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**TO: RAS Members**  
**FROM: RAS Head Office**  
**DATE: 6 July 2015**

**SUBJECT: Rule Changes – Equestrian & Dairy Cattle**

### **Equestrian Rule Changes**

As you will be aware the RAS rulebook has undergone a complete overhaul and the new format of the RAS Equestrian Rules was passed. It is important to note that the RAS Equestrian Rules and Schedules are "copyright" and all documentation approved and/or issued by the RAS remains the property of the RAS. The rules are for the benefit of the RAS members and should not be used at any show/event that is outside of the RAS organisation.

The new RAS Equestrian Rules will be available on the RAS website mid July and I would suggest that you download several copies for those that need it e.g equestrian convenor, equestrian office. One hard copy (free of charge) will be sent to every A&P Show and Equestrian Breed Societies; however for those show secretaries who are preparing their show schedules now please note the following rules.

### **GR 7 Temporary Pens**

- a) The RAS shall from time to time endorse temporary pen systems that meet an agreed safety requirement; the nature of and the description of these pens (if any) will be published on the RAS Web Site
- b) Penning other than fixed permanent installments provided by a host show/event or approved by the RAS as in (a) above is banned at all RAS and affiliated shows/events and includes but not restricted to tape, strings, ropes, chains.
- c) Stallions and colts can only be tied to a truck or float if they are under constant supervision, or are tied within an approved solid framed portable yard (see (a) above) that is attached to the outside of the truck or float. Otherwise, they must be confined in stables, suitable yards, or within their floats or trucks.

### **CDE 1 RAS Certificate & Horse Pony Classification**

Commencing 2015 - any horse or pony obtaining it's measure must state at the time of measure what its classification e.g Hack, Park Hack, Saddle Hunter, Riding Horse, Show Pony, Saddle Pony. This will be noted on the height certificate and the RAS database. If the owner of the horse or pony believes it has entered the wrong section/classification then an immediate change may be made by downloading the form off the RAS website, filling in the details including the change of classification and sending this through to RAS Head Office with their certificate for updating and the website will be updated. However that is the only change that can be made for the life

of the horse/pony unless there are exceptional circumstances – any other change would be made by a submission to the RAS Executive.

What does this mean for the exhibitors and shows?

It means that competitors will need to enter shows that run a section for them. No longer can a person with a Riding Horse enter a show and go in the Hack Section because no Riding Horse section is available. Competitors need to enter a show that runs their classification/section.

## **CDE 2 Lead Rein**

Suggestion for schedule & catalogue

*In this section the judging criteria is 60% suitability, temperament and safeness, and 40% conformation and paces.*

*Riders in this section are excluded from taking part in other sections of the show.*

*Riders must be under eight (8) years of age, with a minimum age of four (4) years. (Age is determined as of 1 August.) Ponies to be led by a leader/attendant (14 years and over) with the lead rein attached to the cavesson noseband of a snaffle bridle. Ponies will be asked to walk and trot - no cantering under any circumstances. Running or bearing reins or similar tackle are not allowed.*

## **CDE 3 First Ridden Combination**

Suggestion for schedule & catalogue

*This is a transition ring from the lead rein section to the open ridden section, where the rider does not have to canter on the circle in company.*

*In this section the judging criteria is 60% suitability, temperament and safeness, and 40% conformation and paces.*

*The same combination cannot enter in both the Lead Rein Section and the First Ridden Section or in an open ring, but a pony that has been entered in the Lead Rein, Group B or Group C Sections can be entered in the First Ridden Section with a different rider (who is eligible to compete in this section).*

*A rider who has moved from the First Ridden into the open rings forfeits the right to compete again in any First Ridden Events at any A&P Show, affiliated show or event, or any show that the RAS may from time to time designate as a show requiring specific qualifications. A current example is the Horse of the Year Show.*

*First Ridden Combination is only able to compete in the First Ridden Combination Section for a maximum of twenty-four (24) months from the date of their first show.*

*The age limit in the First Ridden section is under 10 years (age is determined as of 1 August).*

*First Ridden Ponies must be ridden in a snaffle bridle with a cavesson noseband, a snaffle bit and a single rein.*

## **CDE 11 Age of Riders/Handlers**

- a) Rider/Handler's age and eligibility is determined as per the 1 August i.e. Riders/handlers who are of age for any division/section on the 1 August complete the show year/ season in that division/section.
- b) Lead Rein classes are restricted to riders under eight (8) years of age with a minimum age of four (4) years, who are not competing in any other sections at any A&P Show/Event. To be led by an attendant fourteen (14) years of age or over.
- c) First Ridden classes are restricted to riders under ten (10) years of age, who are not competing in any other sections at any A&P Show/Event.

