



HANDBOOK 2026

Founded in 1886 as H.I.S.
Patron: His Majesty The King
President: Mrs J Hastie nee Nixon MRCVS

SPORT HORSE BREEDING OF GREAT BRITAIN

96 HIGH STREET, EDENBRIDGE, KENT, TN8 5AR

Telephone: 01732 866277

www.sporthorsegb.co.uk

General Secretary: catherine@sporthorsegb.co.uk

General Enquiries: office@sporthorsegb.co.uk

Membership Enquiries: members@sporthorsegb.co.uk

Change of Ownership Enquiries: claire@sporthorsegb.co.uk

Show & Judge Enquiries: show@sporthorsegb.co.uk

Mare & Stallion Grading: laura@sporthorsegb.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 211570

Membership:

The Society is one of the oldest established breeding societies (established 1886) in the UK with a wealth of experience in supporting breeders, owners and riders alike.

Each year you will receive a link to our online Handbook, which includes all the Society's Show Rules and Regulations.

The programme of all the Society's events, details of shows affiliated to the Society, together with lists of qualifying classes for the Royal International Horse Show, the Horse of the Year Show and The National Hunter Supreme Championship Show can be found on the Society's website at www.sporthorsegb.co.uk

Membership entitles you to register horses on the annual Show Hunter Register. Horses on the Show Hunter Register are able to compete in qualifying classes for both the Royal International Horse Show and the Horse of the Year Show and can qualify for the 'Supreme' series at The National Hunter Supreme Championship Show. Membership also allows you to enter horses for the Society's influential grading schemes.

Benefits of Registration and Membership at a glance

- ❖ DEFRA and EU recognised passports that comply with all current legislation.
- ❖ Eligibility for horses registered in the Stud Books to compete in B.S. Young Horse Classes.
- ❖ Parentage Testing using DNA analysis for all horses entered into the Stud Book.
- ❖ Affiliated to the Central Prefix Register.
- ❖ Horses conceived by artificial insemination and embryo transfer are eligible for registration.
- ❖ Annual Spring show for novice horses and RIHS qualification and prestigious Championship show with RIHS and HOYS qualification as well as our own 'Supreme' classes.
- ❖ The Society maintains Stud Books and horses registered into the Stud Book are eligible for World Breeding Federation for Sport Horse awards and potential international recognition.
- ❖ Mare and foal Gradings held throughout the country at which vouchers are awarded to graded mares to cover the cost of foal registration.
- ❖ Eligibility for all Affiliated Showing & Performance Classes run under SHB(GB) rules reflecting standards set by the Society. All Judges are assessed and approved by the Society.
- ❖ Eligibility to compete for £200 Brood Mare Premiums awarded at affiliated shows.
- ❖ Eligibility to compete as a rider and/or owner in all Ridden Hunter and Ridden Sport Horse classes run under the Societies rules and Horse of the Year Show Rules.
- ❖ Stallions and mares graded by SHB(GB) promoted via Membership, advertising, website and on our trade stand.
- ❖ Annual Report & Accounts.
- ❖ The Society each year awards special prizes and rosettes at selected major horse trials for the highest placed horse sired by an SHB(GB) Graded Stallion or Premium Stallion.
- ❖ Voting Paper & the right to attend the Society's AGM.
- ❖ Branded merchandise is available and can be found at www.dakotaembroidery.com
- ❖ Please do not hesitate to contact us for any other information you may require.

Membership Details:

All Subscriptions are due on 1st January each year (all prices include V.A.T where appropriate).

Dear Member,

An annual Direct Debit from your bank or building society is the simplest way to pay your subscription each year. It saves time and ensures your renewal is never overlooked and with the Direct Debit Guarantee is 100% safe. It also helps the Society to reduce costs, further improve our administration and invest more into the Society. Each year we will inform you of current subscription rates.

Then unless we are instructed differently or you cancel your Direct Debit instruction to your bank, we will collect the amount from your account.

Membership Fees:

If possible, please add Gift Aid to your Membership.

Completed Direct Debit Forms must be received by 1st December in order for a Direct Debit to be set up for the following year. After this date payment can be made online via the website link.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: £1,320

FULL MEMBERSHIP: £105.00

JUDGE'S MEMBERSHIP: £66.00

(for non-competing Judges)

SUPPORTER MEMBERSHIP: £66

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: £100.00

(only available to Members who were associate in 2025, no voting rights)

***CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP:** £550.00

*Corporate Membership must have a nominated current Member as the main contact.

LATE RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP: (Applies to all renewals after 31st March) £135.00

IN HAND MEMBERSHIP: FREE OF CHARGE

Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain

The objectives of the Society are to develop and improve the breeding of the British Sport Horse.

PATRON: H M The King

President: Mrs J Hastie nee Nixon MRCVS

VICE PATRONS:

The Hon Mrs J C G Cavendish
Mrs I Susca
Mrs J Thornton
Mrs E C York
Mrs M Low
Mr S Campbell Esq.

President Elect: TBA

COUNCIL:

C Hewlett Esq. – **INTERIM CHAIRMAN**
Woodruff
Chute Cadley
Andover
Hampshire
SP11 9EB
chris.hewlett@shbcouncil.co.uk

Mrs R Flack
Ivy Mill Cottage
Ivy Mill Lane
Maidstone
Kent
ME15 6XF
ruth.dunmore@motorail.co.uk

C Upham Esq. – **VICE CHAIRMAN (retire 2026)**
Langaller Farm
Bovey Tracey
Newton Abbot
Devon TQ13 9JP
langallerfarm@gmail.com

Miss E Gibson
One Tree Farm, Tuckerton Lane
North Newton
Bridgewater
Somerset TA7 0BA
emmagibson545@gmail.com

Miss K Aird
Gogar Mains Farm
Blair Logie
Stirling
FK9 5QB
kirstyairdequestrian@gmail.com

C Hunnable Esq. (**retire 2026**)
Collins Farm
Aythorpe Roding
Gt Dunmow
Essex CM6 1PF
chrishunnable77@gmail.com

Mrs L Burnett
Staythorpe House Farm
Staythorpe
Nr Newark
Notts NG23 5RG
cindy@hensonfranklyn.co.uk

Mrs S Stockley Bridges
Howards Farm, Howards Lane
Eccleston
St Helens,
Merseyside WA10 5QD
Stockley_bridges@btinternet.com

T Chalmers Esq. (**retire 2026**)
Furze Lodge
Furze Lane
Gt Bromley
Nr Colchester
Essex CO7 7JU
showcob45@yahoo.co.uk

Chairman of Committees:

Breeding Committee:
Judges, Rules and Shows Committee:

C Upham Esq. (retire 2026) Tel: 07812 103448
Mrs R Flack (address above) Tel: 07917 123222

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The Showing Council has facilitated the generic unification of this Rule

Rules and Regulations 2026

ALL 2026 RULE CHANGES ARE SHOWN IN BOLD & ITALIC. THE ENTIRE POLICY SECTION HAS BEEN UPDATED.

These Rules & Regulations are subject to change and alteration at the discretion of the SHB(GB) Council and any such changes and alterations to the current Handbook will be notified via the SHB(GB) website.

GENERAL RULES

(Pursuant to Article 6.6 of the Articles of Association of Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain)

1. INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL OBLIGATIONS:

- a. The Rules set out in this book apply to all Members of Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain (“the Society”) including those who own horses registered with the Society. In particular, the Rules are made so that Members may compete fairly against each other in Hunter, Sport Horse and Light Horse classes.
- b. The Council of the Society has wide-ranging powers to discipline Members and competitors in shows run by or affiliated to the Society in the event of failure to observe any provisions of the Rules and any other regulations, or byelaws made by the Council from time to time.
- c. Every Member of the Society, by becoming a Member, agrees to be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society and all rules, regulations and byelaws made thereunder. Members are responsible for the actions of any non-Members employed by them or assisting or representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf and any action or conduct of such non-Member which would be a breach of the Rules were he/she a Member shall constitute a breach of the Rules by the Member responsible for him/her.
- d. All horses exhibited in Ridden Hunter classes run in accordance with these Rules must be duly registered with the Society unless these rules state otherwise. Owners, Riders and Producers of horses competing in any Ridden Hunter classes run in accordance with these Rules must be Members of the Society unless the rules state otherwise.
- e. Members of the Society, whether acting as officials or Judges of the Society or otherwise, must not act in anyway derogatory to the character and reputation of the Society or prejudicial to the interests of the Society.
- f. Membership and registrations will be suspended, if cheques received, or monies owed, that are payable to SHB(GB), and SHB(GB) Affiliated Shows are not paid within 14 days of being due, or if any trophies belonging to SHB(GB), or SHB(GB) Affiliated Shows, are not returned by the requested date.

2. ELIGIBILITY DURING DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS:

- a. Any Owner, Rider, Producer, and/or Horse or Pony who is, for any period, suspended, banned, or otherwise subject to disciplinary sanction imposed by the BSHA, BSPS,

CHAPS, TSR, NPS, or any other recognised equine governing body, association, **or discipline affiliated to, or operating in accordance with, the British Equestrian Federation (BEF) or its recognised Member bodies, shall not be eligible to compete in SHB(GB) Affiliated Classes for the duration of such sanction. The application and enforcement of this restriction shall be at the sole discretion of the SHB(GB) Council.**

- b. **Information Sharing:** SHB(GB) reserves the right to disclose, receive, and exchange information concerning any disciplinary action taken against an Owner, Rider, Producer, and/or Horse or Pony with the BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, TSR, NPS, and any other recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline, where such disclosure is deemed appropriate for the purposes of maintaining the integrity, reputation, and good conduct of the sport.
- c. **Definition:** For the purposes of this regulation, the term 'recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline' shall refer to any organisation or body responsible for the regulation, governance, or administration of an equestrian sport or activity within the United Kingdom, recognised by or operating in accordance with the principles and standards of the British Equestrian Federation (BEF), or any equivalent international federation.

3. **LIABILITY:**

- a. The Society, its officials and Judges:
 - (i) Accept no liability in respect of damage to a horse or its exhibitor or other person responsible for it (save as provided by s.2(1) Unfair Contract Terms Act (UCTA) 1977) at or enroute to a show or other event held by the Society.
 - (ii) Accept no liability in respect of damage arising from a horse (save as provided by s.2(1) UCTA 1977) at or enroute to a show or other event held by the Society.
 - (iii) Accept no liability for financial loss for its or their decisions at or in respect of a show or other event held by the Society.
- b. Owners and those otherwise responsible for horses must ensure that they and those in any way involved with their horses at any show or other event held by the Society:
 - (i) Are aware of these General Rules, and particularly the Society's exclusion of liability above.
 - (ii) Have adequate third-party insurance cover.
 - (iii) Save as provided for above, participate at their own risk.



AMATEUR DEFINITION, RULES AND CLASSES 2026

(for qualifying classes and finals to be held at the RIHS and all SHB(GB) amateur classes)

- 1. **EXHIBITORS:**
- a. It is expected that Exhibitors will compete in the true spirit and fair play of these Rules. The Council reserve the right, in their absolute discretion, to reclassify an Exhibitor's Amateur status/entry should they deem it necessary.

2. OWNERSHIP:

- a. All owners should be registered in the passport as per the latest DEFRA regulations.

3. PROFESSIONAL SHOW PRODUCER/TRAINER/RIDER:

- a. A person who undertakes the preparation/training/ keeping at livery, production of equines/riders or competes as a Rider or jobbing Rider.

4. PROFESSIONAL SHOW GROOM:

- a. A person who is employed full, part-time or is self-employed and receives remuneration, monetary or otherwise, for the preparation/training/keeping or production of equines.
- b. No commercial branding can be visible in the ring, during an Amateur class (including Amateur Home Produced); this applies to equines, riders and any attendees; this also includes outside the ring, or online i.e., on social media. Care must be taken to not market sponsorship in any way shape or form which could be then attributed towards an Amateur; any such actions will result in the loss of Amateur status.

5. PROFESSIONAL SHOWING STATUS:

- a. Anyone who has operated as a Professional Showing Producer, Show Rider or Show Groom will, for the purposes of these Rules, always be deemed a professional, including when acting as a Groom. (If you are in any doubt as to your status, please contact the office and discuss).

6. AMATEUR STATUS:

- a. A person is an Amateur for the purpose of classes run under Association Rules if he/she does not, during the current or previous season:
 - (i) Engage in showing livery/production, buying, selling, dealing or hiring of horses in any commercial capacity, or owning/standing a stallion at stud, teaching or coaching, as means of deriving a source of income.
 - (ii) Receive remuneration, whether it be monetary or goods in kind, for employment in the connection with horses in showing livery/production, teaching or coaching, (instruction at Pony Club and Riding Club excepted). This Rule does not include the suppliers of ancillary services in equestrianism, such as farriers, vets, therapists or administrative office roles.
 - (iii) Show a Horse owned or sponsored by a company or a commercial firm, or show a Horse for which his/her immediate family accepts showing livery production or training charges, from a person outside the immediate family concerned, in any showing classes, SHB(GB) or otherwise.
 - (iv) Act as a Brand Ambassador, in any showing classes, SHB(GB) or otherwise.
 - (v) A competitor is not eligible to compete in Amateur classes on an Exhibit, which has been ridden by a Professional Rider in ANY class, SHB(GB) or otherwise, with the exception of Working and Side Saddle classes, during the current year and the following year, up to and including the Royal International Horse Show.
 - (vi) (The above Rule does not apply, if the Horse has been Professionally Produced and ONLY ridden by a Showing Professional, during the previous season, or if the horse has subsequently been sold and re-registered under new Ownership).
 - (vii) If you ride/compete equines on a regular basis, which you do not stable at home, your Amateur status will be reviewed by the Board/Council, i.e., if you ride/compete multiple equines or ride regularly for one or more owners, you could be deemed professional.

- b. At any time whilst on the showground, where an Exhibit is going to be competing in Amateur classes, Showing Professionals, including Professional Show Grooms, are not allowed to ride, work-in (in any form), teach or coach the rider/horse, compete, or enter the Ring to groom/strip the Horse, on the day it is competing in Amateur Classes. At a stay-away show, this Rule is extended to also include the day before it is competing; horses may be lunged by the professional on the day before competition in this circumstance.

7. AMATEUR OWNER/RIDER:

- a. Open to Horses owned and ridden by an Amateur. This ruling will also apply to Amateurs who wish to compete in the Annual Amateur Points Awards. No Showing Professional, including Professional Show Grooms, are allowed into the ring to groom/strip the Horse.

8. AMATEUR HOME PRODUCED:

- a. Open to Horses, which are either stabled at home or in a DIY yard, assisted livery permitted, and which since 1st January in the current year, have not been shown by a Professional during the current season or stabled in a Professional yard at any time in the current year. To be ridden by an Amateur. This does not exclude Amateur Owner Home Produced riders having lessons at any time with an instructor, providing the Horse remains stabled at home. No Showing Professional, including Professional Show Grooms, are allowed into the ring to groom/strip the Horse.

DEFINITIONS – OWNERS, RIDERS AND JUDGES

1. AFFILIATED SHOW:

- a. A Show affiliated to the Society at which the Hunter Classes are carried out in accordance with the Society's rules and regulations.

2. OWNERSHIP:

- a. All owners should be registered in the passport as per the latest DEFRA regulations.

3. PROFESSIONAL RIDER / PRODUCER / TRAINER:

- a. A person who undertakes the preparation / training / keeping at livery, production of equines /rides or competes as a Rider or jobbing Rider.

4. PROFESSIONAL GROOM:

- a. A person who is employed full, part-time or is self-employed and receives remuneration, monetary or otherwise, for the preparation/training/keeping or production of show equines.

5. PROFESSIONAL SHOWING STATUS:

- a. Anyone who has operated as a Professional Showing Producer, Show Rider or Show Groom will, for the purposes of these Rules, always be deemed a professional, including when acting as a Groom. (If you are in any doubt as to your status, please contact the SHB(GB) office and discuss).

6. MEMBER:

- a. A fully paid-up life full associate or supporter Member of the Society.

7. IN-HAND MEMBER:

- a. A Member of the Society who is registered for the purpose of in-hand showing. Membership is FREE OF CHARGE.

8. OWNER:

- a. An owner of a horse registered with the Society.

9. IMMEDIATE FAMILY:

- a. The following are classed as Immediate Family for the purpose of this rule book:

- ❖ Grandparents
- ❖ Parents / Parents Partners
- ❖ Husband / Wife
- ❖ Partners
- ❖ Brothers & Sisters
- ❖ Sons / Daughters
- ❖ Step Grandparents
- ❖ Stepparents
- ❖ Stepbrothers / Sisters
- ❖ Legal Guardians
- ❖ Sister & Brother in Laws
- ❖ Uncle & Aunt
- ❖ Niece & Nephew
- ❖ Cousins

10. AGE OF RIDER/HANDLER:

- a. No rider/handler under sixteen years of age on the day of the show is eligible to compete in any classes affiliated to the Society. Proof of age may be required.

11. SENIOR JUDGE:

- a. In the event of a dispute the Conformation Judge is deemed to be the Senior Judge.

DEFINITIONS – HORSES – IN HAND

1. HUNTER (both Ridden and In-Hand):

- a. A mare or gelding capable or likely to be capable of carrying its designated weight regularly for a full day's hunting. It should have substance, quality and a calm, bold temperament. It should have the conformation to produce high performance with sustained soundness. It should be alert, and when ridden have four athletic natural paces.

2. HUNTER BROOD MARE:

- a. A mare with Foal at Foot or a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year, which may be inspected at the show.

3. SMALL HUNTER BROOD MARE:

- a. A mare exceeding 148cm (14.2hh approx.) but not exceeding 158cm (15.2hh approx.) with foal at foot or a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year, which may be inspected at the show. Mares could be measured on the day of the show by an appointed official, unless in possession of a current JMB Height Certificate.

- 4. SMALL HUNTER YOUNGSTOCK:**
 - a. Any colt, gelding or filly estimated not to reach over 158 cm (15.2hh approx.) at maturity.
- 5. HUNTER FOAL:**
 - a. A colt or filly foaled in current year. Foals to be at least four weeks old on day of Show.
- 6. HUNTER YEARLING:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled in preceding year.
- 7. HUNTER TWO-YEAR-OLD:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly, foaled two years previously, colts may be allowed at the discretion of the Show.
- 8. HUNTER THREE-YEAR-OLD:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled three years previously, colts may be allowed at the discretion of the Show.
- 9. LIGHT HORSE BROOD MARE:**
 - a. Mare exceeding 14.2hh (148cm), with Foal at Foot or a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year, which may be inspected at the show.
- 10. LIGHT HORSE FOAL:**
 - a. A colt or filly foaled in current year. To exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at maturity. Foals to be at least four weeks old on day of Show.
- 11. LIGHT HORSE YEARLING:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in preceding year, to exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at maturity.
- 12. LIGHT HORSE TWO-YEAR-OLD:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled two years previously, to exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at Maturity. Colts maybe allowed at the discretion of the Show.
- 13. LIGHT HORSE THREE-YEAR-OLD:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled three years previously, to exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at maturity. Colts maybe allowed at the discretion of the Show.
- 14. SHOW HORSE BROOD MARE:**
 - a. A mare with a foal at foot, likely to breed a future Show Horse.
- 15. SHOW HORSE FOAL:**
 - a. A colt or filly foaled in current year likely to be a future show horse. Foals to be at least four weeks old on day of Show.
- 16. SHOW HORSE YEARLING:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled in preceding year likely to be a future show horse.
- 17. SHOW HORSE TWO-YEAR-OLD:**
 - a. A colt, gelding, or filly, foaled two years previously, likely to be a future show horse. Colts may be allowed at the discretion of the Show.

18. SHOW HORSE THREE-YEAR-OLD:

- a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled three years previously likely to be a future show horse, colts may be allowed at the discretion of the Show.

19. SPORT HORSE BROOD MARE:

- a. Mare exceeding 14.2hh (148cm), with Foal at Foot or a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year, which may be inspected at the show.

20. SPORT HORSE FOAL:

- a. A colt or filly foaled in current year. To exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at maturity. Foals to be at least four weeks old on day of Show.

21. SPORT HORSE YEARLING:

- a. A colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in preceding year, to exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at maturity.

22. SPORT HORSE TWO-YEAR-OLD:

- a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled two years previously, to exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at Maturity. Colts maybe allowed at the discretion of the Show.

23. SPORT HORSE THREE-YEAR-OLD:

- a. A colt, gelding, or filly foaled three years previously, to exceed 14.2hh (148cm) at maturity. Colts maybe allowed at the discretion of the Show.

DEFINITIONS – HORSES – RIDDEN

1. SPORT HORSE (RIDDEN - FLAT):

- a. Athletic horses that have conformation, movement, and ability to go to the top of their sphere. To be shown on the flat, will not be required to jump, will not be ridden by a Judge.

2. SPORT HORSE (RIDDEN-JUMP):

- a. Athletic horses that have conformation, movement, and ability to go to the top of their sphere, will be required to jump, will not be ridden by a Judge.

