

## SHOWING RULES & REGULATIONS & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Reviewed June 2019

Where there is a conflict, these Rules will supersede those in the 2016 Judges Handbook  
For the purpose of this document, the term Pony shall be taken to include Overheights where applicable

### General

1. All RPSBS registered ponies or horses must be shown in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of Riding Pony Stud Book Society Ltd.
2. These Showing Rules and Regulations can only be enforced in classes run under RPSBS Ltd Rules and Regulations
3. Exhibitors will abide by the Showing Rules & Regulations of the RPSBS Ltd and those set out in this document. If there is any inconsistency in the showing rules then the RPSBS Showing Rules apply.
4. For the purpose of these rules "exhibitor, persons or family" shall include the following: husband, wife, partner, parent, step-parent, child, in-laws of the same relation stated above, grandparent, brother, sister, business partners, employers and employees.
5. It is the exhibitors responsibility to ensure eligibility for a class, and if ineligible, the exhibitor must withdraw. These rules apply to all classes restricted to RPSBS registered exhibits.
6. No exhibitor may show a RPSBS Ltd registered exhibit bred by or leased from the judge or his immediate family in RPSBS events.
7. A Show Season is State specific; please refer to your State Secretary or website.
8. Entries will be received by the Show Secretary and are subject to the Rules and Regulations of the RPSBS Ltd. [www.rpsbs.com.au](http://www.rpsbs.com.au)
9. All exhibitors will be bound by and must observe the decisions of the ground jury.
10. The show's Ground Jury reserves the right to adjudicate upon entry or upon any dispute or doubt and to make any determination upon any matter and this decision shall be final and not subject to appeal of any kind. Disputes/protests must be lodged in writing to the Show Secretary within 30 minutes of the completion of the class, together with deposit of \$55.00 (GST inc) refundable if the protest is upheld.
11. The Society shall have the power without assigning any reason to:
  - Reject or cancel any entry at any time
  - Cancel any event or class
  - Remove any exhibit from the show grounds
  - Transfer an exhibit or exhibitor from any class to another class
  - Add to or alter the program as necessary
  - Combine classes if there are insufficient entries
12. If an event is cancelled refund of entries may be considered.
13. The Society will not be responsible for the loss of, or for any damage or injury occasioned to any exhibit, or the property of any exhibitor from any cause whatsoever.
14. The Exhibitor enters entirely at his/her own risk. Insurance rules apply.
15. In case any exhibit whilst on the Society's showground causes or is the cause of injury or damage to any other exhibit or exhibitor, to the person or property of any member of the Society or general public, the owner of such exhibit shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Society, its officers, officials and members, from and against all damages, costs, claims, expenses or liabilities incurred in connection with such exhibitors. The exhibitor will be liable to the Society and its employees, officers and officials for any damage or loss occasioned to any of them by the exhibitor or his agent.
16. All animals are to be exhibited in accordance with the description as noted on their registration record with RPSBS including, but not limited to, colour, markings, brands and gender.
17. In any one State Show Season a Riding Pony Pony 4 years and over (not exceeding 14.2hh) may only be exhibited as either a Show Pony or Show Hunter Pony in RPSBS Ltd events.
18. In any one State Show Season an Overheight Riding Pony 4 years and over (exceeding 14.2hh) may only be exhibited as either a RPSBS Show Hack or RPSBS Show Hunter Hack in RPSBS Ltd events. Overheight Youngstock may change once per show season.
19. Youngstock 3 years & under may change once only per 'State Show Season' from Show Pony to

