

Dutch Spotted Sheep Society

Code of Conduct and Practice for Society Judges and Exhibitors

Judges are reminded that as members of the Dutch Spotted Sheep Society (DSSS) Judges Panel they are representing the Society and should conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and show consideration to exhibitors and show staff.

An annual review of the Judges Panel is carried out by the Trustees.

Removal from the Judges Panel is an option open to the Trustees should performance or conduct not be of a sufficiently high standard.

Requirements and Code of Conduct for Dutch Spotted Sheep Society Judges

Judges should be mindful that the purpose of judging is to place the Sheep in each class in order of merit subject to breed requirements, conformation, quality and soundness.

General

- A judge must be medically, physically and mentally fit to judge otherwise he or she may present Health & Safety issues for himself or herself and/or others. A judge must discontinue judging and stand down from the judging panel if he or she is not medically, physically or mentally fit. The Council reserves the right to ask for medical evidence of fitness to undertake judging duties if necessary.
- A judge must always check the schedule on receipt to ensure they are able to judge the classes requested, if unable to fulfil then contact the Show Secretary concerned immediately.
- If for any reason a judge finds themselves unable to fulfil a judging commitment, they should personally contact the Show Secretary giving their reasons and refer them back to the DSSS Secretary to find a replacement judge from the society judge's list.
- A judge should arrive at the showground at least 30 minutes prior to the expected start time of their classes and report to the Show Secretary. This may differ from show to show, please confirm your arrival time with the show secretary. If you find yourself delayed for any reason, contact the show to advise.
- A judge must ensure that the ring steward is made aware of any health and safety incidents/issues with competitors that occur whilst judging and ensure any relevant forms are completed.
- A judge must only be accompanied into the ring by persons appointed/approved by the Show.
- A judge's decision is final, the class ends when the judge dismisses the class.
- A judge should discuss the format to be adopted in the ring and thank their steward after the classes.
- A judge must be smartly dressed at all times during the show where he/she is judging; casual clothing is deemed inappropriate.
- A judge must not accept any hospitality from an exhibitor pre-judging at a show where he/she is judging.
- A judge must not refer to the show catalogue prior to or during judging.
- A judge must remain detached/impartial throughout their judging.
- A judge must not use any mobile devices, smoke or consume alcohol whilst in the ring.
- A judge is advised not to call any exhibitor by name whilst in the ring.
- A judge must not converse with spectators or exhibitors regarding the animals being judged throughout the time they are judging.
- A judge must be mindful to not judge more than one show in a limited geographical area.

Impartiality

- A judge must not judge any animal owned/bred/leased by him/her or any member of his/her immediate family.
- A judge must not judge an animal previously bred by him/her or any member of his/her immediate family.
- If a judge finds themselves in either of the above situations, an alternative judge will be asked to step in to judge the relevant class or section.
- A judge must not express his/her views on specific animals/exhibitors/judges or their judgement via any form of social media via the internet.
- An exhibitor should satisfy themselves before entering any show that they are able to show under the judge, taking all the above into account.
- At the discretion of the Trustee's, a judge other than those on the official list may be used.