



British Showjumping
Commentators Education System

PATHWAY

1 Preliminary Remarks

1.1 Terminology and Abbreviations

- **Regional Official Mentor (ROM)**

Regional Official Mentors are appointed to represent British Showjumping and act as a point of contact for all officials within their region. The role involves assisting in identifying potential new officials as well as supporting existing officials. The Regional Mentor role requires being proactive in facilitating Officials training and continuing professional development. The position entails assisting their development through the officiating levels, should they wish to progress. Regional Official Mentors will be appointed in each region for Course Designers and Judges.

- **Chairman of Judges (COJ)**

The show Organiser/Organising committee shall nominate one Level 2 or above Judge to act as Chairman of Judges (COJ) for the duration of the show. Duties of the COJ include assisting and advising the Show Organisers and Members throughout the show. The COJ may also assume the roles and responsibilities of the Lead Official (LO) for one arena.

- **Lead Official (LO)**

A Lead Official will be appointed to each arena at each show to act as the Senior Judge for the duration of the show. Duties of the LO include assisting and advising the Show Organisers and Members throughout the show. In the absence of an appointed COJ (Chairman of Judges) the Lead Official (LO) will assume the roles and responsibilities of the COJ

- **British Showjumping Headquarters (HQ)**

Based in Meriden, West Midlands, British Showjumping HQ is the administrative hub for the NGB of Showjumping within Britain.

Contact details for HQ are below: -

- British Showjumping, Building 2020, Meriden Business Park, Copse Drive, Meriden, West Midlands, CV5 9RG
- 02476 698800
- info@britishshowjumping.co.uk

- **Commentators are divided into the following categories:**

- Candidate Commentator
- BS Official Commentator

1.2 Agreement to abide by British Showjumping Rules & Regulations

All British Showjumping Officials, when renewing their membership with British Showjumping, agree to abide by British Showjumping Rules & Regulations, including the Regulations for Registration and Control of Officials & the Officials Code of Conduct for the duration of the membership period.

The Regulations for Registration and Control of Officials, including the Officials Code of Conduct can be found by following the link below: - <http://www.britishshowjumping.co.uk/page/Officials-Regulations>

1.3 FEI Application & Upgrade policy

All FEI Officials Applications, including FEI Officials upgrades will need GBR NF recommendation as per the FEI pathway. GBR NF Recommendations will only be given to those candidates who are current National Officials, fully compliant with their retention criteria and whose work is known to the National Governing body so we are able to comment on and endorse appropriately.

1.4 FEI Officials

All FEI Officials will be required to be current National Officials, fully compliant with their retention criteria and whose work is known to the National Governing body, so we are able to comment on and endorse appropriately. Any Official who is removed by the GBR NF or who's National Officials status lapses or any Official who cannot satisfy the above requirement will have the support of the GBR NF to act as an FEI Official representing GBR removed.

2. Description of the Education System for Commentators

BS Official Commentator

Requirement

- Anyone wishing to operate as Commentator at a British Showjumping event must hold and maintain a current Official Status within British Showjumping **or** apply to register as a “BS Official Commentator”.
- Current BS Officials may make request to the Officials Co-ordinator and have BS Official Commentator added to their official’s qualifications providing that their status is fully current.
- Non-Officials wishing to be listed as BS Official Commentator must follow the below procedure.

Application Process - BS Official Commentator

- Minimum of 18 years of age at appointment
- Express an interest with British Showjumping & Register as a Non-Jumping Official
- Application for Membership as a Non-Jumping Official ([OF1](#))
- British Showjumping Official - Application Form ([OF2](#))
- Attend a British Showjumping Induction Day at National Training Centre
- On completion of Induction Day and acceptance of application by British showjumping, contact details for the Judges Regional Official Mentor passed over to the Candidate Commentator to arrange experience at affiliated events, if required.
- Before appointment, the Candidate Commentator must have a written report recommending their suitability for appointment, from a Level 2 or above Judge or currently listed Commentator.
- Once the above has been completed, the Candidate Commentator is then appointed as a BS Official Commentator

Retention Policy

- Must maintain Non jumping Official membership.
- Must attend an Official British showjumping Officials training event every two years.
- Must hold a current certificate in the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons.
- Completion of Self-Declaration and Disclosure Form

Any BS Official Commentator who does not meet the above criteria may be re-classified as of the 1st of Jan each year.

Officials Continuous Assessment Procedure

Instigation criteria

British Showjumping has the power to review at any time the ability and competence of any official by way of unannounced inspection, at any event that the Official is working in the capacity as a British Showjumping Official, in relation to the registration and status of any Official.

Officials Continuous Assessment Process

- Official identified via reports submitted to Head Office or by random selection
- Assessor appointed and deployed
- Assessors reports to be submitted to the Officials Coordinator with one of the following recommendations
 1. No Further action required
 2. Identify training needs
 - Officials who have training needs identified by the Assessor will need to show a commitment to the training and proactively seek opportunity to develop in the identified areas, within the timescale identified.
 3. In cases of serious concern, suspension and/or re-classification pending re assessment.
- Where the recommendation, suspension and/or re-classification pending re assessment recommendation is returned, the case will be put to the Officials Review Panel (Role specific). Review Panel to be made up of at least 3 from specific Working Group & Officials Co-ordinator
- Review panel to review the findings of the assessor and put forward one of the following recommendations.
 1. Identify training needs and re-visit
 - Officials who have training needs identified by the Review Panel will need to show a commitment to the training and proactively seek opportunity to develop in the identified areas, within the timescale identified. Review panel to set time scale for re-visit
 2. Full re-assessment
 - Where it is considered that the Official has fallen short of the criteria for the grade they currently hold, a full re assessment commensurate with their current level will be implemented
 - Those officials not meeting the criteria within the reassessment will be re classified
 3. Immediate Re- classification and Full re-assessment
 - In cases of serious concern, where Officials do not meet the criteria for their current level. The review panel can recommend the Official is re-classified pending full re assessment.
 - The findings and assessment results will be submitted to the Officials Review Panel for recommendation. The Review Panel will return one of the following recommendations.
 - i. *Re-Training (with specific areas identified) & full re-assessment*
 - ii. *Re- classification (with recommendations as to new classification) & full re-assessment*
 - iii. *Removal from the Officials Panel*
- The recommendations of the review panel will be submitted to the National Sport Committee of final approval

Guest speakers

Organisers may in addition to the scheduled BS commentator invite guest speakers to commentate on the sport, so long as the following criteria is met prior to appointment.

- The show must have an appointed and scheduled BS commentator in post, on the day(s) the guest speaker is invited to speak.
- The appointed and scheduled BS Commentator must have been consulted and be in agreement with the chosen guest speaker appointment.
- Written permission is required to be obtained from British Showjumping (from the Officials Co-ordinator or the Chief Executive) prior to invitation of the guest speaker.
- Guest speakers are to be a minimum of 18 years of age at appointment.
- The appointed and scheduled BS commentator must be present during the guest speaker's commentary.
- If the guest speaker is a British Showjumping member any matters arising from the appointment to guest speaker will be dealt with through the normal members code of conduct and disciplinary procedures.
- If the guest speaker is a non-member any matters arising from the appointment to guest speaker will be dealt with through the associated members rule within the members code of conduct (rule 82.10). In all cases the associated member will be deemed to be the appointed and scheduled BS Commentator.