



AUSTRALASIAN ARABIAN
BREEDERS' COALITION

EVENT RULEBOOK 2024



The following are the Rules and Regulations of **THE AUSTRALASIAN ARABIAN BREEDERS COALITION** for the showing of Purebred Arabian and F1 Arabian Derivatives.

Number	Table of Contents	Page	Number	Table of Contents	Page
1.	Terms of Reference	2	9.	Officials	8
2.	AABC Inc Rules Acceptance	2	10.	Exhibitors	10
3.	Definitions	2	11.	Abuse of Horses	10
4.	Conditions of Entry	3	12.	Treatment of Minor Injuries	11
5.	Breeding & In-Hand Adjudication	3	13.	Non-Pro Rules & Definition	11
6.	Ridden Exhibit Adjudication	6	14.	Ultra Arabian & F1 Arabian Derivative Challenges	12
7.	Performance Adjudication	7	15.	Arabian & F1 Arabian Derivative Versatility Challenges	12
8.	Event Procedure	7	16.	Australasian Arabian Breeders Challenge	13

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

For the purposes of these Rules and those using them the following terms are defined:

- 1.1. AABC Inc - The Australasian Arabian Breeders Coalition Incorporated
- 1.2. AHSA Ltd - The Arabian Horse AHSA Ltd of Australia Ltd
- 1.3. REGISTERED for the purpose of this Rule Book shall include Arabian horses that are registered, or foal recorded with the AHSA Ltd.
- 1.4. STANDARD means the statement of ideal conformation of an Arabian horse and the Standard of Excellence thereof promulgated by the AHSA Ltd from time to time.
- 1.5. STUD BOOK means the Arabian Horse AHSA Ltd of Australia Ltd Stud Book.

2. AABC Inc RULES ACCEPTANCE

Acceptance of the following rules is required.

- 2.1. All founding members and event participant members of AABC INC shall accept and be bound by these rules.
- 2.2. Competitors are responsible for knowing and complying with these rules and guidelines. It remains the full responsibility of the owner/handler/rider to comply with the equipment rules and general rules as outlined.
- 2.3. Breaching of the rules may result in elimination unless other penalties are stipulated.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1. **ARABIAN HORSE:** is a horse of pure Arabian lineage acceptable to the AHSA Ltd in accordance with the Standard of Excellence and/or the progeny of purebred sires and dams acceptable for registration by the AHSA Ltd. WAHO further defines a purebred Arabian horse as **“one which appears in any purebred Arabian Stud Book or Register listed by WAHO as acceptable”**.
- 3.2. **AGE OF HORSE:** the age for horses is calculated from the 1st of August in each year.
- 3.3. **APPROVED SAFETY HELMET:** is defined as a protective helmet which meets the current Australian Standard for Safety Helmets. [Current approved safety standards for helmets | Equestrian Australia](#) - Approved safety helmets, correctly fitted with two-point harness attached, are required to be always worn by the rider in ALL ridden events and while mounted.
- 3.4. **BROODMARE:** Any mare aged 6 years and over that meets the following minimum requirements (onus is on the exhibitor to prove eligibility if required)
 - 3.4.1. Mare must have carried, delivered, nursed, and weaned a minimum of two (2) foals (embryo transfer foals not included)
 - 3.4.2. If a Mare is nursing a foal, the foal must be led and must always accompany the mare. The foal should not be less than 4 weeks (28 days) of age and must be handled by a person 16 years of age or older. Should the judge have concerns regarding the welfare of the foal then the judge has the right to refuse to judge the mare and foal and/or request confirmation of the date of birth with reference to a service certificate or veterinary report. The opinion of the judge, in conjunction with any supporting documentation, as to eligibility to compete will be final.
 - 3.4.3. Any mare shown should not be more than nine (9) months (275 days) in foal at the date of the show. Should the judge have concerned that foaling may be imminent or that the welfare of the mare may be at risk then the judge has the right to refuse to judge the mare and/or request confirmation of the last date of service with reference to a service certificate or veterinary report. The opinion of the judge, in conjunction with any supporting documentation, as to eligibility to compete will be final.
 - 3.4.4. Any eligible mare may show in the Broodmare class. A mare may compete in a brood mare or open mare class but not in both at the same show. NO CROSS ENTRIES are permitted between the Broodmare class and the respective age divisions (4–5-Year-Old, 6–8-Year-Old, 9 & Older).
 - 3.4.5. A mare competing in a Broodmare class or a mare with a foal at foot may not exhibit in any performance event.
- 3.5. **CATCH LEAD/RIDE:** describes the practice of a trainer/rider showing for an owner in a specific class without previous involvement in the horses training.
- 3.6. **COMPETITOR:** is the person who is competing with the horse who may or may not be the exhibitor.
- 3.7. **DOUBLE BRIDLE:** with bit and bradoon is required to be complete with two independent reins.
- 3.8. **EXHIBIT:** is a horse registered by the AHSA Ltd and correctly entered in the show.
- 3.9. **EXHIBITOR:** at any Show means the person on whose behalf and in whose name the entry is lodged and must include the name of the owner or lessee as recorded by the AHSA Ltd.
- 3.10. **F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVE** means any registered Arabian related/derivative equine with one registered purebred Arabian parent (Sire or Dam) with a registration number issued by a WAHO recognized registration authority.
- 3.11. **HEIGHT DEFINITIONS**
 - 3.11.1. **Small Pony** | Not exceeding 12.2hh
 - 3.11.2. **Large Pony** | Over 12.2hh and not exceeding 14hh
 - 3.11.3. **Galloway** | Over 14hh and not exceeding 15hh
 - 3.11.4. **Small Hack** | Over 15hh and not exceeding 15.2hh
 - 3.11.5. **Large Hack** | Over 15.2hh
- 3.12. **IMMEDIATE FAMILY:** shall include the following: husband, wife, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, in-laws, grandparents, de-facto relations, brother, sister, and persons cohabiting.
- 3.13. **NON-PRO:** is a non-professional. See **Section 14** for complete definition.
- 3.14. **NON-PRO ACROYNMS**
 - 3.14.1. NPTH | Non-Pro to Handle
 - 3.14.2. NPTR | Non-Pro to Ride



- 3.15. **OFFICIAL:** any person or persons appointed by the AABC for the purposes of carrying out any function under these Rules and Conditions. This shall include any member of the Events Committee and any Steward appointed by the Events Committee.
- 3.16. **OWNER:** means the person who is noted in the records of the AHSA Ltd as the owner or lessee of the exhibit.
- 3.17. **PARTICIPANT:** is a person who is handling or riding a horse in any AABC Inc event.
- 3.18. **TRAINER:** is a professional handler/rider who shows clients horses for remuneration.
- 3.19. **YOUTH:** is any exhibitor aged more than five (5) years and older and less than eighteen (18) years of age by the first date of the show.
- 3.20. **YOUTH ACROYNMS**
 - 3.20.1. YTH | Youth to Handle
 - 3.20.2. YTR | Youth to Ride

4. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 4.1. **REGISTRATION, OWNERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP**
 - 4.1.1. All horses must be registered Arabian Horse AHSA Ltd of Australia Limited or be registered in an approved WAHO studbook.
 - 4.1.2. The AABC Inc does NOT recognise any form of "pending" registration and horses without a registration or recording number must not be exhibited.
 - 4.1.3. It is preferable that persons exhibiting any horse should be the Registered Owner or Lessee as per the Certificate of Registration.
- 4.2. **RISK WARNING, RELEASE & INDEMNITY**

All exhibitors are required to read and complete/acknowledge the Risk Warning, Release and Indemnity Event Agreement when submitting entries. The agreement can be found on the [AABC website on The Championships webpage](#).
- 4.3. **CLIPPING AND TRIMMING**

Horses which are shown with ears unclipped and with a full mane shall be judged on their merits and will not be penalised. Removal of facial tactile hairs is PROHIBITED. Eyelashes must not be removed. The removal of eyelashes and facial tactile hair will result in disqualification.
- 4.4. **FOAL / WEANLING CLASSES**

Unweaned Foals must be led in a suitable strong halter or a led in bitless bridle, with or without a chain, leather, or webbing strap. Weanlings should be led in a suitable strong halter or a led in bitless bridle, with or without a chain, leather, or webbing strap. If a chain or strap is used, it must be captive. - i.e., fixed so that it cannot pull tight under the horse's jaw. Foals and weanlings must be handled by a person 16 years of age or older. Purebred Colts and Fillies are to be shown with manes and tails free. Geldings may be shown with manes and tails plaited or free and are not to be penalised in either style of presentation. F1 Arabian Derivatives may be shown with manes and tails plaited or free and are not to be penalised in either style of presentation.
- 4.5. **MANES & TAILS**
 - 4.5.1. Purebred Arabians, except geldings, are to be shown unplaited in Arabian Halter Classes except when competing in halter and performance classes on the same day. They may be shown in all other classes with manes and tails plaited or unplaited except where the conditions of entry for the class states otherwise.
 - 4.5.2. Purebred Arabian geldings, may be shown with free, plaited, hogged, or pulled manes and tails in all classes except where the conditions of entry for the class state otherwise.
 - 4.5.3. False Tails are acceptable in all classes for Purebred Arabians. False tails/tail extensions (hair to hair secured) are permitted in all AABC Inc competitions.
- 4.6. **STALLIONS**

