

# SHOWING CLASSES FOR HORSES

## 800 DEFINITIONS

800.1 Competitions are for registered horses or ponies shown in hand or under saddle are open to member as defined in Rule 50.

800.2 General Regulations (GR 50 – 189) and Grading Rules (900 – 992) as applicable apply to Showing.

800.3 The Technical Committee is responsible for matters of showing.

800.4 Dress and saddlery refer to Rules 161 – 189, Annexes GR I-III, S 1 and S 2. Bitless bridles are not permitted except in In Hand under 4 y.o. classes.

800.5 Falls of horse or athlete incur elimination from the time the judging of class or athlete begins until all of the rosettes are presented. [1007 - 1102].

## 801 JUDGES AND CANDIDATE JUDGES

801.1 Judges and Candidate Judges for Showing classes are appointed to the Panels by the Technical Committee. They may also approve qualified visiting Judges. A judge has the right to “excuse” from the class a horse which is not under control or clearly disturbing the other entries.

801.2 A Show Organising Committee [SOC] appoints Judges for Showing classes from the appropriate Judges’ Panels or approved visitors on application to the Technical Committee.

## 802 ELIGIBILITY FOR SHOWING CLASSES

802.1 All horses/ponies exhibited in Showing classes must be registered, owned and ridden by a member of the HAK, except for those in Leading-Rein, First Off the Leading Rein, Family and In-Hand under four years old classes.

802.2 Except in specified In-Hand classes, horses exhibited in Showing classes must be 4 years old or over.

802.3 Horses must be measured according to the provisions of Rule 107 and must exceed 150 cm (14.3 hh) except for Polo Ponies.

802.4 Stallions are excluded from ridden Showing Classes.

802.5 Athletes are eligible to ride in horse showing classes **from the day of their 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday or the first day of a show when their birthday occurs during a show.**

802.5 Grading Rules for **Novice** 981 and 982 will apply.

802.6 No horse may compete in both Hack and Hunter Classes at the same show. They may compete in Working Hunters at the same show.

## 803 IN HAND CLASSES

For In Hand classes, horses/ponies are judged on conformation, action and behaviour. Horses/ponies are expected to walk and trot in hand and to stand for inspection by the Judge. Classes may be divided by height, age, type as defined in the show schedule. Horses/ponies shown in hand Under 4 years olds do not require HAK registration or a measurement certificate (except if a class is restricted to Ponies n.e. 150 cm. 14.3 hh) but must have proof of age.

## **804 HACK CLASSES**

804.1 Hacks may not exceed 163 cm (16.0 hh). The type is one of elegance, correct action and manners. Classes may be divided by grade and/or height.

804.2 Hacks are judged on type, conformation, presence, manners and ride. Walk, trot and canter on both reins will be expected, plus a short 'show' exhibiting these paces on both reins. Rein back is expected of Open horses. The Judge will ride some or all of the entries. Horses should be unsaddled for inspection of conformation.

## **805 RIDING HORSE CLASSES**

805.1 Riding Horses are of any height, of a type with more substance than a Hack. The emphasis is on a comfortable ride, smooth action and good manners. Classes may be divided by grade, height and/or age.

805.2 Riding Horses are judged on type, conformation, manners and ride. Walk, trot and canter on both reins will be expected. Horse may be asked to move on in canter. A 'show' may be expected. Rein back is expected of Open horses. The Judge will ride some or all of the entries. Horses should be unsaddled for inspection of conformation.

## **806 HUNTER CLASSES**

806.1 Hunters are of any height. The type is one of substance, with size, scope and speed also considered with conformation, correct action and manners. Classes may be divided by grade, height and/or suitability to carry athletes of various weights.

806.2 Hunters are judged on type, conformation, presence, action, manners and ride. Walk, trot and canter and gallop will be shown. Suitability in weight classes will be considered. The Judge will ride some or all of the entries. Horses should be unsaddled for inspection of conformation.

## **807 WORKING HUNTER CLASSES**

807.1 Working Hunters are of any height. The type is as Hunters, with an emphasis on jumping performance and style. Classes may be divided by grade, height, and/or suitability to carry athletes of various weights.

807.2 Working Hunters are judged on performance and style of jumping freely at a fair, smooth hunting pace over a course of 6 to 8 natural hunting fences in Phase I. The type, conformation, presence, action, manners, ride and suitability in weight classes will be judged in Phase II as for Hunters. Working blemishes will not be taken into account as heavily as in Hunter classes. Only selected entries from Phase I will go forward to Phase II but normally all with a clear round in Phase I.

