

PROCEDURE FOR BECOMING A JUDGE WITH THE AHHA

1. Application Fees

Application Fees must be paid with the AHHA Judging Application Form or your submission will not be processed

The AHHA will not be responsible for chasing Applicants for Application Fees. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that these are included with the initial Application Form. Failure to pay fees will result in the application being deemed to be null and void.

The Application Fees are non refundable, however, should an Applicant not be successful, they will be granted membership to the AHHA for a period of 6 months.

2. Open Book Judges Exam

The first step for all AHHA Judging Applicants, regardless of their level of judging experience, is to complete the AHHA Open Book Judges Exam. Please note that this is **without exception**.

The pass mark required for the AHHA Open Book Judges Exam is not less than 80%.

The exam is to be completed individually by each Applicant, using the material published on the AHHA website – www.hunterhorses.com.au

Applicants will be required to declare that their answers are their own work and have been completed without any outside assistance.

The exam contains both multiple choice and long answer hypothetical questions. There are no right or wrong answers for the hypothetical questions, rather these questions allow the AHHA Judging Sub-Committee to gain an appreciation of the Applicant's understanding of the requirements of hunter horses both in type and workout.

3. Experienced Judges

Applicants who can demonstrate that they hold extensive judging experience and/or experience either competing or breeding hunters, will be acknowledged. Applicants should note however, that specific experience judging hunter horses will be considered most favourably over general judging experience (ie: breed or open hack judging).

Applicants should endeavour to include as much detail of their experience as possible in their Application Forms.

Applicants will then be presented before the AHHA Judging Sub-Committee for assessment. The possible outcomes are as follows:

- 1 The AHHA Judging Sub-Committee may pass the applicant and place their name on the AHHA Judge List.
- 2 The Sub-Committee may determine that an Applicant should be referred to the AHHA Mentoring Program. In such cases the Applicant will have to

- successfully complete the program (as outlined below) before their application is returned to the Sub-Committee for final assessment.
- 3 The Sub- Committee may determine that the Applicant does not have appropriate qualifications for listing on the AHHA Judges List. The AHHA Judging Sub-Committee reserves the right to refuse any Judging Application without reason.

All Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their Application in writing.

There will be a **Probationary period of 12 months** from the date of first judging commitment to maintain acceptance to the Judges List.

4. Trainee Probationary Judges

The following types of Applicants should expect to be listed as Trainee Probationary Judges:

- Applicants under 25 years of age;
- Applicants who have little judging experience.

Trainee Probationary Judges will be required to participate in the AHHA Mentoring Program. Once this program has been successfully completed the Applicant will be presented before the AHHA Judging Sub-Committee for final assessment. The possible outcomes are as follows:

- 1 The AHHA Judging Sub-Committee may pass the applicant and place their name on the AHHA Judge List.
- 2 The Sub- Committee may determine that the Applicant does not have appropriate qualifications for listing on the AHHA Judges List. The AHHA Judging Sub-Committee reserves the right to refuse any Judging Application without reason.

All Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their Application in writing.

5. AHHA Mentoring Program

5.1 Information for Applicants

The Mentoring Program requires Applicants to:

1. Steward on a minimum of 3 occasions at agricultural or similar level shows.
2. Co-judge a Hunter Ring with a recognised AHHA Mentor Judge on a minimum of 3 occasions.

All new Applicants will be required to receive three positive feedback appraisals from AHHA Mentor Judges that they have co-judged with on three separate occasions.

Experienced Judges will be required to be assessed on a minimum of one occasion or until assessed as competent to judge Show Hunters for the AHHA.

If an Applicant does not receive the required three positive feedback appraisals, then he/she will be required to continue to undertake further co-judging assignments until they have successfully obtained competency.

For a list of AHHA Mentor Judges, as well as Feedback Forms for Applicants, contact the AHHA Judges and Clinic Coordinator on: samgregw@yahoo.com.

At the completion of the Mentoring Program, Applicants are required to compile the following to be sent to the AHHA Judge's Coordinator:

(Please note that it is the responsibility of Applicants to collate this information and return it to the AHHA Judge's Coordinator in a timely manner)

- Record of stewarding duties performed at shows. These should be signed off by each Show Secretary or Event Organiser
- Record of Co-judging experience under AHHA Mentor Judges
- Feedback Forms filled in and signed by AHHA Mentor Judges
- Record of attendance at seminars
- Any other information relevant to their application.

5.2 Information for Mentor Judges

Mentor Judges are expected to demonstrate integrity, accountability and honesty at all times. Their responsibility is to educate and encourage prospective hunter judges.

The Mentor Judge will discuss elements of judging with the Applicant to ensure that they have an appreciation of common faults, as well as the attributes of hunter horses. In addition, Mentor Judges may discuss topics such as ring craft and workouts with the Applicant, explaining what is required to ensure the smooth running of the ring.

When co-judging the Mentor Judge may discuss their decisions with the Applicant, however, the decision of the Mentor Judge is final.