3. FOUR-YEAR-OLD HUNTERS:

- a. They must not be galloped as a class, and they should change the rein. Judges will not ride the exhibits in these classes with the exception of championship classes (such as at the National Hunter Supreme Championship Show) where a ride Judge will ride the exhibits. Saddles must not be removed from four-year-olds prior to the horse being ridden by the Judge.

4. NOVICE HUNTERS:

- a. Mare or gelding four years old and over exceeding 148cm, not having won three affiliated Novice classes or three affiliated Open classes (excepting Working and Ladies) before 1st January in the current year, OR not having been placed 1-9 in ANY CLASS (excepting Working, Ladies and Search for a Star) at The Royal International Horse Show OR Horse of the Year Show before 1st January in the current year.

5. LADIES HUNTERS:

- a. Mare or gelding four years old or over, to be ridden by a lady side-saddle. Judges for this class are to be chosen from the Society's list of ladies recommended to Judge side-

saddle classes. Saddles must not be removed from Ladies Hunters prior to the horse being ridden by the Judge.

6. SMALL HUNTER:

- a. Any mare or gelding, 4 years old or over exceeding 148 cm (14.2hh approx.) but not exceeding 158 cm (15.2hh approx.). A horse, which is registered as a Small Hunter, cannot compete in an Open Weight Class. Animals in ridden height restricted classes WILL NOT be required to be in possession of a JMB Height Certificate or verification of measurement to compete in RIHS or HOYS Qualifiers. However qualifying animals will need to be measured WITHIN 28 DAYS OF QUALIFICATION OR BEFORE THE FINAL, WHICHEVER IS SOONER. The valid JMB full height certificate or a valid JMB annual height certificate must be submitted to the SHB(GB) office on receipt from the JMB and prior to competing at RIHS or HOYS. There are NO exceptions to this rule.

7. LIGHTWEIGHT HUNTER:

- a. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying up to 79.5kgs (12 stone 7lbs).

8. MIDDLEWEIGHT HUNTER:

- a. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying 79.5kgs (12stone 7lbs) and not exceeding 89kgs (14 stone).

9. HEAVYWEIGHT HUNTER:

- a. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying over 89kgs (14 stone).

10. MIXED WEIGHT CLASSES:

- a. Where only two classes are scheduled (this also applies to Working Hunter & Amateur Hunter classes) the division of weights should be:

Horses must be entered into the correct section for the weight they are registered as.

<p>LIGHTWEGHT AND SMALL HUNTER</p> <p>Description in Schedule and catalogue:</p> <p>'Lightweight'. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying 79.5kgs (12 stone 7 lbs.) and under.</p> <p>LIGHTWEGHT AND SMALL HUNTER</p> <p>Small hunters to be included in this category'.</p>	<p>HEAVYWEIGHT AND MIDDLEWEIGHT HUNTER)</p> <p>Description in Schedule and catalogue:</p> <p>'Heavyweight'. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying over 79.5kgs (12 stone 7 lbs.).</p> <p>HEAVYWEIGHT AND MIDDLEWEIGHT HUNTER)</p> <p>Middleweight hunters to be included in this category.</p>
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11. WORKING HUNTER:

- a. A mare, gelding or stallion (competing stallions must have a red, white and blue ribbon displayed in their tail) four years old and over exceeding 148cm (14.2hh approx.) to be Judged in accordance with the rules herein set out. Any horse which has qualified as a Grade A Show Jumper or Advanced Event horse as of 1st January in the current year is not eligible to compete in Working Hunter classes.

Fences to be a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 in number and a maximum height of 1.14m (3ft 9ins) at the discretion of the Judges.

12. NOVICE WORKING HUNTER:

- a. Mare, gelding or stallion (competing stallions must have a red, white and blue ribbon displayed in their tail), four years old and over, exceeding 148cms, not having won three affiliated Novice Working classes or three affiliated Open Working classes before 1st January in the current year OR not having been placed 1-9 in ANY WORKING HUNTER CLASS at Royal International Horse Show or Horse of the Year Show before 1st January in the current year.
- b. Horses that have more than 5 BE points or 200 BS points, at home or equivalent abroad before 1st January in the current year are not eligible to compete in Novice Working classes.

13. 105cm OPEN WORKING HUNTER:

- a. A mare, gelding, or stallion (competing stallions must have a red, white and blue ribbon displayed in their tail) four years old and over.
- b. The maximum height of fences is 105cm. This class is intended as a 'step up' class, and it is hoped that competitors will enter into the spirit of this.
- c. An award will be made to the highest placed Novice and the highest placed Amateur in this class.

14. AMATEUR WORKING HUNTER CLASSES:

- a. These classes will be run under the Society's Amateur rules and judged the same as the Working Hunter Classes, but fences will not exceed 3' 6”(1.07m).

15. 80/90 WORKING HORSE:

- a. Mare, gelding or stallion (competing stallions must have a red, white and blue ribbon displayed in their tail), four years old and over, exceeding 148cms. Horses and riders DO NOT have to be registered with SHB(GB). Judges will not ride in these classes.

16. MIXED WEIGHT CLASSES:

- a. Where two classes are scheduled (this also applies to Amateur Hunter classes) the division of weights should be:

<p>LIGHTWEIGHT AND SMALL HUNTER</p> <p>Description in Schedule and catalogue:</p> <p>LIGHTWEIGHT AND SMALL HUNTER</p> <p>'Lightweight'. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying 79.5kgs (12 stone 7 lbs.) and under.</p> <p>Small hunters to be included in this category'.</p>	<p>HEAVYWEIGHT AND MIDDLEWEIGHT HUNTER)</p> <p>Description in Schedule and catalogue:</p> <p>HEAVYWEIGHT AND MIDDLEWEIGHT HUNTER)</p> <p>'Heavyweight'. Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying over 79.5kgs (12 stone 7 lbs.).</p> <p>Middleweight hunters to be included in this category.</p>
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RULES FOR WORKING HUNTERS:

1. RULES FOR WORKING HUNTERS:

- a. Fences should have a natural appearance and not be easily dislodged.
- b. No un-numbered obstacle can be included in the course.
- c. The manner of going to be taken into account.
- d. No change of rider or tack will be allowed (unless a horse is ridden under side-saddle, in which case, in order to allow the Judge to ride, the saddle maybe changed for the riding phase only).
- e. A rider can ride up to two horses in the jumping phase but then must select only one horse to take forward into the ride and conformation section if so required (no change of rider is allowed).
- f. A skull cap or hat and safety harness according to the current approved BSI or European Standard must be worn by ALL competitors in the jumping phase of Working Hunter Classes. Skull caps must have a navy blue or black cover.
- g. No hind boots or bandages of any description are allowed in the collecting ring, warm up or in the actual class.
- h. On completion of the jumping phase ALL CLEAR ROUNDS and any other horses the Judges may require should be asked to return to the ring.
- i. If a horse positively stops, ceases to go forwards at any time during its jumping round, or turns its quarters to a fence, or has a complete turnaround, these constitute refusals.
- j. If a horse jumps the incorrect fence out of a pen or lane it will be eliminated.
- k. Horses displaying continued disobedience, or horses leaving the ring, whether mounted or dismounted will be eliminated.

Penalties:

First Refusal	15
Second Refusal	20
Third Refusal	Elimination
Jumping Knockdown	10 (BSJA Rules apply for the definition of a knockdown)
Fall of Horse or Rider	Elimination

- l. Horses with minus scores may not be required for the second phase of the class at the discretion of the Judge.
- m. If Shows wish to save time, they can use two Judges, one of whom would Judge the conformation and need not necessarily be on the Ridden Hunter Panel.
- n. It is suggested that the Conformation Judge be asked to Judge the conformation of the Working Hunter Class while the other Judge is judging the ride.
- o. Horses must not be ridden by the Judge in the same ring and at the same time as other horses are jumping.
- p. Suitable fences of natural appearance must be available (see also rules on Course Designers).
- q. Judges will not jump horses in Working Hunter Classes.
- r. The maximum total points available is 100. This is made up of: Jumping points = Max 40 points, Style & Presence whilst Jumping= max 20 points, Ride/Manners= max 20 points, Conformation= max 20 points.
- s. 40 points are awarded for Ride/Manners and Conformation. If there are two Judges, Judge A awards a maximum score of 20 for Ride/Manners, Judge B awards a maximum score of 20 for conformation it is important that type is taken into consideration in all phases by both Judges and the marks should reflect this.

- t. In the event of a tie in marks, the conformation mark will take precedence, followed by the ride mark, followed by the style mark. Under no circumstances should a horse with a minus score be in a qualifying position.
- u. Judges MUST walk the course, ideally with the course builder, to satisfy themselves that the course and fences are safe and in keeping with the Society's recommendations and rules. Judges are ultimately responsible for the course and therefore Shows must allow time for this.
- v. Working Hunter courses are not to be walked by competitors until the Judge has given permission. There must be a change of course between Novice, 105cm Open and Open Working Hunter classes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MEMBERS, OWNERS AND RIDERS

❖ NOTICES:

- a. A notice shall be properly served:
- b. At the time of service if it is served personally or posted to the address of the Member as set out in the Society's list of Members or on a particular show's completed entry form or to the registered office of the Society as the case may be.
- c. 24 hours after it is posted (excluding the hours of any day which is not a working day) if served by first class post at the address referred to in (a) above.
- d. At the time of transmission if it is served by email with a delivery receipt.

❖ OWNERSHIP DISPUTES:

- a. The person signing the registration form is taken to be the rightful owner of the horse or the owner's properly authorised representative. On being made aware of any dispute over the ownership of a horse the Society will send a Notice to the last registered owner in accordance with the Complaints and Disciplinary Policy and Procedure at pages 9-14 who shall confirm the dispute and provide details of it in writing within 14 days of receipt of the notice. If no confirmation is received by the Society within the period, the Society will amend its records and register the name of the new owner.

❖ OWNERSHIP:

- a. The person signing the registration form is taken to be the rightful owner of the horse or the owner's properly authorised representative. In cases whereby the horse appears to have been sold by someone other than the last registered owner, the Society will in accordance with Complaints and Disciplinary Policy and Procedure, write to the last recorded owner on its records to try and obtain confirmation that the horse is no longer in his/her ownership. If no confirmation is received by the Society within 14 days of receipt of the notice the Society will amend its records and register the name of the new owner. On being made aware of any dispute over the ownership of a horse see also 'Disputes'
- b. Full details of any horse, registered with the Society, which is stolen should be notified to the Society as soon as possible.
- c. The person in whose name the horse is entered at an affiliated show will be held responsible both for abiding by the General Rules and Regulations of the Show concerned and for indemnifying that Show against any claims for damages which may arise.
- d. If a horse changes ownership after the closing date of entries, it must be re-registered in the name of the new owner before it is eligible to be shown, although it may not be possible to change the details printed in the catalogue.

- e. Horses registered with the Society must be shown with their registered name, age and description.
- f. Where a horse is also registered with another society or body, this must be disclosed to the Society, together with details of name, age and description on that register.
- g. A change of name is not allowed.
- h. Anyone concealing a previously registered name will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.

❖ **DESCRIPTIONS:**

- a. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure that both the information given on show entry forms is accurate and that horses compete in their correct weight class.
- b. No exhibitor may enter and show a horse under a Judge whom they know or should have known to have bred, sold, produced, or received financial gain from that horse. (Stud fees are exempt from financial gain).
- c. At no time should an exhibitor attempt to influence a Judge by offering any information, regarding their exhibit, for effect.

❖ **CLASSIFICATION:**

- a. Show Hunters **MUST** be exhibited in the weight class in which they are entered and catalogued, unless:
 - (i) An application to change weight classes has been received by the SHB(GB) office, together with the original Show Hunter Certificate in time for the office to notify the Show of any change only one weight change per season is permitted **OR:**
 - (ii) If a Judge considers an animal to be in the incorrect weight category, he/she will transfer it to a higher weight class or advise the competitor if he/she considers it to be in a lower weight category. If a horse is transferred into a different weight class by the Judges on more than one occasion, the owner must inform the Society immediately and the animal's registration will be amended. Owners can appeal against this decision if they think fit, in which case the Society will appoint a Referee to give a final decision.
 - (iii) Horses placed in the first 6 at the Royal International Horse Show or Horse of the Year Show cannot subsequently move down to a **LOWER** weight category.
 - (iv) Horses may not be registered as Hunters if they have been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any ridden Riding Horse class at the Royal International Horse Show or the Horse of the Year Show. Where 3 SHB(GB) Senior Judges provide written agreement that the horse is in the incorrect section as a Riding Horse it will be considered for inclusion in the Show Hunter Register at the discretion of the Council.

6. RESTRICTIONS ON ENTRIES:

- a. Horses registered as a Riding Horse or Hack with another Society will not be allowed to compete in any SHB(GB) Hunter class including the SHB(GB) RIHS Ladies Hunter in the same season as competing as a Riding Horse/Hack.
- b. Any SHB(GB) registered Hunters, Working or otherwise, cannot compete in the BSHA RIHS Working Show Horse classes as a Riding Horse in the same season.
- c. Grade A Showjumpers and Advanced Event horses are not eligible to compete in Working Hunter classes. Any horse who has qualified as a Grade A Show Jumper or Advanced Event Horse as of 1st January in the current year is not eligible to compete in Working Hunter classes.

7. CHANGE OF RIDER OR TACK:

- a. No change of rider or tack will be allowed (unless a horse is ridden under side-saddle, in which case, to allow the Judge to ride, the saddle may be changed for the riding phase only). Broken tack may be changed at the discretion of the Judge.

8. FALL OF HORSE OR RIDER/LOOSE HORSE:

- a. In the event of a fall of either horse or rider in any ridden class, that exhibit must retire and must not be remounted in the ring. If a horse gets loose in the ring for whatever reason, it will be eliminated and must leave the ring– this applies to all ridden classes.

9. SUSPENSION THROUGH DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR INJURY:

- a. Any rider, owner, producer, or horse that is stood down or banned for any period of time as a result of any disciplinary action by any governing equestrian body or any rider who is stood down from riding, as a result of injury, by any governing equestrian body may not compete in SHB(GB) classes during that time excepting at the discretion of the SHB (GB) Council.

10. QUALIFYING CLASSES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS:

- a. Only horses registered with SHB (GB) and who are also registered on the current year's Show Hunter Register are eligible to enter in Qualifying Classes for Ridden and Working Hunter Championships, and the Show Hunter Registration Number must be quoted on all entry forms.
- b. Any horse that is entered for a Qualifying Class without first being on the Show Hunter Register cannot subsequently be registered and therefore will not be eligible for entry in any qualifying classes for the remainder of the season.
- c. Competitors may compete on a Day Ticket and may have a maximum of two Day Tickets per season. Each day ticket is valid for one show, and it covers owner and rider Membership together with horse registration / over-stamp for that show. If the class is a qualifying class for RIHS for the qualification to be valid, application for full owner/rider Membership and horse registration / over-stamp must be received in the SHB(GB) office within 14 days.

11. HOYS QUALIFIERS:

- a. For HOYS qualifiers, all Riders, Owners and Producers must be Members of Sport Horse Breeding GB or The Showing Register or The British Show Horse Association. Horses must be registered with Sport Horse Breeding GB or The Showing Register (TSR) or the British Show Horse Association. HOYS classes cannot be entered on a Day Ticket.

12. HUNTER BREEDING CLASS RULES:

- a. In-Hand Membership is required (this is free of charge) this covers all owners/handlers of in hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) There is no charge for this Membership.
- b. Hunter Breeding Classes are open to the produce of any Stallion and should not be confined to animals sired by Thoroughbreds.
- c. Foals up to three months old may be entered. Foals un-named will be recorded under their dam.
- d. Manners will be taken into account in Hunter Breeding classes.
- e. **Brood Mares:** To be eligible for Hunter Brood Mare classes mares must have foal at foot or a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year, which may be inspected at the show.

- f. **Foals:** To be eligible to enter Hunter Foal classes the foal must be at least four weeks old on the day of show.
- g. **Brood Mare Premium:** The Society offers Brood Mare Premiums at selected affiliated shows, but premiums will only be awarded if there are a minimum of three mares forward per class. The premium takes the form of a Service Voucher, the value of which is to be determined from time to time by the Society, awarded at the Judge's discretion to their selection from the monetary prize winners, to be used towards the cost of covering the mare by any SHB (GB) Graded Stallion or Life Approved Premium Stallion that is properly registered for the year of covering. The Service Voucher may be used in either of the two years following the year of that award. The owner must be, or become, a fully paid-up Member of SHB(GB) to be eligible for the award. No mare shall take more than one award per year.
- h. **NOTE:** Grade I and II mares are eligible to be transferred into the SHB(GB) Stud Book
- i. **Leader:** The Leader who enters the ring with the horse must remain throughout the class. Only in special circumstances and with the permission of the Judge may another person be permitted to trot the horse out.

13. **JUDGES:**

- a. The onus of a horse being exhibited in a class must be on the exhibitor. A Judge must not Judge a horse which he/she has bred, owned, sold, or had any financial interest, at any time.
- b. The practice of any owner or their immediate family taking advice on the purchase, schooling, exhibiting, or having at livery any horse from someone during the current or previous year is prohibited by the Society (service fees for stallions and keep for mares whilst at stud are excluded). The exhibitor will know who is judging from the schedule, whereas the Judge will not know which animals are coming before him until he arrives in the ring. If there is an unforeseen change of Judge, then the exhibitor should stand down from the class.
- c. Judges must not knowingly Judge a horse produced by a producer, owner, or their immediate families for whom they have shown any horse or who has shown any horse for them during the current or previous year. The onus is on the Exhibitor not to exhibit animals under a Judge who is or has been in their employ or vice versa during the current or previous year. The practice of a Judge advising on the purchase of or exhibiting or schooling or having at livery any horses for someone or their immediate family and then judging any horses for the same owner during the current or previous year is prohibited by this Society (service fees for stallions and keep for mares whilst at stud are excluded). The only exception to the above rule is, in a championship, if an exhibitor has more than one horse qualified, they may ask any Member of the Society whether a Judge or not to ride their exhibits for the championship only. This will allow the Judges to have their full complement of horses in the championship.

14. **JUDGING:**

- a. Once a Judge has commenced judging a class, a horse or rider may not leave the ring without the permission of the Judge and Ring Steward, nor shall there be any change of rider or leader, except in a Championship Class, when a competitor finds he/she has more than one exhibit eligible to compete.
- b. In the event of a horse falling during a class, that horse must be asked to leave the ring and will not be allowed to compete further in that class.
- c. In the event of a Judge falling from an exhibit, best practice is the Judge should be seen by a first responder or paramedic prior to continuing the class. It is at that Judge's discretion as to whether they feel fit to continue judging, this decision is made at their

own risk. In the event of the Judge not being fit to continue riding, a replacement Judge may be found, or competitors will be asked to do an individual show. The horse must be asked to leave the ring (see also Rules on Manners- In Hand and Ridden Classes).

- d. Competitors will not be allowed to enter the ring after the horses have commenced trotting as a class in ridden classes. In-Hand classes once the first horse has started its initial individual trot up no further competitors will be allowed to enter the ring; this also applies to In-Hand Championships.
- e. The Judge of the Ladies' Hunter Class should not be invited into the ring for the judging of the Championship of the Ridden Hunter Classes unless the Judge concerned has Judged all the classes and not, as is usual, the Ladies' Hunter Class only. Notice of this should be given in both the Schedule and the Catalogue of the Show.
- f. Prize-winners in Four-year-old Classes need not take part in Hunter Championships. All horses in the Championship must be ridden.
- g. Saddles must not be removed from four-year-olds and Ladies Hunters prior to the horse being ridden by the Judge.

15. UNSOUNDNESS:

- a. If, in the opinion of the Judge, a horse is unsound, the exhibitor shall be given the option of withdrawing the horse from the class or being placed at the bottom of the line. If this option is not accepted a Veterinary Surgeon maybe called but if not immediately available, then the Judge's decision is final.

16. MANNERS – IN HAND & RIDDEN CLASSES:

- a. A Judge may ask an exhibitor to remove his horse from the ring, if in his/her opinion the horse or the exhibitor is ill-mannered. If in the opinion of the Judge the behaviour of a horse is deemed unacceptable, the horse will not be eligible to compete in any further classes at the show and will be reported to the Society. The horse will be reassessed at its next show by a person appointed by the Society.

17. USE OF THE WHIP:

- a. It is strongly recommended that only a padded whip/baton is carried in Working Hunter Classes.
- b. The use of a whip must be:
 - (i) For good reason – the whip must only be used either as an aid to encourage the horse forward or as a reprimand. Thus, it must never be used to vent a rider's temper. Any use for such a reason is automatically excessive and therefore a breach of SHB(GB) rules.
 - (ii) With appropriate severity – as a reprimand only and a horse should never be hit more than two times for any one incident and if a horse is injured by a whip, e.g. if the skin is broken or there is a weal, it's use is excessive and the rider/handler subject to elimination.
 - (iii) The adverse use of any whip or cane is not permitted within any area of the showground including lorry parks, stables and warm up areas.
- c. Where lunging is permitted on the showground, the use of a lunge whip 'against the horse' is not permitted.

