JUDGE & OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE AHSA LTD

Newsletter - September 2021

Spring is here and we are all looking forward to coming out of our winter/Covid -19 hibernations and getting some sun on our faces! The weather outlook from the Bureau of Meteorology is also favourable for spring and early summer across most of Australia with above average rainfall forecast.

Many of us have foals due as well as hopefully getting young horses and proven campaigners ready for shows and events in the coming months. Covid-19 and lockdowns will no doubt continue to cause us all frustrations for the next few months with likely show postponements. However, I really hope we can also see there is now more positivity in the Australian community around vaccination uptake programs and this, in turn, should lead us to regain more normality in our lives as we head into early 2022.

The JOC and Board have continued to work together over winter on a number of initiatives around providing training and education opportunities for judges at all levels. The Zoom August three part Judges seminar series has been a great success with really positive feedback across the board from judges – with many suggestions for future topics and speakers.

Judges have asked for more seminars and/or interviews to be provided in this format especially noting that it is a great way to connect with judges that are interstate or live in remote or regional areas. Obviously while we still have travel restrictions it is a common sense approach to take while meeting the needs of the majority of judges.

The JOC is also pleased to be able to assist the New Zealand judges cohort by making available current and future Zoom seminars and interviews to help them with their judges training.

The JOC continues to work with State based Arabian clubs and groups (both affiliates and non affiliates) to look at opportunities to provide training at a local level. The support and engagement from these clubs from around Australia has been heartening.

The JOC has been actively reviewing a wide range of documentation held by the AHSA to ensure that it is current and meets the needs of judges.

One important item where all judges can and should have input is through making suggestions around the current Rule Book. The JOC has a watching brief to make amendments or suggestions to the Board about any changes. In this regard we always try to act in your best interests. We will soon start to review the Rule Book and we want to hear from you.

As judges you are the ones that are at the shows or horse events and understand the success or otherwise of the application of particular rules - that is, how they work, how they are interpreted (by judges and competitors).

We would ask that you document any suggestions you may have regarding the Rule Book on the “Member Suggestion Form” which is available on the AHSA website and then email it to the Secretary on secretary@ahsa.asn.au. If you prefer you can speak directly to Sue Oberg on 0413 586824 to clarify any Rule Book matters prior to submitting your suggestions.

AHSA Judges Page - Individual Judges Details

The JOC and AHSA Office staff are asking that all judges ensure that their personal details such as current email, telephone contact numbers and photograph are all up to date and included in your biography. A number of email addresses and telephone numbers in particular are out of date for some judges – please ensure you update your contact details and provide a photograph if you have not already done so.

Judges Seminar Accreditation Processes

As previously advised in a number of newsletters and seminar reminders Covid-19 has severely restricted or stopped the possibility of conducting live seminars with international and domestic speakers. That situation, in turn, placed restrictions on some judges ability to gain their three (3) yearly accreditation through attendance at approved seminars or conferences (Rule 2.4 b. Judge Code of Conduct, Procedures and Rule Book).

The JOC and AHSA Board subsequently agreed that attendance at the August seminars (approximately 6 hours in total) would meet the three (3) yearly accreditation requirement. That is, having attended a judge educational seminar or conference at least once every three years. We considered this the most reasonable approach to take given the unknown Covid-19 circumstances and the potential for travel restrictions to remain with us well into 2022.

Further we acknowledged that some judges may not have been able to attend all three seminars due to work, family or other unforeseen circumstances. In these situations we agreed that any judges who missed any of the live seminars could watch a recording of them online at the Judge's Education page. Judges would then be required to write to the JOC Secretary, Yvonne Downes joc@ahsa.asn.au and confirm that they have watched the recorded seminar(s) they may have missed in order to be eligible for accreditation.

The AHSA office has recorded details of judges that have attended the seminars live. If however you are in any doubt please write to the JOC Secretary to confirm your status. **The deadline to submit your email acknowledgement to the JOC is Wednesday 6th October**, after this date you will no longer be eligible.

Judges Badges - Replacements

The AHSA has been mindful of the need to order some new or replacements badges for judges during the past 18 months or so.

As a result of a reasonable number of new judges joining our ranks, some judges becoming eligible for upgrades, including National Panel (Internationally Qualified) and some that were lost or misplaced we are now ordering badges for these judges. The AHSA Office will mail these badges out to the abovementioned judges in the coming weeks.