- Show Hunter or Show Hunter to Show Pony.
20. Show Ponies and Show Hunter Ponies can only compete against each other in Supreme, Newcomer, Lead Rein, First Ridden Class or Children's Ridden Classes.
  21. Overheight Riding Ponies are not eligible to compete in Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Champion and Supreme Champion Classes.
  22. Stallions and Colts 1 year and over as of 1st August must be bitted when shown with the lead attached to the bit. Handlers and riders of stallions or colts must be 18 years of age or over. Foals/Weanlings must only be shown in a halter or head collar. No Foal/Weanling under the age of twelve months as of the 1st August can be shown in a bit.
  23. Registration Requirements: Pending memberships, registrations and transfers do not constitute eligibility for an exhibit to be shown in RPSBS classes with the exception of those referred to in Rule 45.
  24. Random swabbing may take place.
  25. After a fall from their mount a rider is disqualified from that class and must not remount their pony in the ring.
  26. RPSBS Ltd Heat Policy applies; check details on website.
  27. There is to be no change of handler/rider once a class has commenced without the permission of the judge.
  28. The Judge's decision is considered final. A Judge's decision represents an individual preference and is not subject to protest unless there is a rule violation.
  29. No person shall in any way consult or influence or attempt to influence the Judge or endeavour to Influence the Judge's freedom of choice or judgment.
  30. The Society may alter the Judge for any particular event or class at any time it deems fit.
  31. No person may show under a Judge who boards, rides, trains or agists any pony/horse, under the said person's ownership, shared ownership or lease, within a period of 6 months prior to the show. Conversely no Judge may adjudicate said person for the same reasons within a 6-month period. A person or Judge shall not necessarily receive remuneration or reward for these services (Stud fees excluded).
  32. No persons are permitted to approach a Judge during his/her appointment at a show. While there should be no fraternization during the Show, the Judge should ensure that a Ring Steward or Show Official is present if a conversation is unavoidable.
  33. A Judge must not be an exhibitor in any Section in which they are officiating.
  34. Approved ASSA helmets must be worn at all times whilst riding. Any injury sustained by a person riding and not wearing an approved ASSA helmet will not be covered by any liability claim or by insurance.

### Membership and Registration Requirements:

35. All owners/exhibitors/handlers/riders must be current financial members of the Riding Pony Stud Book Society Ltd.
36. All exhibits must be shown in the name of the registered owner/lessee (bona fide owner). This means that an exhibit must be in the name of the last recorded owner/lessee exactly as it appears in the records of the RPSBS Ltd. When entered in multiple names one of the listed exhibitors for each pony entered in Riding Pony classes must be a current financial member of RPSBS and must be the owner/lessee of the pony entered. The named exhibitor may be a family member of the registered owner.
37. No RPSBS award will be awarded to any pony unless shown under the registered Riding Pony name and in the name of the owner/lessee as recorded with the Society and such owner/lessee must be a financial member of the Society.
38. Where a pony is owned or leased by two or more people then all are required to remain financial members of the RPSBS Ltd. The Derived membership shall be deemed unfinancial should any one of the parties involved be unfinancial.
39. Proof of RPSBS Ltd registration of exhibits and RPSBS Ltd membership must be available at the show.
40. A pony's age is taken from August 1<sup>st</sup> annually.
41. Ponies under the age of 3 years cannot be exhibited in ridden classes.
42. Ponies four years and over must be adult registered.
43. Youngstock ponies are 3 years and under.

44. All ponies under four years must either be adult registered or foal recorded with the exception of foals as noted below.
45. Foals/Weanlings -eligibility to show.  
Foals which are not weaned and are shown on their dams may be shown prior to registration being finalised providing they are eligible for registration with RPSBS Ltd.  
Foals which are weaned must be registered RPSBS Ltd with the exception of those conceived by AI or ET which, if not yet registered, must have the registration application and hair sample for DNA received by the RPSBS with full payment. Only colt foals which are eligible on breeding for registration as Section A may be shown in classes restricted to colts.  
Foals/Weanlings must only be shown in a halter or head collar. No Foal/Weanling under the age of twelve months as of the 1st August can be shown in a bit.
46. Stallions and Colts two years and over must be entire, with two visible descended testicles, except where a stallion has had one testicle, which was descended into the scrotum, surgically removed and has an appropriate veterinary certificate which has been submitted to the Registrar and recorded prior to the Show. In order to be eligible to be shown a Veterinary Certificate confirming the presence of two descended testicles must be lodged with the Society for Stallions and Colts two years and over, as at 1<sup>st</sup> August. A copy of another breed Society stallion registration with that requirement will be accepted in lieu of a Veterinary Certificate as will a veterinary certificate confirming surgical removal as described above.
47. Exhibits in gelding classes must be gelded and registered as a gelding with the RPSBS.
48. Exhibits which are Foal Recorded are ineligible to be shown in classes for geldings or colts/stallions four years and over.
49. Registration Requirements: Pending memberships, registrations and transfers do not constitute eligibility for an exhibit to be shown in RPSBS classes with the exception of those referred to in Rule 45.
50. Branding/Microchipping: All ponies must be visibly branded and/or microchipped when shown, excluding foals shown whilst on their dam.

