



GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS FOR THE ASSESSMENT DAY

(Applicants must be 24 years old or over)

The Committee of the British Show Horse Association would like to welcome you to the Assessment Day. Maintaining and growing the Panel is one of the current prime considerations of the BSHA.

The integrity and competence of Judges, forms the core value in the structure of the Association. Therefore, the process of choosing Judges is necessarily thorough and searching.

Following the Judges Review of 2018, the Board would like to draw your attention to changes in policy. If you are regularly competing, a full or part time employee in a professional showing yard or a Producer, then the Board would prefer that you did not apply at this time. It would be deemed more appropriate to apply when your commitments have reduced.

To avoid any possible disappointment, the following notes have been prepared to enable you to assess, realistically, your suitability as a Candidate and to explain how the Assessment is conducted.

Assessment of Candidates is grouped into three sections. Sections will be timetabled in no particular order.

If a Candidate is successful, they will be notified in writing within 14 Days of the Assessment Day; the Probationary period is a 2 year process, with a minimum of three Shows, per section, being allocated and completed; there may be a need for more Shows depending on the number of sections and Classes covered and this will be at the discretion of the Judges' Committee.

Interview

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a good knowledge of the BSHA Rule Book to a panel of Assessors via an interview format. In addition, Candidates will be expected to further demonstrate how manage and run classes in accordance with the Association's Rules.

Candidates are expected to have a good appreciation of the qualities required to be a Judge and be able to articulate these clearly.

Other categories covered involve the ability to adapt to changing circumstances and the requirements of a tight Show schedule; the ability to liaise and work with Show officials; the ability to control classes and cope with difficult situations that may arise; appreciate the responsibilities and duties involved and awareness that judging the Association's classes carries the responsibility of representing the Association to the Members.

Candidates must also be able to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Panel, that they have a fully committed attitude when accepting Judging appointments and also fully understand the possible impacts of using Social Media.

Riding

Candidates will be required to ride several different horses, in front of Assessors, and to assess and analyse the ride, accurately and succinctly, with valid reasons and explanations for their opinions, in line with the type of animal ridden.

The riding ability of the Candidate will be assessed in this phase, together with the ability to interpret, assess and communicate the way of going of the horse.

Conformation, Movement and Type

Candidates will be presented with several different types of horse by a number of Assessors. They will be expected to assess type and place each horse in its correct category, giving a short, concise but comprehensive analysis of the points of conformation and movement of each horse; both the positive and negative aspects.

Candidates are expected to be able to demonstrate their understanding of the importance of structure and movement in relationship to performance and the significant characteristics, especially relating to horses in BSHA classes, e.g. particular awareness of the difference in category for Cobs, differences in type between Hacks and Riding Horses. ***If the Hunter Panel has also been applied for then Hunters will form an additional part of a Candidate's assessment day.***

Working Show Horse and Working Hunter

All Candidates will be required to complete an Assessment for either the Working Show Horse or Working Hunter sections, or both, depending on which Panels have been applied for. All Panels require an assessment of the Worker element and this is not able to be separated from the flat sections. This assessment will be done with separate Assessors who will focus on the Candidates' understanding of the Rules of this area and, if doing both Panels, the differences of the two sections. It is recommended Candidates familiarise themselves with all relevant information regarding courses and their design, including approximate height of course appropriate to the section being Judged.

Summary

In order for the day to be successful, prospective Candidates should:

- 1 Wear clothing appropriate for judging (remembering this is an adult Association).
- 2 Have a good working knowledge of the current BSHA Rule Book.
- 3 Ensure they have a good working knowledge of conformation and have the ability to verbalise the conformational structure of any particular horse with accuracy, fluency and brevity. Communication is highly important here.
- 4 Ensure they are physically fit to ride a selection of horses (for those coming forward for the riding Assessment).
- 5 Be fully conversant with the Rules and procedures for the Working elements of either the Working Show Horse or the Working Hunter, or both, depending on what panels have been applied for.

The result of the Assessment Day will be posted to you within 14 days of the Assessment.

The Application Fee for the Assessment Day is £50.00 and will only be banked after Applications have been approved by the BSHA Board.

The deadline for receipt of completed Application Forms & Fees in 2018, is Friday 31st August.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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