Stallions and Colts two years old and over must be entire, with two visible, descended testicles and MUST have an appropriate veterinary certificate recorded on the AHSA Ltd database prior to the event. When a stallion has had one testicle surgically removed an appropriate veterinary certificate is to be submitted to the AABC Inc with entry prior to the show.
- 4.7. **UNDER SADDLE CLASS LIMIT**
 - 4.7.1. Horses aged six (6) and older may not be shown in more than six (6) performance classes per show day, which equates to no more than twelve (12) performance classes over the course of a two-day show.
 - 4.7.2. Horses aged three to five (3-5) years of age may not be shown in more than three (3) performance classes per show day, which equates to no more than six (6) performance classes over the course of a two-day show.
 - 4.7.3. Exhibits may be entered in more than the maximum number of performance classes prior to closing dates of entries, but exhibition limit will be enforced on each show day to ensure horse welfare.
 - 4.7.4. Performance encompasses the following divisions: 1) Ridden; 2) Show Hunter; 3) Bridle Path Hack; 4) Western Pleasure; and 5) Native/Show Costume.
 - 4.7.5. The Open and Non-Pro divisions shall be counted separately under this rule. Participation in the open and Non-Pro divisions of the same division shall count as two separate competition appearances.
- 4.8. **RUGS, BOOTS & BANDAGES**

Horses must not be shown wearing rugs and/or boots and/or bandages in any ridden, breeding or led class/competition.

5. BREEDING and IN-HAND ADJUDICATION

- 5.1. **HANDLING OF EXHIBITS**
 - 5.1.1. Handlers may exhibit an unlimited number of exhibits in all qualifying classes.
 - 5.1.2. Only one handler per horse is permitted in the ring at any one time.
 - 5.1.3. Handlers will be neatly dressed. Handlers may not wear any articles of clothing carrying any form of advertising which discloses the identification/connection of the horse they are handling or the farm, training stable or corporate sponsor represented.
 - 5.1.4. Handlers may exhibit only ONE (1) horse in a Championship Final (F-listed). Should a handler qualify multiple exhibits for the same Championship Final, suitably attired, age eligible and capable handlers must handle the remaining exhibits from the start to the conclusion of the class.
 - 5.1.5. EXCEPTION: Should, in the collecting ring or during the class, a handler be physically injured and incapable of running with an exhibit at the trot, a designated runner may exhibit the horse at the trot at the beginning of the Championship Final.
- 5.2. **CLASS PROCEDURE**
 - 5.2.1. Horses to be shown in each qualifying class in chronological age order from oldest to youngest.
 - 5.2.2. Each entry shall be exhibited and evaluated **individually**. Horses will NOT be exhibited collectively in any qualifying class.
 - 5.2.3. Horse to enter ring at a trot around the entire circumference of the ring.
 - 5.2.4. Following the trot, each entry shall return to the centre of the ring/presentation area and shall walk in a straight line from and then return towards the judges as directed by the ring steward.



- 5.2.5. Each entry will then be exhibited as a halter horse within the centre of designated presentation area. Horse to be presented for evaluation by judging panel in a controlled, yet uninhibited and/or intimidated manner. Horse shall stand squarely on all four legs and shall be shown with natural elegance and professionalism. Excessive use of the whip and/or horses that appear intimidated or fearful of the handler WILL BE penalized by the Judging Panel and may result in expulsion from the ring.
- 5.2.6. Judges are required to judge exhibits standing, walking, and trotting.
- 5.2.7. Judges may request handlers to open horses' mouths or pick-up feet for inspection.
- 5.2.8. Horse and handler to be excused from the ring at formal request of the ring steward. Horses are to exit ring at either a controlled walk or trot towards the Entry/Exit. Handlers are requested to use extreme caution when exiting as to not inhibit the performance of any successive entry.
- 5.2.9. Exhibits which appear late (missing the exhibition order as determined by age) may be excluded from the class.
- 5.2.10. Unruly horses may be ordered to withdraw at the discretion of the judge(s).
- 5.2.11. No announcement indicating the identity, breeding or past performance of exhibits, or the identity of their owners will be made during judging.
- 5.3. STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN EXHIBITS**
- 5.3.1. All Straight Egyptian exhibits shall be shown in chronological age order from youngest to oldest.
- 5.3.2. Eligible Straight Egyptian entries will be exhibited and scored FIRST in each respective age division prior to all non-SE entries.
- 5.3.3. All Straight Egyptian class entries will be scored in the same age divisions with the other purebred Arabian entries.
- 5.3.4. Straight Egyptian exhibits will ONLY SHOW once in a qualifying class and earn ONLY ONE SCORE.
- 5.3.5. Straight Egyptian Entries that are entered in both the Open and Straight Egyptian age division classes are only required to show ONCE to qualify for both championships.
- 5.3.6. The single score earned will determine placing in each respective qualifying class and qualification for both championships.
- 5.3.7. Qualifying class results will be announced and prizes awarded after ALL entries – both open and Straight Egyptian - have been scored in each age division.
- 5.3.8. Straight Egyptian entries that qualify for both the Straight Egyptian and Open Championships for which they are eligible will be required to show as follows:
- 5.3.8.1. The Straight Egyptian Championship will proceed each Open Championship
- 5.3.8.2. Straight Egyptian entries will be required to show at the trot individually only ONCE in the SE Championship
- 5.3.8.3. Straight Egyptian entries will be required to walk around collectively and stand up for comparative evaluation in BOTH championships
- 5.4. THE SCORECARDS**
- 5.4.1. THE EXPANDED ARABIAN SCORECARD**
- 5.4.1.1. To be used in all qualifying classes for purebred fillies, mares, colts, stallions, and geldings of all ages.
- 5.4.1.2. A Multi-Judge System will be utilized to score all exhibits in all purebred Arabian Breeding & In-Hand qualifying classes.
- 5.4.1.3. Prior to commencement of judging, a random selection will be made to allocate judges as 'Judge 1', 'Judge 2', 'Judge 3', etc. in each event for the purpose of resolving ties.
- 5.4.1.4. Class Conduct: Each exhibit shall be shown individually to the judging panel at the trot, walk and stand-up.
- 5.4.1.5. Assignment of Scores: Judges will award each exhibit with a numerical score between twelve (12) & twenty (20), half points allowed, in the following five (5) primary categories: (1) Arabian Type; (2) Head & Neck; (3) Body; (4) Hooves & Limbs; and (5) Athletic Ability.
- 5.4.1.6. Scores in each of the primary categories will be calculated from scores assigned in the following sub-categories:
- 5.4.1.6.1. ARABIAN TYPE | final score equivalent to sub-category scores total divided by four (4)
- 5.4.1.6.1.1. Comprised of four (4) sub-category scores: 1) Balance; 2) Quality; 3) Presence; and 4) Tail Carriage.
- 5.4.1.6.2. HEAD & NECK | final score equivalent to sub-category scores total divided by two (2)
- 5.4.1.6.2.1. Comprised of two (2) sub-category scores: 1) Head; and 2) Neck.
- 5.4.1.6.3. BODY | final score equivalent to sub-category scores total divided by four (4)
- 5.4.1.6.3.1. Comprised of four (4) sub-category scores: 1) Shoulder & Chest; 2) Barrel & Girth; 3) Hindquarter; and 4) Topline;
- 5.4.1.6.4. HOOVES & LIMBS | final score equivalent to sub-category scores total divided by two (2)
- 5.4.1.6.4.1. Comprised of two (2) sub-category scores: 1) Forelimb; and 2) Hindlimb.
- 5.4.1.6.5. ATHLETIC ABILITY | final score equivalent to sub-category scores total divided by two (2)
- 5.4.1.6.5.1. Comprised of two (2) sub-category scores: 1) Trot; and 2) Walk.
- 5.4.1.7. Scorecards will be turned in by each judge immediately following the adjudication of each entry. Scorecards will be totaled by Scoring Committee to determine Combined Categorical Score for each entry. Scorecards will be posted after the qualifying classes.
- 5.4.1.8. The maximum score awarded each exhibit from a single judge is one hundred twenty (100) points. Combined Categorical Scores from all judges will be added together to determine the Total Accumulated Score awarded to each exhibit. The maximum Total Accumulated Score achievable is 400 points utilizing the four (4) judge system and 300 points utilizing the three (3) judge system.
- 5.4.1.9. TOP FIVE/TEN PLACINGS: All exhibit scores will be ranked from highest to lowest to determine the Top Five/Ten qualified exhibits for the Final Championship. Those exhibits receiving the five (5) or ten (10) highest scores in each age division – Yearling, Junior & Senior – will qualify to compete in the Comparative Championship. All exhibitors are responsible for verifying the individual scores of their exhibit to determine if they have qualified for the comparative Final.
- 5.4.2. THE F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVE SCORECARD**
- 5.4.2.1. To be used in all Halter classes for F1 Arabian Derivative fillies, mares, colts, stallions, and geldings of all ages.
- 5.4.2.2. A three (3) Judge System will be utilized to score all exhibits in all F1 Arabian Derivative Breeding & In-Hand qualifying classes.
- 5.4.2.3. Prior to commencement of judging, a random selection will be made to allocate judges as 'Judge 1', 'Judge 2' & 'Judge 3' in each event for the purpose of resolving ties.
- 5.4.2.4. Class Conduct: Each exhibit shall be shown individually to the judging panel at the trot, walk and stand-up.
- 5.4.2.5. Assignment of Scores: Judges will award each exhibit with a numerical score between ten (10) & twenty (20), half points allowed, in the following five categories: (1) F1 Arabian Derivative Breed Type, Quality & Balance; (2) Forequarter; (3) Body & Hindquarter; (4) Feet & Legs; and (5) Movement.
- 5.4.2.6. Scorecards will be turned in by each judge immediately following the adjudication of each entry. All scorecards will be totaled by the Scoring Committee to determine the Combined Categorical Score for each entry. Scorecards will be posted after the conclusion of each Championship.
- 5.4.2.7. The maximum score awarded each exhibit from a single judge is one hundred (100) points. Combined Categorical Scores from all three (3) judges will be added together to determine the Total Accumulated Score awarded to each exhibit. The maximum Total Accumulated Score achievable is 300 points utilizing the three (3) Judge system.



