



Management of lame horses in the show ring

Instructions for ECAHO Officials and Show organizers

Dear Officials and Show organizers,

Based on the proposal from ACA France, the Show Commission (SC) discussed how to organize possible management of lame horses in the show ring. The current procedure is as follows: a Judge announces verbally to the RM that they consider a horse is lame. The RM then asks the other Judges for their opinion, and if there is a majority in agreement that the horse is lame, the horse is sent out of the ring without being judged. It may happen that Judges do not appear to have a clear opinion, and the Judges begin to discuss. Discussions within the show ring may give a wrong impression about the objectivity of the jury.

The SC recommends the following procedure:

- at the beginning of the show, each judge receives sheets with the option "lame/ not lame"
- if any Judge considers a horse entering the ring to be lame, then they will mark the horse 'LAME' on the sheet and hand it to the RM.
- the RM will then ask all other Judges to complete their sheet without conferring and hand it to the RM
- any discussion with other judges is prohibited
- the RM counts the votes and the decision to eliminate/not eliminate the horse will be based on the majority of votes. In case of a tie the horse will be judged.
- if the majority votes are for "NOT LAME", the horse will be judged.
- the sheets will be kept by the RM for possible later reference.

This system will ease the situation for Judges and make it as objective as possible.

The sample sheet is attached.

SAMPLE SHEET



Show name: _____

Date: _____

Judge: _____

Horse no. _____

(please circle your selection)

LAME

NOT LAME

Signature _____