advise him or her

The Steward must carefully refrain from discussing the horses or the exhibitors with the judge

It is mandatory that the show managers, ring stewards and any paid employees of that show and their immediate family or entities refrain from showing or having horses show that are registered in the above's names, where they are officiating or employed, other than with the express authority of the Show Management

## **WELFARE**

If, in the opinion of the Judge, a horse is lame or otherwise abnormal, he/she may give the exhibitor at the earliest opportunity the option of withdrawing the horse from the class or being placed at the bottom of the line. If this option is not accepted a Veterinary Surgeon may be called but, if not immediately available, then the Judge's

decision is final. If the Judge feels that the horse's welfare is being compromised the Judge has a right to ask the exhibitor to leave the ring.

## **CONDUCT**

If an owner or exhibitor acts in an inappropriate or un-sportsmanlike manner at an Affiliated Show, such person may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Society's Articles of Association.

## **COMPLAINTS**

Any other objection or complaint relating to Shows should be made in accordance with the procedure set out in that Show's Rules.

## **PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

All exhibitors and riders/handlers are strongly advised to carry their own accident and third party liability insurance cover.

## **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

The Society, its officials and judges, accept no liability in respect of any horse or its owner, exhibitor, or any other person responsible for it, howsoever arising at a show or other event organized by the Society.

## **EXHIBITOR RING ETIQUETTE**

- a) Exhibitors should arrive in the collecting ring in good time for their class.
- b) Exhibitors should listen to instructions provided by the Ring Steward or Judge and watch other exhibitors in front of them. When asked to walk/trot a horse out in hand, they should ensure that the horse travels alongside them, not behind. When turning, the horse should always be turned away from and not towards the exhibitor.
- c) Exhibitors should at all times be polite to Stewards and Judges, but must never speak to the Judge using his/her name.
- d) At no time should the exhibitor try to influence the Steward or Judge by offering information about their exhibit.
- e) In Ridden Classes, exhibitors are not usually allowed to enter the ring after the horses have commenced trotting as a class, unless they have the Judge's permission, which will only be given in exceptional circumstances.
- f) Once a Judge has commenced judging a class, a horse should not leave the ring without the permission of the Judge.
- g) In In-Hand Classes, the handler who enters the ring with the horse should remain throughout the class. Exhibitors are not usually allowed to enter the ring after the

horses have commenced trotting up unless they have the Judge's permission.

h) Only in exceptional circumstances, and with the permission of the Judge, may a person other than the handler/rider who entered the ring with the horse be permitted to trot the horse up.

i) In Ridden Classes, exhibitors must have due regard to the size of ring and number of entries forward. They must ensure that health and safety is observed at all times, and maintain a sensible distance between horses.

j) In Ridden Classes, Judges will view unfavourably: -

i) exhibitors who purposefully place their horse between the Judge and another exhibitor at any pace, so as to obscure the Judge's view of that horse.

ii) exhibitors who continually circle in front of the Judge to keep their horse in the Judge's eye.

Riders should make themselves aware of the Show's rules regarding the type of headwear that must be worn. A rider whose hat comes off or strap comes undone whilst competing must replace it or fasten it before continuing, failing which they may be liable to disqualification.

Exhibitors should at all times have regard for others, particularly if they have a badly behaved animal. If the animal becomes so unruly that the Judge asks for it to be removed, the exhibitor must accept the decision with good grace.