

Assessment Day Procedure

Ridden Panel



Introduction

The Assessment Day will now form the second part of the assessment process on to the panel. Only those applicants, who the panel feel satisfy the criteria relating to experience, will be called to undertake the written test and the practical assessment. A letter will be sent to all candidates following the panel's decision and those required will be sent a timetable outlining the organisation of the assessment day. Candidates are required to dress in a form consistent with judging and hats/bowlers must be worn. All candidates will be required to wear a badge (number only) provided by the Society to enable the Assessors to identify the candidates during the judging period. Assessments days have to be viable in terms of cost and therefore the Society reserves the right to cancel any assessment on the grounds of insufficient candidates. It should be noted candidates can only apply for one panel at each assessment day.

Criteria to be met

- You have been a WPCS member for a minimum of 10 consecutive years.
- You have attained the age of 25 years at time of assessment.
- You have been on a WPCS In Hand panel for a minimum of a year.
- You have bred & owned a minimum of 10 animals within the same classification you are applying for.
- You have judged a minimum of 3 shows in your own right and 2 probationary shows along with completed reports.

Assessment Grades

Candidates will be graded at three levels (**Very Good, Good & Fair**) in each of the following categories:

1. Class placings
2. Awareness and knowledge of conformation and movement
3. Awareness and knowledge of breed characteristics and type
4. Breeding and showing experience
5. Communication
6. Knowledge of WPCS current rules
7. Awareness and knowledge of correct way of going.

Success Criteria

To gain entry on to the ridden panel, candidates must attain a minimum of **6** "Very Good" or "Good" grades in the categories being assessed which must include '**way of going**'. Any candidate with **1** or more "Fair" grades will receive an automatic failure.

Written Test

Knowledge of rules will be tested through a multiple choice written test prior to the candidates undertaking the practical assessment. The test comprises of 15 questions that must be answered in 10 minutes. Each questions is worth 1 mark each and candidates will be graded as follows:

14-15 – Very Good **12-13** – Good **11 and under**– Fair

Candidates who require special arrangements for this written assessment should make their needs known on the application form. Every effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

Practical Assessment

Each candidate will be given a marking card, which, on completion, is handed to the stewards. The card has a tear off strip for comments which should be retained by the candidates for reference during their interview. Candidates can make notes at any time during the procedure. Candidates might find it useful to bring along a clip board for their own individual use.

Candidates will be asked to assess a class of ridden animals which can include all sections of Welsh ponies and cobs. In addition part-breds may be included

The assessment will be conducted as a normal show class and at no stage during the assessment should candidates handle any of the animals. Candidates will be asked to congregate in the centre of the ring. Assessors will judge the animals at the same time as the candidates ensuring that the candidates and the Assessors see the animal on equal terms.

The animals will enter at walk before being asked to 'trot on' and then canter; this will be under the direction of the steward. They will then be lined up in any order. Animals will then complete an individual set show before returning back into line.

When all have completed their individual shows each animal in turn will be stripped and presented in hand. The candidates will have approximately 2 minutes to judge each animal standing. The animal will then walk away from the candidates and trot back. Animals will then be tacked up before walking round. The candidates will be allowed a further 4 minutes to finalise their placings and notes before handing their completed card to the steward. The candidates will then be escorted back to the waiting room in readiness for their interview with the assessors.

Interviews will be conducted in strict alphabetical order and in 2016 it will go with surnames from Z to A. Interviews will be conducted in a separate room and will last for no longer than 10 minutes. Each candidate will be escorted to the interview room by a steward. There will be three assessors assessing however also in the room will be a timekeeper and also a member of the Judging and Showing Committee. The steward will retire during the interview stage.

The interview is the final stage part of the day and candidates are not permitted to return to the waiting room. Once a candidate has completed their assessment they must leave the assessment and not communicate with other candidates who have not completed their assessment.

Reporting back to candidates

As in previous years assessors will complete a form recording the candidate's grades in each of the seven categories being assessed and where appropriate, written constructive comments will be added. A copy of this form will be posted to the candidates along with their result following the assessment. Assessors are required to maintain in the strictest confidence all comments, allocated grades and any other information relating to individual candidate's assessment. Candidates should NOT contact the WPCS Office following the assessment requesting the outcome of their assessment. All candidates will be sent letters at the same time which should be within five working days.

WPCS Judging and Showing Committee
November 2017