- d) Novice pony exhibits (except Novice Pony Stallions) may be ridden by a rider of any age.
- e) Novice pony stallions must be led or ridden by a rider fourteen (14) years and over.
- f) Open pony exhibits (also see CDE 12 h) must be ridden by riders under seventeen (17) years of age.
- g) Open pony stallions must be ridden by a rider fourteen (14), or fifteen (15), or sixteen (16) years of age, led handlers must be fourteen (14) years and over.
- h) Riders in horse rings (exhibits over 148cm) must be twelve (12) years and over.
- i) Stallions over 148cm must be led or ridden by a rider seventeen (17) years of age or older.

#### **CDE 14 Stallions & Colts**

- a) All stallions and colts (with the exception of Miniature horses and foals) must be shown in a bit.
- b) A Steward will order any stallion/colt considered out of control or to be causing undue disquiet to other horses from the ring without recourse from the stallion/colt's owner/exhibitor/competitor.
- c) It is compulsory for all stallions and colts, except foals, to wear two (2) official 'S' identification badges, one attached to each side of their bridle, at all Shows/Events at all times. The rider must also wear two RAS official (2) armbands (one on each arm) when in the ring. 'S' badges to be purchased from RAS Head Office or ESNZ; armbands from RAS Head Office.
- d) Handlers and Riders of stallions/colts must wear an approved Hi Viz vest at Shows/Events when outside the showing ring. Vests can be purchased from RAS Head Office.

#### **MSS – Minimum Standard Schedule**

- a) The Standard Qualifying Section Schedule as presented is the Section Schedule to be offered by all affiliated Shows/Events wishing to qualify horses and ponies for the Royal A&P Show/Events and the HOY.
- b) Qualifying Shows/Events must use all or some of the sections listed; however when using a section (e.g. Saddle Hunters) they must use the entire list of classes within that section (i.e classes cannot be substituted, changed or deleted)
- c) Shows/Events are encouraged to add classes as local conditions and level of entries support. Examples of additional classes that may be added to the standard qualifying section are; Best on Parade, Novice no wins, Led Mares, Led Thoroughbreds, Pairs and Teams Classes, Sash Classes such as the Pony Breeders Society of NZ (Inc) Ridden Sash etc.

Effectively what this is saying, is if you wish you're A&P Show/Event to be a qualifying show for the Horse of the Year for one or more sections, you are required to run the standard schedule for that section as outlined in new rules. You may choose to be only a qualifier for certain sections e.g Park Hack, Hack & Saddle Hunter but not Riding Horse – you are then required to run the schedule as outlined in the rulebook though you can add further classes to it. This does not prevent you from running a small Riding Horse Section with just a few classes; however it wouldn't be a HOY qualifier.

It is very important that the competitors are aware of what they are entering – you

should state if it is a HOY qualifier or not.

Suggestion for schedule and catalogue.

At the front of your equestrian section state – The following sections are HOY Qualifiers – Lead Rein, First Ridden Combination, Park Hacks etc

Perhaps also put HOY Qualifier under the section heading e.g Parks Hacks (HOY Qualifier)

### **EEFSL 1 Equestrian Levy**

- a) The RAS equestrian levy (as set) must either be incorporated in to the entry fee (with a statement to this effect clearly published in the schedule) or shown separately on the entry form.

You need to update your schedule and entry form to reflect this change.

