

## **2025 LIST OF OFFICERS**

**PATRON:** Mrs P. Baker-Beall

**PRESIDENT:** Mrs P. Pattinson

**FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY – Mr P Hilton**

**HON VICE PRESIDENTS:**

Mr A. Asplin, Lady Bamford OBE, Mr P Emmerson

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr P. Cook

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Mrs J. Pybus

**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:** -

Mrs D. Christie, Mr S. Richardson, Mrs S. Thomas, Mr P Hilton

**HON LIFE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:-**

Mrs J. Hall, Mrs. P. Pattinson

**TREASURER & ELECTED MEMBER OF COUNCIL:**

Mr S. Richardson

**HON LIFE MEMBER OF SOCIETY**

Miss Charlotte Dujardin OBE

**CHAIRMAN OF SCOTTISH BRANCH:** -

Mrs H. Outram

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER & COMPANY SECRETARY:** - Mrs K. Toynton Ward

**HEAD OFFICE:** -

124 Green End Road, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 5XS

TEL: 01487 831376

e-mail: - [info@byps.com](mailto:info@byps.com)

Website: - [www.byps.com](http://www.byps.com)

**SECRETARY OF SCOTTISH BRANCH**

Gavin Reilly, Southend, 5 Baberton Mains Hill, Edinburgh, EH14 3DT

07900 101204

e-mail: [info@bspsscotland.co.uk](mailto:info@bspsscotland.co.uk)

website: [www.bspsscotland.co.uk](http://www.bspsscotland.co.uk)

The British Show Pony Society a Company limited by guarantee  
Registered in England and Wales No 5308982 Registered Office as above.

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Mr. A. Beaumont**, Tel. 07808 903158 [adrian@irbracing.com](mailto:adrian@irbracing.com)  
**Mrs. D. Christie**, Tel. 07787 144550 [dawnchrsty@aol.com](mailto:dawnchrsty@aol.com)  
**Mr. P. Cook**, Tel. 07802 467044 [millfarmhouse@icloud.com](mailto:millfarmhouse@icloud.com)  
**Mr P. Emmerson**, Tel. 07759 142030 [peter.emmerson1@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.emmerson1@btinternet.com)  
**Mrs J Hall**, Tel. 07703 271074 [johnandjoyhall5@gmail.com](mailto:johnandjoyhall5@gmail.com)  
**Mr. P. Hilton**, Tel: 07876 190100 [Philip.hilton@hiltons.ltd](mailto:Philip.hilton@hiltons.ltd)  
**Mr. N. Hollings**, Tel. 07808 583929 [info@team-hollings.co.uk](mailto:info@team-hollings.co.uk)  
**Mrs M Pattinson**, Tel. 07958 387243 [patriciappattinson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patriciappattinson@hotmail.co.uk)  
**Mrs. P. Prickett**, Tel. 07909 538942 [pam.prickett1@gmail.com](mailto:pam.prickett1@gmail.com)  
**Mrs. J. Pybus**, Tel: 0771 387 8239 [joanneypybus1@gmail.com](mailto:joanneypybus1@gmail.com)  
**Mr. S. Richardson**, Tel. 07779 393841 [Sclrichardson@aol.com](mailto:Sclrichardson@aol.com)  
**Mrs. S. Thomas**, Tel. 07801 302679 [sharon.longbarn@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.longbarn@gmail.com)  
**Mr C Yates**, Tel. 07974 967262 [chrisyates@jacksonfinehomes.co.uk](mailto:chrisyates@jacksonfinehomes.co.uk)  
**Mr. E. Young** Tel. 07974 643278 [youngedward@hotmail.com](mailto:youngedward@hotmail.com)

### **CHAIRMAN OF THE AREA CHAIRMEN**

Mrs Joanne Pybus Tel: 0771 3878239 [joanneypybus1@gmail.com](mailto:joanneypybus1@gmail.com)

### **STEWARDS OF THE SOCIETY**

Mr C. Brooks, Mr. N. Brooks-Ward Mr. E. Bunn

Mr. M. R. Jones., Mr P. Hooper

Mr. S. John Peacock, Mrs. A. Smyth, Mr T. Wiggett

### **SPECIAL SHOW STEWARDS**

Mrs. J. Beatham, Mr. A. Bowie, Mrs L Briant

Mrs J. Bushell, Mrs V Clark, Mrs. A. Derby, Mrs. C. Dew, Mr P Emmerson, Hon. Dawn Gooch,

Mr. F. Gunnell, Mr P Hilton, Mr P Hooper, Mrs. J. James, Mrs. J. Jefferson, Mrs L Kelly

Mr. P. Lobb, Mr T Lucas, Mrs M. Ludlow, Mrs. M. Hamilton, Mr D Park

Mrs. C. Pearsall, Mr A Perkins, Mr. D. Puttock, Mrs. E. Tate, Mr. T. Wiggett,  
and All Members of Council and Executive Officer.

