

February 27, 2015

Mr. Billy Moroney
11625 Harp Road
Hagerstown MDF 21742

Dear Billy;

At a recent National Hunter & Association Licensed Officials Committee meeting, the following officials were present; Linda Andrisani, Joe Dotoli, Brian Flynn, Ray Francis, John Franzreb, Walter Lee, Holly Orlando, Mike Rosser, and Debbie Sands.

The committee is concerned that the California split format which has been used extensively this calendar year at the various circuits and at individual horse shows throughout the country is often confusing to exhibitors, spectators, and especially to sponsors. At many of the larger horse shows, some horses will perform as early as 8 a.m., and may not jog until mid to late afternoon. This puts a burden on the stable staff and requires that these horses may often be tied up for lengthy periods of time (as much as 6-8 hours). This is clearly not good horsemanship. Reportedly, a significant number of horses never return for the jog which further adds to the existing confusion. The possibility of as many as forty horses and handlers having to be available at one time for the jog and ribbon presentation is at best unwieldy and, more importantly, the potential exposure to injury of horses and people at a congested in-gate is tremendous and must be avoided.

The committee members would unanimously like to suggest that the first half of the very large class(s)/section(s) perform over fences, jog, receive their awards and then do their under saddle class. This award presentation format can therefore be done in a safe and timely manner. The second half of the class(s) would then perform over fences, jog, receive their awards, and do their under saddle class. For example; if there are 60 entries in a class, 30 would perform over fences, jog, receive their awards, and do their under saddle class. This would then be followed by the 2nd half of the class which would perform over fences, jog, receive their awards, and do their under saddle class. This method is clearly safer, less confusing, and is more beneficial to exhibitor scheduling and will help alleviate conflicts with other rings. We would like to see this solution encouraged and feel confident that it will be beneficial to exhibitors, riders, owners, trainers, grooms, and especially to spectators, sponsors, and potential sponsors.

Thank you very much for your consideration of what we believe to be a solution to a prevalent problem.

Sincerely,

The National Hunter and Jumper Association Licensed Officials Committee