



# WPCS Judging and Showing Changes for 2023

## Introduction

The WPCS Council having taken on board the current climate of decline within the worlds of judging and showing as pastimes, instructed the Judging and Showing Committee to examine all aspects of this and to bring forward recommendations to Council for improvements.

The process has now been completed and approved by Council, and the following rules, recommendations and improvements will be actioned from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. They will then be reviewed following the end of the 2024 Show season and adapted or amended as required.

The Society wishes to restore confidence within the showring and believes that the vast majority of the WPCS Panel Judges who give so freely of their time, expertise, and knowledge, adjudicating locally, nationally and indeed worldwide will be unlikely to find any of these changes too onerous whilst they will be perceived to provide further measures of accountability.

Members will note that trustees have themselves resolved not to exhibit under their fellow trustees during their period of office.

It is also the Society's intention to hold an Online meeting for all Show organisers and Secretaries who wish to affiliate for 2023, to explain the new processes, in November this year. Show organisers and secretaries are invited to email [enquiries@wpcs.uk.com](mailto:enquiries@wpcs.uk.com) to register for the online meeting noting Online J&S meeting in the subject bar (please include the email address you wish the invitation to be sent to and the name of the event).

The changes are:

**1) Judge's Profiles to be added to the Show Section of the WPCS website.**

A form completed by individual members of the WPCS judges panel submitted to the office will be added to the 'shows' section of the Society website.

It will contain contact information, detail experience, note if they are new to the judges panel, sections eligible to judge, major judging appointments to date, distance prepared to travel, other panels on which the Judges sit for other societies, etc.

It will also include an image of the judge (optional). There will be a word limit to the profiles. These can be updated on an annual basis on the Judge's behalf by the Society Office. The purpose of this gallery is to assist show secretaries and committees when appointing judges. Judges can voluntarily provide an image of themselves for inclusion in the profile plus a CV of up to 200 words.

**2) Judging WPCS Medal Shows**

Mindful of the total number of Panel Judges and the number who are not offered appointments, to encourage shows to utilise the full list of Judges, a Panel judge will be restricted to officiating at two bronze and one silver status show, per section, per year.

(Previously a judge could officiate at three bronze and one silver).

The mileage distance as the crow flies between shows, a judge can officiate at, will increase to **60 miles** from the current **40 miles**.

**3) Judge's Results in the WPCS Journal**

The names of the judges who officiated will be recorded alongside the medal show results in the WPCS journal annually.

**4) Judge's Reports from Affiliated Shows**

Judges at WPCS Affiliated shows may be asked to provide the Society with a short-written report within 14 days of the show. If a judge is not comfortable writing a report, they can provide this verbally over the telephone to an Office member. This report will be posted on the Society's website and further explain the Judge's thoughts and reasonings for their placings. Any failures to provide a report will be noted on the Judge's profile.

## **5) Judges to verbally address spectators**

WPCS Panel Judges officiating at affiliated medal status shows may be requested by the Show secretary, at the end of a class or championship to comment on their judgement for the benefit of spectators and exhibitors via a radio microphone, if the facility is available. (This will be trialled at up to 10 silver status shows in 2023).

## **6) WPCS Moderators**

The Society Council will annually appoint a limited number of very experienced members of the Society to anonymously observe WPCS showing classes at affiliated shows. The Moderator will report back to the Society's Judging and Showing committee on the standards observed. This will be done on a random basis.

## **7) Repetitive Judging at WPCS affiliated shows**

The Society promotes a period of rest between judging the same section of a particular show e.g., the same section should not be judged by the same WPCS Panel judge at the same show, within a 5-year period. This will encourage a rotation of judges.

## **8) WPCS Trustees**

Trustees have resolved that trustees shall not exhibit under other serving trustees during their period of office.

## **9) Judges Disclosure Form**

WPCS Panel judges will annually submit a new 'Review' form with their current Disclosure form, and Agreement. This will include a review from the judge looking back at the previous season.

