

# Working Hunter

## Rules and Competition Procedures

2008

These rules and procedures are effective from 1 January 2008. From this date on, all other texts covering the same matter are superseded.

Authors: Diane Bennit and Joanne Bastian. The EFAWA also acknowledge the contributions of Janice Keelan and Jenny Brockman in the development of this document.



## **Rules**

The event is to be conducted in three phases: Jumping, Flat Work and In-hand. The jumping phase will be conducted before the other phases.

### **1 Jumping Phase**

- 1.1 Horses/ponies competing must not enter the jumping arena prior to the event. Horses/ponies must not be familiar with the obstacles they are about to jump.
- 1.2 Bandages or boots are only permitted for the jumping section.
- 1.3 Obstacles must be jumped in sequence without deviation
- 1.4 If a jump is knocked down in the act of refusing, the competitor must wait for the steward to rebuild the jump and permission from the judge before re-attempting the obstacle.
- 1.5 In the event of a fall the rider must leave the arena unmounted
- 1.6 Taking the wrong course will result in elimination.
- 1.7 An approved safety helmet must be worn by all competitors
- 1.8 Those who are eliminated in the jumping section will not be eligible to continue to the flat section.
- 1.9 The jumping phase should be held in an enclosed arena
- 1.10 Riders are permitted to walk the course prior to the competition
- 1.11 There must be eight obstacles jumped, which can comprise of an equal number of verticals and spreads

### **2 Flat Work Phase**

- 2.1 Competitors will complete a work out prescribed by the judge.

### **3 In-Hand Phase**

- 3.1 Riders will dismount, unsaddle and present to the judge for the type and conformation marks

### **4 Rules Pertaining to all Phases**

- 4.1 Crops to be a maximum length of 75cms
- 4.2 No martingales, bearing reins, side or running reins of any kind are permitted
- 4.3 Stallions are not eligible
- 4.4 Horses/Ponies must be 4 years of age
- 4.5 Dummy Spurs are permitted
- 4.6 Ponies up to and including 14hh to be ridden by rider 18 years or under  
Horses over 14hh may be ridden by riders of any age.
- 4.7 Disobedience in any phase of the competition will result in penalties
- 4.8 The same saddle must be used for both phases
- 4.9 Both phases must be ridden in a snaffle bridle

## **Guidelines for Competitors**

### **TYPE**

Working hunters should be of good conformation and soundness and have strong bone without losing quality, they may have a more noble head than a show horse. A hunter should be able to carry its rider for a full days hunting over a variety of terrain. They should exhibit boldness, be tractable, free moving and balanced. Hunters should work calmly and obediently without displaying over exuberance, but still be happy and eager in their work.

The Hunter should possess:

- Correct conformation for riding and endurance
- Substance without coarseness
- Quality without fineness
- Straightness and freedom of action at all paces.
- Boldness and natural balance
- Steady temperament
- Colour immaterial

## **PRESENTATION OF HORSE AND SADDLERY**

Manes and Tails	Manes should be plaited, tails should be plaited or pulled. False Tails are permitted
Coat and Hooves	Coat clean, with excess hair removed. Hooves oiled or blacked. No quarter markers or make up is permitted.
Saddle (incl girth and stirrups) and Saddlecloth	Saddle should be of good quality leather which is supple and clean and has sound stitching. It may be more "workmanlike" than for a ridden show class. A straight flapped, all purpose or jumping saddle may be used. A sheepskin saddle cloth matching the shape of the saddle is acceptable.
Bridle (incl bits and browbands)	Bridle should be the same colour as the saddle, supple, of good quality leather. Stitching on noseband and brow band optional.  A Working Hunter should wear snaffle bridle with a plain front (browband and noseband). No coloured or fancy browbands.

## **RIDER'S ATTIRE**

Preferably a tweed jacket, although plain navy or black fabric are acceptable. Tweed can be blue, green or brown mixture, the colour should go well with the mount. Shirt with collar to tone with jacket and subtle tie, or stock. Jodhpurs or breeches should be fawn or beige. Gloves should be plain and match the rider's boots. Clothing should fit well and be comfortable to ride in. ALL riders to wear an approved safety helmet, for both sections, which may be covered in plain velvet in dark colour to match the jacket. Riders under 18 years are permitted to wear long boots or gaiters.

