



## GENERAL RULES

- 1 It is the responsibility of the Rider/Handler to ensure they are aware of the rules that may apply to any class they enter.
- 2 The welfare and fitness of horses/ponies must be taken into account when entering classes. If any member of the Committee or Judge has concerns about the welfare of a horse/pony, they have the right to challenge an entry to a class.
- 3 Errors and enquires must be dealt with at the Entries Desk prior to entering the ring, as no competitor will be allowed to enter a class unless their name appears on the sheet.
- 4 Competitors must wear a back number to enter a class.
- 5 Competitors should ensure that the appropriate attire is worn for their class.
- 6 Hair should be neatly secured. All piercings and jewellery must be removed.
- 7 Misuse or excessive use of a whip or spurs is not allowed.
- 8 Junior Riders - between the ages of Three (3) years and Seventeen (17) years.
- 9 Stallions and 3 year old colts but must be bitted at all times and handled by an adult 18 years and over. Stallion Discs should be worn at all times.
- 10 Minimum age of equines: In Hand - Foals must be shown with their dam and be at least 3 weeks old at the time of the show. Ridden - All equines must be 4 years and over as at 1st January in the current year. Note – horses/ponies will be deemed to change age as of 1st January, as per breed society rules.
- 11 The decision of the judge is final and no competitor or spectator may approach the judge on the show ground over the decision.



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- 12 All protests and objections must be made in writing, stating the grounds for such protest/objection, within 30 minutes of the result being declared and must be accompanied by a £20.00 deposit only refundable if the objection is upheld at the next committee meeting.
- 13 The Committee reserve the right to divide or combine any class, due to the number of entries.
- 14 Everybody mounted on the show ground must wear protective headgear which conforms to the current Safety Standards, but the club has no responsibility for ensuring these standards are met. A full list of Safety Hat Standards can be found on the British Horse Society website.

<https://www.bhs.org.uk/media/fx4fnv0o/2025-bhs-approvals-and-bhs-assessments-hat-guide.pdf>

- 15 Any person ill-treating any horse or pony, or riding in a dangerous manner will be disqualified and told to leave the show ground without refunds.
- 16 The Committee reserve the right to disqualify the owner or rider for any act of discourtesy to the committee or officials and to ban the offender from future events.
- 17 No Horses or Ponies may be tied up outside a horse box or trailer or left unattended at any time.
- 18 When not in a ring or warm up area, horses and ponies must only be ridden at a walk.
- 19 No bikes to be ridden on the show ground.
- 20 All dogs must be kept on a short lead at all times.
- 21 Please take all your litter home and ensure no horse droppings are left on the parking area.



- 22 Entry fees will only be refunded on the production of a valid doctors or vets certificate.
- 23 SMRC and the Committee disclaim any responsibility for loss, injury or damage to persons, animals or property howsoever caused.
- 24 SMRC has a Health & Safety policy. We recommend that members and competitors make themselves aware of this policy which is available from the Entries Desk and also on the SMRC website.
- 25 Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult on the show ground at all times to comply with our Health and Safety policy. Any unaccompanied children will **NOT** be allowed to compete, as an adult is required to be responsible for their entries. An adult's signature is required on the entry form.
- 26 **Safety Recommendation** - When riding or handling horses/ponies on the show ground, suitable attire/headwear should be worn.
- 27 You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of SMRC, its competitors, organisers or judges. Any person found guilty of this would constitute a breach of SMRC rules and could result in the person being banned from the club and could also result in civil/criminal proceedings being brought against you.
- 28 Please see separate Social Media Policy, Health & Safety Policy and Safe Guarding Policy.