

HAPPA IN HAND SHOWING

Show Requirements

This is an unaffiliated competition, meaning that the rules are featured throughout this document and should be followed for this occasion. **YOU MUST BE WEARING A RIDING HAT FOR ANY CLASS UP TO STANDARD – HAPPA Reserve the right to do spot checks.**

What to expect?

Once entries have closed, each competitor will be given a number and confirmation of the class/classes they have entered, along with class times. Please ensure you are wearing a number, either on the horse's bridle/headcollar or around the handler's waist. Making sure it is clearly visible. Upon entering the main ring, you will be asked for your name, horses name and number, so please make sure this information is correct. Please note the classes are **IN HAND** – The name of the classes refers to the breed or type you'd expect to see in the class!

What to bring?

Please bring a 'show cane' – no bigger than 70 cm or smart short whip (preferably black). Whips are carried in the riders left hand. Horses/Ponies are lead from the left.

On the day information

The warmup will be in the outdoor arena before the classes start. A steward will call the next competitors by the class name, please ensure you are on time for the classes to start.

Useful prep information

When leading an equine for showing, the handler should lead the horse at the shoulder. When the horse is stood for judge inspection, they need to be stood square and not be seen fidgeting. When trotting towards the judge, make sure you are straight.

In the warmup

Please ensure you pass others left to left and abide by basic school rules; handlers in a faster pace must be on the outside track, whilst handlers in a slower pace move to the inside of the arena. You may practice your halting/standing square, directly in the middle of the arena, as to not obstruct other handlers. Final show prep is to be done in the warmup.

Droppings are to be picked up as you go along.

In the ring

When entering the ring, please ensure you are on time when called up as to not delay the class. Upon the class starting, please ensure that your number is clearly visible and you listen out for the stewards or judge's instructions.

The judge will ask you to all walk around the ring on the right rein, please remain in walk until given further instruction. The judge will then make an initial assessment as everyone walks around the ring. The handler is on the left side of the horse, so the judge has a full view of the horse.

The judge will pick a horse and ask them to stand in a corner. The rest of the class stands, waiting behind them. One by one, they will trot round to the rear of the line. The judge will then call competitors one at a time (this might be random) and to make a line down the centre of the arena facing the stands and the judge will then ask each competitor, one at a time for their individual show.

The individual show: Approach the judge when called in walk and stand the horse up in front of the judge.

When the judge signals, walk away from the judge, turn to the left and walk a half circle to the right, which will bring you back to where you came from. Once the horse is straight, ask for trot and trot down the centre of the arena. Making sure the horse is in a good rhythm, and you are not running too fast alongside your horse. Return to walk and head back to your position by walking behind the other horses stood in line and make your way back to your original position.

Once all the horses have performed their individual show, you will then need to 'stand' your horse up for the judge. Meaning the horse is stood square, with all legs clearly visible. Making sure that the horse is stood perky, not falling asleep and they are not seen to be fidgeting. The judge will then walk up and down the lineup for one final look, placings can change at this point, as the judge has a chance to compare horses in the lineup. For tack and turnout classes, the judge is entitled to pick feet up & touch the horse.

When the judge is happy, the Steward/Judge will ask you all to walk on round again – on the right rein as before. Please keep an eye on the steward/judge for being pulled in. This is when the judge picks horses for placings, when pulled in line up in the centre of the arena as before. Once all competitors have been pulled in for placings and rosettes have been given, they will trot around the ring once on the right rein as before. Whilst this is happening, those who did not place will stand on the inside of the arena. Once competitors have finished trotting around the ring after placings, the judge will then signal for you all to exit the class, unless you are in the next class, then you remain in the ring (at a walk).

Tack requirements

Youngstock

A leather headcollar or snaffle bridle, if bitted. The bridle should preferably have a noseband. A leather coupling with the lead rein/rope attached would be preferable.

Hunters/cobs/hacks & riding horses

A bridle. A leather headcollar is accepted, however a bridle is preferred.

Natives

Bridle, rope halter or leather headcollar. Rope halter should be a light colour, preferably white.

Arabians

A rope halter or leather headcollar. A bridle without a noseband is acceptable, however a finer rope halter is preferred.

Handler dress wear requirements

Dress wear will be considered during marking. Making sure dress wear is clean and tidy is essential.

Trousers are preferred over breeches. Breeches are accepted. Black or dark trousers/breeches if your horse has light legs and beige or light-coloured trousers/breeches if your horse has dark legs. This is so the judge can see the horse's legs clearly.

Tack and rider's dress should go with the type of horse or pony. A finer 'show type' horse or pony will be in a coloured browband and the rider in a blue or black jacket. A 'non show type' would have a plain bridle/headcollar and the handler wear tweed.