## **Information for Event Organisers**

Any queries please feel free to contact Diane Bennitt 9291 0202 or Joanne Bastian 9296 0441. This document is also available at [www.efawa.com](http://www.efawa.com). Score sheets are also available on the website.

Judges for the jumping section should be selected from the official list contained in this document. Judges for the flat section are to be selected from the official Show Horse Judges list.

### Jumping Section

- i. The jumping section will be conducted before the flat section. Those who are eliminated in the jumping section will not be eligible to continue to the flat section.
- ii. There must be a steward available to assist with the altering or rebuilding of the course.
- iii. A penciller must be supplied for the judge.
- iv. It is desirable that a whistle is supplied for the judge.
- v. The course should comprise of some natural obstacles such as Hay, Brush, Gate, Wall, Picket fence, Log with rail, Rustic rails. All jumps must have a top rail in cups, wooden blocks on a wall are acceptable. All jumps should be filled or solid providing an inviting jump.
- vi. COURSE - There must be eight obstacles jumped, which can comprise of an equal number of verticals and spreads. Some of the obstacles could be jumped from either side. The course should be open and flowing and must have a change of direction. Optional suggested plans are included in the guidelines. The obstacles should be numbered.
- vii. OBSTACLE HEIGHTS  
Ponies up to and including 12.2h – 30cm  
Ponies over 12.2 up to and including 14h – 60cm  
Galloways over 14h up to and including 15h – 70cm  
Hacks over 15h – 85cm

- viii. The hunting course should be enclosed and include start and finish flags. At least 1 practice jump must be available in a separate area. Jumping arenas should be a safe distance away from other activities.
- ix. It is recommended that a qualified course designer is used to build the jumping course. If a course designer is not available, it is recommended that the person building the jumping course have some jumping experience. Clubs should check with their insurers in regard to this matter.

### **Information for Judges**

#### Jumping Section

- i. Judges are required to walk the course prior to the event to ensure that it is suitable and at least 2 fences are at maximum height. Judges should be equipped with a tape measure and a whistle.
- ii. Judges are required to gear check to ensure competitors are compliant with the rules
- iii. Judges are to ensure that competitors have an opportunity to walk the course.
- iv. The course should be ridden at a hunting pace (approximately 350 metres per minute), jumping each fence smoothly, all changes of leg should be flying and not done through the trot. The course should be open and flowing and must have a change of direction. Ideally, the jumping arena should be a minimum of 80m x 80m
- v. It is preferable that the ridden work out be given to competitors on paper prior to the event
- vi. **Marking System**  
Competitors will be given a score of either 5 or 10 marks for each obstacle cleared.  
5 marks = satisfactory, 10 marks = good.  
Jumping penalties:  
Knock down 10  
1<sup>st</sup> Refusal 10  
2<sup>nd</sup> Refusal 20  
3<sup>rd</sup> Refusal Elimination  
Fall of Horse or Rider equals Elimination – the rider will leave the arena unmounted.  
Taking the wrong course will result in elimination.  
In addition competitors will be given a mark out of 30 for Style and Manners

### **SECTION 2 - FLAT PHASE**

The workout should be similar to that of a show hunter class and should always include a gallop and a change of lead at the canter. The leniency that can be shown by judges for minor transgressions in the show horse should not be shown in the Working Hunter. The action and temperament marks are to be awarded in the ridden flat phase

### **SECTION 3 – IN HAND PHASE**

It is necessary that the horse be stripped for an accurate conformation mark. The type and conformation mark will be given in the in-hand phase.

### **RESULTS AND SCORING**

In the event that there is an equality of scores, the jumping score will preside. In the event that there is still a tie, the "Type" mark will be the deciding factor. Should the result still be a tie, the judges decision is final.

### **Qualifying for Working Hunter at Perth Royal Show**

Conditions of entry for the Perth Royal Show require the competitor to complete 2 working hunter events without elimination at qualifying fixtures. MARKING SHEETS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE R.A.S. for entries to the Perth Royal Show to be accepted.