17. DRESS AND TURNOUT:

- a. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure that grooms entering the Show Ring are smartly and professionally turned out. Grooms must wear a hat when in the ring, if not they will be asked to leave the ring. The attention of all exhibitors is drawn to the section on dress and turnout.

18. MOBILE PHONES/TABLETS/CAMERAS:

- a. Only authorised accredited photographers may use recording devices in the ring. The use of mobile phones/tablets/cameras in the ring is strictly prohibited. Anyone using such a device in the ring (including grooms), will be asked to leave the ring and the associated exhibit will be eliminated.

19. OBJECTIONS AT SHOWS:

- a. Any objection or complaint relating to the rules of a particular Show should be made to the show's office in accordance with the procedure set out in the show's rules.

20. EQUINE INFLUENZA REQUIREMENTS:

- a. See policy section.

DRESS AND TURNOUT

DRESS AND TURNOUT - RIDDEN AND WORKING HUNTER CLASSES

1. GENERAL:

a. TACK:

- (i) No tack may be worn which in any way conceals an animal's conformation.
- (ii) No hind boots or bandages of any description are allowed in the collecting ring, warm-up or in the actual class in Working Hunter and Ridden Sport Horse classes.
- (iii) No rugs, clothing or item of tack that reveals the identity of a horse or owner may be worn in the show ring.

b. HEADWEAR:

- (i) It is strongly recommended that competitors aged 18 or over wear correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats.
- (ii) It is mandatory for competitors under the age of 18 to wear such skull caps or hats.
- (iii) In the jumping phase of working hunter classes skull caps/riding hats must be worn.
- (iv) ***Hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2026 are as follows: PAS015 2011, VG1.01.040 2014-12, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and 2023, SNELL E2016 or 2021 onwards.***
- (v) Hats should have a plain cover, and may be black, navy blue or grey. Velvet covers are encouraged.
- (vi) It should be noted that some shows enforce their own hat rules that overrule those of SHB (GB) affiliated classes, competitors are strongly advised to check these before entering.

c. DRESS:

- (i) The appropriate dress codes are set out below but may be varied by Affiliated Shows with the Society's permission.

2. COUNTY SHOWS:

a. HEADWEAR:

- (i) It is strongly recommended that competitors aged 18 or over wear correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats.
- (ii) It is mandatory for competitors under the age of 18 to wear such skull caps or hats.
- (iii) In the jumping phase of working hunter classes skull caps/riding hats must be worn.
- (iv) ***Hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2026 are as follows: PAS015 2011, VG1.01.040 2014-12, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and 2023, SNELL E2016 or 2021 onwards.***
- (v) Hats should have a plain cover, and may be black, navy blue or grey. Velvet covers are encouraged.
- (vi) It should be noted that some shows enforce their own hat rules that overrule those of SHB (GB) affiliated classes, competitors are strongly advised to check these before entering.

b. DRESS:

- (i) Tweed coat for men. Tweed coat or plain blue or black coat for women.
- (ii) Plain fawn or buff-coloured breeches, not white.
- (iii) Plain black or brown boots.

- (iv) Garter straps. Points must face outwards, and the buckle be against and between buttons on breeches.
- (v) Spurs should be worn by exhibitors. Spurs must always be of smooth metal. There must be a shank, pointing only towards the rear, which must be no more than 3.5cm long and without rowels. The end must be blunt and incapable of wounding a horse. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. Roller ball spurs are allowed. Judges do not wear spurs.
- (vi) Any form of leather or string glove.
- (vii) Plain malacca or leather cane.
- (viii) Collar and ordinary tie. Tie must be pinned down.
- (ix) Ordinary shirt.
- (x) Earrings and visible jewellery must not be worn.

3. CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS:

a. IN THE MORNING:

- (i) As for County Shows.

b. IN THE EVENING:

- (i) Hunting dress with hunting whips. Men wear scarlet or black hunt coat, either ordinary pattern or cut away. White breeches must be worn with scarlet coat and boots with tops and white garter straps. White breeches with top boots may be worn with black coats or coloured breeches and plain black boots.

c. LADIES:

- (i) Women wear black or blue hunting coat. Fawn breeches and black boots and garter straps.

d. HEADWEAR:

- (i) It is strongly recommended that competitors aged 18 or over wear correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats.
- (ii) It is mandatory for competitors under the age of 18 to wear such skull caps or hats.
- (iii) In the jumping phase of working hunter classes skull caps/riding hats must be worn.
- (iv) Hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2026 are as follows: PAS015 2011, VG1.01.040 2014-12, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and 2023, SNELL E2016 or 2021 onwards.**
- (v) Hats should have a plain cover, and may be black, navy blue or grey. Velvet covers are encouraged.
- (vi) It should be noted that some shows enforce their own hat rules that overrule those of SHB (GB) affiliated classes, competitors are strongly advised to check these before entering.

4. SIDE SADDLE CLASSES

a. COUNTY SHOWS:

- (i) Ordinary habit with collar and tie.

b. ROYAL SHOW:

- (i) As for County Shows, or habit with hunting tie.

c. CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS:

- (i) As for County Shows, or habit with hunting tie.

d.  **HEADWEAR:**

- (i) In Side Saddle classes it is strongly recommended that competitors aged 18 or over wear correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats.
- (ii) It is mandatory for competitors under the age of 18 to wear such skull caps or hats.
- (iii) Hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2026 are as follows: PAS015 2011, VG1.01.040 2014-12, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and 2023, SNELL E2016 or 2021 onwards.**
- (iv) Hats should have a plain cover, and may be black, navy blue or grey. Velvet covers are encouraged.
- (v) It should be noted that some shows enforce their own hat rules that overrule those of SHB (GB) affiliated classes, competitors are strongly advised to check these before entering.

5. HORSES

- a. Manes should be plaited.
- b. Tails pulled or plaited.
- c. Heels trimmed.
- d. 4-year-olds are encouraged to be shown in snaffles. d.
- e. Swales, Sam Marsh bits and Gags with double bridles are actively discouraged. Bitless bridles are not allowed.
- f. Martingales are only to be used on Working Hunters. The only martingales permitted are standing and/or running martingales and **Irish martingales**. A standing martingale may only be attached to a cavesson noseband. The use of standing martingales attached to the higher or the lower jaw straps of a grackle, is not permitted.
- g. The complete bridle must be unmodified, made of plain leather, without blinkers.
- h. Saddles should be reasonably straight cut.
- i. All Ridden Hunters in classes where the Judge rides, the exhibits must be shod all round. No pads, or surgical shoes are allowed.
- j. After a prolonged period of dry weather, the Council will consider the temporary relaxation of the shoeing rules to allow Working Hunter horses to wear anti-concussion pads. Any temporary relaxation will be notified to all members by email and social media.**
- k. No hind boots or bandages of any description are allowed in the collecting ring, warm up or in the actual class in Working Hunter and Ridden Sport Horse classes.
- l. The Society discourages the showing of over fat horses and Judges will take this into consideration when making their awards.

DRESS AND TURNOUT - HUNTER BREEDING, LIGHT & SHOW HORSE BREEDING CLASSES

1. GENERAL

- a. Men should wear a suit or coat and trousers, collar and tie. It is strongly recommended that protective headgear should be worn.
- b. Women may wear coat, skirt or trousers with a collar and tie. It is strongly recommended that protective headgear should be worn.
- c. Earrings and visible jewellery must not be worn.

2. HORSES

- a. Manes should be plaited. There is no need to plait foals.
- b. Tails pulled or plaited. Foals may be plaited or natural.
- c. Heels trimmed. There is no need to trim foals' heels.
- d. Led Hunters & Light Horses must be in plain leather bridles. Three-year-olds must be shown in bits, yearlings and two-year-olds snaffles only. Foals should just have leather headcollars.
- e. The Society discourages the showing of over fat horses and Judges will take this into consideration when making their awards.
- f. No anti concussion pads or surgical shoes are allowed.

RULES & REGULATIONS FOR SPORT HORSE CLASSES

1. JUMPING - GENERAL:

- a. These classes are for young athletic horses that have the conformation and movement to go to the top of their sphere.
- b. Entries in Sport Horse classes do not need to be on the Society's Basic Identity Record or Stud Book and competitors do not need to be Members.
- c. Shows must select Sport Horse Judges from the Sport Horse Panel.
- d. All horses must exceed 148cm (14.2hh approx.).
- e. Riders must have proof of horse's age (i.e. registration document, passport).
- f. All ages date from 1st January, e.g. a foal becomes a yearling on the first day of January following that of its birth.
- g. Any rider can present up to three horses in each class.
- h. Where shod, no anti-concussion pads, or surgical shoes are allowed.
- i. ***After a prolonged period of dry weather, the Council will consider the temporary relaxation of the shoeing rules to allow Sport Horses (Jump) and Working Hunters to wear anti-concussion pads. Any relaxation will be notified to all members by email and social media.***
- j. Horses come into the ring individually and give a short-ridden display of walk, trot and canter, of approx. 1 minute, to be awarded marks out of a possible 50. Then proceed straight into the jumping phase, to be awarded marks out of a possible 10 per fence.
- k. All horses, unless eliminated are required to come back without saddles, for conformation assessment to be awarded marks out of a possible 50.

2. JUMPING - CLASSES:

- a. Four-Year-Old Sport Horse: Open to any four-year-old. Maximum height of fences 90cm (approx. 2'9").
- b. Five-Year-Old Sport Horse: Open to any five-year-old. Maximum height of fences 1m (approx. 3'3").
- c. Six-Year-Old & Over Sport Horse: Open to any six-year-old & over. Maximum height of fences 1.10m (approx. 3'6").

3. JUMPING - JUMPING PHASE:

- a. The jumping course should be a mixture of coloured and rustic obstacles and is designed to produce a minimum of eight jumping efforts including a double.
- b. Each jumping effort is marked out of 10 at the Judge's discretion.

- c. The first fence must be a small inviting fence and may be jumped as a practice fence.
- d. There is no set penalty for a pole down or a run out, but three refusals results in elimination.
- e. Fall of horse or rider results in elimination.

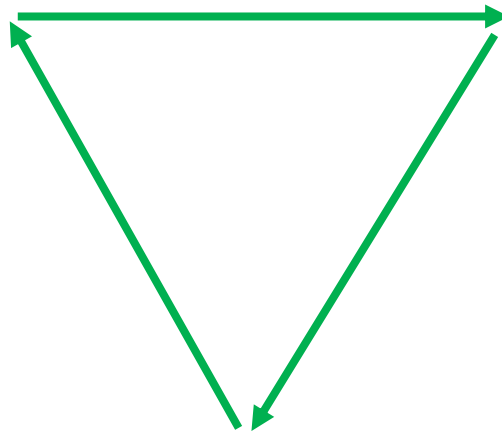
4. FLAT - GENERAL

- a. These classes are for 4 & 5 & 6-year-old athletic horses that have the conformation and movement to go to the top of their sphere.
- b. Entries in Sport Horse classes do not need to be on the Society's Basic Identity Record or Stud Book.
- c. All horses must exceed 148cm (14.2hh approx.).
- d. Riders must have proof of horse's age (i.e. registration document, passport).
- e. All ages date from 1st January, e.g. a foal becomes a yearling on the first day of January following that of its birth.
- f. Horses will be required to give a short individual show of walk, trot and canter, of approx. 1 minute, to be awarded marks out of a possible 20 for each pace. Lengthened strides in trot and canter must be shown Marks for type and temperament will be awarded out of a possible 10 for type and 10 for temperament.
- g. All horses are required for a conformation assessment to be awarded marks out of a possible 50.
- h. Shows must select Sport Horse Judges from the recommended Panel.
- i. Snaffle bridles must be worn as per rules for British Eventing dressage. Bitless bridles and Wilkie snaffles are not allowed.
- j. Where shod, no anti concussion pads or surgical shoes are allowed.
- k. Martingales are not allowed but neck straps are permitted.
- l. Horses will enter the ring as a class and be seen in walk, trot and canter before being called in and asked to do an individual show.

5. IN-HAND - GENERAL

- a. Shows must select Sport Horse Judges from the Sport Horse Panel.
- b. Entries in Sport Horse classes do not need to be on the Society's Basic Identity Record or Stud Book. ***In-Hand Membership is required (this is free of charge) this covers all owners/handlers of in hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) There is no charge for this Membership.***
- c. These classes are for young athletic horses that have the conformation and movement to go to the top of their sphere and for Brood Mares capable of producing the aforementioned.
- d. Each horse is Judged individually on a triangle (except for foals) and walked round the ring as a class.
- e. Marks are awarded for conformation, walk, trot and type & temperament.
- f. The Leader who enters the ring with the horse must remain throughout the class.
- g. Any exhibitor in charge of an entire must ensure they are in complete control at all times and if not will be dismissed from the ring.
- h. The Society discourages the showing of over fat horses and Judges will take this into consideration when making their awards.
- i. Manners will be taken into account in In-Hand Sport Horse classes.

DIAGRAM OF SPORT HORSE TRIANGLE



JUDGE TO STAND HERE

1. IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING THE LAYOUT OF THE RING/ARENA FOR IN HAND SPORT HORSE CLASSES:

- a. A triangle should be set out with, poles, bollards, or flowerpots. The size should be appropriate to the size of the ring. Ample room should be made available so that the horses can trot fluently around each corner.
- b. The Judge must stand at the point of the triangle so that he/she can assess each horse move straight away from them, then in profile and then straight back towards them. Horses should be asked to walk all the way around the triangle and then trot all the way around the triangle.

DRESS AND TURNOUT – RIDDEN & IN-HAND SPORT HORSE CLASSES

1. HANDLER (In-Hand):

- a. Men should wear a suit or coat and trousers, collar, and tie. It is strongly recommended that protective headgear should be worn.
- b. Women may wear coat, skirt or trousers with a collar and tie. It is strongly recommended that protective headgear should be worn.
- c. Earrings and visible jewellery must not be worn.

2. HORSES (In-Hand):

- a. Manes should be plaited. There is no need to plait foals.
- b. Tails pulled or plaited. Foals may be plaited or natural.
- c. Heels trimmed. There is no need to trim foals' heels.
- d. Led sport horses must be in plain leather bridles. Yearlings, two and three year olds must have snaffle bits. Foals should just have leather headcollars.
- e. Any exhibitor in charge of an entire must ensure they are in complete control at all times and if not will be dismissed from the ring.
- f. The Society discourages the showing of over fat horses and Judges will take this into consideration when making their awards.
- g. Where shod, no anti concussion pads or surgical shoes are allowed.

3. CLASSES (In-Hand):

- a. Yearling Potential Sport Horse: Open to any Colt, Gelding or Filly foaled in preceding year.
- b. Two-Year-Old Potential Sport Horse: Open to any Colt, Gelding or Filly foaled two years previously.
- c. Three-Year-Old Potential Sport Horse: Open to any Colt, Gelding or Filly foaled three years previously.
- d. Sport Horse Brood Mare: Open to a brood mare with foal at foot or with a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year that may be inspected at the show.
- e. Sport Horse Foal: Open to a colt or filly foaled in the current year. Foals must be at least 4 weeks old.

4. RIDER (Ridden):

❖ HEADWEAR (SPECIFIC TO SPORT HORSE CLASSES) (as BD Rules 2026):

- (i) (Correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding caps that meet one of the following current safety standards/specifications MUST be worn (as per British Dressage Rules 2026).
 - (ii) ***Hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2024 are as follows: PAS015 2011 and subsequent dates, VG1, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and subsequent dates, AS/NZS 3838 2006 onwards.***
 - (iii) ***It is strongly recommended that hats bearing the BSI kite mark or IN-SPEC IC mark (for the PAS 015, VG1 and EN1384 standard hats), the SEI mark (in the case of ASTM F1163 hats), the SAI mark (in the case of AS/NZS hats) in addition to the published safety standard. When a hat is dual badged, the hat must contain at least one compliant standard alongside an elapsed standard to ensure the hat is suitable for competition.***
 - (iv) Hats should have a plain cover, and may be black, navy blue or grey. Velvet covers are encouraged.
 - (v) It should be noted that some shows enforce their own hat rules that overrule those of SHB (GB) affiliated classes, competitors are strongly advised to check these before entering.
- b. Riders must wear an appropriate jacket with a shirt and tie.
 - c. Plain fawn or buff-coloured breeches.
 - d. Plain black or brown boots.
 - e. Any form of leather or string glove.
 - f. Earrings & visible jewellery must not be worn.

5. HORSES (Ridden):

- a. No tack may be worn which in any way conceals an animal's conformation. No hind boots or bandages of any description are allowed in the collecting ring, warm up or in the actual class in Ridden Sport Horse.
- b. Classes. No rugs, clothing or items of tack that reveals the identity of a horse or owner may be worn in the ring. Manes should be plaited and tails pulled or laced.
- c. Simple Snaffle bridles must be worn as per rules for British Eventing dressage. Bitless bridles and Wilkie snaffles are not allowed.
- d. Running martingales and/or breastplates are allowed.
- e. Where shod, no anti-concussion pads, or surgical shoes are allowed.
After a prolonged period of dry weather, the Council will consider the temporary relaxation of the shoeing rules to allow Working Hunters and Sport Horses (Jump) to wear anti-concussion pads. Any relaxation will be notified to all members by email and social media.

PANEL JUDGES

1. APPOINTMENTS BY SHOW SECRETARIES:

- a. All Affiliated Shows must select Judges from the relevant panel. For a detailed list of SHB(GB) Panel Judges, please contact the SHB(GB) office at show@sporthorsegb.co.uk A full list of Panel Judges (without contact details) is available on the SHB(GB) website at www.sporthorsegb.co.uk
- b. Trainee Judges are marked in the Judges List with a 'T' in the appropriate sections that they are probationing in.
- c. All Affiliated Shows must select Judges from the Society's Panel of Judges. First and second year Judges (marked with * should not be placed with a fellow Judge with an *. No Judge with a * can Judge on their own.
- d. Judges must only Judge their category as per the printed schedule (for insurance and category reasons).
- e. Show Secretaries must not appoint Judges who canvass them for appointments.
- f. Judges Who Compete: A Judge shall not be an Exhibitor, Trainer, Producer, Rider or Groom, in or out of the ring, in any classes (whether ridden or In-Hand) at any Show, on the same day, at which he/she, or an Immediate Family Member, is officiating as a Judge. A transgression of this Rule could incur Disciplinary Procedures. See also section on Conflicts of interest.

2. QUALIFYING SHOWS:

- a. Judges may not Judge at more than two qualifying rounds for the Royal International Horse Show or Horse of the Year Show. This includes two ride or two conformation, one of each or both sections if the only appointed Judge. Each appointment must be a minimum of 100 miles apart.
- b. If judging at the RIHS or HOYS, Judges may not judge a qualifier of the same category during the same year, for either show or any open class.

3. RULES FOR JUDGES:

- a. If you are judging a major championship final, you are NOT to compete in the same section(s) if you are judging at RIHS or HOYS.
- b. You must not accept any appointments you are not on the relevant panel section for, unless you have been requested to do so and received prior permission from the Office/Council.
- c. The Council reserves the right to allow a nominated overseas or non-panel Judge to officiate at an Affiliated Show.

4. DRESS:

- a. SHB(GB) Judges are expected to set and maintain a high standard of personal presentation. Attire must be neat, clean and appropriate for judging.

b. RIDE JUDGES:

Recommended attire:

- ❖ Shirt and tie
- ❖ Tweed jacket
- ❖ Cream or beige breeches
- ❖ Riding boots (straight cut) with garter straps and polished
- ❖ Gloves
- ❖ Correctly secured skull cap / riding cap (see Hat Standards)

c. CONFORMATION JUDGES:

Recommended attire:

- ❖ Shirt and tie
- ❖ Smart trousers with blazer or tweed jacket, skirt, or tailored suit
- ❖ Polished, practical footwear suitable for the ground conditions
- ❖ Traditional hat or headwear (such as trilby, bowler, or Panama)
- ❖ Ladies may wear dress hats, fascinators are not permitted

d. ALL JUDGES:

- (i) Do not wear:
 - ❖ Jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sportswear, casual outerwear, and items with visible branding or logos.
- (ii) In bad weather:
 - ❖ Practical outerwear is acceptable, provided it remains neat, weather-appropriate, and neutral in colour and with no visible branding or logos.
- (iii) For evening championships:
 - ❖ A formal standard of dress is expected, black tie may be requested by the show, so be sure to check in advance.

e. HAT STANDARDS:

- (i) All ride Judges **MUST** wear correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding caps (in ridden classes) that meet one of the following current safety standards/specifications:
- (ii) *Hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2026 are as follows: PAS015 2011, VG1.01.040 2014-12, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and 2023, SNELL E2016 or 2021 onwards.***
- (iii) Hats should have a plain cover, and may be black, navy blue or grey. Velvet covers are encouraged.