- If you haven't judged this past year – why?
- If you were unable to honour a Judging appointment at a WPCS affiliated show – why? What action did you take to help the show?
- If you have declined Judging appointments at WPCS affiliated shows what were your reasons for declining?
- Please note any Judge's training you have attended during the season and the name of the training provider.
- Please list the WPCS affiliated shows where you have judged during the last year, this may also include appointments for other societies and sections

This form will be effective from 2023 (returned with the 2024 forms by the end of September)

#### **10) Retired WPCS Judges**

When a WPCS judge retires from the panel, rather than lose their experience completely, they would be offered the opportunity to remain on the WPCS Panel of judges as a 'Supreme Championships only' judge.

#### **11) Cluster shows**

WPCS affiliated shows and events are to be encouraged to work together to cross promote their events e.g., 3 shows in one area – or 3 shows over the same weekend. At such events – Shows are to be encouraged to provide Children's entertainment, demonstrations, evening entertainment etc to attract the public as well as exhibitors and their families.

### **WPCS New Status Affiliation and WPCS Medal Awards Review**

The vision of the early WPCS Councils introduction of Society medals as a mark of excellence has worked well over the last century. Winning a medal should be an achievement and a recognition of conformity to breed standard and excellence of type. However, in recent years several factors have affected the attendance levels and standard of competition at affiliated shows, resulting in what the Society's members feel to be the devaluing in some cases of the bronze and silver medals, where they have been awarded to animals with very little competition.

Council is of the opinion that this was not the intention of the Societies forefathers and therefore a comprehensive review has been undertaken based on statistical evidence by the WPCS office staff and the Judging and Showing committee, the results of which are fully endorsed by the Society's Council.

The following pages detail these changes that will come into effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2023.

It is the Society's aim that exhibitors will be rewarded where a higher level of competition occurs. This is not about withdrawing medals but rather encouraging exhibitors to support shows for reward where competition is strong, reinstating the true value of a medal.

This review has been undertaken to allow shows to maintain their medals (providing they meet the criteria) rather than medals being withdrawn from those shows who have underperformed across the period studied. Under the previously proposed medal review's criteria those shows would have lost their medal for 2023.

The changes to be implemented are as follows.

- **All shows affiliating to the Society must hold affiliated classes for all 5 sections (A, B, C, D and WPBR) A minimum of 4 (bronze status) and 6 (silver status) classes must be held in each Section, to include all ages, males, females, and geldings.**
- **At silver status affiliated shows a judge who is judging in one of the following sections A, B, C or D is also eligible to judge Welsh Part-bred classes.**
- **WPCS Affiliation will increase from £10.50 to £15.00**

### **WPCS Affiliation Status**

**Shows who affiliate to the WPCS will be granted a 'status'**

#### **Bronze status shows**

'Bronze status' will be open to any show organiser – they will not have to have run a WPCS affiliated Show before, nor to have run for three years as a WPCS rosette show before they can apply for Bronze status (which was the current process). The Bronze status will be accepted subject to meeting the criteria as set out in the 2023 Judging and Showing handbook.

- λ If less than **80 entries** are received in total across all 5 sections, the Champion receives a WPCS rosette, **no medal is awarded**.
- λ If **80 entries** or more are received in total across all 5 sections, the champion receives a **Bronze medal + WPCS rosette**
- λ In a **Section** where there are **30+ entries forward**, the Champion will receive an **Elite bronze medal + WPCS rosette**

#### **Silver status shows**

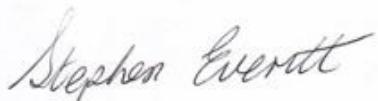
'Silver status' will be based on the affiliated shows historical performance and reviewed annually to reward high performing shows above those who are not attracting entries.

- If less than **120 entries** are received in total across all 5 sections, the Champion receives a WPCS rosette, **no medal awarded.**
- If **120 entries** or more are received in total across all 5 sections, the Champion receives a **Silver medal + WPCS rosette**
- In a **Section** where there are **40+ entries forward**, the Champion will receive an **Elite silver medal + WPCS rosette**

Each year it is possible for an individual animal to win a Bronze, Elite Bronze, Silver, Elite Silver and Gold medal.

### **Further Recognition**

A '**Triple Crown certificate**' will be awarded at the annual WPCS Awards night for those achieving any combination of bronze, silver and gold medals, within the same year with the same animal. For example, a bronze elite medal, silver medal and gold medal will mean a triple crown certificate is awarded.



### **Steve Everitt (Chairman of the J&Sh Committee)**

On behalf of the Judging and Showing Committee, and the WPCS Council.

September 2022

