



**Judges & Stewards Commissioner**

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**REQUIREMENTS for APPROVAL**  
**of AHA/USEF RECORDED (r) ARABIAN DIVISION JUDGES**

The AHA Accredited Judges List (the "recognized list") of USEF Recorded (r) and Registered (R) will be maintained and published in accordance with the standards and procedures listed below. **For complete USEF licensing information, use the following link:** [https://www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/licensed-officials/become-licensed](https://www.usef.org/compete/resources/forms/licensed-officials/become-licensed)

**USEF LICENSING and AHA ACCREDITED JUDGE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Applicants must be a current member in good standing with the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) for three consecutive years prior to participating in the evaluation and testing.
2. Be at least 21 years of age.
3. Applicants must attend all sessions of the AHA Exhibitors/Judges' School **AND** create a checklist through the Licensed Officials Dashboard on the USEF website **BEFORE** any apprenticing.
  - a. The USEF checklist must be created within six months after attending the School.
  - b. AHA will verify the requirement of attending the School and AHA membership.
  - c. Applicants have three (3) years after initiating the checklist to complete the apprentice work and the Evaluation.
4. All applicants must be compliant with the USEF's Safe Sport Policy before starting any application requirements. In order to be compliant with the policy, applicants must complete Safe Sport Training and a criminal background check. This requirement will be reflected in the list of requirements on the licensing dashboard.
5. Applicants must apprentice Judge at a minimum of three Federation licensed competitions in the Arabian division, under a minimum of three different Federation/AHA Registered (R) Arabian judges within a three-year period preceding application.
  - a. An Apprentice Judge must obtain permission **first** from the Licensed Competition, followed by approval by the licensed official with whom he will be apprenticing.
  - b. The 'R' judge is required to discuss the evaluation with the apprentice and provide the apprentice with a copy of the entire evaluation form.
  - c. Completed apprentice evaluation forms will be uploaded by the applicant. AHA is notified of the evaluation form being available and will then download the completed form.
  - d. Applicants can apprentice with no more than one current member of the EEC.
  - e. Apprentice Evaluation form is on the AHA website:  
[https://www.arabianhorses.org/export/content.export/judges-stewards/js-docs/JS\\_Arabian\\_Judge\\_Apprentice\\_Form.pdf](https://www.arabianhorses.org/export/content.export/judges-stewards/js-docs/JS_Arabian_Judge_Apprentice_Form.pdf)
6. Evaluations are held in person, scheduled annually and are limited to approximately 20 people. There are deadlines – check the AHA website or with the Commissioner's office for this information.  
<https://www.arabianhorses.org/judges-stewards/seminar-schools/>
7. Submit the application and fee for Evaluation to the AHA Judges & Stewards Commissioner's office by the deadline posted on the AHA website: <https://www.arabianhorses.org/judges-stewards/seminar-schools/>
  - a. As part of the application, provide names and contact information for at least eight (8) current AHA members for references, giving their complete name and working email address.

- b. Of the eight (8) references, a minimum of five (5) must be currently licensed Arabian judges and/or Category 2 Stewards.
- c. Reference forms will be emailed to the listed references by the Commissioner's office.
8. Applicants must pass each of the following components of the AHA Evaluation.
  - a. AHA-administered written examinations;
    - i. Passing scores vary from 80-85% depending on the exam.
  - b. Video testing
    - i. Video testing is scored using the same method as the majority of horse/livestock judging contests.
  - c. Live Judging of in-hand and performance classes;
    - i. Live judging is scored using the same method as the majority of horse/livestock judging contests.
  - d. AHA administered interviews conducted by EEC members and others as appointed by the Commissioner.
    - i. A standard evaluation form with scoring rubric is utilized. Passing score is overall 4 out of 5 points
9. Complete the USEF application process to obtain a valid and current judge's card in the Arabian Division from the US Equestrian Federation. Canadian residents must complete the Equestrian Canada requirements, including attending the School and successfully passing the Evaluation. Other equestrian federation or association judge's cards may be recognized subject to the written approval of the AHA Judges & Stewards Commissioner.
10. After final approval from USEF or EC as a recorded (r) judge, the individual will be included on the list of AHA accredited judges.

**NOTE:** Maintenance Requirements, once the 'r' license is granted

1. Judges must attend the Federation/AHA Judges' Seminar every three years.
2. Judges must pass a USEF administered written examination with a score of 85% or higher every three years