807.3 **Maximum Height of Obstacles in Phase I.** In Novice Working Hunter classes, obstacles are not to exceed 0.85 m. In Open Working Hunter classes, obstacles are not to exceed 1.00 m. Obstacles are to be of an inviting, natural hunting type, with one or two knockdown fences.

#### 807.4 **Penalties.**

Knock down = 10                      First refusal = 15                      Second refusal = 20  
Third refusal or Fall of horse and/or athlete in either phase = Elimination

#### 807.5 **Scoring**

|          |                                  |     |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| Phase I  | Jumping performance              | 50% |
|          | Style of jumping                 | 20% |
|          | Minus jumping penalties as above |     |
| Phase II | Conformation, type, action, ride | 30% |

807.6 **Athletes:** A horse must be ridden by the same athlete in both phases. **If an athlete has two or more horses eligible for phase II, he must choose only ONE to present in that phase.** In Championship classes a substitute athlete is permitted [814].

### **808 GUEST HORSE CLASSES**

808.1 Guest Horses are suitable to be ridden by a guest of perhaps limited riding ability. Manners, smooth action and ride are paramount. Conformation does not count.

808.2 Guest Horses are judged on action, manners and ride. Walk, trot and canter on both reins will be expected. The Judge may ride some or all of the entries. Saddlery is as for Grooms Classes.

### **809 FARM HACK CLASSES**

809.1 Farm Hacks are suitable for use on a farm. Conformation is not taken into account.

809.2 Farm Hacks are judged against the clock over a course of small obstacles and tests of skill. Points will be awarded for obedience and accuracy. The Judge will not ride. Saddlery is as for Working Hunters.

### **810 GROOM'S CLASSES**

810.1 Horses in Groom's classes are to be ridden by the grooms (syces) who normally look after them. Athletes must be a bone fide employee of a Member, but they do not need to be HAK members. Ponies (unless registered as horses) are not eligible.

810.2 Groom's classes are judged on the groom's ability to ride and handle the horse and on the turnout of the horse and its equipment. The groom's appearance should be neat and workmanlike but "showing dress" is not required and will not get any bonus marks. Proper headgear and footwear are required,

810.3 Competitors must prepare their own horses.

810.4 Competitors will be expected to walk, trot and canter on both reins and a short 'show' may be required. Saddlery is as for Novice Hunter classes but a Pelham bit with a Dee Coupling is permitted.

810.5 Athletes in this class may not have competed in other classes at previous shows, except In Hand classes and are not eligible to compete in any other classes at the show.

810.6 Groom's classes are scored on turnout and cleanliness of horse and saddlery (50%) and on the groom's suitability to the horse and riding ability (50%). In the opinion of the Judge(s) if a Groom is not suitable to his mount or is clearly disturbing the other entries he may be excused from the class.

810.7 **Groom's Classes In Hand** are judged on turnout, cleanliness of horse and tack (70%) and ability to show the horse in hand (30%).

## **811 GROOM'S CHAMPIONSHIP**

Entries in a Groom's Championship will be ridden by a groom who has placed first, second or third in a ridden Groom's class during the preceding 12 months. No nomination athletes. Rules are as for Groom's classes.

## **812 POLO PONY CLASSES**

812.1 Polo Pony classes are for horses/ponies suitable to play polo.

812.1.1 Novice Polo Pony classes are for horses/ponies broken to stick and ball and likely to make a polo pony.

812.1.2 Open Polo Pony classes are for horses/ponies that have played in at least one tournament.

812.1.3 Horses must have a confirmation signed by a Polo Club Captain.

812.2 Polo Pony classes are judged on suitability to play polo, type, balance, action, manners and conformation. Horses will be expected to walk, trot, canter and turn on both legs, meet oncoming horses, 'ride off' and rein back. The Judge may ride some or all of the entries. Saddlery and equipment are as for a polo tournament.

## **813 SPECIAL SHOWING CLASSES**

Shows may include other showing classes. Prior approval of any classes not specified in this rulebook will be at the discretion of the Technical Committee. Once approved, the parameters of these classes must be fully set out in the show schedule, specifying height, age and type of horse and all parameters. If any rules are not specified by the SOC, rules of the HAK Rule Book will prevail.