5. ANNUAL APPOINTMENT TO THE JUDGES PANEL:

- a.** All Judges must be fully paid-up Members of the Society and must make themselves fully conversant with the Society Rules, recommendations and purpose.
- b.** All Judges are reviewed annually by the Council at which point they may be re-appointed. The Council reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to not appoint to the Judges' Panel or remove from the Panel, any Judge, at any point.
- c.** Judges who, in the opinion of the Council, fail to observe the Rules or whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Council, in any way derogatory to the character and reputation of the Society, or prejudicial to the interests of the Society, may be suspended or removed from the Panel of Judges by decision of the Council at any time.
- d.** A major and justifiable complaint against any Judge may result in disciplinary action/removal from the Judges' Panel and possible suspension of Membership. Written formal complaints against any Judge may result, after investigation, in disciplinary action/removal from the Judges' Panel and possible suspension of Membership.
- e.** All Judges are appointed annually and must provide the Society with any information it requires and agree to the terms of their appointment in writing by the date specified. Failure to do so will result in the Judge not being considered for appointment or re-appointment.

- f. Any Judge wishing to continue judging once they have reached the age of 80 years, will need to complete a health questionnaire which will be supplied to them by the Society. Insurance companies reserve the right to refuse insurance cover for any Judge. In the case of such refusal, the Judge will be removed from the Panel.

6. SOCIAL MEDIA:

- a. In addition to the Social Media Policy contained at the rear of this Handbook the following rules apply in relation to Judges and their use of social media. This rule is necessary to protect the reputation of SHB(GB) and its affiliated shows from potential negative effects also and protects the rights of our Members.
- b. As an SHB(GB) Judge you must not use Social Media to discuss any aspect of your judging appointments prior to, or after judging. This includes the use of photographs and or commenting on an existing discussion in relation to the show. All communication with show organisers must be private and only be conducted via email or telephone and not on social media platforms.
- c. The Society asks all Judges to carefully consider their use of social media and to avoid communicating about any horses or competitors they have Judged or may find themselves judging in the future.

7. INSURANCE

- a. When accepting judging appointments for classes in the UK or abroad it is important to know exactly what you are judging. If the classes are affiliated to SHB(GB) you will be covered under the SHB(GB) accident policy.
- b. When approached to Judge a class that is not affiliated to SHB(GB) it is essential that Judges check with the show organising committee to confirm (in writing) that they carry an Accident Policy that covers their Judges and Officials and not simply a Public or Employer Liability Policy, which will not cover you.
- c. Should the show or event not have insurance in place to cover you, we strongly recommend that you carefully consider the appointment, and the risks involved.
- d. Should you be in any doubt as to the affiliated status of a show / class then please call the SHB(GB) Office for confirmation of the status.

8. GENERAL GUIDANCE

- a. Wherever possible, Judges must not go into any general hospitality or public hospitality areas prior to, or between the judging of classes at a show. Judges are not to be in competitor parking areas (horse box parking).
- b. It is suggested that all Judges should carry some spare score sheets with them in case the Show has mislaid those sent by the Society. Copies of Working Hunter and Sport Horse marking sheets will be emailed to Judges at the beginning of every year to ensure that they are using the current version.

9. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- a. A Judge must not knowingly Judge any Member, or a close relative of this Member, who has shown a Horse belonging to them or a close relative and/or produced or stabled a Horse for them or a close relative during the current or previous season
- b. Judges must not knowingly Judge any Member for whom they have shown a Horse during the previous or current season.
- c. A Judge must not knowingly Judge any person that they have, or had, a direct connection or business association with, or any relationship that can be deemed a conflict of

- interest, financial or otherwise, nor is in the employment of someone they also have a direct or business connection with in the current or previous season.
- d. This ruling excludes service fees for stallions and keep for mares whilst at stud.
 - e. Judges must not knowingly Judge a Horse belonging to any Member for whom they have competed a Horse in any discipline, or who has competed a Horse for them in any discipline, during the current or previous season.
 - f. If judging with a co-Judge at a Show, you may then not compete under that Judge for the duration of the Show.
 - g. Any Judge who rides an exhibit in a Championship must not Judge that exhibit for the remainder of the season.
 - h. Judges must not knowingly Judge a Horse that has been Owned, Produced, Exhibited, Bred or Ridden by them or a close relative or anyone with whom they are in business partnership, or by anyone they employ or by anyone who employs them or by anyone with whom they live.
 - i. This also applies to teaching / coaching. Group teaching/coaching is exempt but only two clinics, per year, per Judge are allowed (groups constitute three or more).
 - j. A Judge has a duty to avoid any conflict of interest as per our rules and policies and should not act in any way that undermines the integrity of the Society.
 - k. A conflict arises when a Judge is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity.
 - l. Any activity which even appears to look like a conflict of interest must be avoided. If you are in any doubt, you must immediately inform the office in writing who will also inform the Chairman and Council to determine whether the activity is unethical, improper or might damage the reputation and standing of the Society.
 - m. All Judges must declare any gifts or hospitality received in the current or previous season, before undertaking any judging commitments for the Society.
 - n. If a Judge accepts any hospitality from a competitor or owner at the show they are judging at, it is considered a Conflict of Interest.
 - o. Any breach of these rules could result in disciplinary action by the Society.

10. CONDUCT OF CLASSES

- a. Judges must pay particular importance to manners and type whilst judging. If a Judge considers an Exhibit to be ill mannered/unsound/unsuitable he/she may ask the Exhibit to retire without being ridden.
- b. Judges are expected to ride all exhibits. When a Horse appears before a Judge in two classes it is necessary to ride it again as the Horse may give a different ride on its second appearance. This does not apply to Championships.
- c. Horses competing in Novice classes must be ridden by the Judge, before being asked to “strip” for conformation.
- d. Any ride Judge is within their rights to refuse to ride an exhibit due to ill-fitting tack or a badly-behaved exhibit at any time with consultation of the Co-Judge or any official Steward.
- e. If in the opinion of the Judge, the behaviour of a Horse is dangerous or unacceptable in any other way, the Judge must report such behaviour to the SHB(GB) office who shall investigate the report.
- f. In the event of a Judge falling from an exhibit best practice is the Judge should be seen by a first responder or paramedic prior to continuing the class. It is at that Judge's discretion as to whether they feel fit to continue judging, This decision is made at their own risk. In the event of the Judge not being fit to continue riding, a replacement Judge may be found, or competitors will be asked to do an individual show. The horse must be asked to leave the ring (see also Rules on Manners- In Hand and Ridden Classes).

- g.** In the event of a fall of either Horse or Ride Judge, an accident form must be completed and will be provided by the event organiser. The SHB(GB) office should be notified at your earliest opportunity and no later than 7 days after the event.
- h.** Conformation Judges who are injured during a class should follow the same procedure.
- i.** Exhibitors are under the Judge's jurisdiction until the class is dismissed.
- j.** Once a class has commenced, there shall be no change of rider. It is permissible in a Championship class for a change of rider when a competitor has more than one exhibit eligible to compete. No Horse or Rider may leave the ring without the permission of the Judge.
- k.** At Affiliated Shows, in Royal International Horse Show and Horse of the Year Show qualifying classes, a Judge must not allow any Exhibitors into the ring once the class has commenced trotting. In other Affiliated classes, at the Judge's discretion, exhibitors may be allowed to enter the ring once the class has commenced trotting, but would only be allowed to compete Hors Concours.
- l.** It is strongly recommended that in all classes, following the 'go-round', Judges pull a minimum of the top five exhibits into line, in an initial order.
- m.** Where a two-Judge system is used and the Judges are unable to agree, a referee, who must be a Member of the SHB(GB) Panel of Judges, should be called.
- n.** In the event of a fall of an Exhibitor (Horse or Rider), Judges must fill in an incident/accident form which is available from the Show Organiser and must notify the SHB(GB) office at the earliest opportunity and no later than 7 days after the event.
- o.** Judges must also report to the SHB(GB) office any animal which, in their opinion, may be unsuitable to be exhibited / competed in the society's classes.
- p.** The Judge's decision is final.
- q.** The Society firmly discourages the showing of overweight Horses. Judges must take this into consideration when awarding placings.
- r.** It is within a Judge's discretion to ask a competitor to leave the ring should he/she believe that the horse is unsound.
- s.** Untrimmed whiskers and ear hair will not be penalised by the Judge.
- t.** All Judges must be aware that they may fall under the scrutinisation of a Stipendiary Steward or Welfare Steward at any point whilst on the showground. The Society asks all Judges for their co-operation with these officers at all times.
- u.** You may be contacted to seek clarification of classes Judged or behaviours reported or exhibited.
- v.** While officiating at any SHB(GB) affiliated Show or Event, it is inappropriate to drink alcohol. You are not permitted to be under the influence of any substance (other than prescribed medication) which may affect judgment or conduct.
- w.** SHB(GB) Judges may only claim legitimate travelling, accommodation and sustenance expenses when officiating at any show from the event organiser.

11. TRAINEE JUDGES

- a.** The Trainee Judges Handbook is available from the SHB(GB) office. All Trainee Judges will be provided one on the commencement of their training programme.

COURSE DESIGNERS

1. COURSE DESIGNER SELECTION:

- a. For all affiliated classes including RIHS Course Designers must be selected from BSPS or British Showjumping (Level 2 and above).

2. COURSES FOR RIHS QUALIFYING SHOWS:

- a. Courses at RIHS qualifying shows must consist of not less than ten fences.
- b. 80% of the course MUST be maximum height and width (max width not to be used in doubles and combinations).
- c. 50 % course to be spreads.
- d. All courses to have a minimum 1 double
- e. At least two changes of direction must be included.
- f. A water tray must be included. Water can be used, but this is not recommended for indoor courses due to reflective glare.
- g. Stiles are to be a minimum of 6ft width on the poles.
- h. Arena Eventing Fences cannot be used unless they can be built with a pole over the top.

3. NOVICE COURSES:

- a. Doubles must be vertical for part B.
- b. There must be a significant, progressive change of course between Novice, 105 and Open Working Hunter classes.
- c. Optional water tray (must be centre lined and must use safety cups).

4. COURSES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS:

- a. At the SHB(GB) Championship Shows, and the RIHS Course Designers are permitted an extra 5cms increase to the maximum heights and width of fences, for the OPEN classes.
- b. All HOYS qualifying classes are run (including course specification), in accordance with the HOYS Rules

5. GENERAL RULES FOR WORKING HUNTER CLASSES:

- a. All Distances and combinations to be set on horse strides and must be measured with a tape.
- b. All courses to have a minimum 1 double
- c. At least one change of direction must be included.
- d. 50% of course to be spreads
- e. 80% of course to be max height (max width not to be used in doubles and combinations).
- f. Stiles are to be a minimum of 6ft width on the poles.
- g. Arena Eventing Fences cannot be used unless they can be built with a pole over the top
- h. Fences should be decorated with natural foliage to present a traditional, inviting and natural appearance.
- i. Safety cups to be used on all spread fences
- j. Gates and planks not to be used as rear elements of spreads
- k. Start and finish signs must not be used.
- l. Horses are not allowed to practice over any part of the course before the commencement of any of the classes.
- m. Working Hunter classes are Not jumped in catalogue order

- n.** Course Designers have the option to reduce the number of fences or reduce the height and width of fences if they consider it necessary for safety reasons (in discussion with the Judge(s) and show organising committee).
- o.** Judges must walk the course with the course designer before the riders are allowed to walk the course dismounted before their class.
- p.** Judges in consultation with the Course Designer can adjust fences. The Course Designer can request their assistants to assist with this process.
- q.** No person, other than the Judge or the Course Designer (or assistant) appointed by the Show is permitted to alter the course. At Championship Shows, including RIHS, major changes to the course may require the agreement of the Show Director.
- r.** Tolerances - A 5cm tolerance can be applied by Course Designers if used fairly and appropriately.
- s.** For example, open working hunter (1.15 height) example – the fence measures 1.12 then to achieve the height of the class by going up a hole the fence would measure 1.17 the tolerance is intended to cover this type of situation.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SHOW SECRETARIES

1. CLASSES:

- a.** The show rules should clearly state that the show is affiliated to the Society and subject to its rules and that copies of the Society's Rules can be obtained from the Society on request.
- b.** A minimum of two classes, i.e. Light and Heavyweight, should always be scheduled at Affiliated Shows, but Secretaries may use their discretion in combining classes if insufficient entries are forward on the day.

2. MARKED CATALOGUES:

- a.** Secretaries are required to send a marked catalogue or results sheet to the Secretary of the Society, 96 High Street, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 5AR, giving details of the prizes awarded in all the Hunter, Light & Show Horse and Sport Horse Classes within ten days of the date of the Show. Any exhibit found not to be correctly registered will be disqualified.

3. PEDIGREES:

- a.** In all Classes, the animal's name and, if possible, the name of its sire, must be printed in the Show Catalogue. (As a Breeding Society, the Society would like as much information as possible, particularly in the Young Stock Classes, i.e. Sire, Dam and Breeder.) Un-named animals should be described by sex and colour.

4. AGE:

- a.** All ages date from 1st January, e.g. a foal becomes a yearling on the first day of January following the date of its birth.

5. IDENTIFICATION AND MARKINGS:

- a.** All entries in Ridden Hunter Classes must be on the Society's Basic Identity Record or Stud Book.
- b.** There must be no alteration to the natural markings of a horse.

6. SUBSTITUTES AND LATE ENTRIES:

- a.** Substitutes and late entries will be allowed at the discretion of the individual show secretary. Where substitutes and late entries are taken the Show Secretary must have sight of the horse's registration document and take a note of the horse's name and SHB(GB) registration number and this information must be forwarded onto the Society's Office immediately after the show.

7. SAFETY / INSURANCE:

- a.** Affiliated Shows are required to ensure that they have adequate insurance cover for Judges where the Judge is requested to Judge additional classes which are not affiliated to SHB(GB).
- b.** The following General Regulation should be included in Prize Schedules and Show Catalogues:
 - (i) "The Organisers of this Show have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the Organisers and all the Officials and Stewards."

8. SCORE SHEETS AND JUDGING:

- a. It is essential that Judges have an efficient marking Steward, but they are solely responsible for the accuracy of the results. Score sheets will be supplied by the Society on request to all Affiliated Shows. All Judges are requested to explain to the Score Sheet Steward the correct method for filling in the sheets and to check the correct sheet is being used.
- b. Exhibitors must be allowed to examine the score sheets after the class and championship (if applicable) has ended.
- c. It is suggested that all Judges should carry some spare score sheets with them in case the Show has mislaid those sent by the Society. Copies of Working Hunter and Sport Horse marking sheets will be emailed to Judges at the beginning of every year to ensure that they are using the current version.

9. SELECTION OF JUDGES:

- a. ***Selection of Judges – Show committees must ensure that no Member of their show committees responsible for or involved with the selection of Judges, is allowed to enter an exhibit in those sections that they select Judges for. This rule also applies to their family Members.***
- b. All Affiliated Shows must select Judges from the Society's Panel of Judges. First and second year Judges (marked with * should not be placed with a fellow Judge with an *. No Judge with a *can Judge on their own.
- c. Judges must be informed whether they are being invited to Judge the ride or conformation sections.
- d. The names of the Judges and the section in which they are officiating must be clearly stated in the show schedule. The same Judges must officiate on the same sections in all weight classes. Although every effort will be made, it may not be possible for the Judge to ride every horse in the class.
- e. Judges will not ride exhibits in 4-year-old classes with the exception of championship classes (i.e. the National Hunter Supreme Championship Show) where a Ride Judge will ride the exhibits.
- f. Judges must be informed whether they are being invited to Judge the ride or conformation sections.
- g. The Judge of the Ladies' Hunter Class should not be invited into the ring for the judging of the Championship of the Ridden Hunter Classes, unless the lady concerned has Judged all the classes and not, as is usual, the Ladies' Hunter Class only. Notice of this should be given in both the Schedule and the Catalogue of the Show.
- h. Prize-winners in Four-year-old Classes need not take part in Hunter Championships.
- i. Shows holding Hunter Breeding, Sport Horse Breeding and Light Horse Breeding classes can use the same Judge in these classes IF the Judge is approved on all three sections in the Judges List.

10. CHANGE OF JUDGE:

- a. If it becomes necessary, due to accident or illness, etc., to bring in a Judge as substitute for the person named in the Prize Schedule, Shows must try and inform all exhibitors before the Show takes place and refund the entry fees of any exhibitors who may be prevented from showing due to the substitute Judge having had an interest in their horse or other conflict of interest with the exhibitor. Everything possible should be done to

avoid exhibitors getting to the Show and then finding out that they are not eligible to be Judged.

- b. Conflicts of interest are those listed in General Rules under 'Judges' in the Handbook.
- c. In the event a Judge has to be replaced during the show, competitors' personal preferences for Judges are not to be taken into account.

11. TRAINEE JUDGES:

- a. Affiliated Shows will allow Trainee Judges, who will not expect to be offered any expenses, to officiate with a Senior Judge from the Panel. If the name of the Trainee Judge officiating has not appeared in the Prize Schedule, then this should be announced before the first class is Judged.
- b. Trainee Judges may officiate in any SHB(GB) class and where applicable may ride with the exhibitor's permission.

12. HUNTER BREEDING CLASSES:

- a. Shows holding Hunter Breeding, Light Horse Breeding and Sport Horse Breeding classes can use the same Judge for all three classes if necessary. Show Secretaries should ensure that when choosing to do this, they select a Judge who is approved for all three sections.
- b. Entries do not need to be registered with SHB(GB). In-Hand Membership is required (this is free of charge) this covers all owners/handlers of in hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) There is no charge for this Membership.
- c. The Society requires all affiliated shows if they are holding a Hunter Breeding Section to offer Hunter Brood Mare with own Foal at Foot (or with a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year), Hunter Foal, Hunter Yearling, Hunter Two-Year-Old and Hunter Three-Year-Old classes. Show Secretaries may use their discretion in combining classes at the close of entries if there are insufficient entries but wherever possible must notify all exhibitors.

13. SPORT HORSE BREEDING CLASSES:

- a. Shows holding Hunter Breeding, Light Horse Breeding and Sport Horse Breeding classes can use the same Judge for all three classes if necessary. Show Secretaries should ensure that when choosing to do this, they select a Judge who is approved for all three sections.
- b. Entries do not need to be registered with SHB(GB). However, Owners In-Hand Membership is required (this is free of charge) this covers all owners/handlers of in hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) There is no charge for this Membership.
- c. The Society requires all affiliated shows if they are holding a Sport Horse Breeding Section to offer Sport Horse Brood Mare with own Foal at Foot, (or a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year), Sport Horse Foal, Sport Horse Yearling, Sport Horse Two-Year- Old and Sport Horse Three-Year-Old classes. Show Secretaries may use their discretion in combining classes at the close of entries if there are insufficient entries. Whenever possible shows should announce the marks as they are awarded throughout the class.

14. LIGHT HORSE BREEDING CLASSES:

- a. Shows holding Hunter Breeding, Light Horse Breeding and Sport Horse Breeding classes can use the same Judge for all three classes if necessary. Show Secretaries should ensure that when choosing to do this, they select a Judge who is approved for all three sections.
- b. Entries do not need to be registered with SHB(GB). In-Hand Membership is required (this is free of charge) this covers all owners/handlers of in hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) There is no charge for this Membership.
- c. The Society requires all affiliated shows if they are holding a Light Horse Breeding Section to offer Light Horse Brood Mare with own Foal at Foot (or with a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year), Light Horse Foal, Light Horse Yearling, Light Horse Two-Year-Old and Light Horse Three-Year-Old classes. Show Secretaries may use their discretion in combining classes at the close of entries if there are insufficient entries but wherever possible must notify all exhibitors.

15. SHOW HORSE BREEDING CLASSES:

- a. Shows holding Hunter Breeding, Light Horse Breeding and Sport Horse Breeding classes can use the same Judge for all three classes if necessary. Show Secretaries should ensure that when choosing to do this, they select a Judge who is approved for all three sections.
- b. Entries do not need to be registered with SHB(GB). In-Hand Membership is required (this is free of charge) this covers all owners/handlers of in hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) There is no charge for this Membership.
- c. The Society encourages all affiliated shows if they are holding a Show Horse Breeding Section to offer Show Horse Brood Mare with own Foal at Foot (or with a relevant certificate of pregnancy for the following year), Show Horse Foal, Show Horse Yearling, Show Horse Two-Year-Old and Show Horse Three Year Old classes.

16. WORKING HUNTER CLASSES:

- a. All Working Hunter courses will be designed and built in accordance with the rules contained within the section 'Course Designers'.

17. SELECTION OF COURSE DESIGNERS:

- a. For all affiliated classes including RIHS, Course Designers must be selected from BSPS or British Showjumping (Level 2 and above). See Section on Course Designers.