Half Arabian Judging Criteria – Reminder

A friendly reminder to judges about the long-established criteria to judge Half Arabian classes.

The judging criteria for these classes are that horses are to be judged on Arabian Type rather than the Derivative Standard. Where a scoring system is adopted, the Purebred Scorecard should be used to judge Half Arabian classes. Where judging is by the comparative method then judges are asked to pay attention to Arabian Type when assessing the exhibits.

Judges Training – Opportunities for shadow judging and ringside critiquing with National Panel judges

As previously advised the JOC has been trialling with Affiliate and Non Affiliate shows opportunities to shadow judge (pending the agreement of the respective show committee and judge). In addition we are providing probationers and upgrade candidates the opportunity to sit ringside with National Panel judges to critique horses and discuss how the respective classes are run and managed from a judge's perspective.

While Covid-19 continues to play havoc with our planning and show dates the enthusiasm for providing this type of

opportunity has been fantastic. Please speak directly to your State JOC representatives about specific details of these schemes and for upcoming show dates as these dates are changing because of flexible Covid-19 restrictions etc. Some preliminary shows that we can advise you of include:

Key Dates

29th August 2021 – Gawler Show (Arabian Ring), South Australia.
The Gawler Show Society kindly agreed to allow shadow judging opportunities at their recent show. The JOC thanks Carolyn Potts for providing this service.

16th – 17th October 2021 – The Pacific Coast Arabian Show, Maryborough Showgrounds, Queensland.
The Pacific Coast Arabian Show committee has kindly agreed to allow opportunities for shadow judging (utilising both scorecard and comparative methods) depending on the level of judges expressing an interest to attend. Please contact either Doug Rutherford (0428117750) or Colleen Rutherford (0429871115) to discuss.

Date TBC (October). Young Stock Show, Goulburn Valley. Tatura, Victoria.
The Goulburn Valley Committee have kindly agreed to allow shadow judging and sideline critiquing opportunities at this show. Details to be confirmed following the easing or otherwise of Victorian Covid-19 restrictions.

6th - 7th November 2021 – VADOBA Show, Werribee Park, Melbourne.
The VADOBA committee has kindly agreed to allow shadow judging and sideline critiquing opportunities at this show. Please contact Graham Smith directly on 0418627101 to discuss.
VADOBA have also indicated that if they run other events or shows they will try and work with the JOC to provide training and education opportunities for judges.

11th -14th November 2021 – Equitana, Melbourne.
Unfortunately the 2021 Equitana Show has been postponed to 10th-13th November 2022. As a result of the Equitana cancellation the Arabian Horse Breeders Alliance of Australasia Show has also been cancelled. We look forward to hopefully seeing both these events being held in 2022.

26th – 27th February 2022 – Royal Canberra Show (Arabian Rings), Canberra.
Shadow judging opportunities should be available at this show (pending any Covid-19 restrictions). Please contact Graham Smith (0418627101) to discuss.

4th – 6th March 2022 – East Coast Arabian Championships, SIEC, Sydney.
Mentoring and sideline critiquing opportunities to be advised closer to the date.

9th – 13th March 2022 – Australian Arabian National Championships, SIEC, Sydney.
Mentoring and sideline critiquing opportunities to be advised closer to the date. It is also anticipated a face to face judges meeting will be held pending Covid-19 restrictions etc.

Meet the Judges

Viv Motbey
National Panel Judge, North Richmond, New South Wales.

I had the horse bug from a very young age but growing up in a non horsey family meant I did not get one until I had my first job and could pay my way! I was drawn to the Arabian horse when my neighbour bought me The Arabian Horse in Australia Volume 1. I was amazed at their beauty and refinement and just had to have one.

I have now been showing Purebred and Arabian Derivatives for 30 plus years and have been lucky to have owned and trained some of the most amazing animals. I love showing them equally in halter and under saddle and also compete regularly in official dressage. I work full time so like most, have to be disciplined to ensure my horses look and perform at their best.

Aside from horses I have a passion for gardening and love turning drab pockets of our property into beautiful or productive gardens. I also love various crafts including sewing and crochet. I love making Arabian Costumes and competing with them at the highest level.

Travel is another passion and I hope one day I can attend the Pride of Poland National Show. I just love the athleticism of the polish horses.

