

Showing GUIDELINES



*Revised
2016*



PONY CLUB
VICTORIA

These rules and guidelines have been produced by the Pony Club Victoria Incorporated (PCV).

These Guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the current [PCV Handbook of Bylaws](#) and [PCA Gear Rules](#).

Some reference material noted in this book is available from the [PCV web site](#).

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Contents

- 1. SHOWING GUIDELINES..... 4
 - LEAD CLASSES 4
 - RIDING CLASSES..... 4
 - TURNOUT..... 4
 - SMARTEST ON PARADE 5
- 2. HELPFUL HINTS AND ETIQUETTE 6
 - 2.1 LEAD CLASSES 6
 - 2.2 RIDING CLASSES 7
 - 2.3 TURNOUT COMPETITIONS..... 8
 - 2.4 SMARTEST ON PARADE 8
 - 2.5 MOUNT MOST SUITABLE FOR PONY CLUB..... 9

The fastest way to get somewhere is to take your time.

1. *SHOWING GUIDELINES*

LEAD CLASSES

The Handler must be in correct Pony Club Uniform including boots. A compliant Dressage whip may be carried.

RIDING CLASSES

Pony Club Uniform must be worn. The horse must be presented in a snaffle bridle.

No combinations may be led in any competition unless laid down in class conditions; e.g. Led Rider classes, games etc. Competitors may NOT be led over poles or jumps at any competition. Riders with an All Abilities exemption may be led if stated on the exemption.

TURNOUT

Turnout is judged on the presentation of both the rider and the horse. The following are taken into consideration:

- Cleanliness and neatness of both horse and rider,
- Fit of the gear, and
- The suitability of both.
- Pony Club Uniform must be worn.
- The horse must be presented in a snaffle bridle, spurs and gloves may be worn.
- A whip if carried must not exceed 75 cm.

SMARTEST ON PARADE

This is a competition to determine the most attractive horse and rider combination. It is judged on suitability of the horse, general presentation of horse and rider and overall appeal. It is generally accepted that this event is judged on a circle with no individual workouts or points awarded.

In accordance with PCA Gear Rules:

- Plaiting the horse is optional for PCV showing competitions.
- Gear check is required for all pony club sections.

In accordance with the PCV Handbook of Bylaws:

- PCV club members must present PCV club member cards and prove their eligibility to compete.
- Day attendance forms and fee (if applicable) are required for Open sections.

Helpful hints on the following pages

2. *HELPFUL HINTS AND ETIQUETTE*

These are just hints on showing and an explanation on the etiquette expected. They do not cover every eventuality. Showing is a subjective sport, which means there will be many differing opinions. Competitors in the ring and spectators watching a class may have different views, but at the end of the day the decision of the Judge is final.

While a class is in progress the Judge of that class is in control and workouts and the decisions made are solely at their discretion. You should not approach the Judge directly but if needs be you can ask the steward to do so for you.

2.1 LEAD CLASSES

Presentation

In these classes the horse is being judged on conformation, soundness and paces.

In a Pony Club class, the handler should be in full Pony Club Uniform and the horse in a snaffle bridle.

When leading a horse remember to lead from the near side and turn him away from you so he remains balanced and does not stand on you. Make sure you do not stand or lead between the horse and the Judge.

This means the Judge can see the whole horse at all times.

In the Ring

Once in the ring the horse must lead well, with the handler at the horse's shoulder and the lead rein held in a tidy manner, maintaining even contact with the horse's head.

The class usually enters the ring in a clockwise direction with the handler on the outside. However, this is at the discretion of the Judge or ring steward whose directions you must follow.

Once on the circle allow plenty of space between you and the horse in front.

The Judge may ask the class to trot on the circle or the class may be halted and asked to trot individually past the Judge. In any instance the steward will direct you to do what the Judge requires.

The Line Up

The Judge will call the final selection into a Line Up. Once in the Line Up the horse should remain halted, with the horse standing square, until instructed to do otherwise.

When you are called, you should walk forward and stand your horse up in front of the Judge and then follow their directions. Position yourself so you give the Judge a clear view of your horse at all times.

