

BSJA GUIDELINES ON SCHEDULE CATEGORISATION

INTRODUCTION

Following an extensive series of discussions up and down the country, the UK Show Jumping Development Committee has developed a set of proposals to restructure British Show Jumping during 2006. These proposals were agreed by the Development Committee on 12th August 2005 for presentation to the Management Board, and subsequently ratified on the 23rd August 2005. They were then previewed at the Area and Regional Representatives and Show Organisers Conference and this paper incorporates feed back from that meeting. It describes the changes we intend to introduce in 2006 and we believe they will significantly improve the success and enjoyment of British Show Jumping for both our Members and for Show Organisers

OBJECTIVE

The BSJA's role is to organise a program of show jumping throughout the year that is safe, interesting and which helps riders to advance, if they wish, from grassroots to the very highest level. We also need to ensure that the framework within which this is done enables show organisers to run successful shows.

The BSJA believes that these objectives have not all been met in recent years and we, therefore, propose two significant changes:

- 1) We will introduce a new range of classes called "Intro" to attract new members and to provide better shows for existing members who like to jump their horses at a lower height level.
- 2) We are introducing a process of categorisation of shows to:
 - a) Offer the Membership the opportunity to jump all levels of horse and know in advance the kind of show on offer
 - b) Provide Show Organisers a means of stating clearly the kind of show they intend to run, so that they can attract more members to their shows
 - c) Enable the BSJA to implement an improved means of reducing clashes in the calendar to the benefit of both Members and Show Organisers

CATEGORISATION OF SCHEDULES:

All schedules will fall into one or more Categories known as Advanced, Progressive, Intro, Amateur, Special and Junior.

INTRO CATEGORY






This level has been created to attract new members and to satisfy existing members who are happy to compete at this level. The BSJA does not have the right to make every member progress through the ranks and to insist on progression for every horse. We have a large number of riders who are more than happy to stay at a level which is their “comfort zone” and not be intimidated by the necessity of going above this.

This level needs the support and encouragement of the BSJA network, as this is where our biggest turnover of membership exists.

Within INTRO, there will be 3 National qualifiers; in addition, a Regional Points League will be introduced to identify the riders who are doing well at this level and will enable the Regions to reward the appropriate members. These Leagues will be published by the BSJA to create interest and involvement.

The maximum height allowed under INTRO is 1.00m. There is no restriction on the minimum level which will be determined by the “market” in any particular area.

The National qualifiers in this level are:

-  90cm Amateur
-  1.00m Amateur
-  British Novice 1st Round
-  Two other affiliated classes at a similar or lower level (including Regional Points League)
-  Within this height range, shows are encouraged to include their own selection of classes not included above. i.e. Regional/Area/Centre qualifiers

All these classes are subject to £25 maximum 1st Prize and will be awarded Regional Points.

Two unaffiliated classes are permitted at this level to allow non-members to compete in the affiliated environment and introduce them to the benefits of becoming a member of the BSJA.

A Marketing and PR campaign will be launched to support these shows to ensure sufficient impact.

PROGRESSIVE CATEGORY

This level is intended to be exactly what the title suggests; it is a level that provides the membership with a route for producing horses and developing themselves from British Novice level upwards.

As in the higher classification, controls will be introduced on the prize funds offered in the classes that are run under BSJA rules.

🚩 British Novice :	£ 25 minimum 1 st prize
🚩 Discovery:	£ 30 minimum 1 st prize
🚩 Newcomers:	£ 40 minimum 1 st prize
🚩 1.00m Amateur:	£ 50 maximum 1 st prize
🚩 1.10m Amateur:	£100 maximum 1 st prize
🚩 1.10m Open:	£ 50 maximum 1 st prize

All other classes, with the exception of National Qualifiers, have, as at present, a restriction on the maximum prize fund allowed e.g., £50 1st prize.

- 🚩 No class, other than the British Novice, is allowed at 90cm
- 🚩 No classes over 1.10m are allowed in this category of show
- 🚩 No unaffiliated classes are to be programmed to precede this schedule, other than clear round or schooling rounds, with a specified start time for the Affiliated Schedule, which has to be adhered to.
- 🚩 Within this height range shows are encouraged to include their own selection of classes not included above i.e. Regional/Area/Centre qualifiers

ADVANCED CATEGORY

- 🚩 Newcomers, and all classes above this level, not to include 1.10m open
- 🚩 All National qualifying classes that are determined by the BSJA will have a minimum prize level, dictated by the 1st prize, set by the BSJA.
- 🚩 Newcomers: £ 40
- 🚩 Foxhunter: £ 50
- 🚩 National Amateur 1.20m £ 50
- 🚩 National B&C: £ 75
- 🚩 National 1.30m: £ 100
- 🚩 National 1.40m Open: £ 250
- 🚩 Area Trials: £ 600
- 🚩 International Trials: £2000

All other National Qualifiers that are not listed will be allocated a prize fund that complements their height and level in the system. Other classes scheduled by the individual shows, where conditions are not determined by the BSJA rules, are the responsibility of the organiser with regard to the level of funding, and are expected to complement the rest of the schedule; a review of scheduling will be done periodically.

AMATEUR CATEGORY

This will identify shows where all the 4 amateur classes are scheduled. The restrictions on this category of show should be as follows:

- no National qualifiers included other than those specifically for the amateur rider.
- Open classes allowed for any member but with the height and money restriction of the Progressive Category, i.e., 1.10m restriction and £50 maximum in 1st prize.
- The BSJA will monitor the allocation of Amateur Category shows so other categories are not lost in any particular geographical area.