I enjoy judging and am committed to maintaining and applying contemporary knowledge of standards and rules and also look forward to meeting like minded people across the country during my judging ventures.

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Rosalie Mayo-Ramsay

Level 1, Probationary, Clarence Town, New South Wales.

My mother found me under the belly of a stallion up the road when I was 3 years old, that was when my obsession with horses began.

Then when I was about 12 years old my dear friend Barry Parker taught me to ride by putting me bareback on the lunge on his Part Arabian Stallion Darren Design and my love for Arabian horses was secured. I bred my first part bred Arabian in 1974 sired by Barry's stallion, a beautiful chestnut colt that I successfully showed in the open Galloway ring and in side saddle, I even hunted him in side saddle.

Over the years I have bred a handful of purebred and derivative Arabians. When my daughter got a Pinto mare at age 9 and then we bred the mare to my Pure Arab Stallion Galaxy Bey it started my passion in Pinto/Partbred Arabians that I still have today. Our Pinto/Partbred Arabians have competed successfully at Sydney Royal and the Australian Arabian Championships.

My favourite would have to be my stallion Diamond T Sakima who has won Australian Arabian Championships in halter and under saddle at Sydney Royal.

My interests apart from Arabian horses is that I breed and show two rare breed dogs the Basenji and the Finnish Spitz, the later I imported from Finland in 2010, and believe me importing dogs is as expensive as importing horses as you need to find someone overseas that will look after them for 6 months before importing.

Other than my 4-legged interest when I have time I like to draw and read a good book and hopefully travel overseas again when the virus is sorted.

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Robert Hayward

Level 1, Probationary, Londonderry, New South Wales.

Being born into a horse family I was lucky enough to grow up riding and competing in showing and dressage competitions.

My early years were influenced by the late Ann Honner and Shane and Sheryl Ackerly. My passion for Arabians and showing grew under their guidance and support. I competed not only at Arabian shows but also at open show hunter events and in dressage. I had a few horses I was riding but my main horse was an Anglo gelding, The Imprezza.

'As a breeder for over 12 years my goal has been to breed quality horses that can be shown in led and have a continuation of their career under saddle.

As a competitor in the show ring I found passion for showing halter horses of all breeds and as a trainer, the ability to work closely with young stock to build up a base for their advancement into future disciplines. Over the years I have spent time on the NSW AHA committee.

Currently I have two Arabian warmbloods due this season and I am riding a purebred gelding named Amir Sir Real Khalid (SF Sir Real x Mystica Fareedah) and a warmblood mare Conroy Lodge Henrietta (Richmond H x Belladonna).

Outside of horses I have my own businesses including a feed store but currently I manage 'Kidz Zoo', a mobile patting farm as well as a disability support worker at Royal Rehab specialising in Traumatic Brain injuries. I love chocolate, horror movies, cruises and I hate chilli and early morning starts.

My husband and I recently purchased a stunning vacant 16 acre property in Crookwell (near Goulburn, NSW) that we are turning into our dream property and in 2025 will see us move there to continue our dreams.

You Be The Judge.
(Extract from Arabian Horse World Magazine, Spring 2021)

Attached below is an article by Cindy Reich where you are given an opportunity to critique and select your favourite horses out of a group of four mares. Have fun, compare your thinking with the Australian Standard of Excellence and see how you go!!

Note: The JOC is extremely gratefully for the support and friendship of Denise P Hearst, Publisher, Arabian Horse Magazine and Cindy Reich, Contributing Editor for the use of the attached article from the Spring 2021 edition of the Arabian Horse World Magazine.

YOU BE THE JUDGE

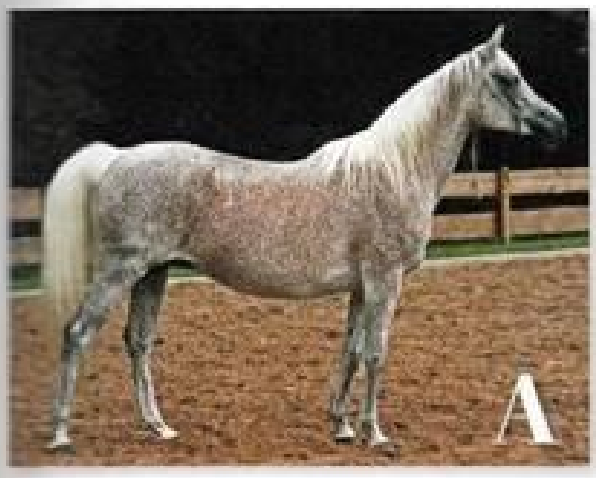
by Cindy Reich

This is an interesting group of Arabian mares that should get your brain working! As always, the goal is not so much that you got the same results as I did — it is more important you SEE the same things I am seeing. Your preferences may differ from mine, and that is absolutely fine! But I really want you to see what I am seeing.