The Work Out

Once the Judge has inspected the horse at the walk you may be asked to walk out, turn and trot back past the judge. The Judge will inspect the horse from behind for conformation and movement. As you go past the Judge will be looking at the horse's movement.

You may then be put back on a circle for a final walk around while the Judge makes the final decision, or the Judge may call the place getters directly from the lineup.

Presentation of Awards

When the places are being awarded you should stand the horse up, listen to any comments the Judge may have and thank them politely. When the ribbons have been presented congratulate your fellow place getters.

It is usual to leave the ring in the order of placing, with first place in the lead.

2.2 RIDING CLASSES

This is a competition between riders to determine the most correct position of the rider and application of the aids producing a picture of harmony. Classes are usually divided into age groups.

In the Ring

The ring steward will direct the class to carry out the Judge's requirements. The class is usually required to walk, trot and canter on both reins. The Judge will then call riders in off the circle and into a line up.

The Line Up

Once in the Line Up the horse should be made to stand square and at attention. The Judge will ask each rider to perform an individual work out. Listen carefully to the instructions given and if you are unsure what is required ask questions. If possible, watch those who go before you so you can analyse the workout and make sure to give your best performance.

The Work Out

Make the most of the space you are given and concentrate on giving a smooth polished performance. Be polite and courteous when being addressed by the judge.

Presentation of Awards

When the places are being awarded you should make sure your horse is standing square and to attention, listen to any comments the Judge may have and thank them politely. When the ribbons have been presented congratulate your fellow place getters.

It is usual to leave the ring in the order of placing, with first place in the lead.

2.3 TURNOUT COMPETITIONS

Turnout is judged on a point score system. It is designed to determine the best all round turnout. It is judged on confirmation and soundness, manners and paces, costume and saddlery, riding ability and appeal. Appeal includes suitability of the horse, colour co-ordination, condition of the horse and presentation of horse and rider.

In the Ring

As for a ridden class

In the Line Up

All competitors will be closely inspected for preparation of the horse, cleanliness and fit of saddlery and rider's uniform.

The Work Out

As for a ridden class.

The Judge will assess Riding Ability, Manners, Paces, Education, Conformation and Soundness.

Presentation of Awards

When the places are being awarded you should make sure your horse is standing square and to attention, listen to any comments the Judge may have and thank them politely. When the ribbons have been presented congratulate your fellow place getters.

It is usual to leave the ring in the order of placing, with first place in the lead.

2.4 SMARTEST ON PARADE

This is a competition to determine the most attractive horse and rider combination. It is judged on suitability of the horse, general presentation of horse and rider and overall appeal. It is generally accepted that this event is judged on a circle. The final selection may be decided from the line up at the discretion of the Judge. There should be no individual workouts or points awarded as in a turnout class.

In the Ring

As for a ridden class. The Judge will call the riders in and line them up.

In the Line Up

The Judge may inspect each combination more closely by walking around the horse and inspecting the cleanliness of horse, rider and saddlery. The Judge will then make a final decision and call the combinations forward in order of placing.

Presentation of Awards

When the places are being awarded you should make sure your horse is standing square and to attention, listen to any comments the Judge may have and thank them politely. When the ribbons have been presented congratulate your fellow place getters.

It is usual to leave the ring in the order of placing, with first place in the lead.

2.5 MOUNT MOST SUITABLE FOR PONY CLUB

This is a competition to determine the mount most suitable for Pony Club activities. It is judged on the overall appeal and all-round suitability of the horse to participate in Pony Club activities.

In the Ring

As for a ridden class. The Judge will call the riders in and line them up.

In the Line Up

As per a ridden class.

The Work Out

The Work Out should include some form of activity that shows the versatility of the horse. This could include a small jump.

The Judge will assess the all-round suitability of the horse to take part in a variety of Pony Club activities.

Presentation of Awards

When the places are being awarded you should make sure your horse is standing square and to attention, listen to any comments the Judge may have and thank them politely. When the ribbons have been presented congratulate your fellow place getters.

It is usual to leave the ring in the order of placing, with first place in the lead.



***“Ask often,
demand little,
reward generously!”***