5.5. CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL – F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVES

- 5.5.1. All F1 Arabian Derivative sections will NOT be judged comparatively in a Championship Final. Championship placings for Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion, as well as remaining Top Five, will be determined by scores awarded in the qualifying sections and ranked from highest to lowest.
- 5.5.2. Handlers with multiple exhibits that earn placings in the Championship Final should have additional, capable, appropriately attired and age-eligible handlers to present exhibits during the prize giving ceremony.

5.6. CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL – PUREBRED ARABIAN LED FINALS | OPEN, STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN & NON-PRO

- 5.6.1. All Arabian sections – purebred Arabian fillies, colts, mares, stallions and geldings in all open age, non-pro and Straight Egyptian divisions - will be judged comparatively in a Championship Final.
- 5.6.2. All Purebred Championship Finals to be judged comparatively by the full panel of judges.
- 5.6.3. Prior to commencement of judging, a random selection will be made to allocate judges as 'Judge 1', through 'Judge 4' in each event for the purpose of resolving ties.
- 5.6.4. Each Championship Final will be comprised of either the ten (10) or the five (5) highest scoring horses from all qualifying classes in each respective Yearling, Junior & Senior division for fillies, mares, colts, stallions & geldings for purebred Arabians, and as designated in the show catalogue for all Non-Pro qualifying sections.
- 5.6.5. All qualified horses for the Championship Final will return to the ring in score order and stand in the one line as designated by the Ring Steward.
- 5.6.6. Should ten (10) horses qualify for a Championship Final, the five (5) highest scoring exhibits in each division will return to the ring in score order and stand in the first line. The remainder of the Top Ten highest scoring horses will return to the ring and comprise the second line in score order.

5.7. CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL PROCEDURE

- 5.7.1. All qualified horses to be shown individually at the beginning of each championship class. Horse to enter ring at a trot in hand.
- 5.7.2. Following the trot, each entry shall exit the ring following the instructions of the Ring Steward. Handlers are requested to use extreme caution when exiting as to not inhibit the performance of any successive entry.
- 5.7.3. Horses will be presented in score order - from highest scoring to lowest scoring - within each group of five (5) horses – first the front line followed by the second line (if necessary) - until every horse qualified for the Final has been trotted individually for the judging panel.
- 5.7.4. Immediately following the individual presentations at the trot, all entries shall enter the ring collectively at a walk in a clockwise direction in score order beginning with the first line, followed by the second line. The purpose of this presentation is to allow the Judging Panel to collectively assess the quality of the championship entries at a natural walk.
- 5.7.5. At the conclusion of the collective walk, all horses shall line-up at the direction of the Ring Steward in one single line head to tail (for five qualified exhibits) and two single lines – a front row & second row (for ten qualified exhibits).
- 5.7.6. Each entry will then be exhibited INDIVIDUALLY as a halter horse to determine championship placings. Horse to be presented for evaluation by judging panel in a controlled, yet uninhibited and/or intimidated manner. Horse shall stand squarely on all four legs and shall be shown with natural elegance and professionalism.
- 5.7.7. No individual scores shall be awarded – all judging in the Championship Finals shall be comparative.
- 5.7.8. Judges will move as a group to evaluate each horse in succession. The entire panel judges will begin adjudicating each Championship Final by evaluating the first horse in the front line. Judges will then proceed as a group to the next exhibit, until all horses have been evaluated by the Judging Panel in both lines.
- 5.7.9. During the collective evaluation of each Championship immediately following the collective walk, exhibitors are ONLY allowed to stand-up/show and/or prepare horses for presentation when the Judging Panel is either evaluating their horse or evaluating the horse immediately prior. Only TWO (2) horses should be showing at any time in the arena during the group evaluation by the Judges. While waiting for the Judging Panel, exhibitors are encouraged to stand alongside the horse until the group of Judges has moved into a position near them to allow for preparation and presentation of their entry.
- 5.7.10. Once an entry has been evaluated, exhibitors MUST cease from presenting the exhibit until all horses have been evaluated by the Judging Panel collectively. As with the horses waiting to be evaluated, exhibitors are encouraged to stand alongside the horse until all exhibits have been evaluated.
- 5.7.11. Once the final horse has been evaluated by the collective group of Judges, Judges are free to roam the arena to evaluate horses individually. At this time, exhibitors may stand-up and present their horses at will.

5.8. SELECTION OF GOLD, SILVER, BRONZE & TOP FIVE (TEN) CHAMPIONS

- 5.8.1. Each judge will then rank, in order of preference, four exhibits on his/her Championship Final card: GOLD CHAMPION first (1st); SILVER CHAMPION second (2nd); BRONZE CHAMPION third (3rd); and a Reserve Choice fourth (4th).
- 5.8.2. Gold Champion MUST be selected from amongst the five (5) entries in the front line. If only five entries are competing in a Championship Final ALL exhibits are eligible to be named GOLD CHAMPION.
- 5.8.3. Once the Gold Champion has been selected from the front line on each judge's card, judges may place the remaining horses (from either row) in ANY order.
- 5.8.4. Once completed, each judge will submit his/her card to the Ring Steward for submission to the Scorer for tabulation.
- 5.8.5. **Gold Champion** will be determined according to **MAJORITY OPINION; the individual horse receiving the greatest number (majority) of first place votes from all judges officiating will be awarded the title of GOLD CHAMPION. No points will be assigned to ranked entries to determine the title of GOLD CHAMPION. Please see 5.9.3 RULES FOR BREAKING TIES – CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL – PUREBRED ARABIANS below to clarify the procedure for determining GOLD CHAMPION should majority opinion not be easily ascertained from total number of first place votes.**
- 5.8.6. **Any exhibit receiving THREE (3) votes for GOLD CHAMPION shall be determined the winner by MAJORITY OPINION, regardless of the remaining judge's vote.**
- 5.8.7. Once the Gold Champion has been determined by Majority Opinion, points shall be assigned to each of the remaining ranked entries on the Championship judges' cards as follows:
 - i. Fifty (50) points will be awarded to each entry placed first (excluding the GOLD CHAMPION)
 - ii. Forty (40) points will be awarded to each entry horse placed second (excluding the GOLD CHAMPION)
 - iii. Thirty (30) points will be awarded to each entry horse placed third (excluding the GOLD CHAMPION)
 - iv. Twenty (20) points will be awarded to each entry horse placed fourth (excluding the GOLD CHAMPION)
- 5.8.8. The entry with the most accumulated points from the remaining entries will be awarded the title of SILVER CHAMPION. The entry with the second highest accumulated score of the remaining entries will be awarded the title of BRONZE CHAMPION. The remainder of the exhibits in the championship line-up not determined to be GOLD, SILVER or BRONZE CHAMPION shall all be awarded title of TOP TEN (or TOP FIVE).
- 5.8.9. TOP TEN (or TOP FIVE) Championship honours shall be announced and awarded in numerical order. Following the announcement of the full Top Five/Ten, the Bronze Champion will be announced and awarded, followed by the Silver Champion, and finally the Gold Champion.



5.9. RULES FOR BREAKING TIES

5.9.1. QUALIFYING CLASSES & CHAMPIONSHIPS UTILIZING THE ARABIAN SCORECARD

- 5.9.1.1. In the case of a tie, the horse awarded the higher points for TYPE from the Total Accumulated Score shall be declared the winner.
- 5.9.1.2. Should the points for TYPE be the same, the horse receiving the higher points for MOVEMENT from the Total Accumulated Score shall be declared the winner.
- 5.9.1.3. Should the horses further prove to be tied in points for both TYPE and MOVEMENT, the horse receiving the higher Total Accumulated Score from the designated Call Judge in that class shall be deemed the winner.
- 5.9.1.4. Should the horses still be tied, the horse receiving the higher Total Accumulated Score from the designated Judge 2 in that class shall be deemed the winner.
- 5.9.1.5. Should the horses still prove to be tied, this process of breaking ties shall continue through the final designated Judge, in call judge order, for that class until a clear winner can be decided.
- 5.9.1.6. Should the tie prove impossible to break according to points awarded by all the judges who officiated the class, the tied horses in question will be asked to return to the ring to be comparatively judged by the designated Call Judge for the class. The decision of the Call Judge will be final.