### **NAMES AND CONTACTS OF BSPS AREA CHAIRMEN**

(As from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025)

1A **Mrs J. Pybus**, Tel.(D) 01670 775278 (e) 0771 3878239 [joanneypybus1@gmail.com](mailto:joanneypybus1@gmail.com)  
1B **Mrs P. Prickett**, Tel. 07909 538942 [pam.prickett1@gmail.com](mailto:pam.prickett1@gmail.com)  
Joint – **Mrs S. Dennison** Tel. 07760786270 [shirley@dplrentals.com](mailto:shirley@dplrentals.com)  
2A **Mrs N. Kirby-Moore**, Tel. 07883882861 [nickykmoore@icloud.com](mailto:nickykmoore@icloud.com)  
2B **Mrs S. Hughes**, Tel. 07584 089134 [sehughes66@gmail.com](mailto:sehughes66@gmail.com)  
3A **Mrs R. Pearson** Tel. 07936 393009 [becky\\_pearson1@outlook.com](mailto:becky_pearson1@outlook.com)  
3B **Miss L Bramall** Tel. 07427 688916 [laura.bsp3b@yahoo.com](mailto:laura.bsp3b@yahoo.com)  
4A **Miss M Hewitt**, Tel. 07860566254 [megan@selstonequestriancentre.co.uk](mailto:megan@selstonequestriancentre.co.uk)  
4B **Mrs S. Moncaster** Tel. 07974 568992 [moncaster7@aol.com](mailto:moncaster7@aol.com)  
5 **Mrs M.A. Ludlow** Tel. 07570099655 [bspsarea5@hotmail.com](mailto:bspsarea5@hotmail.com)  
6 **Ms M.C. Allison**, Tel.07870 452399 [marya.1@live.co.uk](mailto:marya.1@live.co.uk)  
7 **Mrs A.J. Gaunt**, Tel.07814 028539 [lougaunt0@gmail.com](mailto:lougaunt0@gmail.com)  
9A **Mrs S. Crump**, Tel. 07968 695692 [serena@oakwrights.co.uk](mailto:serena@oakwrights.co.uk)  
9B **Mrs B.J. White**, Tel. 07970887474 [poplesfarm@gmail.com](mailto:poplesfarm@gmail.com)  
11 **Mrs L. David**, Tel. 07747 046478 [lindseyannedavid@gmail.com](mailto:lindseyannedavid@gmail.com)  
12 **Mr S. Cradock**, Tel.07817 604 857 [steve.bspswales@gmail.com](mailto:steve.bspswales@gmail.com)  
Sub Committee North Wales 12 **Mrs C Lomas**, 01248 852375 [christinecromlech@gmail.com](mailto:christinecromlech@gmail.com)  
13A **Mrs S Olds**, Tel. 07940417964 [bsps13achair@gmail.com](mailto:bsps13achair@gmail.com)  
13B **Mrs Debbie Miller**, Tel. 07957 503631 [milldebs1963@gmail.com](mailto:milldebs1963@gmail.com)  
14 **Mrs A Lucas**, Tel. 07779 203047 [annelucas@live.co.uk](mailto:annelucas@live.co.uk)  
15 **Mr C. Yates**, Tel. 07974 967262 [chrisyates@jacksonfinehomes.co.uk](mailto:chrisyates@jacksonfinehomes.co.uk)  
15A **Lucinda Haines**, Tel. 07717367714 [linchindahaines@hotmail.com](mailto:linchindahaines@hotmail.com)  
16 **Mr A. Beaumont**, Tel:07808 903158 [adrian@irbracing.com](mailto:adrian@irbracing.com)  
17 **Mrs E Lyttle**, Tel. 07704 718147 [efcorkett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:efcorkett@hotmail.co.uk)

**Scottish Branch, Mrs H. Outram** Tel. 07805 259804 [helenoutram@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helenoutram@hotmail.co.uk)

# CONTENTS

## Pages

1 & 2 List of Officers & Area Chairmen

3 & 4 Contents

## **SECTION A - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

5 & 6 Abbreviations & Definitions

7 Subscriptions & Fees

## **SECTION B - MEMBERSHIP**

8 Membership Requirements and Scottish Section

## **SECTION C - PONY REQUIREMENTS**

9 & 10 Age, Measurement, Registration.