### Height of Ponies:

49. No exhibit, which exceeds 14.2hh in height, is eligible to be shown in RPSBS Show Pony or Show Hunter Pony classes.  
No Youngstock exhibit is eligible to be shown in Riding Pony classes if it's height exceeds:  
13.3 hh at 1 year; 14.0 hh at 2 years; 14.1 hh at 3 years  
with 1/2inch to be added for shows in the period from 1 February to 31 July.
50. All ponies are required to be measured. All ponies must have a current official height certificate or be subject to a day measurement. Life certificates are not accepted.
51. Senior Overheight Riding Pony show classes are for horses that have exceeded 14.2hh at 4 years of age and are either registered Section A Riding Ponies or Riding Ponies who have a Section A parent.  
Youngstock Overheight show classes are for ponies that exceed the height limitation for their age, as per Rule 49, and are either registered Section A Riding Ponies or Riding Ponies who have a Section A parent.
52. Overheight Riding Ponies must NOT be shown in any Show Pony or Show Hunter Pony classes including any Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Championship or Supreme

### Presentation and Dress:

53. All ponies must have manes plaited and tail either pulled, plaited, clipped or razored.
54. All ponies must be shown in good coat and condition.
55. All handlers and riders must be present themselves in correct attire relevant to the class being judged.
56. Spurs: The wearing of spurs in Lead Rein and First Ridden classes are not permissible. Spurs are permitted in all other ridden classes. (For permissible spurs refer to Equestrian Australia Show Horse Rules)
57. Hats: Refer to Rule 32
58. Whips: Riders are not permitted to carry a whip in Lead Rein classes. Whips carried in other classes are not to exceed 75cms in length. Hunting Crops are permissible in Show Hunter and Working

Hunter classes.

59. Tack: A narrow strap may be attached to the front of the saddle for children in Lead Rein and First Ridden classes. Under no circumstances may tack be changed during the judging of a class unless it is for safety purposes. (N.B. Whips and spurs are not considered tack).
60. Bridles: Lead Rein, First Ridden exhibits shall be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle with a cavesson noseband. Newcomer exhibits shall be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle with a conventional noseband. Any suitable snaffle or double bridle is optional in all other Show Pony or Show Hunter Pony classes. In Working Hunter classes any suitable bridle may be used and running martingales are permitted.
61. Leg Protection: Only protective leg boots of a plain colour may be used in the jumping phase of the Working Hunter pony classes. No other forms of leg or hoof protection are permissible in any other classes.

#### **Lead Rein Show Ponies/Show Hunter Ponies:**

62. Ponies are not to exceed 12.0hh.
63. Age of rider is to be 3 years and under 8 years old on the day of the show.
64. Ponies to be ridden in a suitable simple snaffle bitted bridle with cavesson noseband. Wilkie bits are acceptable. (For permissible snaffle bits refer to Equestrian Australia Show Horse Rules). A lead rein for the handler is to be affixed to the noseband of the bridle.
65. No spurs or whips for the rider; the handler may carry a cane.
66. A narrow strap may be attached to the front of the saddle.
67. This class should not be judged as Smartest on Parade but for the suitability of the pony for the purpose intended.
68. Lead Rein Show Ponies and Lead Rein Show Hunter Ponies can be shown together as Lead Rein Pony or, if numbers warrant, can be split into Lead Rein Show Pony and Lead Rein Show Hunter Pony Classes.

