

ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

Judges' and Stewards Code of Conduct

1. Appointment

A person who accepts a judging appointment agrees to be bound by the Judges' Code of Conduct and by the Regulations of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV) as a condition of their appointment.

2. Authenticity

The RASV may at any time remove a person from the judging appointment if that person has, in the RASV's opinion, not observed the Judges' Code of Conduct or the Regulations of the RASV or their conduct is not in the best interest of the RASV.

3. Attire

Judges should be correctly and neatly attired. Judges are to wear business-like attire and suitable footwear. Gentleman are to wear a coat and tie.

4. Behaviour

- 4.1. Judges' conduct and behaviour should be beyond reproach and a Judge must exhibit propriety and integrity when judging events and be unbiased and fair.
- 4.2. A Judge should refrain from negative or derogatory comments about Exhibitors and/or Exhibits.
- 4.3. A Judge must not refer to an Exhibitor Catalogue or Exhibitor List before or during their judging appointment, nor can a Judge be in possession of an Exhibitor Catalogue whilst in the ring.
- 4.4. A Judge will perform their duties to the best of their ability and will do so without influence from any other person(s).
- 4.5. Once a class has been judged, it should not be re-judged.

5. Safety

- 5.1. Prior to the commencement of judging and during judging, the safety of Exhibitors, spectators, stewards, marshals and themselves must be the Judge's first consideration. Any safety concerns are to be directed to the Chief Steward, Superintendent or RASV Officials.
- 5.2. A Judge has the discretion to ask an Exhibitor or Agent to leave the ring if they consider the animal to be unruly and/or likely to cause an accident.

6. Conflict

Where a Judge is aware the judging of an Exhibit presents a conflict of interest, then the Judge must refrain from judging that Exhibit and immediately inform the RASV Chief Steward. A conflict of interest exists when a Judge could be influenced, or a reasonable person would perceive that a Judge could be influenced, by a personal interest when carrying out the appointment.

7. Authority

- 7.1. A Judge may request an Exhibit to be re-inspected upon consultation with the RASV Chief Steward.
- 7.2. A Judge may refuse to judge any Exhibit they consider to be unsound.

8. Stewards

8.1. The steward is to assist the judge where and when required but must not in any way influence the judges' decision.

8.2. The steward shall notify RASV staff or Committee members if mediation between a judge and/or exhibitors is required.

8.3. Under no circumstances are the stewards to be seen to influence the outcome of the judges decision.

8.4. Stewards must be courteous to all other officials, RASV staff members, exhibitors and the general public.

8.5. Stewards must ensure results and records are accurate input into the tablets and notify RASV staff if issues arise.