### **EEFSL 2 Entry Forms**

- a) The following text will appear on every affiliated A&P Show/Event entry form.
  - i. This is a legal document. The owner/parent/guardian signing or authorising the entry must be over 16 years of age.
  - ii. The attention of exhibitors is particularly drawn to the conditions relating to the misuse of substances, and the intention of the Committee to undertake testing for forbidden substances.
  - iii. Exhibitor Declaration:  
The submission of my entries and/or participation in the competition(s), either written or by electronic means, denotes that I have read and accepted the RAS and Host Association Rules & Regulations and the Association's Conditions of Entry. This also indemnifies the Host Association under the provisions of Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any amendments.

You need to update your schedule and entry form to reflect this change.

### **EEFSL 3 Schedule Wording**

- a) The following text will appear on every affiliated A&P Show/Event Schedule.
  - i. *Yellow Card - This Show/Event supports the RAS 'Yellow Card' system.*  
A Yellow Card will be issued, In cases of offences in respect of abuse of animals or inappropriate behaviour as per the RAS Constitution and the RAS Rules & Regulations/Bylaws including the Equestrian Rulebook, the RAS affiliated Show/Event/registered Measuring Stand and their grounds and their duly appointed delegates may deliver to the Person Responsible a Yellow Warning Card (either immediately or within 10 days of the show) which suspends any penalty until possible new offences. Full wording of the 'Yellow Card' system is available to view on the RAS website – [www.ras.org.nz](http://www.ras.org.nz).
  - ii. Forbidden Substance - The Rules of the Royal A&P Society New Zealand in regard to Forbidden Substances apply. Competitors are advised that tests for forbidden substances may be carried out during the Show/Event and that testing of all animals is at the person responsible's risk. Forbidden

Substance - Any substance capable of affecting the speed, stamina, courage or conduct of a horse, pony, donkey or mule by its action upon the central or peripheral nervous system or the cardio-vascular, respiratory, alimentary, digestive, muscoskeletal or urogenital systems.

- iii. Arrears - No person who is in arrears with regard to entry fees, subscriptions, or any other show/event charge is eligible to compete at any affiliated show/event. Proof of payment will be required before any restriction is lifted.
- iv. Summary of RAS Resolution Process - the full process can be found on the RAS website [www.ras.org.nz](http://www.ras.org.nz). The principle behind the process is to deal with the matter as it comes to hand and in most cases it should be dealt with directly by the show. If the matter is in regards to an RAS official, the show may request the assistance of RAS Head Office as to how to deal with this in an appropriate manner.

You need to update your schedule and entry form to reflect this change.

### **EEFSL 6 Results**

- (a) All affiliated Shows/Events must have their Equestrian Results published on the RAS website within one (1) month of the Show/Event.

### **Dairy Cattle Rule Changes**

Suggestion for schedule/catalogue

New Rules as of 2015

The exhibiting of all Dairy Cattle in New Zealand is governed by the RAS Dairy Cattle Show Code of Ethics document. This document is Appendixes to the Additional Rules for Showing - Specific Sections. Other Dairy Cattle show conditions outside of the RAS Dairy Cattle Show Code of Ethics are listed below:

- a) All groups and cows in milk in the Dairy Breeds to be judged first.
- b) All Dairy Bulls two years and over must be rung, have two leaders and under adequate supervision.
- c) All Dairy Yearling Bulls must be rung and be under adequate supervision
- d) All cows three years of age and over, that have been tested and have production records printed on the entry forms have their production records printed in the catalogues.
- e) No records are necessary for maiden three-year-olds.
- f) Points in the dairy section will be awarded as follows:

	In Milk	Dry Classes
1st	10	6
2nd	8	4
3rd	6	2
4th	4	1

Championship 2 points and reserve Champion 1 point in both classes.

A \$5.00 levy is to be charged per in-milk cow per show i.e. if an in-milk cow is entered in more than one class at a show then the levy is still \$5.00. There is no levy on exhibiting young stock.

A&P shows running dairy cattle sections are asked to collect this levy and forward on to RAS Head Office (we will send out a form similar to the Equestrian Levy one.)

As well as I would ask that you send in a copy of your dairy cattle catalogue section listing your entrants in all your dairy cattle sections - the RAS Dairy Committee is trying to determine what sort of dairy numbers are at the A&P Shows.