#### **First Ridden Show Ponies/Show Hunter Ponies:**

69. Ponies not to exceed 12.2hh
70. Age of rider to be 5 years and under 12 years old on the day of the show.
71. Ponies to be ridden in a suitable simple snaffle bitted bridle. Wilkie bits are acceptable. (For other permissible snaffle bits refer to Equestrian Australia Show Horse Rules)
72. Ponies must enter and leave the ring at either a walk or trot.
73. No cantering is allowed except in the individual workout.
74. This class is to be judged for the suitability of the pony for the purpose intended. As in all Riding Pony classes type, conformation, evenness of paces and straightness of action are important.
75. A narrow strap may be attached to the front of the saddle.
76. No spurs allowed.
77. The rider may carry a whip or cane, length not exceeding 75cm.
78. First Ridden Show Ponies and First Ridden Show Hunter Ponies can be shown together as First Ridden Pony or, if numbers warrant, can be split into First Ridden Show Pony and First Ridden Show Hunter Pony Classes.

#### **Newcomer Rules and Regulations:**

79. The Newcomer Riding Pony Championship is an incentive scheme for first season ridden animals registered with the RPSBS Ltd. A Riding Pony shall be eligible to be shown as a Newcomer if it has not been exhibited under saddle at any show or competition of any sort, prior to the said pony's newcomer year. Each State Secretary or State website will have details of each State's newcomer year commencement date, together with closing dates for all nominations, qualifications and fees. The one off nomination fee will be determined by each State Committee. Late nominations will be accepted; a late fee may apply.
80. This competition will be managed separately by each State Committee. Competitors must abide by the Rules & Regulations applicable to the State in which they are competing.
81. The Newcomer nomination form can be found on the RPSBS Ltd States' websites.

82. Competitors MUST have their Newcomer performance card with them when competing in this class. Failure to do so will mean that the pony will be ineligible for judging.
83. The card must be signed by the judge at the time of the competition.
84. Animals entered in Riding Pony Newcomer classes are to be ridden in a suitable, simple snaffle bridle. Wilkie bits are acceptable. For other permissible snaffle bits refer Equestrian Australian Show Horse Rules.
85. Stallions may compete in RPSBS Newcomer competition.
86. **Classes will be as follows;**  
 Note: States can elect to run separate Newcomer classes for Newcomer Show Ponies and Newcomer Show Hunter Ponies or may run combined classes if numbers do not warrant separate classes.  
 Newcomer Riding Pony ne 12.2hh  
 Newcomer Riding Pony over 12.2hh & ne 13.2hh  
 Newcomer Riding Pony over 13.2hh & ne 14.2hh  
 Champion and Reserve Champion Newcomer Pony.  
 Newcomer RPSBS Show Hack or RPSBS Show Hunter Hack over 14.2hh & ne 15hh  
 Newcomer RPSBS Show Hack or RPSBS Show Hunter Hack over 15hh  
 Champion and Reserve Champion Newcomer RPSBS Show Hack/Show Hunter Hack  
 Note: States may elect to amalgamate classes if numbers do not warrant the height class separations as listed.
87. Ponies must qualify to enter a RPSBS Newcomer State final. A Riding Pony Newcomer will be able to compete and qualify all season in the ridden Newcomer section at Riding Pony or other accredited Shows. If the winner has previously qualified then the qualification goes to second or if first and second are qualified the qualification is awarded to the third placegetter. A Reserve Champion Newcomer is a qualifier for a State Riding Pony Newcomer Final Championship.
88. Riding Pony newcomer contenders may travel interstate to compete subject to Rule 80; for example a Riding Pony Newcomer from Queensland may travel to New South Wales to compete in an Riding Pony Newcomer class, however if the newcomer intends to compete at a New South Wales Riding Pony Newcomer Championship final, the competitor must pay the appropriate nomination fee to the New South Wales Secretary for inclusion into that State's sweepstakes pool.
89. A pony that has only competed in Lead Rein and has not competed off the lead is eligible to be considered a Newcomer.
90. A Riding Pony Newcomer is eligible to compete in open Riding Pony ridden classes in their Newcomer Year.
91. Where a Newcomer Final falls into the next Showing Season this Final is considered to be part of the previous year's showing season and the exhibit must compete in the section in which it qualified. This will not affect the ability of the exhibit to change section for the new showing season.
92. The Newcomer Season is State specific and shall be deemed to be:  
 NSW, Victoria, Tasmania, SA – 1<sup>st</sup> January until 31<sup>st</sup> December  
 Qld & WA – 1<sup>st</sup> July until 30<sup>th</sup> June