A waist coat or tweed jacket.

Stocks & Ties.

Hats must be riding hats that are up to current standards of safety HAPPA reserve the right to do spot checks.

Hair is tied up and secure.

Gloves: dark colour preferred for a light horse; light colour preferred for a dark horse.

Whip: show cane preferred (no bigger than 70 cm), or a smart, dark short whip.

Riding boots or jodhpur boots are accepted.

Tack & turn out requirements

In hand bridle preferred (no bit for youngstock), regular bridle accepted.

Plaited mane and neat/trimmed tail (including foals), as well as trimmed heels.

Requirements for Lead Rein, First Ridden, Show Pony Classes

Snaffle bridles for lead rein and first ridden, with coloured browbands.

Plaited mane and tidy/trimmed tail.

Requirements for Mountain and Moorland Lead Rein (M&M)

Trimmed and tidy mane and tail

Quatermarks.

Requirements for Coloured Classes

Mane, tail tidied up/trimmed. Left natural.

Snaffle bridle preferred, leather headcollar accepted.

No coloured browbands, wide, flat nosebands preferred.

Requirements for Non-Traditional Coloureds

Mane, tail tidied up/trimmed. Left natural. Hogged manes must be neat, tidy and trimmed. Feathers tidied up if clipped off. Heels trimmed.

Snaffle bridle preferred, leather headcollar accepted.

No coloured browbands, wide, flat nosebands preferred.

Requirements for Tack and Turnout for Cob Classes

Hogged manes should be neat and tidy with feathers trimmed close to the leg. Tails should be trimmed and not too long.

Snaffle bridle preferred, with a flat noseband & browband.

Quatermarks acceptable.

Requirements for Arab and Part Bred Arab Classes

Bridles accepted; noseband removed is preferred. If a riding bridle is used it should be with reins, not with a coupling or leather lead.

How each class will be judged

Frame

The horse or pony must be led around in a nice frame/outline.

Movement

Keeping the horse straight is important for marking, as well as maintaining a positive rhythm.

Dress wear

Dress wear should be clean, tidy and smart.

Tack and turnout

Tack should be clean & in good condition. Horses will be judged on cleanliness, turnout, behaviour, performance, conformation, rhythm, movement and straightness.

Useful information:

The majority of these classes are open to any breed or type, within certain limits. As a rule, you should turn out to your normal breed standard. For example, if your horse is a native, you would turn out for native classes. If you have a 'native type' of unknown descent, then turn out as for natives but tidy up tails and plait the pony. Plaited tails are acceptable as well as tidy/neat tails.

Part breeds are always shown plaited, unless they are being shown as a traditional coloured or a show cob. This applies even if both breeds that make up the horse are shown unplaited – so a New Forest/Welsh cross is still shown trimmed/neat and plaited, unless entering a native/traditional class etc.

Top tips for turn out!

- Clean the underside of the bridle – noseband and browband, and inside of reins.
- Under the horse's tail, and make sure the tail is clean and tangle free.
- Sheath or udders must be cleaned.
- Hooves oiled and picked out. If your horse has white legs, be very careful not to get oil on the hair. Oil inside the feet as well.
- Eyes, ears and nostrils must be clean.
- All straps on the bridle must be in their keepers.

What class can I enter?

The classes are open to the majority of breeds, have a look at the criteria and decide if your horse/pony can enter multiple classes. For example, Youngstock can be shown in hunter, hack and riding horse classes. Depending on the breed and type you may be able to enter multiple classes.

- **Youngstock**

This class is open to any breed, height, colour, type below 4 years of age.

- **Hunters**

Hunter classes are usually divided into 4 sections: small, lightweight, middleweight and heavyweight. Small hunters: 15.2hh & below, lightweight; 15.2hh-16.0hh (with around 8.5 inches of bone). Heavyweight hunters can be 16.0hh and above and usually have around 10 inches of bone. These horses are usually shown plaited.

- **Riding Horses**

Riding horses are not as substantial as hunters; however, some can be flashy movers. This class is usually divided into 2 sections; small; 14.2hh – 15.2hh and large 15.2hh +. Typically, thoroughbreds, warmblood types or lightweight hunters. Riding horses are usually lighter than hunters but heavier than hacks.

- **Hacks**

Usually the best-behaved horses in the showing world! Usually thoroughbreds or thoroughbred types, slim built and elegant, with an eye-catching movement. These classes are usually split into 2 classes as well; small: up to 15.0hh and large up to 15.3hh. Usually lighter than riding horses/hunters.