## **814 CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES**

All horses/ponies qualifying for Championship Showing classes must come forward to their respective Championship. Failure to do so will incur forfeit of the original award and prize monies. [Appendix II]. Horses and ponies should be ridden by the same athlete as rode when qualifying, but **in Championships, a different athlete may be substituted with notification to the Show Office.**

(Rules 815 – 899 in abeyance)

# ANNEX S I ~ CORRECT DRESS: (161 -175)

## Dress for Showing Classes

All dress for Showing Classes must comply with GR 161 – 175. It should be conservative and tidy. Discrete jewellery is permitted (161).

### 1. Headgear (162)

- Competitors in ridden Showing classes must wear a helmet with a fixed three point retention harness. Permitted colours are: black, dark blue or dark brown.
- Protective headgear is not required for In Hand classes **except if the handler is a Child Member** but a hat is correct.
- Hair should be tied back tidily or a hairnet worn.

### 2. Shirts, Neckwear, Jackets (166, 169)

- Jackets must be worn. A tweed jacket is preferred, a black or dark blue jacket is permitted.
- The shirt must be plain, white or pale coloured.
- A tie is preferred, with the colour optional; a stock is permitted, but not with a tweed jacket unless coloured.

### 3. Breeches and Boots (168, 170)

- Breeches and Jodphurs should be beige, canary or cream but not white.
- Jodphurs are correct for pony classes.
- Boots should be black. Brown is permitted but with a tweed jacket.

### 4. Gloves (167)

- Gloves are optional but are correct.
- Colour should be cream, buff, black, dark blue or brown to coordinate with the jacket worn.

### 5. Spurs (171)

- Only blunt spurs should be worn [171.1].

### 6. Whips (172)

- Bamboo or leather covered Showing canes or whips not exceeding 0.75 cm (30in) are permitted, but should be black or brown; Showing canes are preferred. Dressage whips **MAY NOT** be carried or any contravention of Rule 172.

## **ANNEX S II ~ CORRECT SADDLERY (180 – 189)**

All Saddlery for Showing Classes must comply with GR 180 – 189 or may incur elimination.

1. Manes should be plaited. Tails should be either plaited or pulled.
2. Grooms or assistants are permitted to enter the arena only to help the athlete to prepare the horse for inspection of conformation.
3. For ridden Showing classes, the saddle is a plain English type, brown or black. The type of girth is optional but should not be brightly coloured. A numnah is permitted but should be unobtrusive, not brightly coloured or elaborate and fit so as not to be visible around the saddle.
4. Bit guards are not permitted, bitless bridles only allowed for under 4 y.o.
5. A neck strap is permitted. Martingales and/or breastplates are not permitted except in Working Hunter classes. If used, they must be used in both phases. Rein stops should not be used without a martingale.
6. Boots and bandages are not permitted except in Working Hunter classes. If worn in Phase I they must be removed for Phase II.

### **In Hand Classes – Saddlery**

A bridle must be worn. It may be a snaffle, double or pelham with two reins. Leather reins are preferred. The noseband must be a cavesson. The type of browband is optional. Bitless bridles for under 4 y.o. classes are permitted.

### **Hack and Riding Horse Classes - Saddlery**

In Novice classes, the bridle must be a snaffle, double or pelham with two reins and a curb chain. In Open classes the bridle must be a double or pelham with two reins and a curb chain. Only plain cavesson nosebands are permitted. Plain leather or decorative browbands are permitted. Leather reins are preferred. Side-saddle is permitted at the discretion of the Judge.

### **Hunter Classes – Saddlery**

For Novice Hunter classes, the bridle must be a snaffle, double or pelham with two reins and a curb chain. In Open Hunter classes, the bridle must be a double or pelham with two reins and a curb chain. In both classes, a cavesson noseband must be used and the browband should be plain leather. Side-saddle is permitted at the discretion of the Judge.

### **Working Hunter Classes**

- For Working Hunter classes, the bridle may be of any type except a bitless bridle. Two reined bits must be used with two reins and a curb chain. The noseband should be a cavesson type, but a flash, dropped or grackle noseband is permitted with a snaffle bit. The browband should be plain leather.
- Running martingales and breastplates are permitted, but, if used, must be used in both phases.
- The exact same saddlery and equipment must be used in Phase II as was used in Phase I, except that boots and bandages, if worn in Phase I, must be removed in Phase II.

**Championship Classes** The same saddlery used in the qualifier must be used.