5.9.2. QUALIFYING CLASSES UTILIZING THE F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVE SCORECARD

- 5.9.2.1. In the case of a tie, the horse awarded the higher points for F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVE BREED TYPE, QUALITY & BALANCE from the Total Accumulated Score shall be declared the winner.
- 5.9.2.2. Should the points for TYPE, QUALITY & BALANCE be the same, the horse receiving the higher points for MOVEMENT from the Total Accumulated Score shall be declared the winner.
- 5.9.2.3. Should the horses further prove to be tied in points for both TYPE, QUALITY & BALANCE and MOVEMENT, the horse receiving the higher Total Accumulated Score from the designated Call Judge in that class shall be deemed the winner.
- 5.9.2.4. Should the horses still be tied, the horse receiving the higher Total Accumulated Score from the designated Judge 2 in that class shall be deemed the winner.
- 5.9.2.5. Should the horses still prove to be tied, this process of breaking ties shall continue through the final designated Judge, in call judge order, for that class until a clear winner can be decided.
- 5.9.2.6. Should the tie prove impossible to break according to points awarded by all the judges who officiated the class, the tied horses in question will be asked to return to the ring to be comparatively judged by the designated Call Judge for the class. The decision of the Call Judge will be final.

5.9.3. CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL – BREEDING & IN-HAND PUREBRED ARABIANS & F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVES

- 5.9.3.1. Should a 'tie' for GOLD CHAMPION occur at any point in the championship (any instance in which MAJORITY OPINION does not prevail), the horse with the higher Total Accumulated Score (from 480 or 360) in the qualifying class shall be placed GOLD CHAMPION in the tie. Refer to Rule 5.9. In the Championship Final, a 'tie' is considered any instance in which a Majority Opinion cannot be clearly determined from the votes cast for Gold Champion. Please see below:

	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Gold Champion
Scenario 1 Clear Majority Opinion	101 (442.0)	101 (442.0)	101 (442.0)	101 (442.0)	101
Scenario 2 Clear Majority Opinion	101 (442.0)	101 (442.0)	476 (439.5)	101 (442.0)	101
Scenario 3 Majority Opinion	101 (442.0)	476 (439.5)	101 (442.0)	333 (439.0)	101
Scenario 4 Highest Cumulative Score	101 (442.0)	476 (439.5)	101 (442.0)	476 (439.5)	101
Scenario 5 Highest Cumulative Score	101 (442.0)	476 (439.5)	127(437.5)	333 (439.0)	101

- 5.9.3.2. Should the Total Accumulated Scores be identical, the horse awarded the higher points for TYPE from the Total Accumulated Score shall be declared GOLD CHAMPION.
- 5.9.3.3. Should the points for TYPE be the same, the horse receiving the higher points for MOVEMENT from the Total Accumulated Score shall be declared GOLD CHAMPION.
- 5.9.3.4. Should a tie still exist after each of these tie-breaking methods have been utilized, the horse ranked higher on the Call Judge's card in the Championship Final shall be declared GOLD CHAMPION.
- 5.9.3.5. The exhibit not chosen as GOLD CHAMPION in the tie, SHALL NOT automatically be awarded the title of SILVER CHAMPION. Please refer to Rules 5.8.7 to clearly understand determination of Silver Champion, Bronze Champion and any remaining Top Five/Top Ten awards after Gold Champion has been determined and awarded in the case where a clear and simple Majority Opinion has not prevailed.

6. RIDDEN EXHIBIT ADJUDICATION

6.1. JUDGING PANEL

All purebred Arabians and F1 Arabian Derivatives – mares, stallions, and geldings – competing in the Ridden division shall be evaluated on the circle and in individual workouts by a panel of two (2) qualified performance judges using the Ridden Scorecard.

6.2. RIDDEN PERFORMANCE STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE, RULES & REGULATIONS

Ridden exhibits shall be expected to follow the rules and regulations for Hack classes as defined in the most recent AHSA Competition Rule Book. Please refer to the [Society website](#) for further details.

6.3. GENERAL RULES

- 6.3.1. Approved safety helmets are to be worn by all competitors in ridden competition.
- 6.3.2. All horses competing under saddle must be a minimum of three (3) years of age.
- 6.3.3. Blemishes that do not affect a horse's movement or ability to carry out the requirements of a class will not be counted against the exhibit.

6.4. THE RIDDEN SCORECARD

- 6.4.1. The Ridden Scorecard will assess the Suitability & Utility of each exhibit as a riding horse displaying exemplary breed character by assigning scores from one (1) to ten (10), half points allowed, under the general categorization of TYPE & CONFORMATION (60%) and PERFORMANCE (40%), in the following seven categories:

- 6.4.1.1. TYPE & CONFORMATION | Arabian Breed (purebred) or Saddle Type & Quality (F1 Arabian Derivative) (multiplied by a factor of 2)
- 6.4.1.2. TYPE & CONFORMATION | Conformation & Balance
- 6.4.1.3. TYPE & CONFORMATION | Presentation
- 6.4.1.4. TYPE & CONFORMATION | Soundness & Quality of Movement (multiplied by a factor of 2)
- 6.4.1.5. PERFORMANCE | Correctness of Paces



- 6.4.1.6. PERFORMANCE | Manners & Suitability
- 6.4.1.7. PERFORMANCE | Education
- 6.4.1.8. PERFORMANCE | Execution of Workout
- 6.4.2. The highest possible score for each exhibit assigned by a single judge is one hundred (100) points.
- 6.4.3. Scores from all judges will totalled together achieve the Total Aggregate Score for each performance.

6.5. RULES FOR BREAKING TIES

- 6.5.1. Should two or more exhibits be awarded identical Total Aggregate Scores, the horse receiving the higher score for PERFORMANCE – the scores of Manners, Paces, Education & Execution of Workout combined – shall be declared the higher-ranking horse.
- 6.5.2. Should two or more exhibits further possess identical scores in the PERFORMANCE categories, then the exhibit that has received the higher Total Aggregate Score from the Call Judge shall be determined the higher-ranking horse.
- 6.5.3. Should the two scores still be identical, then the exhibit that has received the higher score in the PERFORMANCE categories from the Call Judge shall be determined the higher-ranking horse.
- 6.5.4. This same process of first comparing Total Aggregate Scores and then scores from the PERFORMANCE categories shall continue through Judge 2, and if necessary, Judge 3, until a higher-ranking horse can be determined.
- 6.5.5. Should a tie still exist between two of more exhibits after all the tie breaking rules have been exhausted, the Call Judge will determine the ranking. The decision of the Call Judge is final.

6.6. CHAMPIONSHIPS | AWARDS & RANKING

- 6.6.1. The final placings in all championships for Ridden Performance shall be determined by the scores achieved in the qualifying classes.
- 6.6.2. Once the final exhibit has been adjudicated, Total Aggregate Scores will be ranked to determine the Top Five placings in each Championship division.
 - 6.6.2.1. The exhibit with the highest Total Aggregate Score shall be awarded GOLD CHAMPION.
 - 6.6.2.2. The exhibit with the second highest Total Aggregate Score shall be awarded SILVER CHAMPION.
 - 6.6.2.3. The exhibit with the third highest Total Aggregate Score shall be awarded BRONZE CHAMPION.
 - 6.6.2.4. The exhibit with the fourth and fifth highest Total Aggregate Scores shall be awarded TOP FIVE.

7. PERFORMANCE ADJUDICATION

7.1. GENERAL RULES

- 7.1.1. Approved safety helmets are to be worn by all competitors in all ridden classes.
- 7.1.2. All horses competing in performance classes must be a minimum of three (3) years of age.
- 7.1.3. Blemishes that do not affect a horse's movement or ability to carry out the requirements of a class will not be counted against the exhibit.

7.2. BRIDLE PATH HACK

- 7.2.1. Ridden exhibits competing in this division shall be expected to follow the rules and regulations for Bridle Path Hack classes as defined in the most recent AHSA Competition Rule Book. Please refer to the [Society website](#) for further details.

7.3. SHOW HUNTER

- 7.3.1. Ridden exhibits competing in this division shall be expected to follow the rules and regulations for Show Hunter classes as defined in the most recent AHSA Competition Rule Book. Please refer to the [Society website](#) for further details.

7.4. COSTUME

- 7.4.1. Ridden exhibits competing in this division shall be expected to follow the rules and regulations for Arabian Costume classes as defined in the most recent AHSA Competition Rule Book. Please refer to the [Society website](#) for further details.

7.5. WESTERN PLEASURE

- 7.5.1. Ridden exhibits competing in this division shall be expected to follow the rules and regulations for Western Pleasure classes as defined in the most recent AHSA Competition Rule Book. Please refer to the [Society website](#) for further details.