### **Children's Ridden Show Ponies/Show Hunter Ponies:**

93. When judging these classes, the suitability of the pony for the purpose intended is to be taken into account.
94. For ponies not exceeding 12.2hh, rider is to be 12 years old and under on the day of the show.
95. For ponies over 12.2hh and not exceeding 13.2hh, rider is to be 14 years old and under on the day of the show.
96. For ponies over 13.2hh and not exceeding 14.2hh, rider to be 16 years old and under on the day of the show.
97. Children's Ridden Show Ponies and Children's Ridden Show Hunter Ponies can be shown together as Children's Ridden Pony or, if numbers warrant, can be split into Children's Ridden Show Pony and Children's Ridden Show Hunter Pony Classes.
98. **The minimum age for a child to ride independently shall be 5 years.**
99. **A Junior Child Rider shall be defined to be a child under 12 years of age. A Senior Child Rider shall be defined to be a child 12 and under 18 years of age.**

## Working Hunter Ponies/RPSBS Hunter Hacks:

100. Animals are to be 4 years and over.

101. Height of jumps:

Novice - fences to have a maximum height of 45cm

Under 12 hh - fences to have a maximum height of 45cm

12 hh & under 13 hh - fences to have a maximum height of 55cm

13 hh & under 14 hh - fences to have a maximum height of 65cm

14 hh & under 15 hh - fences to have a maximum height of 75cm

Over 15 hh – fences to have a maximum height of 85cm

102. Protective leg boots only may be used for Phase 1 (the Jumping phase) of the W.H. class.

103. No changes to saddlery permitted between Phases 1 and 2 (Phase 2 being the workout on the flat).  
(N.B. Whips and spurs are not considered as saddlery).

104. Marking:

Phase 1:

Jumping 50

Style and Manner while jumping 10

Phase 2:

Conformation, Freedom of Action, and Type 30

Manners 10

TOTAL 100

Penalties:

Jumping knockdown 10 faults

First refusal 15 faults

Second refusal 20 faults

Third refusal Elimination

Fall of horse or rider in either phase Elimination

105. The jumping phase will be judged first.

106. The course must consist of a minimum of 6 fences, one of which must be a spread fence. A change of direction must be included.

107. At the discretion of the Judge, ponies, if possible, should be galloped, but not more than one at a time.

## Home Produced, Amateur Produced & Amateur Competitor Rules:

**Professional:** A person who derives an income from or receives some form of remuneration for the production of show horses.

**Amateur:** A person who is deemed not a professional and meets all the eligibility rules and criteria as outlined below.

**Production:** The training, conditioning and/or exhibition of show horses.

**Producer:** A person involved in the training, conditioning and/or exhibition of show horses.

**Competitor:** The rider or handler presenting the horse in the competition arena.

**Immediate family:** Grandparents, parents, parents' partners, husband/wife/partners, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, step grandparents, step parents, step brothers/sisters, legal guardians and step children.

**Horse:** Horse or pony regardless of height.

**Resident:** Stabled or paddocked in a given location for a period of time greater than 24 hours, for purposes other than attending a competition event, veterinary care, DIY agistment or stud work.

**State Show Year:** NSW: Jan 1 – Dec 31; VIC: Jan 1 – Dec 31; QLD: July 1 – June 30;

SA: July 1 – June 30; WA: Jan 1 – Dec 31; TAS: Jan 1 – Dec 31.

**Stud Work:** Reproductive activities which include natural service, artificial insemination, semen collection, embryo transfer, follicle and pregnancy testing.

## **Home Produced:**

Objective: to recognize and promote efforts of non-professional competitors who themselves undertake the production, training and showing of their own animal.

These classes are for Home Produced led and ridden stallions, mares and geldings where the handler/rider/horse meets criteria for being Home Produced.

Home Produced classes rely on the integrity and goodwill of exhibitors to adhere to eligibility and rules.

