

**Joint Communication from
Horse of the Year (HOY) Board and the RAS.**

This communication covers the Showing Section only. This does not apply to NZRP and PBNZ classes, breed sections or other disciplines of Land Rover Horse of the Year.

Representatives from the HOY Board and the RAS met recently to discuss the impact COVID-19 has, and will have, on Land Rover Horse of the Year 2021 in relation to the Showing Section. While the RAS had already made amendments to attendance and qualification, there is still the question of how many shows will be able to run and what happens if there is a resurgence of COVID. The HOY representatives expressed that they would like qualification to be maintained in some aspect, if possible. As no-one can predict the future, the combined representatives at the meeting, made the decision to lay out some options that should

- ✓ give some reassurance and clarification for competitors
- ✓ cover most scenarios
- ✓ ensure the Land Rover Horse of the Year Showing Section will continue to build on past successes
- ✓ maintain Land Rover Horse of the Year as a premier equestrian event

ENTRIES FOR THE 2021 LAND ROVER HORSE OF THE YEAR (THE EVENT) SHOWING SECTION TO BE DETERMINED ON THE FOLLOWING

Maximum numbers for each class will be established to ensure that classes do not get too big and to avoid timetable over-runs. Entries will be confirmed in the following order on the following basis:

Tier 1 - Entries meeting 2020/21 qualification and attendance requirements (see below for more information).

Tier 2 - Entries utilizing last year's qualification with attendance requirements for 2020/21 (see below for more information).

Tier 3 - Entries on a first come, first served basis. Note you still will need to meet the attendance requirements for 2020/21 (see below for more information) however the date of your entry will define the first come, first served basis.

HOW DO I GIVE MYSELF THE BEST POSSIBLE CHANCE TO GET MY ENTRY ACCEPTED?

1. **MAKE YOUR ENTRY EARLY** – enter the classes you wish to compete in. Qualification and attendance forms can follow when you have achieved what is applicable. If you are unable to achieve qualification because of cancelled shows, you may still have an opportunity under Tier 2 or Tier 3. Note a full refund will be given if you are not successful in having your entry accepted under 1, 2 & 3 above.
2. Set out to get your qualification and two show attendance as quickly as you can manage and send in the qualification/attendance form as soon as this has been completed to RAS Head Office – **DO NOT DELAY SENDING IT IN; CLOSING DATE FOR THIS IS 22 FEBRUARY 2021**. Those entries meeting the necessary requirements under Tier 1 will be checked and processed on receipt.
3. If you want to hedge your bets and you have a qualification you can use from last year – send through your qualification/attendance form as soon as you have achieved attendance for 2020/21 show season (there will a Tier 2 box to tick on the qualification/attendance form, noting you are using last year's qualification). Should you achieve qualification that will make you eligible for Tier 1 you can send a replacement form but remember **MAKE YOUR ENTRY EARLY**. Tier 2 entries will not be processed until the qualification/attendance forms close off date (22 February 2021) to ensure all Tier 1 entries have been dealt with.

4. Having difficulty in your area with shows cancelling – remember Tier 3 is there for that reason so **MAKE YOUR ENTRY EARLY**. If you are unable to get qualification for the reasons stated, as soon as you have completed your two show attendance (check Frequently Asked Question & Answers, FAQA to find out how to achieve this), send in your qualification/attendance form to RAS Head Office (no later than 22 February 2021). Tier 3 entries will not be processed until the qualification/attendance forms close off date (22 February 2021) to ensure all Tier 1 and Tier 2 entries have been dealt with first.

ATTENDANCE FOR 2021 – all horses/ponies must attend two RAS affiliated A&P Shows/Events for the 2020/2021 show season. In the case of rider classes, all riders must attend two RAS affiliated A&P Shows/Events for the 2020/21 show season. This is mandatory with one exception. The **ONLY EXCEPTION** is In Hand (Led) Classes – no attendance (or qualification) will be required for these classes at 2021 Land Rover Horse of the Year.

QUALIFICATION FOR 2021 IN BRIEF (fuller description in RAS Showing Section Qualification & Attendance Information)

X 1 Champion in the section/class you wish to enter

X 2 Reserve Champions in the section/class you wish to enter

X 2 Firsts (wins) in the section/class you wish to enter

X 1 Reserve Champion, x 1 First (win) in the section/class you wish to enter

UTILISING LAST YEAR'S QUALIFICATION

You are looking to use last year's qualification – this is a qualification that was sent in and confirmed by RAS Head Office as being eligible last year. Last year's qualification must match what you are entering this year e.g. same horse entering same class/section. You will tick Tier 2 on the qualification/attendance form, fill in your attendance at your 2 shows and send form through.

ENTRIES FIRST COME; FIRST SERVED BASIS

When entering through Equestrian Entries, all entries are automatically dated stamped. This is what will be used to determine first come, first served in Tier 3.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

- **Entries through Equestrian Entries open 1st December 2020.**
- **Entries close on the 1 February 2021.**
- **Qualification/attendance forms need to be with RAS Head Office as soon as possible but no later than 22nd of February 2021.**
- **As indicated above, Tier 1 entries attendance/qualification requirements will be checked and processed as they are received; Tier 2 & 3 entries attendance and/or qualification requirements will be processed after the 22 February 2021.**

YOUR ENTRY IS NOT FULLY CONFIRMED UNTIL THE QUALIFICATION BOX IN EQUESTRIAN ENTRIES IS TICKED.

See Frequently Asked Questions & Answers for further clarification

Any other enquiries, please contact Sophie Blake, HOY Equestrian Manager equestrian@hoy.kiwi or Debbie Cameron, RAS CEO debbie@ras.org.nz