18. PRIZE MONEY:

- a. Shows may withhold prize money from competitors that are eligible for a championship and do not come forward. This applies to all Hunter, Light Horse and Sport Horse classes, Ridden and In-Hand. **Any horse not coming forward for a championship must be notified to the show office prior to the championship taking place.**
- b. ***In Supreme Championship classes where a qualified exhibit is withdrawn, the next placed horse may qualify for the championship (only with both Judge's agreement and the authorisation of the show organiser).***

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS - REGULATIONS SPECIFICALLY FOR SECRETARIES OF QUALIFYING SHOWS:

1. GENERAL:

- a. Entry forms must have a space provided for the current year Show Registration Number.
- b. The Championship Shows are the Horse of the Year Show ("HOYS"), the Royal International Horse Show ('RIHS') and The National Hunter Supreme Championship Show ('NHSCS'). Horses must be entered for these Shows in the same weight classes in which they have qualified.
- c. All Qualifying Shows are requested to produce a complete list of entries. Where a catalogue is produced, it should include the name of the owner and rider, the name of the horse and the name of its sire and dam.
- d. Official Working Hunter Score Sheets and Sport Horse Score Sheets must be used and returned to the Secretary within TEN DAYS of the Show, together with all affiliated class score sheets.
- e. It is essential that the Judge has an efficient Marking Steward, but ultimately the Judge is solely responsible for the accuracy of the results.
- f. Details of class headings for inclusion in the Prize Schedule and Catalogue are provided by the SHB(GB) office to Show Secretaries.

2. ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW ("RIHS"):

- a. The Society designates certain Shows as qualifying shows for the RIHS at which horses may qualify for the RIHS in the current year or at specific shows for the following year.
- b. All Hunter Classes will be Judged under the Society's Rules.
- c. Classes are qualifying events for the current year/next year [please delete as necessary] RIHS and only horses registered on the Show Hunter Register are eligible to enter. Registration numbers must be quoted on entry forms and owners and riders must be Members of the Society.
- d. A minimum first prize of £25.00 must be awarded in all qualifying classes.
- e. The two highest placed horses in the Lightweight, Middleweight, Heavyweight, Small and Ladies (side saddle) Classes will qualify to enter at the RIHS. No horse lower than second will qualify.
- f. In a combined Working Hunter class, the three highest placed horses will qualify. No horse lower than third will qualify.
- g. in the case of two Working Hunter Classes (i.e. Lightweight and Heavyweight) the four horses forward for the Championship will qualify for RIHS unless they have already done so. No horse lower than second in its Class will qualify.
- h. Amateur Classes - Where there is only one amateur ridden hunter class the two highest placed Smalls, the two highest placed Lightweights, the two highest placed Middleweights and the two highest placed Heavyweights will qualify.
- i. When there are two classes in the amateur ridden hunter, in the lightweight section, the two highest placed Smalls and the two highest placed Lightweights will qualify and in the heavyweight section the two highest placed Middleweights and the two highest placed Heavyweights will qualify.
- j. Judges must place all horses to determine qualifiers.

3. HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW (HOYS):

- a. For HOYS qualifying classes, please refer to the current Horse of the Year Show Rule book.

- b. Ridden Hunters, including Small Hunters: At these Shows the highest placed unqualified horse in the first 5 in each of these classes will qualify for Horse of the Year Show. Qualification will be verified by the Horse of the Year Show office. Entries in this class may not compete in the Small Show Hunter of the Year, and vice versa.
- c. Working Hunters: In these classes the highest placed horse will qualify, no horse lower than third will qualify.
- d. If there are two Working Hunter Classes, i.e. a Lightweight and Heavyweight Class, then there must be a Championship Class to determine which horse qualifies. Both classes will be jumped over the same course and height. When judging the Championship, Judges will use the marks they have already allocated as a guide. The Championship is only open to the first and second prize winners in the Light and Heavyweight Working Hunter classes respectively. The four horses forward in the Working Hunter Championship must all be placed as any one of the top three could be eligible for HOYS qualification.
- e. Ladies Side Saddle: At these Shows the highest placed unqualified horse in the first 5 will qualify for the Horse of the Year Show.

4. THE NATIONAL HUNTER SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW (NHSCS) – SUPREME CLASSES:

- a. All Hunter Classes will be Judged under the Society's Rules.
- b. The Society designates all RIHS Qualifying Shows as qualifying shows for the NHSCS at which horses may qualify for the NHSCS in the current year or at specific shows for the following year.
- c. The three highest placed horses in the RIHS Small Hunter, RIHS Open Weight, **RIHS Working Hunter** & RIHS Ladies Hunter classes will qualify to enter Supreme Series classes at the NHSCS. No horse lower than third will qualify.
- d. The Society cannot be held responsible for any dispute arising from the non-compliance of Shows with any of the above regulations.

REGISTRATIONS

SPORT HORSE BREEDING STUD BOOKS

1. FULL STUD BOOK – MAIN SECTION CLASS 1:

- a. Only animals by a SHB(GB) Graded Stallion, currently registered for the year of covering AND out of a SHB(GB) Graded Mare are eligible for registration in the Full Stud Book.
- b. If only one parent is graded with SHB(GB) please apply for the Auxiliary Stud Book. However, progeny foaled in the UK out of an SHB(GB) Graded Mare sired by a stallion standing abroad that fulfils the SHB(GB) criteria for a Foreign Graded Stallion will be eligible for registration in the Full Stud Book, providing a DNA profile is available for the sire to allow for parentage verification of the offspring.
- c. We will also require the sire to be registered on our Supplementary Breeding Register (see rules below for Breeding Register).
- d. Only horses whose adult height will exceed 14.2hh/148cm are eligible for registration.
- e. Full Stud Book applications must be accompanied by:
 - (i) a fully completed Application Form.
 - (ii) A SHB(GB) identification chart completed by a veterinary surgeon, no other charts will be accepted.
 - (iii) Since October 2020 it has been a legal requirement in the United Kingdom for all horses to be microchipped. Please include details of your horse's microchip on your identification chart in the space provided.
 - (iv) a SHB(GB) or other official breed society covering/artificial insemination certificate, or an artificial insemination certificate issued by a veterinary surgeon.
 - (v) a hair sample from the animal to be registered for DNA testing. A DNA sample should be taken by a veterinary surgeon and contain at least 30 – 40 hairs, pulled not cut, from the mane or tail (or both). The hair should be free from all grooming products. The sample must be sealed in an unused bag and clearly labelled. If the laboratory is unable to obtain a DNA profile from the hair sample and a second sample is required, a second fee of £66 will be payable.
- f. All foal registrations must be received in the SHB(GB) office by 30 November in the year of birth.
- g. Passports issued to animals over one year of age will be stamped as 'Duplicate'.

1.1. FEES:

- ❖ Foals registered before 1 December in the year of their birth £55.
- ❖ Horses registered after 1 December in the year of their birth £100.
- ❖ DNA fee (per sample) £66.
- ❖ If you would like your documents returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery, please include an additional £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

1.2. DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON REGISTRATION FEES:

- ❖ 15% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 3-4 horses.
- ❖ 20% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 5 plus horses.
- ❖ Discounts are not available on DNA fees.
- ❖ All fees include VAT @ 20%.

2. AUXILIARY STUD BOOK – MAIN SECTION CLASS 2:

- a. Only animals by a SHB(GB) Graded Stallion currently registered for the year of covering OR out of a SHB(GB) Graded Mare are eligible for registration in the Auxiliary Stud Book.
- b. If the sire and dam are both graded with SHB(GB) please apply for the Full Stud Book.
- c. The parent not graded with SHB(GB) must be registered in the main section of another official breed society and a covering certificate from that society must be provided, together with official verification of breeding.
- d. If the parent not graded with SHB(GB) is not in the main section of another official breed society, we will require it to be Overstamped or registered on the Supplementary Breeding Register (see rules below for Overstamp/Breeding Register).
- e. The progeny of SHB(GB) Graded Mares by unregistered stallions will not be eligible for the Auxiliary Stud Book and should be registered on the Foundation Stud Book or ID Only.
- f. Only horses whose adult height will exceed 148cm (14.2hh) are eligible for registration.
- g. Auxiliary Stud Book applications must be accompanied by:
 - (i) a fully completed Application Form.
 - (ii) a SHB(GB) identification chart completed by a veterinary surgeon, no other charts will be accepted. Since October 2020 it has been a legal requirement in the United Kingdom for all horses to be microchipped. Please include details of your horse's microchip on the identification chart in the space provided.
 - (iii) a SHB(GB) or other official breed society covering/artificial insemination certificate, or an artificial insemination certificate issued by a veterinary surgeon. Animals conceived by artificial insemination must have their parentage verified by DNA profiling. Please note, we do not test to one parent only.
 - (iv) a copy of the dam's passport showing her breeding if she is not registered with SHB(GB). Only breeding shown on an official breed society passport can be recorded.
 - (v) a copy of the sire's breeding obtained from an official breed society if he is not registered with SHB(GB). Only breeding shown on the passport or breed society documentation can be recorded.
 - (vi) a hair sample from the animal to be registered for DNA testing. A DNA sample should be taken by a veterinary surgeon and contain at least 30 – 40 hairs, pulled not cut from the mane or tail (or both). The hair should be free from all grooming products. The sample must be sealed in an unused bag and clearly labelled. If the laboratory is unable to obtain a DNA profile from the hair sample and a second sample is required, a second fee of £66 will be payable.
- h. All foal registrations must be received in the SHB(GB) office by 30 November in the year of birth.
- i. Passports issued to animals over one year of age will be stamped as 'Duplicate'.

2.1. FEES:

- ❖ Foals registered before 1 December in the year of their birth £55.
- ❖ Horses registered after 1 December in the year of their birth £100.
- ❖ DNA fee (per sample) £66.
- ❖ Documents returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

2.2. DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON REGISTRATION FEES:

- ❖ 15% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 3- 4 horses
- ❖ 20% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 5 plus horses
- ❖ Discounts are not available on DNA fees.
- ❖ All fees include VAT @ 20%.

3. FOUNDATION STUD BOOK – MAIN SECTION CLASS 3:

- a. Horses that are not eligible for Full or Auxiliary Studbook registration, are eligible to apply for the Foundation Stud Book passport providing their adult height will exceed 148cm (14.2hh).
- b. Both parents (neither of which will be SHB graded) must be registered on Supplementary Breeding Register or over stamped with SHB(GB).
- c. Breeding can be recorded for natural covering with Breed Society Covering Certificate or AI must be via DNA testing. If the aforementioned criteria is not met then the equine cannot be registered on the Foundation Stud Book and must be registered ID Only within the Supplementary section.
- d. Foundation Stud Book applications must be accompanied by:
 - (i) A covering/artificial insemination certificate issued by an official breed society, or an artificial insemination certificate issued by a veterinary surgeon is provided.
 - (ii) Horses conceived by artificial insemination must be parentage verified by DNA if any breeding is to be recorded.
 - (iii) Lineage of the sire and dam will only be recorded if a copy of the dam's passport, which must have been issued by an official breed society (if not registered with SHB) is provided, together with a copy of the Sire's breeding which must have been issued from an official breed society (if not registered with SHB) is also provided.
 - (iv) Only breeding shown on the passport or breed society documentation can be recorded.
 - (v) If an official covering/artificial insemination certificate cannot be provided, the breeding can be established and recorded if the horse has its parentage verified by DNA testing. If SHB(GB) does not already hold the DNA profiles of the sire and/or dam, hair samples must be submitted, together with a hair sample from the horse to be registered
 - (vi) The cost is £66 per DNA sample, together with the parentage verification fee of £65. These costs are to be added to the Identity Registration fee.
 - (vii) Please note that we will not DNA test to one parent only. A DNA sample should be taken by a veterinary surgeon and contain at least 30 - 40 hairs, which must be pulled not cut from the mane or tail (or both). The sample must be sealed in an unused bag and clearly labelled. If the laboratory is unable to obtain a DNA profile from the hair sample and a second sample is required, a second fee of £66 will be payable.
- e. The SHB(GB) identification chart must be completed by a veterinary surgeon – no other charts will be accepted.
- f. Since October 2020 it was made a legal requirement in the United Kingdom for all horses to be microchipped. Please include details of your horse's microchip with this application.

- g. The passport will state 'age of horse not verified' unless the animal is identified by a Veterinary Surgeon whilst still on its dam.
- h. Passports that are issued to animals over one year of age will be stamped as 'Duplicate'.

3.1. FEES:

- ❖ Foals registered before 1 December in the year of their birth £55.
- ❖ Horses registered after 1 December in the year of their birth £100.
- ❖ DNA fee (if applicable) £66 per sample.
- ❖ Parentage Verification Fee (if applicable) £65.
- ❖ If you would like your documents returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery, please include an additional £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

3.2. DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON REGISTRATION FEES:

- ❖ 15% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 3-4 horses.
- ❖ 20% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 5 plus horses.
- ❖ All fees include VAT @ 20%.

4. OVERSTAMPING AN EXISTING PASSPORT:

- a. **Mares & Stallions – Main Section Class 4 Overstamp.**
- b. **Geldings – Supplementary Overstamp.**
- c. To comply with the law which came into effect on 1 January 1998, making it an offence for any horse born after that date to be in possession of more than one passport, the Society has obtained the necessary permissions to overstamp existing passports issued by DEFRA or EU approved organisations, subject to them including an identification chart completed by a veterinary surgeon.
- d. If your passport does not have a markings chart completed by a veterinary surgeon you will need to download an Identification Chart from our website and arrange for this to be completed. This must then be forwarded with your application and your horse's passport. We require the actual passport for over stamping, copies are not acceptable.
- e. SHB (GB) cannot overstamp passports if the passport has not been correctly transferred into the current owner's name. You must send the passport to the relevant Passport Issuing Organisation for updating before sending it to us.
- f. Your horse will be registered with the name that is within the passport, changes of name are not permitted.
- g. Since October 2020 microchipping of all horses was made a legal requirement in the United Kingdom, we are therefore unable to overstamp a passport unless your horse has been microchipped and details of the chip are recorded within the passport.

4.1. FEES:

- ❖ Overstamp Fee £50 plus an additional £15 if you would like your passport returned to you by Royal Mail Special Delivery tracked post. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and is not tracked.
- ❖ We can offer a Fast Track Service on over stamping. For an additional £45 added to the overstamp fee, turnaround will be within 2 working days, provided all paperwork is received correctly completed and the correct payment is received

at the same time. We would strongly advise sending your passport via tracked post.

- ❖ All fees include VAT @ 20%.

5. LOWER HEIGHT REGISTER – MAIN SECTION CLASS 5:

- a.** For equines who would have been eligible for the Main Section, classes 1,2 or 3 but not big enough to meet the standard height criteria.

5.1. FEES:

- ❖ Foals registered before 1 December in the year of their birth £55
- ❖ Horses registered after 1 December in the year of their birth £100
- ❖ DNA fee (per sample) £66
- ❖ Documents returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.
- ❖ All fees include VAT @ 20%.

6. ID ONLY – SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION:

- a.** For horses that do not meet the criteria for classes 1-5 inclusive in the Main Section.
- b.** No Zootechnical certificate will be issued.
- c.** Pedigree or partial pedigree can be recorded.
- d.** All breeding will be recorded as unknown unless:
 - (i) A covering/artificial insemination certificate issued by an official breed society, or an artificial insemination certificate issued by a veterinary surgeon is provided.
 - (ii) Horses conceived by artificial insemination must be parentage verified by DNA if any breeding is to be recorded.
 - (iii) Lineage of the sire and dam will only be recorded if a copy of the dam's passport, which must have been issued by an official breed society (if not registered with SHB) is provided, together with a copy of the Sire's breeding which must have been issued from an official breed society (if not registered with SHB) is also provided.
 - (iv) Only breeding shown on the passport or breed society documentation can be recorded.
 - (v) If an official covering/artificial insemination certificate cannot be provided, the breeding can be established and recorded if the horse has its parentage verified by DNA testing. If SHB(GB) does not already hold the DNA profiles of the sire and/or dam, hair samples must be submitted, together with a hair sample from the horse to be registered. The cost is £66 per DNA sample, together with the parentage verification fee of £65. These costs are to be added to the Identity Registration fee. Please note that we will not DNA test to one parent only. A DNA sample should be taken by a veterinary surgeon and contain at least 30 - 40 hairs, which must be pulled not cut from the mane or tail (or both). The sample must be sealed in an unused bag and clearly labelled. If the laboratory is unable to obtain a DNA profile from the hair sample and a second sample is required, a second fee of £66 will be payable.
- e.** The SHB(GB) identification chart must be completed by a veterinary surgeon – no other charts will be accepted.

- f. Since October 2020 it was made a legal requirement in the United Kingdom for all horses to be microchipped. Please include details of your horse's microchip with this application
- g. The passport will state 'age of horse not verified' unless the animal is identified by a Veterinary Surgeon whilst still on its dam.
- h. Passports that are issued to animals over one year of age will be stamped as 'Replacement'.

6.1. FEES:

- ❖ Identity Registration fee £50.
- ❖ DNA fee (if applicable) £66 per sample.
- ❖ Parentage Verification Fee (if applicable) £65.
- ❖ If you would like your documents returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery, please include an additional £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

6.2. DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON REGISTRATION FEES:

- ❖ 15% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 3-4 horses.
- ❖ 20% discount on registration fees is available to individual owners when registering 5 plus horses.
- ❖ Discounts are not available on DNA fees.
- ❖ All fees include VAT @ 20%.

7. BREEDING REGISTER – SUPPLEMENTARY SECTION:

- a. Database records of breeding parents where passport isn't overstamped.
- b. Breeding register applications must be accompanied by:
 - (i) Copies of passport pages: Front page including name and UELN, pedigree page & ownership page.
 - (ii) Letter/email giving permission for SHB(GB) to record the details above.
 - (iii) Free of charge.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND SHOW HUNTER REGISTRATION

1. MEMBERSHIP:

- a. Membership to SHB(GB) runs from 1st January to 31st December.

1.1 FEES:

- ❖ **Full Membership - £105.00**
 - (i) Please note that direct debit mandates need to be set up by 1st December in order to pay for membership renewals in January of the following year. Direct debit mandates can be downloaded from our website.
 - (ii) Late Renewal Fee £135 this applies to all membership renewals received after 31st March in the current showing year.
- ❖ **Life Membership - £1,320.00**
- ❖ **Corporate Membership - £550.00**

- (i) There must be a nominated current member as the main contact.
- ❖ **Non-Competing Judge Membership - £66.00**
- ❖ **In-Hand Membership - £0.00**
 - (i) For all owners/handlers of In-Hand horses to be shown in the current season (who are not members in any other category) **No Charge.**
- ❖ **Supporter Membership - £66.00**
 - (i) This is strictly a non-competing, non-judging membership.

2. ANNUAL SHOW HUNTER REGISTRATION:

- a. This is an annual registration for horses that are competing in Lightweight, Middleweight, Heavyweight, Small, Working and Ladies Hunter classes that are qualifiers for the Royal International Horse Show and the Horse of the Year Show.
- b. All Show Hunters must either have a Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain passport or have their passport overstamped by SHB(GB) before they can be registered onto the Annual Show Hunter Registration.
- c. The owner(s) and all riders of the horse must become full members of the Society. Membership runs from 1 January to 31 December.
- d. Entry to the Show Hunter Register is restricted to mares and geldings 4 years old or over, whose height exceeds 148cm (approx. 14 hands 2 ins), with the exception of working hunter classes where stallions can compete (all stallions must have a red, white and blue ribbon displayed in their tail).
- e. Please refer to the Rules and Regulations in this Handbook for further information on showing your horse.

2.1 FEES:

- ❖ Show Hunter Registration £60.
- ❖ Full Membership £105.
- ❖ Please note that direct debit mandates need to be set up by 1 December in order to pay for membership renewals in January of the following year. Direct debit mandates can be downloaded from our website. Please note that direct debits can only be used to pay for owner/rider memberships.
- ❖ Late Renewal Fee £135 this applies to all membership renewals received after 31 March in the current showing year.
- ❖ Overstamp Fee £50 (if applicable).

3. DAY TICKET APPLICATION:

- a. If you are unsure whether you want to apply for annual show registration and membership, you can purchase a maximum of 2 Day Tickets per year. This entitles you to compete at a maximum of 2 qualifying shows in the year. This registration covers owner and rider membership, together with the show hunter registration for the horse.
- b. Along with your Day Ticket Application you must supply a copy of the pages from your horse's passport showing your horse's name, passport number, date of birth, lineage, breeder and ownership details.
- c. Should you qualify for the Royal International Horse Show on a Day Ticket, you must apply for full annual membership for the owner/rider and horse by completing and submitting to the Society's office Membership and Show Registration application forms. Applications must be received in this office within 14 days from the day you qualified in order for your qualification to be validated. If your horse does not have a passport issued by SHB(GB) you will also need to have your horse's passport overstamped.

- d. Please refer to the Rules and Regulations on our website for further information on showing your horse.

3.1. FEES:

- ❖ Day Ticket £45 each.

4. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP:

- a. For all horses issued with a Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain or Scottish Sport Horse passport.

5. HORSE PASSPORT LEGISLATION:

- a. Under the Legislation, new owners are required to record their ownership with their Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO) within 30 days of acquisition of the horse. It is an offence not to do so.
- b. An Authorisation of Change of Ownership Form can be downloaded from our website. The current owner must complete the form at the time of sale and give to the new owner, together with the passport to enable them to transfer the ownership.
- c. The new owner needs to return this form or a signed receipt, together with the horse's passport and the transfer of ownership fee.
- d. In the event that a horse has previously been sold and not re-registered into the ownership of the person you have purchased the horse from. Please return the horse's passport to this office, together with your full name, address and date you purchased the horse, and the fee as stated above. We will write to the last registered owner on your behalf and ask them to confirm the sale of the horse by requesting that they sign a transfer of ownership form. Please note that we give them 14 days from the date of our letter to reply to us, after which time the passport will be amended with your details.