10 Heritage M&M Registration, Transfer, Leasing / Loaning,

11 & 12 Name and Identification of ponies, Eligible Ponies, Entries, Substitutions, Riders and Animals

12 Riders Safety – Hats,

13 Concussion, Dress and Accessories.

14 Body Protectors, Spurs, Whips,

15 Tack, Bridles, Shoeing, and Leg Protection.

16 Turn Out, Equine Influenza, B.S.P.S. Cups, Trophies and Rosettes

## **SECTION D – DOPING AND DOPE TESTS**

17 & 18 Dope Testing and Sampling Procedure

19 Good Conduct and Discipline

20 Objections and Complaints. J.M.B. Objections,

## **SECTION E -SHOW PONIES**

21 Galloping, Marking, Novice Show Ponies

22 Novice Show Pony & Challenge Show Ponies

23 Open Show Ponies

## **SECTION F -LEAD REIN SHOW PONIES**

24 Lead Rein Show Ponies and Novice,

25 Challenge and Open, Tiny Tots Lead Rein Show Ponies

## **SECTION G -FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONIES**

26 & 27 First Ridden Ponies, Novice First Ridden,

Challenge and Open First Ridden, Tiny Tots First Ridden.

## **SECTION H -WORKING HUNTER PONIES**

28 & 29 Galloping, Eligibility, Marking and Penalties

29 & 30 Novice WHP

31 Challenge WHP

32 Open WHP and Training Stakes

## **SECTION I- CRADLE STAKES PONIES**

33 Cradle Stakes, Tiny Tots Stakes

## **SECTION J -NURSERY STAKES PONIES**

33-34 Novice Nursery Stakes, Galloping, Eligibility, Challenge Open Nursery Stakes, Open Nursery Stakes

## **SECTION K -**

34 Inter Country WHP Teams

## **SECTION L**

35 - 38 WHP Courses

## **SECTION M -SHOW HUNTER PONIES**

39 & 40 Galloping, Marking, Novice Show Hunter Ponies

40 Challenge Show Hunter Ponies

41 Open Show Hunter Ponies,

## **SECTION N – LEAD REIN OF HUNTER TYPE**

42-43 Lead Rein Hunter Type, Novice, Challenge and Open

## **SECTION O -FIRST PONY SHOW HUNTER TYPE**

44-45 Novice and Open.

## **SECTION P – INTERMEDIATES**

46-48 Novice, Challenge and Open Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Intermediate Hack Type and Intermediate Show Hunter.

## **SECTION Q - PRETTY POLLY -AMATEUR HOME PRODUCED AND YOUNG RIDER**

49-50 Eligibility

51 Pretty Polly RIHS and Young Dragonara Rider Championship RIHS

## **SECTION R - LONDON INTERNATIONAL SHOWING SERIES**

52-53 Performance Pony classes, Lead Rein and First Ridden Heritage Working Sports Pony,

54 Cradle and Nursery Stakes.

55 BSPS Working Sports Pony Performance

## **SECTION S HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND**

56-57 Marking, Galloping, Eligibility, Heritage Novice Lead Rein

57-59 Heritage Novice First Ridden and Ridden, Heritage Novice WHP, Heritage Challenge

60 Marking System, Height of fences for Heritage WHP

61- 66 Heritage Classes, R.I.H.S and Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship - Junior & Young Riders Ridden

## **SECTION T -PART BRED SECTION**

67 – 68 Anglo and Part Bred Arab

## **SECTION U - WINTER QUALIFIERS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS**

69 - 70

## **SECTION V - QUALIFICATIONS**

71 B.S.P.S. Summer Championships and B.S.P.S., B.S.P.S. Blue Riband. BSPS Challenge

72 B.S.P.S. Champion of Champions, RIHS, HOYS

73 Summer Worker Stakes

74 Gold Cup

## **SECTION W -JUDGING OF CLASSES**

75 & 76

## **SECTION X -JUDGES**

77 Judges

78 Future Judges, Guidelines and Advice for Judges

## **SECTION Y - AFFILIATED SHOWS**

79-81

## **SECTION Z -SPECIAL SHOW STEWARDS**

82-83 AIMS AND OBJECTS OF AREA COMMITTEES

84 STANDING ORDERS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AREAS AND THE SCOTTISH BRANCH

85 CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURE

86 DISABILITY POLICY

87 – 94 THE SHOWING COUNCIL EQUINE WELFARE AND GENERAL BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE AND UNIFIED RULES PACK

