The ‘Baker Beall’ British Show Pony Society Future Show Hunter and Show Pony Judges Bursary

**Background**

The British Show Pony Society (BSPS) is committed to supporting, educating and training our judges of the future. The Society already holds (through the BSPS Areas), numerous training events for our potential young judges culminating in a team and individual young judge’s competition at the BSPS Summer Championship Show

The BSPS is now the leading Society for ridden Show Hunter and Show Ponies in the Country, holding classes for Lead Rein, First Ridden, Novice and Open Ridden classes. Competitors are able to qualify for all the major championship shows, Royal International Horse Show and Horse of the Year Show. The Society also run a Winter series for Novice ponies.

The Baker Beall’s, in conjunction with the Society, recognises the importance of our future judges having the opportunity to be supported, educated and trained, particularly in the field of judging Show Hunter and Show Ponies where judges not only have to have extensive knowledge of performance and conformation and type.

The Society recognises that for some of our younger judges to gain the necessary experience is both time consuming and costly and therefore have developed a 2 year bursary that supports a successful candidate (each year) to go forward onto the judging panel by covering expenses for travel, training events and where appropriate accommodation costs.

**Who can apply and selection criteria**

* This bursary is open to candidates who must have reached the age of 23 but not their 30th birthday on the 1st January in the current year.
* Candidates will be required to compete an application form requiring them to
	+ Explain clearly why they would benefit from this bursary
	+ Previous experience and knowledge of Show Hunter and Show Ponies, including for example; stewarding, unaffiliated judging, attending shows and events etc
	+ A commitment to undertake the training programme

Following receipt of the application form a limited number of candidates will be invited to assessment which will include judging classes of Show Hunter and Show Ponies and being interviewed by senior judges. This will take place over the Summer Championship Show in August where down selected candidates will individually judge a designated Show Hunter and Show Pony class, assessed by a senior assessor (this assessment will be free of charge).

**The Future Judges Training Programme**

The successful candidate will be required to undertake a 2 year training programme

This will include;

* Attending 8 Future judging appointments for Show Hunter and Show Pony classes (4 per year). The BSPS will inform the candidate of the shows they are to attend and with which senior judges
* Attending the BSPS Winter, Mid-Summer and Summer Championship Shows for the following 2 years undertaking Future Judging appointments covering a range of different classes (6 per year)
* Attend training events at seminars as required by the Society
* Steward at the BSPS Championship Shows for the following 2 years in classes designated by the Society

Following successfully completing and passing the above requirements, candidates will be considered for election onto the BSPS Show Hunter and Show Pony Judges Panel.

To support the candidate in carrying out this training programme, the bursary funded by the Baker Bealls will cover;

* All travelling expenses for attending Future Judging appointments.
* Travel and accommodation expenses for attending a Championship Show
* Any other expenses that the Society deem appropriate for further education and training

The value of bursary is expected to be worth approximately £500 per year.

This bursary provides a unique opportunity to go forward on to the BSPS Show Hunter and Show Pony Judges Panel, while having the significant cost of travel expenses covered.