

# How To START

# Judge Career IN EUROPE?

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**S**peaking with both new and experienced breeders and Arabian horse enthusiasts around the world we often face a questions and discussions: how to become a judge in Europe nowadays? Is it difficult to be a breeder and a judge in one? What are the

**Tutto Arabi:** Is it difficult to be a breeder and a judge in one? What are advantages and disadvantages in your opinion?

**Tomasz Tarczyński:** I think that there are mainly advantages although in case your own horses you can make some overestimations about the future show career for the horses: you like the family or the mother especially and underestimate horses form the families you don't really like. In case of advantages you are staying all the time with them and the horses are growing on your eyes so you can see and understand more the difficulties and "faults" coming from the age and growth problems, you can easily find mistakes hidden by trainers and handlers



In Al Khalediah with Ann Norden, Elisabeth Chat, Tony van den Auvera

advantages and disadvantages of being a judge nowadays – in the world of raising pressures for success? And at last but not least, once you become a judge – how your first steps on that ground look like? To those looking for answers we introduce a young B and C ECAHO level judge and breeder at his Grabów nad Pilicą Stud – Tomasz Tarczyński from Poland...

**TA:** Is it difficult to start a judge career for a newcomer? What did you find the most difficult while passing your exams and probationaries and after – when you started to judge the shows as independent but young judge?

**TT:** I think it is difficult. For me the community was not really new as I was very active in showing the horses in the past. Each year while attending 10 or more shows when I have had the possibility to meet judges, handlers and owners, speak after the show or during the post

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In Ahwaz, Iran with Renata Schibler and Irina Stigler

shows celebrations. Exams - written and practical were not so difficult. Probationaries I recollect as very friendly time - we had really patient and helpful Judges as trainers. The judges never had any problems to take somebody as probationers. The problems are now: to find the show organizers which would like to have probationers in the show - in this matter you need somebody who may recommend you.

When I started to judge it was filling the tension: what and when I will be mistaken and evaluate the horse completely different. It never occurs but still there are many discrepancies with the notes and long discussion after the show why some of my colleagues scored good horse lower... I have nothing against, but it is good to understand different points of view. I think it is natural that people see the horses different way, especially when the horse is different from the fashionable standard spread in the showing but is still very good horse with all marks of good Arabian type.

**TA:** And what is the most pleasure in being a judge, from your point of view?

**TT:** The most pleasure is to have the opportunity to watch Arabian horses from different countries, strains, families, from really close distance. As the spectator you can never see everything so exactly from close by..

**TA:** There are many people graduating national and international ECAHO level courses every year. How do you think – why we don't see so many new judges at the European shows nowadays?

**TT:** I think organizers and breeders just stick with some names which everybody knows and which are good of course and very active with traveling and judging. If you look on the shows judging teams around Europe and Middle East you can find that 30 people are judging 80% of shows. New judges have very difficult entrance to be invited to the shows as the organizers would like to

go for the famous names, for judges who are judging already Title shows to judge also small C show!

**TA:** Do you think that shows system should be somehow changed to give more chances to the new judges? Would it be good for the condition and results of the shows as well?

**TT:** The show system is developing, new changes are introduced: like yearling champions in title shows. I think it is necessary that ECAHO start promote new judges by informing organizers about the new ones which already passed the exams and are entered to ECAHO list of judges, with short characteristic etc. ECAHO has contact with organizers during the process of affiliation of the show and can use

steps in the show rings. This can also be a good investment for the future of ECAHO itself. For the organizers it should be also better to have different team every year to have a variety of the assessment of horses taking part in the show.



At Rabab, Egypt with Karen MacCrea. Joanna Maxwell. Tony van den Auvera, Ali Sharaawi and Daniel Soupat



In Iran with Nils Ismer, Hossein Mohammadineek, Aram Azarmibejand

this communication chanel to widen the number of judges invited to show what can help them during firsts

mainly have been judging for plenty of years everywhere, so you can share the opinion, discuss during

**TA:** Do you remember your first show to judge? What were your feelings while entering arena for the first time as judge?

**TT:** I think excitement and little bit stress to not miss anything what of course make judging for whole day exhausting, when you don't relax but only watch the horses and ONLY horses, then look on the results... But the colleagues from judging teams were making me relaxed very quickly. This is one of the best things in being new judge – that opportunity to meet other, more experienced judges as interesting people who

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At judging team of Rabab C-show under auspition of Sh.Khaled Bin Laden

*the brakes and then the time is really "galloping". Days of shows pass very fast, then you have the opportunity to discuss everything again in the evening and not only about horses as the judges panels are usually coming from different countries or even continents.*

**TA:** ... and the most interesting and the most exotic shows you have been invited to judge was...

**TT:** I think it was my first show in Yazd, very religious region between two deserts in the middle of Iran. Different people, different horses, different handlers, everything so new and exotic!

**TA:** What the judging experience gives to you – as a breeder?

**TT:** You exactly know what is fashionable, "what type of head is needed to win" and what type of horses characteristics help you to win...Well, now it is type and movement, the rest is much less important... You can

*learn what are the differences between the horses from different geographic areas and what is the most crucial to observe the crop of any stallions. Judging junior classes and see the difference between sire's production in the ring what can you give some advices what would you like to use to have the type you like from the showground...*

**TA:** Do you have any judging plans for the coming season?

**TT:** No yet. Probably few shows in Middle East and Europe.

**TA:** And the show you would like to judge the most in the future is...

**TT:** Of course the show I would like to judge the most is one of the biggest shows in Arabian horses world like Las Vegas Breeders Cup with plenty of horses from around the world!