In this series, we invite readers to submit a photo of their horse to be included in a recurring conformation evaluation.

Noted International Arabian judge Cindy Reich will place each class and explain her thought process. The horses are not identified, but ranked in order from 1-4. Test your judging skills and see if you saw the same things.

The photographs do not have to be professional, but must be a high quality profile picture where the horse fills the whole frame. All feet and legs must be visible. It is preferable that the horse is standing relatively square. Anyone can submit a photo for this feature. Any age from yearlings to aged horses are accepted. Horses do not need to be clipped. Simply include the photo along with age and sex of the horse, and email to: info@arabianhorseworld.com.



I'm going to do something different in this column ... let's start first by ranking the mares in terms of body. Rank the mares A-D in terms of who has the best body.

For me, Mare C has the best body in the class. She has the deepest heartgirth, the deepest hip, longest hip and croup, and most "broodmare" capacity. She has great depth and length of shoulder as well. She could be more prominent in her withers and straighter over the topline, but she is a strong-bodied mare. Mare B has a smoother body and is straighter over her topline than C, but B is more upright in her shoulder and is shorter in her croup than C. However, B still has excellent length and depth of hip.

Comparing A and D gives you one mare with a better hind end, and one mare with a better front end (body only). Mare A has a shoulder that is somewhat upright but has a good set of withers and is deep in the heartgirth. Mare D is somewhat shallower through the heartgirth but has a more desirable slope to her shoulder. However, she is also flat over the withers and her neck attachment is lower. When you compare hindquarters, mare A is shorter in the croup and hip and rounder over the croup as well. Mare D has a more level croup but is also short in the croup and hip, and her hindquarter appears round from the profile.

Now rank the mares in order of type. When I look at a mare's head, I want to know that I am looking at a mare, and that she has femininity. The head should be triangular in profile with the muzzle smaller than the jaw. The head should be dry and refined. Mares generally have larger ears than males, but hopefully they are not too large or coarse.

I like mare Mare A's head from the profile. Her head is dry, and you can see the definition of bones and veins on her face. Her eye is large and expressive. Her muzzle is small. She looks feminine–she looks like a mare. Mare C has a pleasant head with a good eye. Her head is triangular as well, but not as well defined as Mare A. Still, a horse that is clearly Arabian and a mare and with good appeal. Smaller ears would certainly help this mare.

I think mares B and D have very similar types of heads. Both are not as small in the muzzle as Mare A and not as dry or refined. But they both appear to have large eyes that are well set to the side of the head, large nostrils, and reasonable ears. Their heads are just a bit chunkier and less defined than I would prefer in this class.

Do you have a ranking in terms of heads? Good! Now rank the mares A-D in terms of structural correctness of feet and legs.

I like Mare C's short cannon bones, wide tendon, and ligament attachments. She has large, clean joints, large feet, and good angle to her pasterns. She is in an awkward stance, but if pressed, I would guess that she is somewhat close at the hocks behind. The next decision is between Mares B and D. Mare B has more upright pasterns as her shoulder is more upright, but her joints appear stronger and her pasterns and feet stronger than mare D. Mare B has a more correct set to her hind legs from the profile. Mare D has hind legs that set out behind her. Mare D is weak in the heels and long in the toe. But I credit both mares for short cannon bones!

Mare A is narrowest in her tendon and ligament attachments but has good angulation to her pasterns.

This is a good example of the thought process I use when evaluating a group of horses. You have to sift and filter, weigh and balance, and ultimately make a decision. When I add everything up, the mares sort out into this placing: C-A-B-D.

Mare C had the best body, best legs, a good head and expression. Mare A was the most feminine and typey. While B was much stronger in the body, she just didn't have the cleanliness up front and the type and femininity of Mare A. Mare B had a much stronger body than D and was more structurally correct. While D was typey and cleaner up front than B, she lacked the substance and structural correctness of the mares above her.

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