Results are to be forwarded to:  
Tara Della Bosca  
Horse and Arena Coordinator  
Royal Agricultural Society of WA  
PO Box 135  
Claremont WA 6910

FLAT SECTION OF WORKING HUNTER MAY BE JUDGED BY ANY OFFICIAL SHOW HORSE JUDGE

JUMPING SECTION IS SPECIFIC AND SHOULD BE JUDGED BY THE FOLLOWING JUDGES:

BENNETT, DIANE	-	9291 0202
BRITZA, SUE	-	9646 1392
BROCKMAN, JENNY	-	9397 0312
BROWN, VICTORIA	-	9076 6088
GARTON, GEOFF	-	9731 5177
GOLLAN, MERRILYN	-	9721 2452
HANCOCK, JILL	-	9295 2888
KAU, MAXINE	-	9952 1036
KEELAN, JANICE	-	9397 0024
LARWOOD, HEATHER	-	9841 4401
MAYGER, VALRIE	-	9525 1353
MOSS, JENNIFER	-	9572 4370
PARKES, SHERYL	-	9296 4487
PATEMAN, CHERYL	-	9755 5216
PARKER, LEONIE	-	9641 4049
PERRY, FELICITY	-	9382 3270
RADFORD, MARJORIE	-	9526 2776
SPIRES, TANYA	-	9399 3574
STRAIN, GALE	-	9274 2794
WALTON, IRENE	-	98877072
SLATER, CHRISTINA	-	9274 0536
BOOKER, PETA	-	9453 6596
COLLIER, PHILLIPA	-	9295 2017
TAYLOR, ANNE	-	9581 8220
FLEMING, DINAH	-	9296 1516
FRED FREEMAN	-	9525 2851
PETER COOKE	-	9291 8111
POLLY-ANN HUNTINGTON	-	9571 1321

## WORKING HUNTER MASTER SHEET

HEIGHT CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ VENUE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Exhibitor No</b>													
<i>PHASE 1 – JUMPING</i>													
<b>Jumping</b>	80												
<b>Style &amp; Manners</b>	30												
<b>Section 1 Total</b>	110												
<i>PHASE 2 – RIDDEN FLAT</i>													
<b>Action and Paces</b>	15												
<b>Manners</b>	15												
<b>Attire</b>	10												
<b>Section 2 Total</b>	40												
<i>PHASE 3 – IN HAND</i>													
<b>Type</b>	15												
<b>Conformation</b>	20												
<b>Section 3 Total</b>	35												
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	185												
<b>PLACE</b>													

In the event that there is an equality of scores, the jumping score will preside. In the event that there is still a tie, the "Type" mark will be the deciding factor. Should the result still be a tie, the judges decision is final.

## WORKING HUNTER JUMPING SHEET

HEIGHT CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ VENUE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Exhibitor No</b>		E.G.													
<i>PHASE 1</i>	<b>JUMP</b>														
<b>Marking:</b> Satisfactory: 5 marks Good : 10 marks  <b>Jumping Penalties:</b> Knock down 10 1 <sup>st</sup> Refusal 10 2 <sup>nd</sup> Refusal 20 3 <sup>rd</sup> Refusal Elimination  Fall Horse or Rider Elimination, rider to leave the course unmounted Course error Elimination	<b>1</b>	<b>R 5</b>													
	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>													
	<b>3</b>	<b>K 5</b>													
	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>													
	<b>5</b>	<b>R 10</b>													
	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>													
	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>													
	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>													
<b>Jumping Section</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>70</b>													
<b>Less Jumping Penalties</b>		<b>-40</b>													
<b>Style &amp; Manners</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>15</b>													
<i>TOTAL SECTION 1</i>		<b>45</b>													

In the event that there is an equality of scores, the jumping score will preside. In the event that there is still a tie, the "Type" mark will be the deciding factor. Should the result still be a tie, the judges decision is final.

## WORKING HUNTER FLAT / IN HAND SECTION SHEET

HEIGHT CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ VENUE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Exhibitor No</b>													
<i>PHASE 2 – RIDDEN FLAT</i>													
<b>Action and Paces</b>	<b>15</b>												
<b>Manners</b>	<b>15</b>												
<b>Attire</b>	<b>10</b>												
<b>Section 2 Total</b>	<b>40</b>												

HORSES MUST BE STRIPPED FOR AN ACCURATE CONFORMATION MARK

<b>Exhibitor No</b>													
<i>PHASE 3 – IN HAND</i>													
<b>Type</b>	<b>15</b>												
<b>Conformation</b>	<b>20</b>												
<b>Section 2 Total</b>	<b>35</b>												