Mentor Judges may, for example, encourage Applicants to judge the ring and write down their own placing. These may be discussed between the Mentor and Applicant at the completion of the class, with the Applicant required to explain the reasons for their placing. As a rule of thumb, in a field of 10 horses/ponies, it would be assumed that the Mentor and Applicant would have the same 4 horses in the top four placing (however it is not strictly necessary for them to have the same order of placing).

Please note the time in the ring is specifically to build confidence and allow Applicants the experience of being inside of the ring. As such it is expected that the Mentor judge must be discreet in discussion (discussion should **never** occur in front of any competitors) and should remain positive and tactful during these discussions.

The Mentor shall make time at the completion of the ring being judged to discuss the day and provide helpful advice.

It is expected AT ALL TIMES that there will be an understanding of respect, professionalism and confidentiality between Mentor and Applicant. Any sensitive discussion between both should not be repeated to competitors or any other party.

6. Seminars

All persons appointed to the AHHA Judges List will be required to attend at least one AHHA Judges Seminar within a two year period to remain on the List.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT WITH THEIR APPLICATION:

1.
 - (a) Judging experience, (details of general experience **and** experience expressly related to hunters)

AND/OR

 - (b) Relevant competition history (details of general experience **and** experience expressly related to hunters)
2. Open book judges exam based on the constitution, regulations and guidelines of the AHHA (please email the AHHA to have a copy sent to you).
3. A Cheque for the applicable Judges Fees (listed below) or confirmation of direct deposit payment

APPLICATION FEES

- **\$35 - per annum** (1 July - 30 June)
- **\$25 - 6 monthly listing** (if fee is paid after 1 January in any calendar year until 30 June of that same calendar year)
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Please make all cheques out to: Australian Hunter Horse Association

Or make a direct deposit payment to: BSB: 012321 Acc No: 450647688

Post your completed nomination to:

Mrs Samantha Watson
"Wilbriggie"
42 Bonny Hills Drive
HARTLEY NSW 2790
AUSTRALIA

Your application is not complete without these documents

AHHA JUDGES APPLICATION FORM

(SHOW & WORKING HUNTER)

I,(full name of nominee)

of.....(address)

.....(email)

..... (telephone) hereby nominate myself for inclusion on the Judge's List of the Australian Hunter Horse Association Incorporated ("AHHA") as a General Show Hunter Judge.

I also have relevant, proven experience judging and/or competing in the following areas:

Working Hunter/ Hunter Turnout/ Side Saddle hunter classes
(please strike out whichever does not apply,
if none apply, please strike out all)

and would like this documented additionally to my General Show Hunter Judge listing.

In the event of my admission as a Judge I agree to be bound by the Rules, Regulations, Bi-laws and General Judges Protocol of the AHHA. I understand that any misconduct may, at the discretion of the AHHA Committee, result in termination of my involvement with the AHHA and/or removal of my name from the AHHA Judges List.

I grant the AHHA permission to list my contact details on the AHHA Judges List which will be published on the website of the AHHA: www.hunterhorses.com.au and be made available to secretaries of agricultural and show societies across Australia by request.

.....(Signature of applicant)

..... (Date)

Please list below the details of any other judging lists which your name has been, or is currently listed on.

Please detail below three instances where you have judged hunter horses:

NAME OF SHOW	DATE OF SHOW	RING JUDGED	PH OF SHOW SECRETARY

By signing the below, I:

- agree to be bound by the rules of the AHHA
- certify that all particulars set out on this nomination form are correct

.....(*Printed name of applicant*)

.....(*Signature of applicant*) (*Date*)

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FOR JUDGES OF THE AHHA

I understand and acknowledge that **HORSE RIDING IS A DANGEROUS ACTIVITY** and that horses can act in sudden and unpredictable ways, especially if frightened or hurt.

I understand and acknowledge that **PROPERTY LOSS, SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH** may result from horse related activities, including riding and passive participation in horse events. I understand that this applies in particular to any horse riding activities that I am asked to judge or participate in which are organised by or associated with the Australian Hunter Horse Association Incorporated ("AHHA").

I agree not to drink alcohol or take drugs prohibited by law while taking part in any horse riding activities or judging assignments. I agree to follow instructions of the AHHA, event organisers, volunteers and any other persons appointed by the AHHA during the period of any judging assignment and to adhere at all times to the AHHA General Judges Protocol. I agree to be bound by the Rules, Regulations, Bi-laws of the AHHA.

I understand that I am responsible for my own actions and that the AHHA cannot be held responsible for any act of negligence on my part.

I understand that any misconduct may, at the discretion of the AHHA Committee, result in termination of my involvement with the AHHA and/or removal of my name from the AHHA Judges List.

Please choose from the following:

- () I am in good health and have no disabilities
() I have the following disabilities:

I understand that by signing this document I have made a complete and unconditional release of **all** liability of the Australian Hunter Horse Association Incorporated to the greatest extent allowed by law in the event of myself and/ or any persons or animals under my care, control or supervision suffering any loss, injury or death. I agree that I undertake any such risk voluntarily of my own free will and at my own risk.

Signature: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Date: _____