8. EVENT PROCEDURE

8.1. MANAGEMENT

Management, as appointed by the event committee, shall have jurisdiction over preparing and mailing all entry blanks, premium lists and catalogues as well as providing adequate public liability insurance. Management shall have the authority to enforce all rules referring to the Show or Event and may disqualify any horse or exhibitor from the show or contest prior to or during the judging, for cruelty or abuse of a horse or because of unsportsmanlike or aggressive behaviour.

8.2. ENTRY FEES

Entry fees as set out in the Schedule of Classes or on the Entry Form will apply. Refunds of Entry Fees will be at the discretion of the AABC event committee if the event is cancelled.

8.3. IDENTIFICATION OF EXHIBITS

All horses must be able to be identified in accordance with the Certificate of Registration or Recording or Competition Visa issued by the AHSA Ltd. Show secretaries and competitors should note that exhibits must comply with individual State and Federal laws regarding livestock identification. The horse must be identifiable (including colour and markings), according to its registration certificate. Every horse born in Australia must be branded or micro-chipped prior to being exhibited.

8.4. EXHIBIT NUMBERS

Where entries have been allocated an exhibit number, the exhibit or handler/rider must always display the correct exhibit number in each event unless otherwise permitted by an event official.

8.5. AUTHORITY OF EVENT COMMITTEE

The Show Committee shall have the power, without assigning any reason to:

- 8.5.1. Reject or cancel any entry at any time.
- 8.5.2. Prohibit the participation by any person or exhibit in any event or class for which it is entered.
- 8.5.3. Cancel, combine, or divide any event or class.
- 8.5.4. Alter the time at which any class or event is to take place.
- 8.5.5. Order the removal of any exhibit from the show grounds.
- 8.5.6. Transfer an exhibit from any class to any other class.
- 8.5.7. Act upon any report of cruelty to any exhibit on the showground. Clauses 8.5.2 and 8.5.5 above may be invoked.
- 8.5.8. Enforce the exclusion of any exhibit which has been excused from any class upon the direction of a Judge



8.6. STIRRING/HAZING

- 8.6.1. Limited schooling in the marshalling yard will only be permitted at the discretion of the marshal. Horses must remain calm in the marshalling area with a maximum of one handler/rider and one groom until they are instructed by the Marshall /steward/ show official to prepare the horse for entry into the judging ring.
- 8.6.2. Shakers must only be used in moderation by or under the direction of the Marshall/Steward/Show Official, in a designated area within the marshalling area or ring, and only upon request from the competitor at the time of entry to the marshalling area. Shakers may be a rattling instrument or show whip with an attachment no bigger than 30cm in length.
- 8.6.3. Handlers are not to incite stallions to challenge by facing them up to each other or crowding them. The facing up of stallions is strictly prohibited.
- 8.6.4. WHIP AND/OR SPUR ABUSE OF ANY KIND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

8.7. REQUIREMENTS FOR AN AWARD

An exhibit:

- 8.7.1. Should stand as directed for the Judge to inspect it.
- 8.7.2. Should be able to perform the workout as directed. Outside interference such as a loose horse galloping through the ring or other unforeseen circumstances which dramatically affects the competitor's chances to demonstrate their ability may mean that the Judge can allow a second chance to work out.
- 8.7.3. Must not show any evidence of cruelty or distress from whip marks, spur marks, bleeding, or drug abuse. At the discretion of the Judge, horses who excessively back away or attempt to run from their handlers in a fearful manner may not be judged.
- 8.7.4. Horses exhibiting signs of serious lameness in the opinion of the Judge will be excused from the class and will take no further part in competition for the remainder of the day. "Seriously lame" is a horse that consistently exhibits signs of pain in the opinion of the Judge. A horse exhibiting consistent irregularity may be penalised.

8.8. PROPER CONTROL

All horses must be always under proper control. Bad manners exhibited by the horse such as kicking, biting, rearing, or barging may result in the competitor being asked to withdraw from the class by the Steward on direction from the Judge. Any horse not under proper control will be issued a warning by Ring Stewards and subsequently may be disqualified from the class. Any horse which becomes loose and escapes from the handler or rider for any reason may be disqualified from the class. If the horse remains in the immediate judging area out of lead reach and does not interfere with any other horse to cause danger and/or disturbance and is retrieved promptly by the handler or rider may, at the discretion of the Judge and Show Officials, continue to be judged.

8.9. DISPUTES COMMITTEE

- 8.9.1. Every Show shall have a Ground Jury / Disputes Committee made up of the following:
 - 8.9.1.1. One Event Committee Member
 - 8.9.1.2. The Show Manager and/or Ring Master
 - 8.9.1.3. One Competitor
- 8.9.2. No member of this Committee may hear a protest in a Section of the Show in which he/she is exhibiting or competing. The Judge of the Section concerned may be consulted. The decision of the Committee is final and binding

8.10. PROTESTS/COMPLAINTS

- 8.10.1. Protests/Complaints must be lodged in writing.
- 8.10.2. The following persons may lodge a protest/complaint:
 - 8.10.2.1. Competitors or Exhibitors in the disputed Class
- 8.10.3. The protest/complaint must be lodged within ONE HOUR of the completion of the class.
- 8.10.4. In the case of classes using the scoring system, protests/complaints must be lodged within ONE HOUR of the scores being posted.
- 8.10.5. Protests/Complaints must be accompanied by \$100 which shall be refundable if the Protest/Complaint is upheld.
- 8.10.6. For Protests/Complaints relating to a Non-Pro see **Rule 13**
- 8.10.7. Contestants have the right of protest/complain, through the Ring Steward or Show Manager to any Obstacle, Marker, or Surface which in the opinion of 50% or more of the contestants in the class could endanger the horse or rider.
 - 8.10.7.1. Such a protest may be adjudicated by the Disputes Committee.
- 8.10.8. A Judge's decision, representing his/her individual preference is not protestable unless alleged to be in violation of the Event or AABC Rules.
- 8.10.9. Problems arising at a Show involving questions not specifically covered by the Show Rules will be adjudicated by the Show Committee. Any suggestions or queries involving Rules contained in the AABC Inc. Rule Book should be addressed to the Secretary of the AABC.

9. OFFICIALS

9.1. THE JUDGE

- 9.1.1. The Judge shall be an accredited Arabian judge in good standing with the breed authority from the country in which he/she resides or a celebrated breeder of Arabian horses with decades of experience and expertise.
- 9.1.2. **Judge's Obligations**
 - 9.1.2.1. The Judge shall evaluate Arabian exhibits at shows in accordance with the international Standard of Excellence for the Arabian horse.
 - 9.1.2.2. The Judge shall adjudicate each class at a show in conformity with the rules and specifications in that class in accordance with the rules of AABC Inc.
 - 9.1.2.3. The Judge shall require the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment or accoutrement which, in his opinion, is not in accordance with AABC Rules and Regulations.
- 9.1.3. **Code of Conduct**
 - 9.1.3.1. The Judge shall at no time interfere with exhibit's tack or gear in the ring nor will they touch the exhibit in any way.
 - 9.1.3.2. The Judge shall not exhibit, or assist any exhibitor, or handle any horse, at a show at which he/she is officiating.
 - 9.1.3.3. The Judge is expected to display the highest standards of ethics inside and outside the showing/arena/paddock at all times including at events where he/she is not officiating.
 - 9.1.3.4. The Judge should not make any social conversation during the course of class and must not use electronic communication devices in the show ring/arena/paddock, except for official devices provided by the show organizer for the purposes of the event only.
 - 9.1.3.5. As the Judge is the official guest of the show organizer prior to the show, he/she shall not during the period of a show at which he/she is judging, be the house guest of a person who is exhibiting at the show.
 - 9.1.3.6. The Judge may attend social events organised by the AABC prior to/during the event at which they are adjudicating provided he/she uses common sense, displays integrity and is chaperoned in some capacity during such occasions by a designated event official.
 - 9.1.3.7. Members of the Judge's immediate family in attendance at the AABC event are expected to abide by the same Code of Conduct.



9.1.4. Judge's Decision

- 9.1.4.1. The Judge's decision is final.
- 9.1.4.2. Once a class has been judged it shall not be re-judged.
- 9.1.4.3. Once a Judge has marked his/her card and officially submitted the card to the officiating steward, there shall be no changing or scores or placings. The following exceptions apply and may allow for the clarification of scores:
 - 9.1.4.3.1. when a score(s) has been accidentally omitted on an official scorecard for any category of adjudication;
 - 9.1.4.3.2. when one or more scores have been circled in the same category of adjudication;
 - 9.1.4.3.3. when the score circled and/or written is illegible and needs proper clarification.
 - 9.1.4.3.4. In all instances, the officiating Ring Steward shall supervise the clarification of scores and shall request the Judge's signature next to each score clarification.
- 9.1.4.4. In the event that an entry has not been judged due to an error by the show committee/official the class may be rejudged immediately, while horses are in the ring, and at the discretion of the judge and the management committee.
- 9.1.4.5. Any Judge officiating at an Official Show is under no obligation to make any awards if they consider an exhibit not up to standard.
- 9.1.4.6. Only the judge/judges who officiate qualifying classes in any division shall be eligible to adjudicate the corresponding championship finals. In the case of incapacitation, in which a judge is physically unable to complete their judging obligations as a result of physical risk, injury or poor health, the Event Committee reserves the right to appoint a suitable replacement Judge.