5.1. FEES:

- ❖ Transfer of Ownership Fee £50.
- ❖ If you would like your documents returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery, please include an additional £15. Please note, If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

6. FAST TRACK SERVICE:

- a. We are able to offer a Fast Track service on transfer of ownership. For an additional £45 added to the transfer fee, turnaround will be within 2 working days. Please note we are only able to provide this service if the transfer form has been signed by the last registered owner and the correct payment and passport are received at the same time.

7. CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- a. For all horses issued with a Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain or Scottish Sport Horse passport.
- b. Please advise us of any change in address by completing a Change of Address Form available from our website. Please send this form with your passport to enable us to update our records and the passport.

7.1. FEES:

- ❖ If the passport is rivet bound and complies with current DEFRA legislation, the fee for updating your address is £17.
- ❖ If the passport is older and does not comply with current DEFRA legislation or is damaged, the fee for updating and replacing the passport is £50.
- ❖ If you would like your passport returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery, please include an additional £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

8. GELDING CERTIFICATE:

- a. If your passport was issued to your horse when he was a colt/stallion and he is now gelded, your passport should be returned to the SHB(GB) office for amendment.
- b. Please download a Gelding Certificate from our website and return with your passport.

8.1. FEES:

- ❖ No fee payable if your passport is rivet bound and contains the page marked as Section I – Part C – Castration, verification of the description, recording in database.
- ❖ If the passport is older and does not contain this page the fee for updating and replacing the passport is £50.
- ❖ If you would like your passport returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery please include an additional £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

9. MICROCHIP:

- a. Since October 2020 microchipping of all horses was made a legal requirement in the United Kingdom.
- b. If your horse has been issued with a SHB(GB) or Scottish Sport Horse passport and has since had a microchip/transponder inserted, SHB(GB) must be notified.
- c. Please complete a Notification of Implant of a Microchip/Transponder form available to download from our website and forward with the fee of £5.
- d. If you would like your passport returned by Royal Mail Special Delivery, please include an additional £15. If you do not choose this service your passport will be returned by second class post and will not be tracked.

10. NAMING:

- a. Foals may be registered unnamed and named at a later date for the fee of £50. Once named, the name may not be changed under any circumstances.
- b. If using a prefix or suffix, please note that this must be registered with the Central Prefix Register for use with this Society.
- c. Affixes are only for use by breeders on their homebred stock and cannot be used on purchased animals. An affix denotes a word that is used before or after a horse's name that may be, for example, part of a name or address, a place name or a made-up word. If you are in doubt regarding the name you have chosen, please contact the Society before sending in your application.
- d. Applications that include an unregistered affix or an affix that is currently registered by another breeder will be returned.

- e. Applications to register a prefix should be made to SHB(GB). New affixes are £60 and to extend an existing affix for use with Sport Horse Breeding is £25.
- f. If an application includes a name that is already in use, a roman numeral will be added as appropriate.
- g. The Society reserves the right to refuse to register a name which may cause offence.

11. RESCINDING OF PASSPORT:

- a. In certain cases, there is a DEFRA approved procedure in place for the rescinding of ID only passports in favour of a breed society passport. Full details and costs are available from the SHB(GB) office.

12. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS:

- a. All passports and certificates issued by the Society remain its property and must be returned to the Society on demand.

13. LEGISLATION:

- a. Horse passport regulations state that all owners must obtain a passport for each horse they own (including ponies, donkeys, and other equidae).
- b. All 'late' registrations will be issued with either a duplicate or replacement passport in line with the DEFRA minimum operating standards for Passport Issuing Organisation.
- c. Other adult horses not previously issued with a passport should also be microchipped and their passports will be signed as not intended for the food chain.
- d. Only Veterinary Surgeons can implant a microchip into a horse and they must check the animal for an existing microchip prior to implantation and any evidence that a microchip has been removed. Where an existing microchip is found, SHB(GB) will try and establish where the horse is registered. The owner may also be required to carry out their own checks. If the horse is registered with another Society, the owner will be referred to that organisation. If the identity of the horse cannot be established, SHB(GB) will issue a passport which will be stamped "Replacement" and the horse will be declared as not intended for human consumption.
- e. In the event of any SHB(GB) passport being lost a "Duplicate" will be issued and the horse will be declared as not intended for human consumption.
- f. If the passport is not available or the vet does not know whether the horse is eligible for entry into the food chain the vet should not administer drugs not authorised for food producing animals and must use an alternative product.
- g. Owners and keepers with primary responsibility (a person who takes care of the animal on a day-to-day basis, e.g., Full Livery, Racehorse trainers, etc.) must ensure that their horses are correctly identified and be able to produce the passport without delay in the event of an inspection.
- h. Only owners can apply for a passport.
- i. The passport must accompany the horse at all times unless stabled or at pasture or moved on foot when the passport can be made available within 3 hours.
- j. When a horse passes away, the owner must send the passport back to the PIO to be recorded within 30 days – the passport may be returned to the owner once the process is completed if requested. If the passport is not available when the vet is in attendance - the owner is responsible for ensuring that the drugs administered are recorded on the passport.
- k. Failure to comply with the legislation is punishable by a fine of up to £5000.
- l. For further information, please visit the Defra website.

- m. The Society will enter into the stud book, animals of the same breed, line or cross that are eligible for entry under the Society's breed criteria, without discrimination on account of their country of origin.

14. PROGENY OF COLTS:

- a. Animals sired by colts aged 2, 3 or 4 at the time of covering, that grade with SHB(GB) within 18 months of the covering, can be registered into the stud book providing the parentage is verified by DNA and the animal is identified as a foal while still on its dam and the parentage verification fee is paid in addition to the registration and DNA fees.
- b. The fact that a colt has been issued with a passport does not constitute a Stallion Registration or Licence. Colts three years old or over must be brought forward for Grading to be registered as a breeding stallion and issued with covering certificates.

15. UPDATING DOCUMENTS:

- a. Where a passport has already been issued and is then returned either with the correct paperwork for breeding to be added or with hair samples for DNA testing, an administration fee of £50 will be payable in addition to any DNA fees and the parentage verification fee.

16. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION:

- a. All animals conceived by AI must be parentage tested to both parents for breeding to be recorded, even if registered on the Identity Record. If the profiles are not already on record with SHB(GB), DNA samples will be required for sire, dam and offspring and the cost will be £60 per sample.

17. EMBRYO TRANSFER:

- a. Foals that are the result of embryo transfer must be parentage verified to the sire and the donor mare.
- b. The registered owner of the donor mare will be recorded as the breeder unless the Society is notified otherwise. A hair sample will be required from the recipient mare which will be held and only analysed in the event of the foal failing its parentage test.

18. AMENDMENT OF RULES:

- a. The Council of SHB(GB) reserves the right to amend any of the Society's Rules for Registration at any time. Members will be notified via the Society's publications and website.
- b. While these Rules are the normal requirements of the Society the Council reserves the right to make exceptions to the Rules as it sees fit in exceptional circumstances.
- c. To comply with Commission Decision 92-353-EEC Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain declares there will be no discrimination between Members.

MARE & FOAL AND STALLION GRADING RULES

MARE GRADING RULES

1. BENEFITS OF MARE GRADING:

- a. The top three mares will receive prize money £400, £300 & £300. The Robert Warden Memorial Trophy will be awarded annually to the owner of the mare that receives the highest marks.
- b. Apart from the mares receiving the top mare awards, all mares achieving Head Stud Book status will be awarded a voucher for a free foal registration (including DNA). Vouchers are valid for two years, to be used on any SHB(GB) Graded Stallion currently registered for the year of covering.
- c. Recognition with The World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses.
- d. Entry into one of the SHB(GB) Stud Books and thereby progeny eligible for Stud Book papers. The progeny must be by an SHB(GB) Graded or Approved Stallion or the sire must be registered as a breeding stallion with another official breed society. The progeny of SHB(GB) Graded Mares by unregistered stallions will not be eligible for the Stud Book.
- e. All progeny eligible to compete in the BS age classes.

2. ELITE MARES:

- a. Mares will be granted the title ELITE if either they or their progeny fulfil the following criteria:
 - (i) DRESSAGE - Placed at a CDI*** Competition at Intermediaire I/II or Grand Prix Level.
 - (ii) EVENTING - Completed a CCI***** and/or placed in top twelve of a CCI***** Event.
 - (iii) SHOWJUMPING - Placed in Grand Prix at a CSI or CSIO Competition and/or competed on a Nations Cup Team.
 - (iv) RACING - Have a BHB Timeform rating of a minimum of 110 on the Flat or a National Hunt BHB Official Handicap rating of 145 or higher or have progeny competing at any of these levels.

3. GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL MARES:

- a. To be eligible for mare grading, mares must:
 - (i) Be 148cm or above.
 - (ii) Be 3 years old or over.
 - (iii) Submit a sample for a DNA test for which the owner is liable for the cost once accepted into any of the Stud Books.
 - (iv) Be registered with SHB(GB), or be in possession of a Passport issued by another DEFRA approved P.I.O. Only breeding recorded on the passport will be accepted.
 - (v) Be owned by a current Member of the SHB(GB).
- b. Eligibility for specific sections of the stud book will be decided by:
 - (i) Number of proven generations of pedigree and marks awarded at grading OR Grading status with other breed societies.
 - (ii) Mares presented for SHB(GB) Mare Grading will be required to be shown in hand to assess conformation and paces following an initial trot up on a hard surface.
 - (iii) All mares must be presented in bridles and foals must be led at all times.

- (iv) It is strongly recommended that all handlers wear a hat and safety harness according to the current standard.
- (v) Mares which are not sound must submit a letter from a Veterinary Surgeon stating the reason for the unsoundness. This will be taken into account when their final mark is calculated.
- (vi) Mare owners also have the option of presenting their mares under saddle in addition to the In-Hand assessment. Mares who satisfy the Judges as to their rideability in this way or can provide proof of ridden competition success in sport may be awarded the complimentary initial R (for Ridden) in front of their graded status.
- (vii) Mares who are transferred from another Stud Book may also be awarded the complimentary initial R if they can provide proof of ridden competition success.
- (viii) If following grading, a mare or her progeny go on to compete successfully, it may be possible for her to upgrade to a higher stud book. Please contact the office for further detail.

4. HEAD STUD BOOK:

a. To be eligible for head stud book mares must:

- (i) Have three generations of proven pedigree and achieve a grading mark of 8 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.
or:
- (ii) Have three generations of proven pedigree and be a Head, Select or equivalent status mare in a recognised Sport Horse or Warmblood Stud Book, either in the UK or abroad.

If less than three generations of proven pedigree:

- (iii) Achieve a mark of 8.5 or above and have a B.H.B. official handicap rating of 80 or higher on the Flat, or a National Hunt B.H.B. official handicap rating of 100 or higher, or be an Advanced Eventer, Grade A Showjumper or Advanced Dressage mare, or have progeny competing at any of these levels.
or:
- (iv) Reach the required level of performance to be Elite or have progeny that meet the criteria and achieve a grading mark of 5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.

5. MAIN STUD BOOK:

a. To be eligible for main stud book mares must:

- (i) Have two generations of proven pedigree and achieve a grading mark of 6.5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.
or:
- (ii) Have two generations or more of proven pedigree and be a Main or equivalent status mare in a recognised Sport Horse or Warmblood Stud Book either in the UK or abroad.
or:
- (iii) Have less than two generations of proven pedigree and achieve a grading mark of 8.5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.

6. FOUNDATION STUD BOOK:

- a. To be eligible for foundation stud book mares must have:
 - (i) Achieve a grading mark of 5 or above at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading.
or
 - (ii) Foundation Book or equivalent status in a recognised Sport Horse or Warmblood Stud Book either in the UK or abroad.

7. MARES GRADED WITH OTHER SOCIETIES:

- a. These mares do not need to appear at an SHB(GB) Mare Grading and will be entered into the appropriate Stud Book according to their current graded status. There will be a fee to overstamp their recognised Passports and they will have to submit a sample for a DNA test with the relevant fee.

PLEASE NOTE:

- b. For breeding to be accepted as “proven” mares must be registered with an official breed society and her papers must be submitted to SHB(GB) for over stamping.
- c. NB: Progeny foaled in the UK out of an SHB(GB) Graded Mare sired by a stallion standing abroad that fulfils the SHB(GB) criteria for a Foreign Graded Stallion will be eligible for registration in the SHB(GB) Full Stud Book, so long as a DNA profile is available for the sire to allow for parentage verification of the offspring.

FOAL GRADING RULES

- a. Foals must be at least six weeks old on the day of the grading Foals must be owned by a current Member of SHB(GB).
- b. Foals must be expected to attain 148cm or above at maturity.
- b. Foals will be shown loose.
- c. Foals do not need to be registered to be graded.
- d. On registration with SHB(GB) the foal will have an official stamp in their passport denoting their graded status.
- e. Foals that score 8 or above will be 'Premium'. Foals that score between 6.5-7.9 will be 'Graded'.
- f. At the end of the annual foal grading series the breeder of the highest scoring champion foal will receive £500, and the breeder of the reserve champion will be awarded £300.
- g. Only foals that have been registered and have an SHB(GB) passport will be eligible for the prize fund.
- h. All foals must attend an official SHB(GB) Foal Grading.

FOR DETAILS OF MARE AND FOAL GRADING VENUES AND ENTRY FORMS PLEASE CONTACT THE SOCIETY USING THE CONTACT NUMBERS AT THE FRONT OF THIS HANDBOOK

STALLION GRADING RULES

1. BENEFITS OF STALLION GRADING:

- a. Stallions recognised by mare owners as being of a high standard.
- b. Recognition with The World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses.

- c. Graded Stallions currently registered for the year of covering are eligible to accept Service Vouchers awarded by this Society to Brood Mares.
- d. Promotion of all Graded Stallions via Membership, National & International advertising, website and Society's Trade Stand which attends major shows and events around the country.
- e. Accurate covering and foaling records maintained.
- f. Eligible to compete as an entire under BS Rules.
- g. Stock eligible for SHB(GB) Stud Book papers.

2. GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL STALLIONS:

- a. All stallions must:
 - (i) Be 148cm (14.2 hh) or above.
 - (ii) Be 3 years old or over.
 - (iii) Stallions applying for Grading must have a minimum of 3 generations of proven pedigree.
 - (iv) Sign a declaration stating that they agree to abide by the Levy Board codes of practice for the prevention of venereal diseases, forward copies of C.E.M swab certificate and provide a negative blood test result for E.V.A. or a copy of an Artervac vaccination record.
 - (v) Submit a sample for a DNA test for which the owner is liable for the cost when passing the initial Grading or supply details of where DNA profile is held.
 - (vi) Submit a result for W.F.F.S.
 - (vii) Be owned by a current Member of SHB(GB).

3. MARKS:

- a. To be awarded Premium status stallions must achieve an average mark of 8 or above.
- b. To be awarded Graded status stallions must achieve an average mark of 7.0 for the conformation assessment and receive an overall average mark of 6.5 or above.
- c. Should a stallion receive a mark of 5 or below at any point in the assessment (except the performance mark) it will automatically fail. ALL THE MARKS OF THE SUCCESSFUL STALLIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED.
- d. Graded stallions may be upgraded to Premium on the performance of their progeny or by coming forward for reassessment.
- e. All stallions that themselves or their progeny, achieve a successful competition record at Intermediate Eventing, Grade B Showjumping or Medium Level Dressage will become either Premium * or Graded *.

4. ELITE STALLIONS:

- a. Premium* and Graded* stallions will be granted the title ELITE if either they or their progeny fulfil the following criteria:
 - (i) DRESSAGE - Placed at a CDI*** competition at Intermediare I/II or Grand Prix
EVENTING - Completed a CCI***** or placed in top twelve of a CCI***** event.
 - (ii) SHOW JUMPING - Placed in Grand Prix at SI or CSIO Competition and/or competed on a Nations Cup Team.
 - (iii) Stallions which have themselves reached the level to be ELITE and also have progeny at the required level for ELITE status will be granted the title ELITE*.

5. VETERINARY INSPECTION:

- a.** Please refer to the SHB(GB) 5 Stage Clinical Examination Pre Stallion Grading document available to download from www.sporhorsegb.co.uk No entry will be accepted without the report of a 5 Stage Clinical Examination as detailed in the above document. Please ensure that this document is brought to the attention of your Veterinary Surgeon BEFORE the examination. No other veterinary certificate will be accepted.
- b.** The Society reserves the right to refer stallions for further veterinary assessment. Blood samples may be taken at the grading for the analysis of non-normal nutrients.

6. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE:

- a.** All stallions will be assessed on conformation, movement in hand and loose and loose jumping and be shown under saddle at walk, trot and canter. They may be jumped under saddle at the option of the owner. Horses wishing to register with BS must be jumped under saddle.
- b.** Thoroughbred stallions with a minimum Timeform rating of 80 on the Flat or a National Hunt BHB Official Handicap rating of 120 or above may apply for grading via an alternative system. For full details please contact the office.
- c.** Thoroughbred stallions that have raced with lower than the aforementioned Timeform rating will be required to come forward for assessment on their conformation, movement in hand and loose. They will not be required to be seen under saddle. Their racing performance will be taken into account. To achieve Premium status, they will also be required to loose jump (to a maximum height of 90cm).
- d.** Thoroughbred stallions that have raced with lower than the aforementioned Timeform rating will be required to come forward for assessment on their conformation, movement in hand and loose. They will not be required to be seen under saddle. Their racing performance will be taken into account. To achieve Premium status, they will also be required to loose jump (to a maximum height of 90cm).
- e.** Unraced TB stallions will need to be assessed in the same way as other stallions.
- f.** Stallions coming forward for assessment aged 10 years or over will be required to provide proof of:
 - (i) Successful competition record at Intermediate Eventing, Grade B Showjumping or Medium Level Dressage.
or:
 - (ii) A B.H.B. Official Handicap Rating on the Flat of 80 or higher, or a National Hunt B.H.B. Official Handicap Rating of 100 or higher.
or:
 - (iii) Have run 15 or more times on the racecourse.
or:
 - (iv) Have sired stock competing at the same level
- g.** Pure bred stallions graded or registered with a recognised indigenous breed society (e.g. Irish Draught, Cleveland Bays, etc.) can only apply to come forward for assessment with the written consent of their Breed Society.

7. STALLIONS ELIGIBLE TO TRANSFER INTO THE SHB(GB) STUD BOOK

- a.** Stallions that are fully graded with any foreign society that is a full Member of the WBFSh AND that have a performance test result of 100 or higher, can apply to be accepted as SHB(GB) Graded Stallions. Proof of graded status must be submitted with a

completed application form & the relevant fee. Please contact the office for an application form.

- b.** These rules also include stallions graded with daughter societies in the UK.
- c.** N.B. Progeny foaled in the UK out of an SHB(GB) Graded Mare sired by a stallion standing abroad that fulfils the SHB(GB) criteria for a Foreign Graded Stallion will be eligible for registration in the SHB(GB) Full Stud Book, so long as a DNA profile is available for the sire to allow for parentage verification of the offspring.
- d.** Stallions that have attained the highest level of Approval/Grading in the UK with another Society that is a full Member of the WBFSH and have attained points or money at a minimum of Intermediate Eventing, Grade B Showjumping or Medium Dressage, or have progeny that have achieved the same level, can apply to be accepted as SHB(GB) Graded Stallions. Proof of graded status must be submitted with a completed application form & the relevant fee. Please contact the office for an application form.
- e.** Stallions Approved/Graded at lower levels or that do not have the required level of performance or that are approved with societies which are not full Members of the WBFSH will have to come forward for SHB(GB) Grading.
- f.** The Stallion Committee reserves the right to alter or amend these rules and regulations from time to time as they see fit. The Stallion Committee also reserves the right to assess individual cases on their merit and in exceptional circumstances certain dispensations may be granted.