JUNIOR CATEGORY

In the first year, 2006, all Junior shows will be included in one Category. We do not intend to proscribe further categories of Junior schedules at this stage for the following reasons:

- ✚ It is felt that the non-clashing of dates would initially improve the financial viability for Show Organisers, at all levels.
- ✚ Junior members' needs vary in different parts of the country and at different levels of competition.
- ✚ The introduction of Regional Points League classes is expected to improve Junior membership and enthusiasm at the lower end.
- ✚ The introduction of new "Production Classes" for Juniors will be tested in 2006, and we feel these classes should be given time to produce results before assessing the levels that Junior shows should be categorised into.

SPECIAL CATEGORY

This is specifically to identify Stallion and Age Class shows that are organised for these particular classifications when they are not included as part of another category.

Age classes will normally be included in the appropriate show category, depending on the height of the competition; however, in the event of a show specialising in a full range of Age/Young Horse Classes, these can be classified as a Special Category Show.

HIGH PROFILE PUBLIC SHOWS

Established, annual, high profile public shows, such as Society, Agricultural and County shows, that embrace show jumping as a part of their show, will be encouraged to retain their successful format. The BSJA Shows Department will endeavour to protect and help these shows to prosper in line with our policy to increase public exposure to show jumping.

BSJA AMATEUR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Four new levels of classes will be introduced from 1st January 2006.

- 🏇 90cm - excluding riders ranked in the top 450 on a designated ranking list - maximum 1st prize is £25 - only allowed in the INTRO
- 🏇 1.00m – as above - maximum 1st prize is £25 in the INTRO but £50 in the PROGRESSIVE
- 🏇 1.10m - excluding riders ranked in the top 250 on a designated ranking list - maximum 1st prize can be £100 - only allowed in the PROGRESSIVE
- 🏇 1.20m - excluding riders ranked in the top 250 on a designated ranking list - only allowed in the ADVANCED - 1st prize to be determined by the level of funding scheduled in the show.

These 1st Round Qualifiers to be available for the appropriate schedules as from 1st January. There will be no restriction on the number of 1st Rounds run.

2nd Rounds will be allocated in each Region to be run at indoor shows from the middle of September to the middle of November.

Two 2nd Rounds per level per Region will be allocated. There will be no restriction on how often a rider competes in 2nd Rounds, wherever they may be.

Final will be run towards the end of the year, as at present

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Each Region will be responsible for staging Regional Championships that will have the British Novice Championship and the Discovery Championship.

Members will only be allowed to compete in their own Regional Championship Final, but will be allowed to get the appropriate number of double-clears at any show anywhere.

The top two qualifiers from each of these Regional Championship classes will then go directly into the National FINAL at the BSJA/SCOPE Festival.

Each Region could develop this occasion into a major event to include other Regional Finals.

It will be the Regional Representatives' responsibility to decide where in their Region these Finals will be held, but they will have to go to a venue that can provide the prestigious occasion and facilities that would be expected for such an event.

NEW PROCESS FOR AFFILIATION OF SHOWS AND FOR OPTIMISING THE SHOWS PROGRAMME

From October this year, Show Organisers will be required to state the Category or Categories of show they wish to run whenever they affiliate a show running after 1st April 2006. Any show may offer more than one Category of class, provided there is not a significant clash with another show.

Classes will always belong to a certain category, and this will be published by the BSJA and in the show schedule, so that members are fully aware of the type of show they are going to. CATEGORISATION IS ABOUT CHOICE OF SCHEDULE, NOT THE ARENA A CLASS HAS TO GO INTO - that is determined by the Show Organiser

The BSJA will supply all the necessary information concerning date and category classifications so everyone involved should be aware of potential clashes, particularly in the Advanced Category.

Categorisation Control will be implemented when no voluntary agreement can be exercised between Show Organisers. Control will be implemented by the BSJA Shows Department on days that are congested and will not be necessary when there is no clashing of dates and categories. Equally, if Show Organisers mutually agree to run similar schedules against each other, then this will be accepted.

The Advanced Category will be protected where it is felt it is necessary. It is the show organisers' responsibility to be aware of Advanced Category clashes and to inform the Area/Regional Representative of their concern before the finalisation dates; 30th November for the following Summer Season and 30th April for the following Winter Season.

During October and November this year, if it is necessary to implement Categorisation Control, the level or levels they will be running will be determined and finalised.

EXAMPLES:

- ✚ In the normal situation where shows will have free choice of schedule, they can choose classes that would normally be in two categories, then this is stated on the schedule. If a show has classes that cover three categories, even if there is only one class from a category, they are still buying into three categories.
- ✚ When Categorisation Control is necessary, the ADVANCED level will be protected, but only from other Advanced schedules as, at this level, the financial risk is more evident.
- ✚ Advanced and Progressive categories will be allowed to amalgamate.
- ✚ At multi-arena shows all levels of categorisation will be allowed.
- ✚ For single arena shows, when Categorisation control is necessary, the Progressive and Intro levels will not be allowed to amalgamate as this could be seen as a regressive policy.

It will be the duty of those who wish to affiliate i.e., Show Organisers, Area and Regional Representatives, together with the Development Committee, to give every assistance to ensure the system works.

AFFILIATION FEES

A new structure of affiliation fees is being developed to fit the new show jumping programme; however, it was confirmed at the recent Area and Regional Representatives and Show Organisers Conference that there would be no change in fees for the Summer shows in 2006. It is our intention, however, to introduce the new charges from 1st October 2006.

Details of the new charges will be announced next month. It is the intention that affiliation fees should, in future, make a substantial contribution to the costs incurred by the BSJA in insuring shows and running its affiliated shows programme. It is also the intention that there will be a non-refundable payment on account for part of the fee when each category of show day is booked. This payment on account will be due for payment three months ahead of the show date. The actual total fee will be based on the number of starters, less the amount paid on account when the show was affiliated