9.1.5. Conflict of Interest

- 9.1.5.1. The Judge must avoid any circumstances which could be an actual or apparent conflict of interest and may not officiate at a show if he/she has an actual or apparent conflict of interest, due to his/her knowledge.
- 9.1.5.2. **EXHIBIT | Conflict of Interest**
An actual or apparent conflict of interest may occur, amongst others, if the Judge officiates at a show at which a **horse**, irrespective of the payment or receipt of a remuneration or any other consideration:
 - 9.1.5.2.1. is being trained or handled by a member of the Judge's family;
 - 9.1.5.2.2. has been bought, sold and/or leased by a Judge either as owner or agent within three (3) months of the first date of the event;
 - 9.1.5.2.3. has been bred or is owned in whole or part by the Judge or by a member of the Judge's family, or a business partner in an Arab horse business venture;
 - 9.1.5.2.4. has been bred by or is the property of a breeding organization in which the Judge is or was an employee;
 - 9.1.5.2.5. has been regularly trained, examined or treated by the Judge in a professional capacity within three (3) months of the first date of the event;
 - 9.1.5.2.6. is the subject of an on-going negotiation to buy or lease, or a provisional purchase condition to which the Judge is a party.
- 9.1.5.3. **An exhibit with a Conflict of Interest** may still be presented and be adjudicated by all Judges to whom the conflict does not apply. At no time, for any competition in which official placings are rewarded including qualifying classes, championships and special awards, shall the Judge with the apparent Conflict of Interest adjudicate the exhibit in question, nor discuss the exhibit with the other Judges.
- 9.1.5.4. **EXHIBITOR | Conflict of Interest**
An actual or apparent conflict of interest may further occur, amongst others, if the Judge, irrespective of the payment or receipt of a remuneration or any other consideration, during the period of three (3) months before a show at which the Judge officiates:
 - 9.1.5.4.1. has entered into any business relationship with an exhibitor at that show;
 - 9.1.5.4.1.1. breeding transactions such as the purchase of stallion services, foaling down mares, etc. are exempt;
 - 9.1.5.4.2. has performed consulting for an exhibitor at that show;
 - 9.1.5.4.3. has purchased or sold a horse from or to an exhibitor at that show;
 - 9.1.5.4.4. was involved with the breeding of a horse of an exhibitor at that show;
 - 9.1.5.4.5. was involved in similar activities with an exhibitor at that show.
- 9.1.5.5. The onus is on the competitor to withdraw from the class or notify the Events Committee prior to the start of the Event should any of the above conflicts of interest apply.
- 9.1.5.6. Should the Judge be aware of an apparent Conflict of Interest at ANY time during the event, the onus is upon the Judge to remove her/himself from the adjudication of that exhibit and all classes/championships in which that exhibit shall compete.

9.2. RING STEWARD

9.2.1. Responsibilities

The Ring Steward

- 9.2.1.1. is responsible for hosting the Judge on the day.
- 9.2.1.2. is expected to help the Judge but shall in no way advise the Judge on judging decisions.
- 9.2.1.3. shall carefully refrain from discussing or seeming to discuss the horses or exhibitors with the Judge.
- 9.2.1.4. shall not take part, or seem to take part, in any of the judging.
- 9.2.1.5. when not actively engaged in any official duties, shall place himself/herself in such a position as not to interfere with the judging and the view of the spectators.
- 9.2.1.6. shall be a competent, qualified, trained professional who can control the conduct of the horses and exhibitors in the ring or arena and is has a thorough understanding of the AABC Rules and Regulations, as well as proper Arabian horse event conduct.
- 9.2.1.7. has charge of the activity in the ring or arena.
- 9.2.1.8. shall act as mediator between the Judge and the exhibitors.
- 9.2.1.9. shall, at the request of the Judge, move and place horses as he/she advises.
- 9.2.1.10. has the responsibility of checking entries for eligibility and riders/horses for proper and correct attire, equipment, and appointments.
- 9.2.1.11. has the responsibility of checking entries for whip marks, removal of eye lashes and other signs of abuse including suspected gingering.
- 9.2.1.12. when the ring or arena size is small and the class entries are large, shall survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the Judge is ready for them to be judged.
- 9.2.1.13. has the authority, at the Judge's request, to remove unsportsmanlike exhibitors from the ring, and/or to ask an exhibitor to remove his horse for the safety of other horses or spectators.
- 9.2.1.14. after the prizes have been awarded, instruct the prize winners to circle the ring or arena for the benefit of the spectators.
- 9.2.1.15. shall ensure the Judge places his/her signature on each class sheet together with that of the Steward and that, where such cards are used, the sheets for the entire show are handed to the Show Secretary.
- 9.2.1.16. shall keep the programme on schedule and eliminate long delays, by assembling and executing classes promptly and properly.



- 9.2.1.17. shall not allow exhibitors to crowd up the ring or arena and should, always, endeavour to keep the possibilities of an accident to a minimum.
- 9.2.1.18. shall notify the Judge when all horses are present for each class and call the Judge's attention to those which are absent so that the class card may be marked.
- 9.2.1.19. shall ensure the Judge is aware of how many horses are to be placed in each class

10. EXHIBITORS

10.1. HANDLERS/RIDER PER HORSE

10.1.1. Scorecard Adjudicated

Exhibitors may present an unlimited number of horses in all classes in which a scorecard is used to score each exhibit. Additional capable, appropriately attired and age eligible handlers/riders are required for all exhibits qualified for championship finals and award presentations.

10.1.2. Comparatively Adjudicated

Exhibitors may present only ONE horse in all classes, including championships, in which a comparative system is used. This includes all performance classes worked solely on the circle and all purebred breeding/in-hand championships.

10.2. SUITABLE ATTIRE

10.2.1. Exhibitors must be suitably attired for the occasion.

10.2.2. Safety of both handler/rider and horse is paramount in terms of all suitable attire.

10.2.3. Approved safety helmets are to be worn by all competitors in all ridden classes.

10.2.4. Covered shoulders, legs, torso and toes shall be considered mandatory suitable attire.

10.2.5. No jeans, shorts, excessively revealing clothing or thongs are to be worn whilst presenting for any class.

10.2.6. No advertising matter shall appear on any items of dress, saddlery or equipment that leads to Stud, Farm or personal identification.

10.2.7. Any item of dress that, in the opinion of the Judge or Steward, may detract from the purpose of the event shall result in the possible exclusion of the exhibit from that event.

10.2.8. The Judge's or Show Official's decision on what comprises correct attire shall be final.

10.3. CONDUCT

10.3.1. Competitors and their team shall always behave in a proper and respectful manner to Judges, Show Officials, and their fellow competitors.

10.3.2. Any exhibitor or team member whose conduct is ill-mannered, aggressive, or unsportsmanlike during the judging of an event or anywhere on the grounds may be issued a warning and subsequently dismissed from the class or disqualified from the show.

10.3.3. Once Judging has commenced, the horse shall not be led or ridden in or out of the Ring without the permission of the Judge.

10.3.4. The use of mobile phones whilst competing is prohibited.

10.4. ELIGIBILITY

10.4.1. No exhibitor may compete in any class being adjudicated by a Judge who is not permitted to judge the exhibit/exhibitor as stipulated by the AABC Event Rule Book in section for OFFICIALS (9) under THE JUDGE (9.1).

10.4.2. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure eligibility for a class.

10.4.3. Where any ineligibility to compete may occur, the competitor (not the Judge), should withdraw from the class.

11. ABUSE OF HORSES

Any incident wherever on the show ground observed by an Official of the Show which is considered to reflect abuse or a cruel practice to an exhibit by an exhibitor, handler, rider shall be reported to the Management and may result in immediate disqualification of it or him from all events in which the exhibit, exhibitor, handler, rider is entered as well as the forfeiting of all prize monies gained.

11.1. PROHIBITED APPARATUS

11.1.1. Any exhibitor found to have in his possession at the show grounds any electric or galvanic apparatus which might be used for affecting the performance or behaviour of a horse may result in the disqualification of all exhibits entered in that exhibitor's name. Upon the disqualification of any exhibit under any of the Rules, the Committee reserves the right to amend any placing and/or awards.

11.1.2. Any product with a chain or similar fitting across the horse's poll which could bruise the horse is considered Prohibited Apparatus. Anyone found to be in possession of such apparatus at any show will be severely disciplined and if their horse is found to be bruised, will not be eligible to compete.

11.2. WHIPS, CHAINS, SPURS & BITS

11.2.1. These are acceptable aids in the showing of horses in In-Hand and Saddle Classes.

11.2.2. Should indiscriminate and excessive use of these aids occur, a warning will be given.

11.2.3. Disqualification will result if exhibits display evidence of whip abuse or bleeding from spurs or bits.

11.2.4. Evidence of abuse from these aids should be checked by the Steward prior to Judging.

11.3. WHIP LENGTH

11.3.1. In ridden classes, normal length hacking canes, riding crops or dressage whips are acceptable in most classes.

11.3.2. For in-hand classes length of whip is not to exceed 145 cm including handle & tail. Carriage whips, "training whips" and the like are prohibited from any in-hand class.

