

Australian National Arabian Championships ~ Purebred Scoring System

The Arabian Horse Society of Australia is excited to be using a new scoring method to obtain our Top Ten Purebred exhibits at the Australian National Arabian Championships 2009.

We have three judges per halter class, each scoring on a numerical point scale in six categories. We will have a mix of Australian and International Judges.

Our objective with the scoring system was to create a more unified standard; to achieve transparency in judging by showing all scores following the judging of each horse; and to engage the crowd more since they can score along with the judges and better understand what it is that makes a great Arabian horse.

Scoring System

To be utilized to evaluate all entries in Purebred Halter Classes - Individual scores will be awarded by each officiating judge using the Scoring System and the corresponding score card. A score of 10-20 will be awarded for each entry, following the AHSA Arabian Standard of Excellence, in the following six categories:

(1) Arabian Type
(2) Head

(3) Neck & Shoulder
(4) Body

(5) Feet & Legs
(6) Movement

These scores will have a total of 120 possible points per judge. The scores of each judge will be added together for the total Entry Score from a total of 360 possible points.

The ten horses receiving the highest Entry Scores in each class will be declared the Top Ten. These horses only will re-enter the judging area for comparative judging where the Champion & Reserve Champion will be decided. Only at the conclusion of this section will sashes be placed.

Class Conduct

- (1) All horses will be shown collectively at the beginning of each class. Horses shall enter the ring at a trot in a clockwise direction in catalogue number order from lowest number to highest number. Horses will circle clockwise at a controlled walk around the entire circumference of the ring, completing a minimum of two (2) complete circles. All horses are to exit ring as directed by the Ring Steward.
- (2) Each entry shall be exhibited and evaluated individually. The horse is to enter the ring at a trot, in hand following the illustrated diagram below and should utilize the entire arena.
- (3) Following the trot, each entry shall return to the center of the ring (point A – apex of triangle) and shall walk in a straight line from (to point D) and towards (back to point A) the judges as directed by the ring steward.
- (4) Each entry will then be exhibited as a halter horse within the designated presentation area (point A – apex of triangle) in the center of the ring. The horse is to be presented for evaluation by judging panel in a controlled, yet uninhibited manner. The horse shall not show any signs of intimidation. Excessive use of the whip and/or horses that appear fearful of the handler WILL BE penalized by the Judging Panel, and may result in expulsion from the ring.

- (5) The horse and handler will be excused from the ring at the formal request of the ring steward. Horses are to exit ring at a either a controlled walk or trot towards point D and turning towards the Exit. Handlers are requested to use extreme caution when exiting.
- (6) All entries **MUST** remain in the designated holding area prior to individual presentation and throughout the entire class process until the Top Ten winners for the class in question have been announced. Any entry not complying with this requirement will be eliminated from further judging in the qualifying class and **WILL NOT** be eligible for any award in the class in which the infraction occurred.
- (7) Only one handler per exhibit is permitted in the ring at any one time. Handlers may present more than one exhibit per class, provided that there is a capable, suitably attired handler for each horse during the initial group judging and during the awards presentation.
- (8) 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.
- (9) Judges are required to judge exhibits standing, walking and trotting.
- (10) Judges may order handlers to open horses' mouths or pick up feet for inspection.
- (11) Exhibits which appear late (missing the walk around the ring) will be excluded from the class.
- (12) Unruly horses may be ordered to withdraw at the discretion of the judge(s).
- (13) No announcement indicating the identity, breeding or past performance of exhibits, or the identity of their owners will be made during judging.

Purebred Halter Class Conduct Diagram

