

The British Horse Driving Trials Association
“ HOLD UP ” PROCEDURE



*TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH
OBSTACLE OBSERVERS INSTRUCTIONS.*

Having been allocated the duty of “Hold up” Steward, on arrival at your Obstacle, choose a “hold up” point if one is not already marked. You should pick a point some 30 - 50 metres from the entrance to the Obstacle. Position yourself so that you have a “line of sight “ and use the same point for each Competitor, always remain constant. Make sure you have a stopwatch, pencil and paper.

1. Keeping a sharp look out, should a Competitor arrive whilst you already have another Competitor in the Obstacle and then carry out the following procedure :-
2. Check your stopwatch is set at zero and position yourself with your “sight line“. When the nose of the leading Horse crosses this line, start your stop watch. Either use your Hold up board or shout and wave at the Competitor to stop. Try not to cause them to anticipate a hold up and slow down. This may lose them valuable time.
3. When the Competitor halts tell them that they are being held - they may stand, walk or trot in the immediate area but tell them to keep their eyes on you for instructions.
4. When the Chief Obstacle Observer (or T.D) tells you that the Obstacle is clear, call the competitor to you, inform them of the time they are being held in HALF MINUTES. Count them down 5-4-3-2-1 GO and start them at the time allowed.
5. When the Competitor has cleared the Obstacle inform the Chief Obstacle Observer of the time and make certain it is recorded on the Obstacle Drawing Sheet and the Control Sheet in MINUTES AND HALF MINUTES..

MULTIPLE HOLD UPS

It may happen that as the “Hold Up“ Steward, you will have to hold up a second, third or even fourth Competitor if there has been a major incident in the Obstacle. Although unlikely, the procedure is to keep your stopwatch running and record on paper. Do not rely on your memory, but record the time a Competitor crosses the “sight line“ and then calculate the mathematics. Alternatively, use a second stop watch or your wrist watch.

After a multiple hold up you must slot Competitors in at approximately two minute intervals until you clear the back log. If two Competitors approach together and you are SURE that the leading Competitor is slower than the one following, you should hold the slower and allow the faster direct access to the Obstacle. You may also be asked by the T.D to hold a Competitor owing to circumstances of which you are not aware.

remember -

OBSERVE AND RECORD CORRECTLY