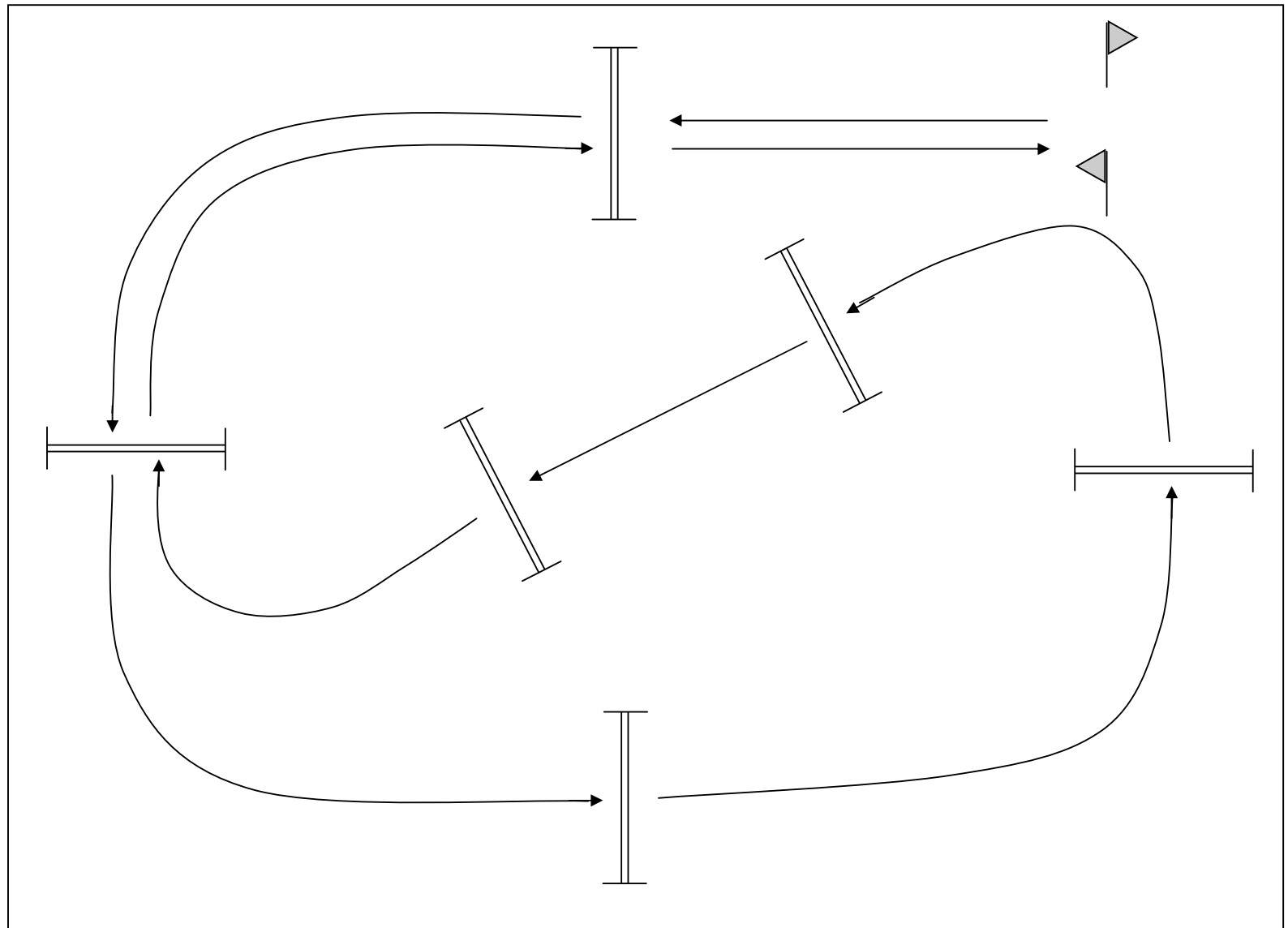
In the event that there is an equality of scores, the jumping score will preside. In the event that there is still a tie, the "Type" mark will be the deciding factor. Should the result still be a tie, the judges decision is final.

# WORKING HUNTER COURSE EXAMPLE 1

Suitable  
Obstacles

Hay  
Brush  
Gate  
Wall  
Picket fence  
Log with rail  
Rustic rails.

All jumps must  
have a top rail in  
cups, wooden  
blocks on a wall are  
acceptable.



## WORKING HUNTER COURSE EXAMPLE 2

Suitable  
Obstacles

Hay  
Brush  
Gate  
Wall  
Picket fence  
Log with rail  
Rustic rails.

All jumps must  
have a top rail in  
cups, wooden  
blocks on a wall are  
acceptable.

