

**FELL PONY SOCIETY  
PROBATIONER JUDGES SCHEME  
RULES (amended July 2019)**

- 1 The purpose of the Scheme is to ensure that probationers have satisfactory knowledge of breed type, correct conformation and movement of the pony.
- 2 It will be able to accommodate a number of probationers at one time, subject to the application procedure being complete. The best will be selected to go forward to the scheme in the following year.
- 3 Applicants wishing to take part must be fully paid up senior members of the Fell Pony Society for the last three years.
- 4 Applicants should provide the names of 2 referees who are either FPS judges or senior Fell pony breeders.
- 5 Probationers who wish to take part will be chosen by a committee of judges at an assessment day.
- 6 Any prospective probationer judge must visit the Fell pony in its native environment prior to applying to join the scheme. Applicants must obtain an "Event Attendance Card" from the Judges Secretary and submit this with their application and bring an updated copy to their assessment.
- 7 The number of shows the probationer attends will be at the assessors' discretion. A probationer to attend a maximum of 6 shows in one year/season.
- 8 The probationer will train under different judges, all of whom will be on the FPS Judges Panel. These shows will usually be in the North of England but probationers must be prepared to travel and to attend shows on week days as well as weekends.
- 9 Each probationer must attend *an* assessment day. If a probationer has exceptionally good reports and a satisfactory assessment, the length of their probation may be reduced.
- 10 A probationer will take no part in the judging whatsoever and any remarks made by their judges about the exhibits are strictly confidential. The probationer should take instructions from the judge and should ask the judge's permission before touching the ponies.
- 11 It is important that neither exhibitors nor spectators gain the impression that the probationer is influencing judging decisions.
- 12 Judges' reports from throughout the season will be considered by the Council and decisions will be made on progress and whether or not a probationer is to continue training or appointed to the FPS Panel of Judges.
- 13 Probationers will pay their own travelling expenses.
- 14 Probationers should be suitably dressed while in the ring and a 'Probationer Judge' badge worn.
- 15 Newly appointed judges will be marked with an asterisk \* on the Judges List until they have judged 3 shows. Council will review these judges and remove the asterisk when they feel it's appropriate. It may be on some occasions that a judge will be added to the Panel of Judges without an asterisk from the onset.
- 16 Until the asterisk has been removed, the new judge must not accept any invitation to judge classes on the Society's behalf at the following shows: Fell Pony Breed Show, Fell Pony Stallion Show, Fell Pony Southern Breed Show & Great Yorkshire Show.

Applicants to join the scheme should contact the **Judges' Secretary: Mrs Jenny Grealish**, Shotley Hall, Shotley Bridge, #Consett DH8 9TE. Telephone: 07557 30998. E-mail: [fpsjudgessecretary@gmail.com](mailto:fpsjudgessecretary@gmail.com)