

Royal Agricultural Society of NZ - Yellow Card System

The following outlines the recommended rules and implementation of the RAS Yellow Warning Card System.

1. The President of the Show or their duly appointed delegate and/or the Chief Steward of the Section/Stand may issue a yellow warning card instead of fines or other penalties applicable as indicated in the RAS affiliated Show or Event own Rules and Regulations, to the Person Responsible (PR) – (see definition of PR at conclusion) in the following instances:

- i. Abuse of animals in any form as provided for
 - a. Equine - Rule 52 (RAS Equestrian Competitors & Judges Rule Book & Guidelines) and Article 143 (FEI General Regulations)
 - b. Dairy – as per the RAS Showing Rules & Regulations for Dairy Cattle.
 - c. All livestock, including equine & dairy – as per rule 3 under Health & Safety, RAS Showing Rules & Regulations.
- ii. Inappropriate behaviour towards Show officials, Judges, fellow competitors or any other third party connected with the RAS affiliated Show/Event, including Approved Measuring Stands and their grounds, bringing the A&P movement into disrepute, or cases which are of a less serious nature to the above in accordance with the Conduct of Members, Owners, Lessees, Competitors and/or Exhibitors as provided.
 - a. Equine – refer to RAS Equestrian Competitors and Judges Rulebook
 - b. All Persons Responsible, including equestrian – refer to rule 8 under Disruptive or Unacceptable Behaviour, RAS Showing Rules or Regulations
 - c. Rule 13 of the RAS Constitution. Inappropriate behaviour constitutes any behaviour deemed by the President of the Show or their duly appointed delegate and/or the Chief Steward of the Section/Stand involved that brings the A&P movement into disrepute including but not limited to Inappropriate language, swearing, cheating or deliberately attempting to work outside of the generally accepted show rules and protocols. This also extends to inappropriate written communication via Facebook, twitter, text, on-line forums and the like

2. A yellow warning card may be delivered to the Person Responsible either by hand, post or by any other suitable means. The Person Responsible may accept or reject the yellow warning card. If the Person Responsible accepts a yellow warning card, no other penalty recorded in the RAS Bylaws or Rules & Regulations will be imposed against the Person Responsible in respect of the actions for which the yellow warning card was issued.

3. If a yellow warning card is delivered to the Person Responsible either by hand, post or any other suitable means at the RAS affiliated Show/Event or registered Measuring Stand and their grounds to which the yellow warning card relates and the Person Responsible rejects the yellow warning card, the applicable appeal/discipline procedure recorded in the RAS Complaints Procedure will be instituted.

4. If a yellow warning card is delivered to the Person Responsible after the Show/Event or registered Measuring Stand and their grounds to which the yellow carding card relates, this must be done within 10 days of the event/show/measuring appointment giving rise to the incident.

5. If a yellow warning card is delivered to the Person Responsible after the Show/Event or registered Measuring Stand and their grounds to which the yellow carding card relates, the Person Responsible may only reject the yellow warning card by sending it to the RAS within 48 hours of receipt, in which case the matter will be referred to the relevant Disputes, Protests or Hearing Committee as per the RAS Complaints Procedure.

6. As soon as possible after issuing a yellow warning card, the Show/Event/Measuring Official concerned shall forward details (butt) regarding the issuing of the yellow warning card and the Person Responsible to the RAS Head Office. The RAS will support this by maintaining a register of yellow warning cards and record such details on that register.

7. If a person receives a second yellow warning card at the same or at any other Show/Event/ registered Measuring Stand and their grounds within 12 months of the first yellow warning card being issued to that person, the case shall be submitted to the RAS Hearing Committee for consideration in accordance with the RAS Complaints Procedure. In deciding the penalty to be imposed on the Person Responsible the Hearing Committee will take into consideration whether the offence for which the first yellow warning card was issued is similar to the offence causing the second yellow warning card to be issued to the same person within 12 months of the first.

8. Notwithstanding this warning card system, cases of repetition in the same type of offence within two years from the first offence shall be penalized by up to the maximum penalty foreseen for the offence in question.

9. The implementation and acceptance of the Yellow Card will always entail the disqualification of the animal and PR from the Show/Event and the forfeiture of any prize money won in the same Show/Event if applicable.

TIME OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

1. Decisions against which there cannot be an appeal shall be effective from the date of the notification to the persons or bodies concerned.
2. Decisions to which the parties concerned have formally renounced their right of appeal shall become effective on the date when the renunciation reaches the RAS.
3. Decisions taken by President of the Show or their duly appointed delegate and/or the Chief Steward OR Disputes, Protests or Hearing Committee shall be effective from the moment the time limit for lodging an appeal has expired.
February 2013 Definition of Person Responsible – the person actually committing the offence whether it be abuse of animal or inappropriate behavior. In the case of the specific dairy cattle rules, the PR will be as referred to in those rules.