11.4. USE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

11.4.1. "Drug" means any substance affecting the performance or the behaviour of a horse by its action on the central or peripheral nervous system, the cardiovascular system, the Musculo-skeletal system, or the urogenital system.

11.4.2. Members are advised to refer to the FEI prohibited substances list [Clean Sport for Horses - FEI Prohibited Substances List | FEI](#)

11.4.3. No person shall cause to be administered internally or externally to a horse, either before or during an event, any medication or drug which is of such a character as could affect its performance.

11.4.4. Upon discovery of such a drug or medication the horse shall immediately be disqualified.

11.4.5. Any actual substance, whether drug or otherwise which may interfere with the testing procedure is forbidden, except when following the "Treatment of Minor Injuries" procedure.

11.4.6. Irritants to anus and vagina to enhance tail carriage are strictly prohibited, as also are irritants to the eyes.

11.5. CODE OF BEHAVIOUR | CARD SYSTEM

11.5.1. A card system will be in place at all AABC Inc events to deter certain types of behaviour (Reportable Conduct) wherever occurring on the grounds and at any times during events.



- 11.5.2. "Reportable Conduct" includes types of behaviour which are cruel or abusive to horses, including but not limited to:
- 11.5.2.1. inappropriate use of whips or spurs;
 - 11.5.2.2. handlers/riders witnessed striking a horse with a whip, spur, or other implement whether it leaves a mark;
 - 11.5.2.3. chasing horses with plastic or rattles intimidating horses by threatening them with a whip or body language that causes them to run backwards, crouch, buckle at the knees, roll their eyes in fear, etc.;
 - 11.5.2.4. shanking, yanking, chain abuse and mistreatment of horses meant to intimidate;
- 11.5.3. "Reportable Conduct" includes types of behaviour which are cruel or abusive to people, including but not limited to:
- 11.5.3.1. physical or verbal abuse of any Official, Exhibitor or spectator;
 - 11.5.3.2. refusal to comply with the direction of any Official;
 - 11.5.3.3. any behaviour which may bring the event or good horsemanship into disrepute;
- 11.5.4. Show Officials shall be empowered to show either a Yellow Card or a Red Card to any person on the grounds for any act of Reportable Conduct observed by them or upon evidence given to them.
- 11.5.5. The decision as to whether any act is Reportable Conduct shall be in the absolute discretion of the Official showing the card.
- 11.5.6. **YELLOW CARD**
A Yellow Card is a first and only warning.
- 11.5.7. **RED CARD**
A Red Card shall be shown to any person who infringes after having already received a Yellow Card at any time during the event. Upon receiving a Red Card, the person and the horse being exhibited shall immediately be disqualified from the event and for all events for which they may have entered and shall forthwith be ejected from the grounds.
- 11.5.8. The penalties applicable for the showing of a Red Card shall be in addition to any action The Australasian Arabian Breeders Coalition may take subsequent action in respect of the Reportable Conduct.
- 11.5.9. **CARD ISSUABLE OFFENCES**
Where the horse is concerned, card issuable offences will be specifically but not limited to
- 11.5.9.1. any horse who mouths to his handler like a foal does to an older horse. This offence shall illicit an immediate Red Card and instant dismissal. This is not a normal horse reaction to a human and clearly denotes abuse.
 - 11.5.9.2. any handler who strikes his horse, especially on the front legs, shall have a Yellow Card.
 - 11.5.9.3. any horse which buckles over or retracts their legs in fear, the handler will get a Yellow Card.
 - 11.5.9.4. Any handler who delivers a full-strength shank or excessively shanks a horse who is already standing still and has been standing still for the last few moments shall receive a Yellow Card. This is to be differentiated from reprimanding a horse who has just clearly misbehaved, i.e., won't stand still at all, is striking out etc.
 - 11.5.9.5. any horse which makes a half rear at his handler with ears back and front legs extended forwards towards his handler, that handler will receive a Yellow Card. No horse does this without provocation. It is clearly differentiated from a vertical rear where the horse has his knees tucked; his ears forward and is just rearing up in natural exuberance.
 - 11.5.9.6. any horse which rushes back from his handler at speed when the handler attempts to "pose" the horse, that handler will receive a Yellow Card.

12. TREATMENT OF MINOR INJURIES

12.1. PROCEDURE

- 12.1.1. The procedure will require the Veterinary Surgeon and a member of the Event Committee acting as witness to inspect the exhibit and sign a statement that the exhibit shows no lameness.
- 12.1.2. A blood and/or urine sample will then be taken prior to any substance being administered by the Veterinary Surgeon.
- 12.1.3. The Veterinary Surgeon will then proceed to treat the injury/illness and will provide to the Show Committee a statement listing any medication administered.
- 12.1.4. At the conclusion of judging, the exhibit will have further blood and/or urine samples taken by the Veterinary Surgeon in the presence of a member of the Show Committee.

12.2. ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES & COSTS

- 12.2.1. Both sets of samples will be sent for analysis and any substance other than those stated to have been administered by the Veterinary Surgeon which are found to be present will be grounds for disqualification.
- 12.2.2. The costs of all taking of samples and their analysis will be borne by the owner/exhibitor.

13. NON-PRO RULES & DEFINITION

13.1. APPLICABLE AGE

- 13.1.1. The Non-Pro Rule applies to persons of any age.

13.2. DEFINITION

- 13.2.1. A Non-Pro is one who, regardless of his/her equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, has **AT ANY TIME** not directly or indirectly accepted as payment, **goods or money** for services usually provided by a professional in the areas of breaking, riding, training, schooling, driving, halter preparation, showing in halter or under saddle.
- 13.2.2. **A former professional, no matter how long inactive in such capacity, can NEVER be considered a Non-Pro.**
- 13.2.3. A Non-Pro is not required to own the horse they show.
- 13.2.4. The following activities shall not affect the Non-Pro status of a person who is otherwise qualified:
 - 13.2.4.1. The writing of books;
 - 13.2.4.2. Accepting remuneration for judging or stewarding;
 - 13.2.4.3. Speaking at workshops, clinics, seminars, or training days in a voluntary capacity where they do not accept a fee for their services;
 - 13.2.4.4. Receiving prize money or goods as services;
 - 13.2.4.5. Having the occupation of farrier, veterinarian, stable hand, or groom;
 - 13.2.4.6. Owning or operating a saddlery, stud or breeding farm or boarding stables.

13.3. EXPLANATIONS

- 13.3.1. Anyone who is employed (paid) by a person or training establishment to do duties other than riding, breaking, training of halter or saddle horses, schooling, driving, or showing horses is eligible for Non-Pro status.
- 13.3.2. Plaiting horses is not considered a professional activity that would affect Non-Pro status.
- 13.3.3. Spouses and immediate family of a trainer are also able to be classed as Non-Pro, if they are not involved with the breaking, training, schooling, riding or showing of any of the horses the trainer is being paid to work.



13.3.4. People who board horses are eligible for Non-Pro status as long as they do not ride, show, train or do any of the tasks in 14.2.1 of the Rules above, for the boarders.

13.4. NON-PRO DECLARATION

13.4.1. Any person wishing to compete in Non-Pro classes shall be required to complete a Non-Pro Declaration form (available with the event entry form) at each event they attend to declare their Non-Pro status.

13.4.2. The completed form is to be submitted to the Show Secretary for the event.

13.5. PROTESTS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY

13.5.1. Any protest lodged regarding the eligibility of a person to compete as a Non-Professional must be accompanied by documented evidence substantiating the claim.

13.5.2. The person competing as a Non-Professional will be offered a right of reply.

13.5.3. There is no time frame within which a protest may be lodged however see **Rule 8.10** for lodgement fees.

13.5.4. Should a person who has signed a Non-Professional Declaration and competed in such classes be determined not to have been eligible than all awards won will be forfeited.

13.5.5. Should a protest is received by a show committee however determination cannot be made and requires further investigation, the class awards will be withheld until determination of eligibility is proven.

14. ULTRA ARABIAN & F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVE CHALLENGES

14.1. Open to all registered purebred Arabians & Arabian Derivatives aged four & older. Purebred Arabians & Arabian Derivatives will compete separately in their own divisions for the top three prizes: Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion.

14.2. All eligible exhibits will be automatically entered in the ULTRA ARABIAN & F1 ARABIAN DERIVATIVE CHALLENGES upon event entry.

14.3. Exhibits to be shown in both International Championship divisions for Breeding/In-Hand & Ridden performance.

14.3.1. Both the open and Non-Pro breeding/in-hand and ridden divisions count towards eligibility.

14.3.2. Should any exhibit earn scores in both the open and Non-Pro divisions in either the breeding/in-hand or ridden divisions, the highest score earned shall be counted towards the COMBINED HALTER & RIDDEN SCORE.

14.3.3. Breeding/In-Hand Division

14.3.3.1. Exhibit must be entered and compete in appropriate Senior (Aged Four & Older) Breeding/In-Hand halter qualifying class.

14.3.3.2. May designate during entry process the preference for the exhibit to NOT be considered for Top Ten/Top Five eligibility and participation in the corresponding Breeding or In-Hand Championship Final.