### 108. Home Produced Eligibility Rules:

- a) Riders, handlers and owners must be financial members of RPSBS Ltd and animals must be RPSBS Ltd registered as being owned or leased by the competitor or an immediate family member.
- b) Horses must not have been resident in a professional producer's/trainer's stables for a period of at least six months prior to the day of competition except on a DIY agistment basis or for the purposes of stud work.
- c) Any horse competing in Home Produced LED classes must not have been shown in any led class by a professional handler or a period of at least six months prior to the competition. (Handlers under the age of 14 years and 9 months are exempt from this rule)
- d) Any horse competing in Home Produced RIDDEN classes must not have been shown under saddle by a professional rider for a period of at least six months prior to the competition. (NB Riders under the age of 14 years and 9 months are exempt from this rule providing they themselves have never received any form of financial remuneration for riding or leading a horse in showing events.)
- e) Any horse competing in a Home Produced class must have received its primary care, training and preparation from the competitor or a member of their immediate family for a period of at least six months prior to the day of competition. Having tuition and attending clinics is permitted.

## **Amateur Produced**

These classes are for Amateur Produced led and ridden stallions, mares and geldings. The word "Amateur" includes all of the following meanings:

- A person who engages in a sport for pleasure rather than for financial benefit or professional reasons;
- A sports person who does not compete for payment and
- A person inexperienced in a particular activity.

Amateur Produced classes rely on the integrity and goodwill of exhibitors to adhere to eligibility.

### 109. For the purpose of these rules an "Amateur" is deemed to be a person who

- a) Does not receive an income or reward from the production of showing of horses and/or is not a person and/or the immediate family of a professional as described above who produces or shows horses for a fee or reward (excluding show prizes) or
- b) a person who is inexperienced or whose skills are such that they are not considered to be operating at the "elite" level in the sport

Any horse competing in Amateur Produced led classes must not have been exhibited by a handler who has exhibited a horse in a Led class, for a professional at any show in the six months prior, and satisfies the definition of "Amateur".

Any horse competing in Amateur Produced ridden classes must not have been exhibited by a rider who has exhibited a horse in a ridden class, for a professional at any show in the six months prior, and satisfies the definition of "Amateur".

#### 110. Eligibility Rules:

- a) Riders, handlers and owners must be financial members of RPSBS Ltd and horses must be RPSBS Ltd registered as being owned or leased by the competitor or an immediate family member.
- b) Horses must not have been in a professional producer's/trainer's stables for a period of at least six months prior to the competition, except on a DIY basis or at stud.
- c) The rider/handler does not receive an income or reward from the production or exhibition of show horses (excluding show prizes) and/or is not the immediate family of a professional who produces or shows horses for a fee or reward.
- d) A rider/ handler is not considered to be an "Amateur" in their specific led or ridden section if he/she has been awarded in the state's previous two full showing years, a Championship (led, ridden or rider) at any Royal, State Titles, Grand National Qualifying or Grand National Show. RPSBS Ltd State Committees may, at their discretion, add specific shows of a commensurate high standard to this list.

#### **Amateur Competitor**

Amateur Competitor Objective: To encourage the confidence and development of non-professional handlers and riders by giving them the opportunity to compete against their peers,

These classes are for Amateur exhibited led and ridden stallions, mares and geldings. The word "Amateur" includes all of the following meanings:

- A person who engages in a sport for pleasure rather than for financial benefit or professional reasons;
- A sports person who does not compete for payment and
- A person inexperienced in the particular activity.

Amateur classes rely on the integrity and goodwill of exhibitors to adhere to eligibility criteria and rules.

For the purpose of these rules an "Amateur" is deemed to be a person who

- Does not receive an income or reward from the production or exhibition of show horses (excluding show prizes) or
- a person who is inexperienced or whose skills are such that they are not considered to be operating at the "elite" level in the sport

#### 111. Eligibility Rules:

- a) Riders, handlers and owners must be financial members of RPSBS Ltd and horses must be RPSBS Ltd registered as being owned or leased by the competitor or an immediate family member.
- b) The rider/handler does not receive an income or reward from the production or exhibition of show horses (excluding show prizes).
- c) A rider/ handler is not considered to be an "Amateur" in their specific led or ridden section if he/she has been awarded in the state's previous two full showing years, a corresponding Championship (led or ridden) at any Royal Show, EA or SHCQ State Titles, Grand National Qualifying or Grand National Show. RPSBS Ltd State Committees may, at their discretion, add specific shows of a commensurate high standard to this list.