

# Writers (Pencillers)

## What a judge might say to a writer

1. Thank you for writing for me – it is a really important job and should also be enjoyable!
2. Have you written before? Was it at this level? If not, here is a Writer's Tips sheet
3. Have you ridden tests? How are your note-taking skills? (student, journalist, PA etc)
4. Please fill in the top of each sheet before the next horse starts
5. I usually give my comment first, then my mark
6. What is said in the car/box stays in the car/box
7. Make sure you note any Error of Course (EOC) in the score box for the movement and at the end of the sheet
8. Please hand the Board to me asap after final salute, I like to write my own Collectives
9. While I complete my Collectives, write my Collective Marks on the Start List
10. Remain quiet until I have finished the Collectives, (I am not clever enough to concentrate if conversations with runners, mentees etc are going on)

### High Priority

- Turn mobiles off!
- Get the marks down
- Add .0 to any whole numbers, cos of half marks
- Get abridged comments down esp for a 5 or lower... (a rule)
- Please include modifiers (eg sl, qu, v, a bit, s'times) (slightly, quite, very, a little, sometimes)
- Record the Collective Marks & a brief description of horses on the Start List
- **EOCs** are noted with an asterisk at the top of the Marks Column so scorers do not miss it. Circle **Error** at bottom of sheet as well
- **Use of voice** – note in Comments Box, but note -2 in score column so scorers see it

### Low Priority

- Spelling correctly (loose, lose, rhythm etc) & being neat

### **Good Writers:**

- Check that the sheets – p.1 & 2 are correct & for the correct number of competitors
- Respect the confidentiality of Judges 'What is said in the Judge's Box, stays in the Judge's Box'
- Let me know the time the next horse is due in if I ask – running to time is important
- Never give background or gossip on competitors/family before they compete
- Write comments, rather than print them – block capitals are the slowest way to write
- Use arrows to the correct box if a comment is in wrong box, never cross out a comment
- Use a dot in margin if a mark is missing or a comment needs querying
- If they miss a mark or comment, they 'stay with the judge' & come back to what they missed at the end. ie Never 'play catch up thru a test.'

- **If you notice any EOC, wrong gear on a horse or rider I may have missed it (eg black bell boots), please let me know – no judge is infallible!**

### **Ways to condense a judge's comments:**

There is often more than one way to condense comments. If you adopt your own consistent approach to abbreviating, many shortened words will very quickly become automatic for you.

Riders will be able to read your abbreviated comments because each is written against a clearly defined context – ie a particular movement in a particular pace.

<p><b><i>Some writers like to use symbols</i></b></p> <p>O circle  □ square (square halt)  ¼'s quarters, hindquarters  ↑ upward transition  ↓ downward transition  ½ O half circle  ¾ three quarters  4'hd forehand  L angle  ~~ wobbly line  ↑↑ parallel  ^ perpendicular</p>	<p><b><i>Modifiers – it is important to include these, <u>please</u> do not omit them</i></b></p> <p>Editing out all the modifiers (words like: slightly, quite, very, a little, at times can change the intended message – often it can make it much more severe). Try:</p> <p>Qu quite  Sl slight  V very  Stdy steady  Fr fair  S'times sometimes  A litt a little  Rthr rather</p>
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<p><b><i>The first syllable &amp; other key parts in the word are often best</i></b></p> <p>Eng't engagement  Subm'n submission  Resis resistance  Prep'n preparation  Suff't sufficient  Insuff't insufficient  Mov't movement  Estab'd established  Cad'ce cadence  Relxt'n relaxation  Main'td maintained  Antic'g anticipating  Unbal'd unbalanced  Disob disobedient  Esp'ly especially  Impr'vd improved  Devel'd developed  Unlevl unlevel  Wavr'g wavering  Unsett'd unsettled  Conf't confident</p>	<p><b><i>Key consonants alone can be useful</i></b></p> <p>H'qus hindquarters  Hse horse  Mkr marker  Lngth lengthened  Wkg working  F'hd forehand  Bkwd backward  Fwd forward  Str straight  Str'tn straighten  F'hd forehand  Cntr canter  Clr clear  Clr'y clarity  Sq halt square halt  Crp hi croup high  Crst hi crest high  Dnhill downhill  Smth smooth  Att've attentive  Imprv improve  Rhy rhythm</p>
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Consis      consistent Modst        modest Conserv      conservative Delib        deliberate Quick'd      quickened	
<p><b><i>Sometimes initials are best</i></b></p> CL            centreline FRW          free rein walk MW            medium walk EW            extended walk CW            collected walk WT            working trot MT            medium trot ET            extended trot FC            flying change CC            counter canter MC            medium canter EC            extended canter	<p><b><i>The first syllable is often enough</i></b></p> Bal            balance Trans        transition Imp            impulsions Med            medium Ext            extended Coll          collected Serp          serpentine Diag         diagonal Elim         elimination Acc            accurate Flex          flexion Reg          regular Vert          vertical

<p><b><i>More eg's of first syllable &amp; other key consonants in the word</i></b></p> Sust'd        sustained Pos'tn        position Irreg         irregular Tensn        tension Tightn        tightness Drift'g        drifting Sus'td        sustained Def'nd        defined Bettr         better Caut's        cautious Pos'tv        positive Up trans      upward transition Dn trans      downward transition	<p><b><i>Some like to use a shorter word in place of a longer one</i></b></p> Kept            sustained Kept            maintained A bit            a little Loops            serpentine  Thru            through Cd                could Mr                more Gd                good
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