

## **Judges and Officials Committee**

### **(JOC) Annual Report 2020**

**Committee Members:** Allan Preston (resigned March 2020), Leonie Williamson (resigned July 2020), Deb Watson, Annette Vickery, Selina Ahel (resigned September 2019), Cathy Padgen, Sheila Jones, Glenys Lilley, Yvonne Downes (appointed July 2020) and Greg Liddle (AHSA Chairman).

**Delegates:** Karen Fletcher-Grieves, Kerry Rogers, Tessa Peacock (resigned), Kathy Saggars (Resigned), Sue Oberg and Kristian Dymond

The year saw a number of changes due to the shutting down of 'The Arabian Judges and Officials Guild of Australia' (Guild) company and the formalization of the subcommittee - Judges and Officials Committee (JOC). The Board appointed the existing 'Guild' committee to the 'JOC'. This change required a lot of work removing all the references to the 'Guild' from documents and Rules, however, has not affected the judges in any way.

During the year, the committee reluctantly accepted resignations from Mr Allan Preston and Ms Selina Ahel. We thank them both for the many years of selfless contributions to the AHSA. These resignations were not only sad days for the committee but also for the Australian Arabian Community. Selina had been a Board member for many, many years and was always known as 'the voice of reason'. Allan's expertise, experience and generosity will sorely be missed as he gave so very much, expecting nothing in return. Allan had a passion for sharing his knowledge and watching new, capable judges, breeders and competitors emerge. We also had resignations from the Delegates (working committee) – Kathy Saggars and Tessa Peacock. We thank them very much for their contributions and wish them well in the future.

Due to these resignations, Cathy Padgen and Sheila Jones were invited onto the committee. With the 2020 Congress being cancelled due to Covid 19, Sue Oberg and Kristian Dymond were invited to become Delegates. We thank them all for joining the JOC.

The committee were pleased to assist the Board to update the Rule Book. After many hours of work, the committee recommendations were forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Prior to the closure of the company the Guild was working on a way to reduce the workload as it was a tedious job each year chasing up Judges Contracts and

Returns in order to keep the Judges list up to date. The committee was working on the abolishment of both the Contract and the Return by establishing the 'Judges Rules and Regulations' document. This work was continued by the JOC committee and a document has been presented to the Board. The aim is that when a Judge renews their membership, they would acknowledge the document and agree to abide to it.

The committee is pleased to advise that a number of assessments have been carried out and the Judges list has expanded to include - 10 new Probationary Level 1 Judges, 3 upgrades to Level 2, 5 upgrades to National Panel and 2 upgrades to International B. We encourage judges to contact the JOC and express your interest in Upgrading. Applications for new judges and upgrades are accepted at any time. The committee is pleased that the new processes are encouraging members to become judges and progress through the levels. There are a number of Training and Assessment Days being planned at present and once the Covid situation allows will go ahead.

It was unfortunate that the 2020 Judges, Officials and Members Congress had to be cancelled due to Covid 19. The Congress is becoming increasingly popular with both Judges and Members to not only be provided with world class information and learning but also a chance to socialise with like-minded people. The Congress and the Accreditation framework has been recognised worldwide as the model to follow.

This will be my last report for the JOC, I wish to thank all of the committee for their dedication and commitment. I wish you and the future judges all the best in the future.

Leonie Williamson