POLICY SECTION

Policies and Policy Statements:

GDPR

SHB(GB) Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult (Safeguarding) Policy

SHB(GB) Health and Safety Policy Statement

SHB(GB) Equine Influenza Vaccinations Policy

SHB(GB) Social Media Policy

SHB(GB) Complaints and Disciplinary Policy

SHB(GB) Drug Testing – Policy & Procedure

SHB(GB) Equal Opportunities and Non-Discrimination Policy

SHB(GB) Good Conduct & Discipline Policy

Code of Practice Welfare

The General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR)

a. General

Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain (“SHB(GB)”) is a data controller registered with the Information Commissioner and endeavours at all times to process your personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). Your personal details will be kept confidential and secure and, as part of your Membership contract, will be processed by SHB(GB) for the following purposes:

- ❖ Administration of your Membership of SHB(GB) (see overleaf).
 - ❖ Contacting you about SHB(GB)'s activities.
 - ❖ Statistical and analytical purposes.
 - ❖ Providing details of Panel Judges to Affiliated Shows.
 - ❖ Supplying information to the DEFRA (see above).
- b. SHB(GB) will not disclose your personal data to third party data controllers other than in connection with the DEFRA passport legislation, unless in accordance with law or with your permission.
- c. SHB(GB) will continue to process your personal data as part of its ongoing horse breeding database, until you notify SHB(GB) to stop processing your personal data.
- d. Information supplied in connection with your Membership application or horse registration will be passed by SHB(GB) to DEFRA to provide a source of data that supports veterinary disease control and surveillance activities:
- ❖ to discharge its responsibilities for implementation of horse passports.
 - ❖ to facilitate strategic planning within the equine sector.
 - ❖ to assist in tracing the owners of straying, lost or stolen horses; and
 - ❖ to reduce malpractice in the sale of horses and ponies.
- e. The horse passport-based information may, in future, be used for research purposes or statistical analysis by educational and commercial organisations. Your personal data may be shared, if necessary, within the DEFRA family, with other Central Government Departments and with Non-Departmental Public Bodies and with Local Authorities. They are required by law to always keep your personal data confidential and secure. Data may be processed by a contracted third party on their behalf: that party will also be required to keep all data secure
- f. In certain, limited circumstances, DEFRA or its agents may be required to release information, including personal data, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations, the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, neither DEFRA nor its agents will permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will SHB(GB) act in contravention of its obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.
- g. Unless you indicate otherwise to DEFRA or its appointed agents may use the name, address and other details on your application form to contact you in connection with occasional customer research, aimed at improving the services that it provides.

SHB(GB) Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult (Safeguarding) Policy

- a. Child protection is defined in the Children Act 1989 & 2004 and legislation is in place to protect children from significant harm, abuse (physical/sexual/emotional) neglect and exploitation. SHB(GB) ensures its response to safeguarding concerns are in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023).
- b. Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain takes its responsibilities to ensure that children competing at our events do so in a safe and protected environment.
- c. It is acknowledged that when children (those under the age of 18 years) compete in SHB(GB) competitions this is done in the public domain and relationships between children and any officials is different to those of an instructor/trainer relationship. Therefore, safeguards that need to be put in place do not need to be as extensive.
- d. In all circumstances parents (or those with parental responsibility) remain accountable and responsible for the safety of their children and their own actions and behaviour towards their own and other people's children whilst competing in SHB(GB) competitions.
- e. SHB(GB) takes its responsibilities in this regard very seriously and requires all its paid employees, directors (Council Members), Judges and officials who appear in the SHB(GB) Rule Book, to voluntarily disclose whether they have any convictions, cautions or outstanding matters that would prohibit or make them unsuitable to be in the close proximity of children or vulnerable adults. (This includes criminal convictions that would otherwise be classed as 'spent' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974). This declaration authorises the Society to request an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Certificate on any person where any concerns are raised and to ban anyone who they deem to be unsuitable from Membership of the Society. This procedure excludes BHS accredited instructors and yards as they are subject to BHS Safeguarding & Child Protection policy.
- f. Photographs and videos must only be taken of children (under 18) by parents or those who have parental responsibility for the child or with the authorised consent of those with parental responsibility to do so. Official photographers and or those authorised to live stream events are excluded, parents or those with parental responsibility should advise the official photographer and or those authorised to live stream events if they do not wish their child to be photographed and or live streamed in advance of the class providing the competitor number.
- g. At SHB(GB) Championship shows, where children stay overnight on the showground, the Society takes the safety and security very seriously and always contract with an appropriate security provider to minimise risks and ensure that everyone can compete in a safe environment.
- h. It is everyone's responsibility to report and act, if they believe any child (or vulnerable adult) is being subject to abuse. In such circumstances, the Society will report these matters to the Police and relevant child protection agencies immediately upon receipt of the information. Information of this nature will not and cannot be kept confidential as the safety of child and young people is paramount. Competitors are advised to seek further information from equestrian@safetoplay.co.uk

SHB(GB) Health & Safety Policy Statement

- ❖ The trustees of Sport Horse Breeding (GB) strive to ensure that all its activities are run from appropriate venues and are organised with Health, Safety and Welfare in mind.
- ❖ We will work with others to provide appropriate levels of safety and security within our shows and events.
- ❖ We will assess (under any specific duty or regulation as laid down), any risk issues associated with the show or event and carry out all actions required within the assessment action plan.
- ❖ We will seek to establish and promote a positive Health & Safety culture within the Society.
- ❖ We will require all Judges stewards and other officials to conduct themselves within the policy as laid down.

SHB(GB) Equine Influenza Vaccinations Policy

- a. Any horse receiving a new Primary Course of equine influenza vaccine as of 1st January in the current year, must be vaccinated as follows;
 - ❖ 1st vaccination - 2nd vaccination interval 21-60 days. Horses having received first two vaccinations may compete, providing 2nd vaccination has not been given within 7 days of arriving at an event.
 - ❖ 3rd vaccination to be given within 120 – 180 days after 2nd, so long as 3rd vaccination has not been given within 7 days of arriving at an event.
 - ❖ All further boosters under FEI rules must be given within 6 months and 21 days to allow horses to compete.
 - ❖ The minimum standard is Horses must have been vaccinated to comply with the requirements for the Primary Course, First Booster and all subsequent boosters.
 - ❖ Horses that received their primary course before 2005 are exempt from the first booster requirement. Subsequent boosters must have been given at intervals no later than 1 calendar year after the primary course.
 - ❖ All competitors are strongly advised to check the FEI website for ongoing FEI updates. It is recommended that all competitors/exhibitors/Members/producers check with shows that fall under FEI regulation before entering, e.g. Windsor, Hickstead, HOYS, etc.

SHB(GB) Social Media Policy

a. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to guide the responsible and respectful use of social media by Members, volunteers, staff, officials, and representatives of SHB(GB). Our aim is to protect the Society's reputation and the welfare of horses and people involved; promote positive, accurate, and respectful communication within the equestrian community; and prevent online behaviour that could harm individuals, horses, or the standing of the Society. You should be aware that SHB(GB) may from time to time carry out internet Searches to identify postings which include references to SHB(GB) and its Members.

b. Scope

This policy applies to all Members, officials, volunteers, coaches, Judges, and representatives of the Society, across all online platforms including but not limited to: Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, X (Twitter), Threads, blogs, forums, and messaging groups (e.g. WhatsApp) where Society matters, events, or Members are discussed.

c. Guiding Principles

- ❖ Respect – Treat others online as you would like to be treated yourself with, with courtesy, honesty, and fairness.
- ❖ Responsibility – You are personally accountable for the content you post or share.
- ❖ Reputation – Your online behaviour reflects on the Society, the equestrian community, and horse welfare.
- ❖ Integrity – Never post false, misleading, or confidential information about horses, Members, or events.

d. Personal Use of Social Media

Members are encouraged to share their passion for horses and Society activities. However:

- ❖ Do not claim to represent or speak on behalf of the Society unless authorised.
- ❖ Include a disclaimer if commenting on Society matters (e.g. "Views expressed are my own and not those of SHB(GB)").
- ❖ Do not share private or internal discussions, results under protest, disciplinary matters, or confidential information.
- ❖ Avoid posting derogatory or inflammatory remarks about other Members, officials, horses, or societies; that is threatening, defamatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, Pornographic, abusive, liable to incite racial hatred, discriminatory, menacing, scandalous, inflammatory, blasphemous, in breach of confidence, in breach of privacy or which may cause annoyance, distress or inconvenience; or which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of the SHB(GB) Rules, or constitutes a criminal offence, or which could give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the

laws of, or infringe the rights of any third party in, the UK or any other country in the world.

- ❖ Never share images or videos of horses in distress, poor condition, or being handled unsafely without context or consent.
- ❖ If you see something that breaches welfare standards, report it to the Society (see para 9) avoid engaging publicly as this can prevent the society from being able to deal with the breach effectively.
- ❖ Do not use the Society's logo, branding, or photos from official events without permission.
- ❖ Members are responsible for the actions of any non- members who are family members or who are friends or friends of family members, or who are employed by them or assisting, supporting or representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf and any action or such conduct of such non-member which would be in breach of the Rules were he a Member shall constitute a breach of the Rules by the Member concerned.
- ❖ Family Member is defined at Section 4(i) of this Handbook.
- ❖ Any behaviour on Social Media that would constitute a breach of safeguarding procedures, affecting the welfare and safety of children or vulnerable adults is strictly forbidden. Any comments on social media that are homophobic, antisemitic, misogynistic, racist or incite others to behave in this way to others will be in breach of this policy.

e. Official Social Media Accounts

Only authorised individuals (e.g. SHB(GB) employees, Council Members or other authorised individuals) may post on official Society accounts. They must share accurate and verified information, obtain permission before posting identifiable images of Members or minors, promote horse welfare and inclusivity, respond courteously, and report inappropriate comments to the Council.

f. Expected Conduct Online

All Members are expected to uphold the Society's Code of Conduct and Welfare Policy, respect confidentiality, refrain from gossip or personal attacks, use constructive language if raising concerns, and never use social media to bully or harass others.

g. Protecting Horses and Welfare

Never share images or videos of horses in distress, poor condition, or being handled unsafely without context or consent. Content promoting best practice, safety, and welfare is encouraged. If you see something that breaches welfare standards, report it to the Society (see para 9) avoid engaging publicly as this can prevent the society from being able to deal with the breach effectively.

h. Breaches and Consequences

Breaches of this policy may lead to informal advice, formal warnings, suspension or termination of Membership, removal from official duties, or referral to authorities or governing bodies where appropriate.

i. Reporting Concerns

If you see something that breaches welfare standards, report it to the Society avoid engaging publicly as this can prevent the society from being able to deal with the breach effectively.

Concerns should be reported confidentially to the General Secretary, Chair, or Vice Chair (catherine@sporthorsegb.co.uk) or initially by telephone (01732 866277). Reports will be handled discreetly, fairly, and without retaliation.

j. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or as needed to ensure it remains relevant and effective. Members will be notified of any significant changes.

k. Related Policies

- ❖ Good Conduct
- ❖ Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy
- ❖ Welfare Policy
- ❖ Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure

l. Support

Bullying and abuse on social media can have a devastating and detrimental effect on those subjected to it and on their family and friends. Rider Minds has created a resource on their website that offer support and advice for anyone affected. Visit: ridersminds.org. Call 0300 1021540 or text 07860 065 202. Rider Minds offer an online counselling support, one to one sessions and a 24/7 helpline.

m. DISCLOSURE UNDER LAW OR REGULATION

You should be aware that SHB(GB) will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing SHB(GB) to disclose the identity or locate anyone posting any material in breach of this policy. If we are requested by the police or any other regulatory or government authority investigating suspected illegal activities to provide your personal information, SHB(GB) is entitled to do so.

SHB(GB) Complaints and Disciplinary Policy

The Society is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and fairness in all its activities. This policy explains how complaints are handled and how disciplinary matters are addressed. It ensures that all parties are treated fairly, consistently and transparently.

a. Purpose and Scope

This policy applies to all Members, officials, volunteers, and participants of the Society. It covers complaints about conduct, breaches of rules, or behaviour that may bring the Society into disrepute. Complaints about staff are handled separately under employment procedures. Complaints regarding JMB Height Certificates must be made directly to the Joint Measurement Board. Complaints about Council Members will be investigated ensuring and evidencing that there are no conflicts of interest during the investigation and formal review process.

b. Guiding Principles

- ❖ Complaints will be handled fairly, promptly, and without prejudice.
- ❖ Everyone involved will be given the opportunity to present their case.
- ❖ Confidentiality will be maintained wherever possible.
- ❖ All proceedings will follow due process in line with the Society's rules.

c. How to Make a Complaint

Complaints must be made in writing within 14 days of the incident, marked 'Private and Confidential'. Anonymous complaints cannot be accepted.

d. Please include:

- ❖ Your full name, address, phone number, and Membership number (if applicable).
- ❖ A clear description of your complaint and any supporting evidence.
- ❖ (Optional) A supporting statement from an independent witness.

e. Send by recorded delivery or email (requesting a delivery receipt) to:

Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain
96 High Street, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 5AR
Email: office@sporthorsegb.co.uk

f. Stage 1 – Informal Resolution

Upon receipt, the Chair and Vice-Chair will review the complaint and may suggest mediation or informal resolution. If resolved, the outcome will be confirmed in writing. If not resolved, the matter will move to Stage 2 – Formal Review by the Council. An investigating Officer will be appointed at this stage.

g. Stage 2 – Formal Council Review

The Council will review the complaint and invite written or oral representations from the parties involved. The Council will decide whether there has been a breach of rules and may impose one or more of the following outcomes:

- ❖ Dismiss the complaint in whole or part.
 - ❖ Uphold the complaint but take no action (where mitigating circumstances apply).
 - ❖ Issue a reprimand or caution.
 - ❖ Suspend Membership temporarily or permanently. Suspensions will be applied to ensure that they are effective in terms of the period they cover.
 - ❖ Suspend a horse, owner, rider, producer or official from competition
 - ❖ Impose a fine of up to £5,000. Suspensions will be applied to ensure that they are effective in terms of the period they cover.
 - ❖ Remove a Judge from the panel or prevent an official from officiating at Society events.
- h. If the Council considers the matter serious or complex, it will refer the case to the Disciplinary Panel (Stage 3).

i. Stage 3 – Disciplinary Procedure

- j. The Disciplinary Panel will consist of three independent individuals.
- k. The Member will be informed of the allegations, the evidence, and their right to attend a hearing or submit written evidence.
- l. The Panel will hold a fair hearing, consider all evidence, and may call witnesses. Its written decision, with reasons, will be issued within 14 days of the hearing.
- m. Possible outcomes include:
- ❖ Dismiss the complaint in whole or part.
 - ❖ Uphold the complaint but take no action (where mitigating circumstances apply).
 - ❖ Issue a reprimand or caution.
 - ❖ Suspend Membership temporarily or permanently. Suspensions will be applied to ensure that they are effective in terms of the period they cover.
 - ❖ Suspend a horse, owner, rider, producer or official from competition.
 - ❖ Impose a fine of up to £5,000.
 - ❖ Remove a Judge from the panel or prevent an official from officiating at Society events.

n. Animal Welfare Offences

If a court finds a Member guilty of an offence relating to animal welfare, the Society may take reciprocal action consistent with the Court's decision. If a Member is banned by a Court from keeping or owning animals, the Society may revoke their Membership for the same or longer period.

- o. There is no right of appeal against a welfare issue determined by a Court.
- p. In addition to cases determined by a Court, the Society reserves the right to take disciplinary action in relation to animal welfare concerns where credible and evidenced reports are received. Where sufficient information is provided to suggest that a Member has engaged in, contributed to, or permitted the neglect, mistreatment, or harm of animals, the Society may initiate an internal investigation and take appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with this procedure.
- q. Such measures will be determined following due process and fair consideration of the evidence presented. All reports will be assessed objectively, with confidentiality maintained wherever possible, and outcomes recorded in accordance with the Society's disciplinary and data protection procedures.

r. Stage 4 – Appeals Procedure

- s. Members may appeal in writing within 14 days of being informed of a disciplinary decision. The appeal must state the full grounds and be sent to the Secretary.
- t. An independent Appeal Committee of three people will review the case. The Committee may uphold, overturn, or amend the decision. The decision of the Appeal Committee is final.

u. Information Sharing

- v. Any Owner, Rider, Producer, and/or Horse or Pony who is, for any period, suspended, banned, or otherwise subject to disciplinary sanction imposed by the BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, TSR, NPS, or any other recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline affiliated to, or operating in accordance with, the British Equestrian Federation (BEF) or its recognised Member bodies, shall not be eligible to compete in SHB(GB) Affiliated Classes for the duration of such sanction. The application and enforcement of this restriction shall be at the sole discretion of the SHB(GB) Council.

- w. SHB(GB) reserves the right to disclose, receive, and exchange information concerning any disciplinary action taken against an Owner, Rider, Producer, and/or Horse or Pony with the BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, TSR, NPS, and any other recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline, where such disclosure is deemed appropriate for the purposes of maintaining the integrity, reputation, and good conduct of the sport.

x. Definition

For the purposes of this regulation, the term 'recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline' shall refer to any organisation or body responsible for the regulation, governance, or administration of an equestrian sport or activity within the United Kingdom, recognised by or operating in accordance with the principles and

standards of the British Equestrian Federation (BEF), or any equivalent international federation.

y. JMB Objections

Any dispute concerning a JMB Height Certificate must be referred to the Joint Measurement Board (JMB) Stewards and will be handled under their Rules. Details can be found at: The Joint Measurement Board Ltd, P.O. Box 396, Hereford HR1 9QQ, Tel: 01981 510201.

The SHB(GB) have the right to request a measurement on any horse registered on an Annual JMB Height Certificate. The horse must be measured at the owner's expense within 21 days of notification by the SHB(GB).

Unless the horse is measured within this time its SHB(GB) registration will be withdrawn and the matter may be referred to the Disciplinary Committee and the Membership of the owner, at the time of the request for a measurement will be suspended

An animal that received an objection to its JMB height certificate which is subsequently upheld will forfeit any previous qualification gained for Horse of the Year Show, RIHS, or SHB(GB) Championships Shows in the current year and the qualification will be passed to the next eligible exhibit with the eligible placings.

SHB(GB) Drug Testing – Policy and Procedures

a. OVERVIEW

- i. Sport Horse Breeding (GB) [SHB(GB)] is committed to maintaining fairness, integrity, and the welfare of horses at all affiliated shows and events.
- ii. This policy outlines the rules and procedures for drug testing, including the responsibilities of Members, sampling and analysis processes, and disciplinary measures.

b. Member Responsibilities

- i. Members, owners, and exhibitors are advised that any drug testing conducted by SHB(GB) at SHB(GB) Shows or Affiliated Shows will follow these rules.
- ii. SHB(GB) takes a strict stance on doping, whether intentional or accidental, to protect the welfare of horses and ensure fair competition. Members must be aware that many feeds, supplements, and even foods such as chocolate may contain prohibited substances. Some substances can also be absorbed through the skin or found in herbal or homeopathic remedies.
- iii. It is the sole responsibility of the Member, owner, or producer to ensure that no prohibited substance is administered, fed, or applied to a horse. Ignorance is not defence. Owners should have a full and frank conversation with their producer(s) not to administer any medication without their knowledge and consent.
- iv. SHB(GB) does not provide individual advice on substances. As a rule, any substance prohibited by the FEI (Fédération Équestre Internationale) is also prohibited by SHB(GB). Although SHB(GB) does not set its own threshold levels, FEI thresholds may be referenced when considering results.

c. Key Definitions

- i. **Drugs Testing:** The examination of a horse by a qualified person authorised by SHB(GB), including the collection of samples (such as body fluids, tissues, excreta, hair, or skin scrapings) for laboratory analysis.

d. PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES:

- i. These are divided into two categories:
- ii. **Banned Substances** – substances with no legitimate medical use in competition horses and a high potential for abuse. These are not permitted at any time.
- iii. **Controlled Medications** – substances with recognised therapeutic uses that may affect performance or welfare.

e. DRUG TESTING PROCEDURES

- i. SHB(GB) may conduct drug testing through authorised representatives or partner societies, including BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, NPS, TSR, and JMB.
- ii. Any horse competing under SHB(GB) Rules may be selected for testing, competing or not. Refusal to allow testing is a breach of this policy.