14.3.3.3. Each exhibit shall be judged utilizing the Arabian or F1 Arabian Derivative Scorecard. As such, each exhibit shall be awarded a Total Accumulated Score in the Breeding/In-Hand division.

14.3.4. Ridden Division

14.3.4.1. Exhibit must be entered and compete in appropriate purebred Ridden performance qualifying class.

14.3.4.2. Each exhibit shall be judged by two (2) judges utilizing the Ridden Scorecard. Each exhibit shall be awarded a Total Score in the Ridden division.

14.4. DETERMINATION OF AWARD WINNERS

14.4.1. The Total Accumulated Halter/In-Hand Score & Total Ridden Score for each exhibit shall be added together to determine a COMBINED HALTER & RIDDEN SCORE.

14.4.2. All COMBINED HALTER & RIDDEN SCORES for all entered exhibits shall be ranked from highest to lowest.

14.4.3. The exhibit receiving the highest COMBINED HALTER & RIDDEN SCORE shall be determined the ULTRA ARABIAN or ARABIAN DERIVATIVE CHALLENGE GOLD CHAMPION, respectively.

14.4.4. The exhibit receiving the next highest COMBINED HALTER & RIDDEN SCORE shall be determined the ULTRA ARABIAN or ARABIAN DERIVATIVE CHALLENGE SILVER CHAMPION, respectively.

14.4.5. The exhibit receiving the third highest COMBINED HALTER & RIDDEN SCORE shall be determined the ULTRA ARABIAN or ARABIAN DERIVATIVE CHALLENGE BRONZE CHAMPION, respectively.

14.4.6. Only the top three (3) score achievers shall be recognized with Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion awards.

15. ARABIAN & ARABIAN DERIVATIVE VERSATILITY CHALLENGES

15.1. Open to all registered purebred Arabians and F1 Arabian Derivatives aged four & older. Purebred Arabians & Arabian Derivatives will compete separately in their own divisions for the top three prizes: Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion.

15.2. All eligible exhibits will be automatically entered in the ULTRA ARABIAN & F1 ARABIAN VERSATILITY CHALLENGES upon event entry.

15.3. Exhibits to be shown in a minimum of four (4) classes, two of which must under saddle classes.

15.3.1. Exhibits must be entered, show and earn a score in both an International Championship division for Breeding/In-Hand & Ridden performance, as a minimum requirement for eligibility. Both the open and Non-Pro divisions count towards eligibility.

15.3.2. Exhibits must be entered, show and earn a Top Five/Top Ten placing in at least two (2) other International Championship classes, one of which MUST be an under saddle class.

15.3.3. Breeding/In-Hand Division

15.3.3.1. Exhibit must be entered, shown and earn a score in appropriate Senior (Aged Four & Older) Breeding/In-Hand qualifying class.

15.3.3.2. May designate during entry process the preference for the exhibit to NOT be considered for Top Ten/Top Five eligibility and participation in the corresponding Breeding or In-Hand Championship Final.

15.3.3.3. Should an exhibit compete in both the open and Non-Pro breeding/in-hand Championships and earn a Top Five/Top Ten award, both placings shall count towards the TOTAL VERSATILITY score as two (2) of the four (4) required classes.

15.3.3.4. The ranking of the exhibit in the class, whether achieved utilizing a scorecard or determined comparatively, will be used to determine the points achieved towards TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE.

15.3.4. Ridden Division

15.3.4.1. Exhibit must be entered, shown and earn a score in an appropriate Ridden performance qualifying class.

15.3.4.2. The ranking of the exhibit in the class will be used to determine the points achieved towards TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE.

15.3.5. Other Qualifying Performance Divisions

15.3.5.1. Should Versatility Challenge exhibits participate and place in the championship final of two (2) breeding/in-hand classes, they must also compete and place in the final Top Five/Top Ten in at least one (1) other International Championships performance class.

15.3.5.2. Should Versatility Challenge exhibits participate and place in the championship final of only one (1) breeding/in-hand class, they must also compete and place in the final Top Five/Top Ten in at least two (2) other International Championships performance classes.

15.3.5.3. Qualifying performance classes include Bridle Path Hack, Show Hunter, Costume and Western Pleasure, as well as an additional



Ridden division for which the exhibit is eligible.

- 15.3.5.4. The ranking of the exhibit in the class, whether achieved utilizing a scorecard or determined comparatively, will be used to determine the points achieved towards TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE.
- 15.3.5.5. Exhibits may compete in all additional performance disciplines. Each ranking achieved in all performance disciplines will count towards the TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE of the exhibit. The more disciplines in which an exhibit competes and places, the greater the potential to achieve a higher TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE.

15.3.6. DETERMINATION OF AWARD WINNERS

- 15.3.6.1. Ranking of exhibits in each qualifying class will be assigned the following points in reference to the VERSATILITY CHALLENGE.
 - 15.3.6.1.1. Gold Champion | 50 points
 - 15.3.6.1.2. Silver Champion | 40 points
 - 15.3.6.1.3. Bronze Champion | 30 points
 - 15.3.6.1.4. Top Five (including 4th and 5th places in a Top Ten line-up) | 20 points
 - 15.3.6.1.5. Top Ten (6th through 10th in a final line-up) | 10 points
- 15.3.6.2. Scores from all four (4) or more eligible qualifying classes will be added together to determine the TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE for each exhibit.
- 15.3.6.3. All TOTAL VERSATILITY SCOREs for all entered exhibits shall be ranked from highest to lowest.
- 15.3.6.4. The exhibit receiving the highest TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE shall be determined the VERSATILITY CHALLENGE GOLD CHAMPION
- 15.3.6.5. The exhibit receiving the second highest TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE shall be determined the VERSATILITY CHALLENGE SILVER CHAMPION.
- 15.3.6.6. The exhibit receiving the third highest TOTAL VERSATILITY SCORE shall be determined the VERSATILITY CHALLENGE BRONZE CHAMPION.
- 15.3.6.7. Only the top three (3) score achievers shall be recognized with Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion awards.

16. AUSTRALASIAN ARABIAN BREEDERS CHALLENGE

The aim of the Australasian Arabian Breeders Challenge is recognise and reward excellence in purebred Arabian breeding created by utilising purebred Arabian sires and dams bred in Australia and New Zealand.

16.1. Eligibility

- 16.1.1. Open to all registered purebred Arabians aged one & older with:
 - 16.1.1.1. a purebred Arabian sire registered in either the Australian or New Zealand studbook and listed as officially bred in either Australia or New Zealand.
 - 16.1.1.2. a purebred Arabian dam registered in either the Australian or New Zealand studbook and listed as officially bred in either Australia or New Zealand.
- 16.1.2. Eligible purebred Arabian exhibits must be registered in either the Australian or New Zealand studbook and have an official registration number issued by the registering authority.
- 16.1.3. Eligible purebred Arabian exhibits must be owned by a resident of either Australia or New Zealand who is a member in good standing with the registering authority of the country in which they reside.
- 16.1.4. All eligible exhibits will be automatically entered in the AUSTRALASIAN ARABIAN BREEDERS CHALLENGE upon event entry.

16.2. Divisions

Purebred Arabians of all ages will compete separately in three gender divisions:

- 16.2.1. Female
- 16.2.2. Entire
- 16.2.3. Gelding

16.3. Awards

- 16.3.1. Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion shall be awarded in each gender division.
- 16.3.2. Specially designed sashes shall be awarded to all winners in all three divisions.

16.4. Determination of Winners

- 16.4.1. Total Accumulated Scores earned in the **OPEN** Breeding/In-Hand divisions shall be ranked for all eligible entries in each gender division.
- 16.4.2. The eligible entry which has earned the highest total accumulated score shall be determined the **GOLD CHAMPION**.
- 16.4.3. The eligible entry which has earned the second highest total accumulated score shall be determined the **SILVER CHAMPION**.
- 16.4.4. The eligible entry which has earned the third highest total accumulated score shall be determined the **BRONZE CHAMPION**.
- 16.4.5. Only the top three (3) score achievers shall be recognized with Gold, Silver & Bronze Champion awards.

16.5. Breaking Ties

- 16.5.1. In the case of a tie, the horse that received the highest total cumulative score in the primary category of **TYPE** shall be determined the winner.
- 16.5.2. Should the tie remain unbroken after **TYPE** has been considered, the horse that received the highest total cumulative score in the primary category of **ATHLETIC ABILITY** shall be determined the winner.
- 16.5.3. Should the tie remain unbroken after both **TYPE** & **ATHLETIC ABILITY** have been considered, the horse that received the highest total cumulative score in the primary category of **HOOVES & LIMBS** shall be determined the winner.
- 16.5.4. Should the tie remain unbroken after **TYPE**, **ATHLETIC ABILITY** and **HOOVES & LIMBS** have been considered, the horse that received the highest total cumulative score in the primary category of **BODY** shall be determined the winner.
- 16.5.5. Should the tie remain unbroken after all the above primary categories have been considered, the horse that received the highest total cumulative score from the **CALL JUDGE** shall be determined the winner.
- 16.5.6. Should the tie remain unbroken after the Total Cumulative Score of the Call Judge has been considered, the Total Cumulative Score of Judge 2 shall first be considered, then Judge 3 and so on, until a winner can be determined in the tie.