



British Equestrian Independent Judicial Panel Chair

British Equestrian is seeking applications from senior legal professionals and sports subject matter experts to act as the Chair of our Judicial Panel. This role will lead and oversee the activities of the Judicial Panel, ensuring a robust and independent approach to all cases handled through British Equestrian's Hearing Body processes.

British Equestrian

British Equestrian (BEF) is the National Governing Body for horse sports in the UK, affiliated to the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI), the International Federation and governing body of equestrian sports.

Established in 1972, the BEF is the umbrella organisation for its 19 independent member bodies (14 members and 5 associates) and today is the largest representative body within the equestrian industry in the UK; representing the interests of over 3 million riders, vaulters and carriage drivers.

The BEF fulfils a unique and vital role in supporting the inspirational and ongoing international success of equestrian sports on the Olympic, Paralympic, World and European stages, and also in raising participation in horse sports nationally. It serves these key activities through undertaking several core functions, including:

- liaising and coordinating with the FEI on international events;
- governance and training;
- protecting the welfare of the horse;
- representing the common interests of its member bodies to Government and other bodies;
- working with its Member Bodies in promoting the benefits of equestrian sport, helping people to discover horses, get fit and improve their wellbeing; and
- promoting social impact initiatives, including equality, diversity and inclusion, environmental sustainability, and rider and equine welfare.

The BEF Judicial Panel

Members of the BEF Judicial Panel play a central role in ensuring the effective provision of dispute resolution services for member bodies and sports participants, forming a diverse panel of independent arbitrators, legal and subject matter experts that may be called upon on a case-by-case basis.



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The Judicial Panel can be called upon to adjudicate on specific regulatory and disciplinary matters. These include:

- National Anti-Doping hearings.
- Safeguarding hearings.
- Disciplinary hearings.
- Appeal hearings.

The Judicial Panel members are appointed by the Board and consist of a Judicial Panel Chair, Legally Qualified Chairs and Hearing Body Panel Members. The BEF also has a panel of Stewards who are nominated by its Member Bodies to sit as members of hearing body panels to provide equestrian knowledge and expertise to the Hearing Body.

Judicial Panel Chair

The purpose of the role is to:

- Lead and represent the BEF Hearing Body in official matters.
- Manage the caseload of the BEF Hearing Body and assign (or reassign) cases to Hearing Body members, according to their specific needs, such as subject matter expertise.
- Assist with the coordination of an annual conference for Panel Members.
- Monitor the performance and conduct of the BEF Hearing Body members and BEF Stewards, investigate (or assist in the investigation of) complaints made against them.

In addition, the Judicial Panel Chair will:

- Propose amendments to the BEF Hearing Body Rules and BEF Rulebook for the effective and efficient administration of justice within the BEF.
- Propose resources necessary for the BEF Hearing Body to operate in accordance with the BEF Rulebook and Hearing Body Rules.
- Appoint a deputy to fulfil their responsibilities in their absence, as deemed necessary.
- Work with the BEF Head of Secretariat, Head of Integrity, and all other Hearing Body members on all other matters necessary of the operation of the BEF Hearing Body; and
- Assume the responsibilities of a Hearing Body member where required.

Qualifications:

- Due to the senior nature of this role, current or former members of the judiciary, KCs, junior barristers or solicitors of at least 10 years' experience, would be welcomed.
- A qualified lawyer with significant professional legal experience in litigation or arbitration and in governance, integrity, sports related disputes, selection appeals, anti-doping, safeguarding, anti-discrimination, para classification, or such other relevant areas in sport.

The role is a voluntary role and as such not accompanied by financial remuneration, although reasonable expenses may be claimed.

Term

The term for all members of the Hearing Body is 3 years with an opportunity to be re-appointed for a further three year term.

Independence

If appointed, no Hearing Body member themselves and their immediate family members may:

- hold any official function in the BEF or a member body of the BEF; and
- have any material business relationship with the BEF or a member body of the BEF during their term of office as a member of the BEF Hearing Body and for four years prior to their initial appointment to office.

To Apply:

If you feel you have the relevant skills and experience, please apply by sending your CV and short covering letter highlighting your motivation for the role by the closing date of **Monday 18 March at 6pm** to Jen.Ancliff@bef.co.uk.

If you would like to discuss the role please contact the Head of Integrity, Lynne Bailey (lynne.bailey@bef.co.uk).

Equal Opportunity

We want you to have every opportunity to demonstrate your skills, ability, and potential. If there is anything we could do to support you through your application or to provide the best environment for your interviews, including assistance or adjustment, please let us know.

The BEF positively seeks to achieve diversity in its workforce and applications from all candidates regardless of age, race, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or nationality are welcomed and encouraged.