- iii. Horses competing in HOYS qualifying classes under BSHA or TSR Rules are also subject to those societies' respective drug testing procedures.
- iv. The sampling and analysis process for SHB(GB) tests is detailed below.
- v. The detection of a prohibited substance in a horse's sample is a breach of these rules.
- vi. Anyone who administers or causes a horse to receive a prohibited substance will be in breach of this policy.

f. SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS PROCESS

- i. Any horse present at a show under SHB(GB) rules may be tested.
- ii. The owner, producer, or person in charge of the horse must supervise it from notification until testing is complete and must witness the sampling procedure.
- iii. Refusal or obstruction of the process, or refusal to sign the sampling declaration, will be treated as a positive test.
- iv. If the responsible person or their representative is not present, testing will still proceed.
- v. Samples must be stored securely and sent an FEI-approved laboratory as soon as possible.
- vi. Each sample is divided into two parts: Sample A and Sample B.
- vii. Analysis of Sample A must be completed within 21 days of receipt.
- viii. SHB(GB) will notify the owner or producer of results by recorded delivery within 14 days of receipt of results.
- ix. If Sample A is negative, no further action is taken and Sample B may be destroyed. Negative results may be shared with partner societies (BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, NPS, TSR).
- x. If Sample A is positive, the owner or producer may request confirmatory analysis of Sample B within 14 days of notification and can elect to have this undertaken at any FEI accredited laboratory.
- xi. The owner or producer may also request specific findings from Sample B analysis but will bear any additional costs.
- xii. If no confirmatory test is requested within 14 days, the Sample A result is deemed final and positive. The owner or producer must reimburse SHB(GB) for testing costs.
- xiii. If Sample B is analysed:
- xiv. SHB(GB) will send results by recorded delivery within 14 days of receipt.
- xv. If Sample B is negative, the matter is closed.
- xvi. If Sample B is positive, it confirms a positive drug test, the penalties in section 'Automatic Penalties' will apply and the Disciplinary Procedures contained within this Policy will be initiated.
- xvii. The requesting party must reimburse SHB(GB) for all testing costs.

g. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

- i. The Disciplinary Panel will be appointed within 14 days of notification of after the positive test and will include at least one Council Member.
- ii. The Panel will review the evidence, allow the owner or producer to present their case, and may consider witness testimony or written statements.
- iii. The decision and any penalty will be communicated within 14 days of the hearing.
- iv. If the case is dismissed, any temporary suspensions will be lifted immediately.
- v. If the breach is upheld, the penalties outlined in section 'Disciplinary Panel Penalties' will apply.

h. PENALTIES

i. Automatic Penalties (Applied immediately if Sample B confirms a positive drug test)

- ii. If a prohibited substance is confirmed in a horse's sample, the following automatic penalties will apply:
 - ❖ The horse will be disqualified from any competition, class, or championship on the day of testing, and any qualifications, prizes, or awards will be forfeited.
 - ❖ The horse will be suspended from SHB(GB)-affiliated competition pending disciplinary review.
 - ❖ The owner and/or producer will be suspended from SHB(GB) Membership rights and privileges
 - ❖ pending review.
 - ❖ Suspension takes effect from the date the positive result is received.
 - ❖ The owner and/or producer will be responsible for any fines and testing costs incurred.

i. Disciplinary Panel Penalties

- i. Following review, if the Disciplinary Panel determines a breach has occurred, it may impose one or more of the following actions:
- ii. Take no action (in exceptional mitigating circumstances).
- iii. Issue a reprimand or caution.
- iv. Suspend Membership temporarily or permanently. Suspensions will be applied to ensure that they are effective in terms of the period they cover.
- v. Impose a fine up to £6,000.
- vi. Share any disciplinary actions with partner societies (BSHA, TSR, BSPS, CHAPS, NPS) and other recognised equestrian bodies.
- vii. Any individual or horse banned by another equestrian governing body (e.g. Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing) may be prohibited from competing in SHB(GB) events for the duration of that ban, at the discretion of the SHB(GB) Council.

j. Responsibility and Liability

- i. For the purpose of these rules, responsibility for compliance with the SHB(GB) Drug Testing Policy lies jointly with the owner, producer, and rider or exhibitor of the horse. Each of these parties has a duty to ensure that no prohibited substances are administered, fed, or applied to the horse at any time. If a horse returns a positive result for a prohibited substance, any or all the above individuals may be subject to disciplinary action. The SHB(GB) Disciplinary Panel will determine responsibility based on the evidence available, and penalties may include suspension, fines, or disqualification. Ignorance of the rules, or reliance on third parties, does not remove individual responsibility under this policy.

SHB(GB) Equal Opportunities and Non-Discrimination Policy

1. POLICY STATEMENT:

- a. Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in all areas of its work and membership.
- b. We aim to ensure that everyone involved in our society — including members, volunteers, officials, competitors and visitors — is treated with fairness, respect and dignity.
- c. Discrimination, harassment or victimisation of any kind will not be tolerated.

2. PURPOSE:

- a. This policy sets out our commitment to providing equal opportunities for all and to preventing unlawful discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010 and other relevant legislation.

3. SCOPE:

- a. This policy applies to:
 - (i) All members, officers, volunteers and staff (where applicable).
 - (ii) Applicants for membership.
 - (iii) Participants in society activities, events or competitions; and
 - (iv) Anyone representing the society in any capacity.

4. OUR COMMITMENT:

- a. We will:
 - (i) Treat all individuals fairly and with respect.
 - (ii) Provide equality of opportunity regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
 - (iii) Make reasonable adjustments for members or participants with disabilities.
 - (iv) Challenge discriminatory behaviour or language wherever it occurs; and
 - (v) Take all complaints of discrimination, harassment or victimisation seriously and deal with them promptly and sensitively.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- a. Council Members are responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented and reviewed regularly.
- b. All Members and volunteers are expected to follow the principles of this policy and to treat others with respect.
- c. Any concerns or breaches should be reported to the Council or designated Welfare/Equality Officer.

6. BREACHES OF POLICY:

- a.** Any member or participant found to have breached this policy may face appropriate action under the society's disciplinary procedures, which could include suspension or termination of membership.

7. REVIEW

- a.** This policy will be reviewed annually by the Committee to ensure it remains up to date and effective.

SHB(GB) Good Conduct and Discipline Policy

- a. The attention of Members and other persons is drawn to the disciplinary provisions of SHB(GB) whereby SHB(GB) has wide powers to discipline Members and other persons in the event of failure to observe any provisions of these Rules or any other regulations, rules and bylaws made by SHB(GB). The Rules are intended to ensure that Members compete against each other in SHB(GB) competitions under the fairest possible conditions but inevitably circumstances will arise which are not precisely covered. In such circumstances wherever possible the spirit of the Rules will be followed to produce the fairest result for Members.

All Members of SHB(GB) are bound by its Rules as amended from time to time and shall be deemed to have consented to all the provisions thereof by reason of all or any of the following: -

- ❖ submission of a Membership application form followed by acceptance of Membership.
 - ❖ submission of a request for annual renewal of Membership followed by acceptance of such renewal.
 - ❖ registration of a horse.
 - ❖ registration of the lease/loan of a horse or its transfer.
 - ❖ any other act by a Member pursuant to the Rules of SHB(GB).
- b. Neither SHB(GB) nor any of its Officials or Judges accept any financial responsibility for its or their decisions.
- c. No Member of SHB(GB) shall conduct himself in a manner or be guilty of behaviour which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of SHB(GB) and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) no Member shall behave in an offensive or abusive or unpleasant manner to any person at any show or at any other location where SHB(GB) business is being transacted or via social media or the internet or via any publication in whatever format or via any other written or electronic format. Members' attention is drawn to the SHB(GB) Social Media Policy set out in the back of this Handbook.
- d. It is the duty of every Member to assist the officers of SHB(GB) in their investigations of breaches of the Rules and an unreasonable failure or refusal to assist any such officer in such investigation will itself constitute a breach of the Rules.
- e. Members shall not ill-treat horses at any time whether by misuse or excessive use of a whip or bit or any item of saddlery or in any other way whatsoever.
- f. Members are responsible for the actions of any non-Members who are Family Members (as defined below) or who are friends or friends of Family Members or who are employed by them or assisting, supporting or representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf and any action or conduct of such non-Member which would be a breach of the Rules were he a Member shall constitute a breach of the Rules by the Member concerned. Family Member shall include a spouse or civil partner, a partner, a direct descendant or ascendant of the Member or his spouse or civil partner, brothers, sisters or adopted

children of the Member or his spouse or civil partner, or any other person who is part of the same household as the Member or is in the reasonable opinion of the SHB(GB) a Member of the Member's family in the widest sense.

- g. Failure to observe any of the rules may result in disqualification of the horse concerned and the institution of disciplinary proceedings by SHB(GB) against the person breaking the rules in accordance with SHB(GB) Rules. In the event of disqualification of a horse after a cup, rosette or prize money has been awarded, such cup, rosette or prize money must be returned forthwith to the Show or SHB(GB) as appropriate.

h. Eligibility During Disciplinary Sanctions

- i. Any Owner, Rider, Producer, and/or Horse or Pony who is, for any period, suspended, banned, or otherwise subject to disciplinary sanction imposed by the BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, TSR, NPS, or any other recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline affiliated to, or operating in accordance with, the British Equestrian Federation (BEF) or its recognised Member bodies, shall not be eligible to compete in SHB(GB) Affiliated Classes for the duration of such sanction. The application and enforcement of this restriction shall be at the sole discretion of the SHB(GB) Council

j. Information Sharing

- k. SHB(GB) reserves the right to disclose, receive, and exchange information concerning any disciplinary action taken against an Owner, Rider, Producer, and/or Horse or Pony with the BSHA, BSPS, CHAPS, TSR, NPS, and any other recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline, where such disclosure is deemed appropriate for the purposes of maintaining the integrity, reputation, and good conduct of the sport.

l. Definition

- m. For the purposes of this regulation, the term 'recognised equine governing body, association, or discipline' shall refer to any organisation or body responsible for the regulation, governance, or administration of an equestrian sport or activity within the United Kingdom, recognised by or operating in accordance with the principles and standards of the British Equestrian Federation (BEF), or any equivalent international federation.



It is important to report any breaches of this code of practice to an official at the time the concern is raised so immediate action can be taken.

a. Preface

- i. In this code of practice 'horse' refers to all equines and should, where the context allows, be taken to mean 'horse or ponies, donkeys, or other Equidae'

b. General Conditions

- i. **This guidance has been developed by The British Horse Society (BHS) who have advised The Showing Council (TSC) in developing bespoke guidance for competitors/Members/exhibitors competing in Member Body classes which is contained within Showing Council document 'Equine Welfare and General Best Practice Guidance and Unified Rules Pack 2026' which can be found on our website downloads section.**
- ii. **We fully support and align with the principles of the Showing Council welfare standards and are committed to achieving best practice in all areas. Whilst we are not yet meeting every standard in full, we are actively working towards full compliance and continuous improvement in our welfare practices. Our organisation endorses the welfare framework and strives to operate with its best practice principles. We recognise that there are areas for development and are committed to ongoing progress to achieve ongoing alignment.**
- iii. These guidelines have been produced to provide advice and support to Members, competitors, show organisers, stewards, Judges, volunteer assistants and spectators.
- iv. Under the Animal Welfare Act (2006), the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 and Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, (hereafter referred to as The Welfare Acts) every horse owner or those responsible for a horse have a duty of care to ensure the animal's well-being. Thus, causing suffering and ill treatment are no longer the only grounds for prosecution under animal welfare law. It is now an offence to fail to take adequate steps to ensure a horse's welfare, even if the animal is not yet at the point of suffering.
- v. At all stages during the preparation and training of show horses, welfare must be paramount. This includes, but is not limited to, good horse management, training methods, farriery, use and fitting of tack and transportation.
- vi. Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health and condition before they are allowed to compete. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures that compromises welfare or safety and the use of aids. All Member Bodies are advised to have an anti-doping policy.

c. Health and Hygiene

- i. The spread of equine disease is a perpetual risk when attending shows. Horse owners should act responsibly and not attend a show if there is a disease outbreak at their yard,

even if the horse taken to the show does not appear ill. This is because some diseases have an incubation period of 14 days. For more information and guidance, please refer to the extensive information available on the BHS website and British Equestrian website.

- ❖ www.bhs.org.uk
- ❖ www.britishequestrian.org.uk

British Equestrian - Equine Infectious Disease Advisory Group: Advice Notes for Member Bodies and Organisers of Equine Gatherings

- ii. As a minimum, we advise keeping up to date with equine influenza and tetanus vaccines. Check what the specific vaccination requirements are with the event organisers or relevant governing body. If your horse does not meet these requirements, you are unlikely to be allowed to attend and may be asked to leave the showground. Remember to check the vaccination rules of the venue if you are hiring equestrian facilities. Shows reserve the right to conduct spot checks to check compliance with vaccination regulations set by the show organiser.

- iii. To prevent the spread of disease, horses should not share water buckets or be allowed to drink from shared troughs. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to provide their own feed and water equipment.

- iv. Competitors must be mindful of an increased disease risk when stabling horses away from home. Best practice would be to remove any pre-existing bedding.

d. Transport

- i. Competitors must be aware of The Welfare of Animals During Transport Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005. You must have the necessary Transport Authorisation (and associated Certificate of Competence for horses) if you transport animals as part of an economic activity (a business or trade), for a distance over 65km You will need a:

- ❖ type 1 transporter authorisation for journeys over 65km and up to 8 hours
- ❖ type 2 transporter authorisation for journeys over 8 hours

- ii. You will need to contact APHA's Welfare in Transport team for an application pack:

- ❖ Web: www.gov.uk
- ❖ Email: WIT@apha.gov.uk

- iii. Economic activity is not defined in the regulations but would include anyone transporting horses for hire or reward or during business or trade. This would therefore include those paid to transport horses to a show, and professional riders as this is part of a business.

- iv. General animal welfare provisions apply on all journeys. The horse must travel with its passport, be fit to travel, provided with feed, water and rest stops as needed. The vehicle and loading/unloading facilities must be safe and designed to avoid injury and those handling the horse must be competent and not cause the animal fear or distress.

- v. In adverse weather conditions, i.e., extremely hot temperatures or very cold temperatures, those travelling horses must give consideration as to what time of day to travel horses and to minimise travel when temperatures are excessively high or excessively low.

- e. Equine Identification**

- i. Horses being transported to a show must be accompanied by their up-to-date passport in accordance with Equine Identification regulations.

- f. Welfare of Horses

- i. Responsibilities of Owners/Keepers/Competitors**

- ii. Overall responsibility for the horse lies with the individual who has charge of the horse on the day of the show. All those responsible for horses have a duty of care to take reasonable steps in all circumstances to meet the welfare needs to the extent required by good practice in terms of:

- ❖ need for a suitable environment
- ❖ need for a suitable diet
- ❖ need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- ❖ need to be housed with, or apart, from other animals
- ❖ need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease

- g. Welfare Considerations**

- i. Sensory Whiskers**

Sensory hairs are the hard hairs located on the horse's muzzle and around the eyes, also known as 'whiskers' that are used for sensation. It is recommended that horses should not have whiskers trimmed or removed (other than for veterinary purposes or with a vet's certificate). Mares and Foals should present with no evidence of whiskers or sensory hairs being removed. At some shows, this is a mandatory condition of entry for all equines, so please check individual show ruling.

- li.. Blood**

On rare occasions a horse may injure itself traveling, being worked in or competing, or blood may be noticed from the mouth or nostrils or other parts of the horse's body. In these circumstances the competitor should not compete or cease competing and get their horse checked as soon as possible once blood has been noticed. The horse should be treated and where necessary the person responsible for the horse should seek veterinary advice and attention to ensure the animal can travel home or continue to compete in further classes on the day.

- iii. Obesity**

Obesity in horses and ponies must be avoided and all horses exhibited should be fit for purpose for the event or class they are competing in. Having a horse which is obese is

extremely detrimental to its welfare and horses carrying too much fat are at a significantly increased risk of developing serious health and welfare issues such as:

- ❖ Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS).
 - ❖ Laminitis.
 - ❖ Arthritis.
 - ❖ Increase stress on the heart and lungs.
 - ❖ Increased risk of developmental orthopaedic (bone and joint) problems in young and growing horses.
 - ❖ More strain on feet, joint and limbs.
 - ❖ Less efficient cooling of body temperatures.
- iv. Members of the Showing Council are committed to working with The Horse Trust Body Condition Awards and promoting the Equine Weight Forum Statement and Actions including education by body scoring horses and ponies at events.
- h. **Welfare of the horse while not competing:**
- ❖ No horse should be left unattended unless they are in a stable, horsebox/trailer and, known to behave sensibly when ordinarily left in such a situation.
 - ❖ For safety reasons horses should not be left unattended tied to a horsebox/trailer.
 - ❖ The weather conditions will affect the welfare requirements of the horse. Those responsible for horses should make the necessary adjustments to safeguard welfare in adverse weather conditions. For example, limiting the horse's time in direct sunlight in extremely high temperatures and using rugs in very cold temperatures.
 - ❖ During wet weather, waterproof sheets can be worn while warming the horse up and kept over the horse's hindquarters until they enter the class. At the discretion of the Judge, grooms may enter the ring to provide a waterproof sheet in inclement weather.
 - ❖ During hot weather, horseboxes and trailers can get extremely hot. If the horse is kept in the horsebox/trailer, ensure any windows and roof vents are left open and the ramps are left down to maximise air flow.
 - ❖ No horse should be ridden or lunged for an extended period without sufficient breaks for rest, watering and feeding. Those less experienced should be supervised by a responsible adult to ensure that the horse receives adequate rest time.
- i. **Age and Gender of Horses**
- ❖ Horses under four years of age should not be ridden on the showground at any Show.
 - ❖ Where stallions are being exhibited, they must have a red, white and blue ribbon displayed in their tail and the rider/handler must be the correct age to compete or strip

the horse in the ring and or lunge in accordance with the current and relevant Member Body Rule and Handbooks.

- ❖ Pregnant mares are not permitted to compete under saddle without the prior agreement of a veterinary surgeon. No mare should be ridden under any circumstances after six months of gestation.
- ❖ Mares with a living foal at foot, born during the current year may not be shown in ridden classes.

j. Control of Horses

- ❖ Young and/or inexperienced horses require quiet, confident handling and should be appropriately handled.
- ❖ Stallions and colts should be handled and ridden by competent people only. The temperament of the stallion must be taken into consideration, and he should not be taken to a showground if he is likely to be a danger to anyone present. When being led, stallions must be led from a bit with reins or with a lead rein. If it is the opinion of the relevant Member Body that the stallion may cause an accident to any person or horse at the showground, the stallion will be disqualified and asked to leave the showground.

k. Conduct and Responsibilities

l. Conduct and Responsibilities of Competitors

- ❖ Competitors must consider the Health and Safety of other competitors, spectators and those working or assisting at the show.
- ❖ It is necessary for all exhibitors to carry Public Liability Insurance for an adequate indemnity to protect against their negligence including any injury caused by their animals or property.
- ❖ When riding outside of the warm-up arena and show arena, competitors should remain in walk or trot. Where available, horses/ponies must be ridden in designated 'horse walks'; grooms and spectators must use the designated pedestrian walkway.
- ❖ No competitor should behave in an inappropriate manner to any horse, Judge, event staff, Members of the public or other competitors.
- ❖ Under the Welfare Acts the parents/guardians of those under 16-years-old are responsible for the welfare of their children's horses/ponies.

m. Conduct and Responsibilities of Competitors in the Warm-up Arena

- ❖ Riders and handlers should adhere to the rules of working in an arena while warming up, for example passing left-hand to left-hand.
- ❖ Riders and handlers should recognise potential problems and keep a good distance from any individual having difficulties with their horse.
- ❖ When jumping, in either the warm-up or show arenas no horse should jump a fence in the wrong direction.

- ❖ If a horse that falls in the warm-up arena it should, where possible, be checked by a veterinary surgeon. The decision as to whether the horse competes is with the owner/rider of the horse.

n. Conduct and Responsibilities of Competitors in the Show Ring

- ❖ Every competitor should always behave in a safe and respectable manner.
- ❖ Competitors should follow instructions from the Show Steward and Judge.
- ❖ The amount of work the horse undertakes should be in accordance with its age, experience, and fitness.
- ❖ All riders should be a suitable size for their horse whether in the ring, or working in. Riders working in hoses for other competitors must also be a suitable size for the horse and suitably mounted.
- ❖ No one under the age of 16 years of age may enter the ring to groom, strip or handle the horse. Those entering the ring must be suitably dressed.

o. Conduct and Responsibilities of Spectators with regards to Horse Welfare

- ❖ All children must be fully supervised.
- ❖ If dogs are allowed on the showground, they must be kept on a lead, away from horses and appropriately controlled.
- ❖ Spectators should not run, shout, or cause excessive noise around the horses or arenas.

p. Use of the Whip

- ❖ A rider/handler may carry a whip for safety and guidance purposes and limited to the backhand position only.
- ❖ When lunging, a lunge whip must only be used for safety and guidance purposes.
- ❖ Legal action could be taken under the Welfare Acts should whip misuse occur.

q. Use of Spurs

Spurs must always be of smooth metal. There must be a shank, pointing only towards the rear, which must be no more than 3.5cm long and without rowels. The end must be blunt and incapable of wounding a horse. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. Roller ball spurs are allowed. Judges do not wear spurs.

r. Use of Tack and Equipment

Tack should always be fitted and used in a way that protects and safeguards welfare and safety of both horse and rider/handler. This always applies whilst on the event venue.

Legal Action could be taken under the Welfare Acts should tack misuse occur.

s. Provisions for Veterinary Treatment

- t. The relevant Member Body carries out a risk assessment with specific regard to the provision of veterinary care.
- u. At some events a veterinary surgeon may not actually be in attendance, the show organiser should ensure that a veterinary surgeon is available 'on-call' and within a reasonable driving time (suggested 20-30 minutes maximum). Most Championship Shows have:
 - ❖ Emergency lines of communication.
 - ❖ Ensure proper access to the site and the ability to bring in equipment directly to the patient as efficiently as possible.
 - ❖ Facilities available for dealing with simple injuries, for example a clean stable or other covered well-lit area and availability of clean water.
 - ❖ Have ambulance for horses/ponies to be transported to a referral facility if necessary and where and how euthanasia is to be carried out if necessary.
- v. Under the provisions of the Welfare Acts there is a degree of joint responsibility with organisers, but the owner or keeper of a horse has prime responsibility for its welfare. It follows that the owner or keeper of a horse:
 - ❖ Should be clearly identified on the entry form.
 - ❖ Should provide details of how they may be easily contacted in an emergency on the day of the event and if being stabled overnight.
 - ❖ Should provide information on who has responsibility for making decisions about that horse with regard to provision of emergency treatment, removal to a surgical facility and euthanasia.
- w. It is recommended that Member Bodies should provide appropriate farriery provisions.

NOTES



Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain



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