

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NZ MEASURING MEETING

I had a meeting at the end of March with the RAS Measuring Convenor, John Fleet. I discussed with him some of the problems that were brought to my attention this past season. The most serious problem was that some of you were being charged more than the advised rate at advertised RAS measuring days. John was concerned about this and has assured me that he will discuss this with the measures when he has meetings, around the country, in June this year. He said that if any of you are charged more than the standard rate at advertised RAS measuring days, you have every right to contest it.

New Height Certificate, regardless of age of horse	\$30
Young stock measure (yearling and two year olds) with a card	\$10
Annual Certificate -3 year old plus (with a card) -lasts for the season	\$20

REMINDER: If you loose your Height Certificate, a replacement will cost you \$75

Special measuring days, however, can be charged at what ever cost the measuring stand decides, this is for the inconvenience/after-hours service. Make sure you know what the cost will be when you ask for a 'special measure'. RAS measurers are volunteers, they do not get any remuneration for measuring, as is the same for NZMHA measurers.

John gave me an insight as to the distribution of the measuring fees.

RAS receive 30% while the measuring stands receive 70% so a

\$30 measure = RAS \$9 the measuring stand \$21
\$20 measure = RAS \$6 the measuring stand \$14
\$10 measure = RAS \$3 the measuring stand \$ 7

RAS use their money for the upkeep of the measuring data base while the measuring stands use their money for the upkeep of the measuring stand, grounds and other A&P/Showgrounds related costs.

RAS Life Certificates are available to all horses and ponies that comply with the rules. Horses must be 8 years of age or over. There is a bit involved in requiring one. The horse needs to be microchipped and triplicate forms filled out by the vet. The RAS charge for a Life Certificate is \$75.

FOALS

Now there has been some talk about current seasons foals not requiring a height cert to show at A&Ps. I asked John for clarification on this. He has told me that although RAS young stock measuring rules do not specifically say foals need to be measured, John has advised that it has always been 'accepted practice' that they don't require a height certificate. So good news for those of you that would like to show your foals at A&Ps. You will just need to measure your foals at home to work out wether they will go into Cat. A or Cat. B.

A number of you often say that RAS should except NZMHA height certificates. John and I did discuss this and John's comment was that, they (RAS) and New Zealand as a country are metric and NZMHA are not. We go under the American measuring which is inches and as long as that is the case, they will be very reluctant to accept our measures.

Finally if any of you have had problems with RAS measuring, in your region, this past season I urge you to contact John Fleet at john@pukekoheshowgrounds.co.nz. I have found John to be very pro active and I am sure he will pass on any concerns you have to the measurers in your area. With any other enquires he is sure to steer you in the right direction, usually towards the RAS website <http://www.ras.org.nz/> ☐ ☐

Hope this has helped clarify some issues for you all. I do urge any of you to contact John with any concerns you have, before June this year, as he can then pass these concerns on at the meetings he will be having with the measurers around the country.

Joanne Krietch
NI Measuring Coodinator NZMHA