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**2019 UMPIRE PROTOCOL**

The guidelines for umpiring are there for all members who enjoy the game to get a fair chance at competing in their game. Where possible the allocation of umpires needs to be made where an umpire has the correct level of competence for the game they have been allocated. There needs to be as far as possible NO alliance of the umpire with either team competing.

* Umpire allocations must be out with the draw Monday before a tournament and NOT subject to change.
* Umpire meetings before the start of the first game of the weekend NEED to be reinstated to bring awareness of relevant safety and playing rules for the weekend.
* Umpires need to remember that the welfare of the horse starts with them as they umpire the game. They have the power to withdraw a horse for fatigue, excessive whip and spur usage as well as a bleeding mouth. DO NOT WAIT FOR THE WELFARE OFFICER TO BRING THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION, IT IS IN YOUR AUTHORITY TO ACT ON ANY WELFARE MATTER THAT YOU DEEM WRONG OR AGAINST THE RULES.
* Attached a list of umpires and their grading – please stick to placing umpires in games to their capabilities.

UMPIRE FORMATS FOR TOURNAMENTS

* Normal process where umpires are allocated and umpires ponies supplied by playing teams/sections. Failing to produce an umpire’s pony means that the captain’s pony is taken to start the game.
* Umpire ponies can be for hire at a fee for teams without ponies. This needs to be advertised on the tournament invite.
* Umpires can preferably umpire on their own horses if they have spares or young horses. Umpires who wish to do so NEED TO INFORM THE TEAM THEY ARE UMPIRING TO AVOID THE TEAM BRINGING A TACKED UP HORSE TO THE FIELD UNNESSECARILY.
* Umpires doing more than one duty have the option of being paid per extra duty. I recommend paying R150 a game. PASA run tournaments to come out of umpiring budget. Suggestion for club tournaments to use funds from entry fees.

Umpires who have been allocated a duty and wish to change their duty due to health or alternative commitments need to find a SUITABLE umpire of the same standard and this change must be given to the tournament committee 3 hours before the time of the allocated game. Failure to do so will result in the fine as per below. Umpires may not decide to NOT umpire because ‘they do not feel like it’!!

IMPORTANT TO NOTE. UMPIRES NOT PITCHING FOR THEIR ALLOCATED DUTY WILL HAVE A FINE OF R250 IMPOSED ON THEIR CLUB. IF THIS IS NOT PAID BEFORE THE NEXT TOURNAMENT THAT PERSON WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PLAY UNTIL THIS IS PAID.

Debbie Dick

PASA Chief Umpire 2019