- **Show and Working Cobs**

Show cobs are usually below 15.1hh, stocky built with short legs. Excellent manners and floaty paces. Show cobs are usually hogged. Working cobs apply the same rules as hunters.

- **Mountain and Moorland Ponies**

For registered M&M ponies, there are 9 recognised breeds. Larger shows will split into the breed classes. Some shows have unregistered M&M classes.

- **Natives**

Connemara

The height limit for showing is 14.2hh. They should have a free and active movement with a 'pony' head on a well-set neck with depth and substance to their build.

Dales

Dales are between 14hh and 14.2hh. They are normally black or dark brown, with some bay or grey ponies, and roan is seen but rare. White markings are not wanted. The head should not be dishd, neck is long and strong, body is short-coupled and deep. Action is high at knee and hock, active and forward-going.

Dartmoor

Dartmoor's must not exceed 127cm (12.2hh) and come in all solid colours, although dark bay is the most seen. Coloureds are not seen, and lots of white markings are discouraged. The head is small, and neck medium length. Movement is low and straight.

Exmoor

Exmoor's are bay, brown or dun. No white markings are permitted, and they have the characteristic mealy muzzle and 'toad eyes'. Stallions and geldings are between 11.3hh – 12.3hh, and the range for mares is an inch shorter. They are stocky, with a wide chest and broad back. Action is straight and smooth.

Fell

Fell ponies do not exceed 14.0hh and there is no lower height limit. They are black, brown, bay or grey, and only a star or small socks on the hind feet are allowed. The head should be small and defined in outline, and the body deep and short coupled. Hooves have the distinctive blue horn that is characteristic of the breed. Action is smart and straight, with knee and hock action.

Highland

Highlands come in a range of duns (mouse, cream, yellow and grey). They are also grey, brown, black and rarely bay or liver chestnut with silver mane and tail. Zebra stripes and dorsal stripes are common. The height range is 13hh – 14.2hh, powerful and stocky. Their action is straight and free moving, without much knee action.

New Forest

New Forest Ponies may be any colour except piebald, skewbald, or blue eyed cream. White markings are allowed on the head, and on the legs only to the knee or hock. The height limit is 148cm, there is no lower limit. They are narrower than some of the other large breeds but should still have substance. They are a riding type of pony, with sloping shoulders and a good depth of body. Movement should be free, active and straight without excessive knee action.

Shetland

They must not exceed 42 inches (107cm). They may be any colour except spotted. The head should be small and in proportion to the rest of the pony, with small ears and a broad forehead.

- **Welsh Ponies**

Section A's do not exceed 12hh (121.9cm) and come in any solid colour. The head is small and clean, with small, pointed ears. Shoulders should be long and sloped, and the body deep with well sprung ribs. Legs are small and fine. Section B's are often more of a 'riding' type. They should not be too fine. Section C's do not exceed 13.2hh (137.2cm). They are a 'cobbier' than the A's and B's, but retain the fine, often dished face, although this is bigger and does not look out of proportion with the substantial body. They have a typical Welsh movement, with more knee and hock action than other breeds. Section D's have no upper height limit. Often a stockier version of the Section C.

- **Riding Ponies and Show Ponies**

Riding Ponies are up to 15hh. Finer, pretty ponies often with warmblood qualities. They should be free moving and well mannered.

- **Lead Rein and First Ridden Ponies**

Lead rein ponies must be four or over, and not over 122cm. Ponies should have correct conformation, good movement and manners.

- **Coloured**

Any type of horse can enter a coloured class, if it is piebald or skewbald.

- **Veterans**

This is for any horse or pony of any type, colour, breed or size ages 15+.

- **Cobs/Show cobs**

This class is open to Cobs or Cob types, with traditional manes, tails and feathers. Show cob classes are for slightly lighter variations of the breed, with plaited manes/tails or hogged.

- **Arabs and Part-Bred Arabs**

Arabs come in chestnut, grey, bay and black, and part bred's can be any colour or height. They are between 14.2hh – 15hh and have distinctive conformation. The head is typically dished, with a broad forehead and a small, tapering muzzle. The neck is well arched, the shoulder long and sloping, the back is short, and limbs are fine, clean and hard. The tail is also distinctive, being set on and carried higher than other breeds.

- **Foreign Breeds**

This class is another self-explanatory one, it's for horses or ponies who are of registered or unregistered breeds not native to the UK, such as Friesian, Trakehner, Haflinger, Fjord, or Icelandic. The judging might be slightly different for this class due to the different breeds that can enter and requirements for all the breeds.

- **Tack & Turnout**

Any breed, colour, age, height can enter this class.