95 SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET POLICY

96 – 102 BYLAWS

103 NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNCIL

# RULES & REGULATIONS

## SECTION A

### ABBREVIATIONS

AHS	Arab Horse Society
BEF	British Equestrian Federation
BHS	British Horse Society
BS	British Show Jumping
BSPS	British Show Pony Society
HR	Heritage Mountain & Moorland Ridden.
HW	Heritage Mountain & Moorland WHP
HOYS	Horse of the Year Show
IPS	Irish Pony Society
JMB	Joint Measurement Board
LIHS	London International Horse Show
M & M	Mountain & Moorland
NPS	National Pony Society
RIHS	Royal International Horse Show
TSC	The Showing Council
SHP	Show Hunter Pony
SP	Show Pony
WHP	Working Hunter Pony
WH	Working Hunter
WSP	Working Sports Pony
SHT	Show Hunter Type
SRT	Show Riding Type
DEFRA	Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs
FEI	Federation Equestre Internationale
EPSL	Equine Prohibited Substances List
	Indicates a new, changed or amended rule.

### DEFINITIONS

**Member** - Member of the BSPS.

**Affiliated Shows** - Shows affiliated to the BSPS.

**Showing Member** - A member 18 years or older on 1st January of the current year, who has paid their subscription at the appropriate rate for that year or who is a Life Member or who is a Professional Producer - see Rule 3

**Non-Showing Member** - A member 18 years or older on the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year, who has paid their subscription at the appropriate rate for that year, but is not eligible to register, ride and show ponies.

**Junior Member** - A member under 18 years on 1st January of the current year, who has paid their subscription at the appropriate rate for that year. No child under the age of 3 years may become a member.

**Life Member** - An adult who is a Life Member of the BSPS with the same rights as a Showing Member.

**Exhibitor** - An owner, or professional producer or other person responsible for a pony at a show.

**Professional Show Producer/Trainer:** A person who undertakes the preparation/training/keeping at livery, production of show equines/riders.

**Groom** – A person who is employed full, part-time or self-employed (whether paid or unpaid) in the preparation/training/keeping or production of ponies/horses for the show ring including at a show.

Words importing the masculine shall include the feminine, words importing pony shall include horse, words importing animals shall include pony and horse, and words importing the singular shall include the plural, and vice versa.

### **JUDGES**

Must be B.S.P.S. life, adult or non-showing members.

### **IMMEDIATE FAMILY**

The following are classed as immediate family for the purpose of clarification on Rule 442

Grandparents

Parents/Parents Partners

Husband/Wife and Partners

Brothers and Sisters

Sons/daughters

Step Grandparents

Step-Parents

Step-brothers/sisters

Legal Guardians

Father, Mother, Sister & Brother In-Laws

Niece & Nephew

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS & FEES**

(Fees payable from 1st January)

<u>Life Member 18yrs - 30yrs</u>	1000.00
<u>Life Member 31yrs – 49yrs</u>	800.00
<u>Life Member 50yrs and over</u>	400.00
<u>Showing Member</u>	62.00
<u>Non-Showing Member / Non-Showing Judge</u>	40.00
<u>Junior Member</u>	30.00
<u>Pony Registration (inc Heritage)</u>	38.00
<u>Transfer Fee</u>	22.00
<u>Lease Fee and Loan Fee</u>	22.00
<u>B.S.P.S. Badges</u>	6.00

**For Online System please go to [www.bspsonline.com](http://www.bspsonline.com)**

### **Affiliation Fees for Shows:-**

<u>R.I.H.S. Qualification for EACH CLASS Area Shows</u>	20.00
<u>R.I.H.S. Qualification for EACH CLASS Non-Area Shows</u>	26.00
<u>Affiliation Fee for Area Shows</u>	40.00
<u>Affiliation Fee for all other Non-Area Shows (Inc Blue Riband)</u>	45.00
<u>Heritage M&amp;M Ridden Supreme Championship - Final</u>	75.00
<u>Semi Final</u>	50.00
<u>Breed Qualifiers – Free</u>	
<u>London International Showing series EACH CLASS</u>	22.50

### **Affiliation Fee for Winter Shows:-**

<u>Areas-including Heritage</u>	20.00
<u>Non-Areas-including Heritage</u>	30.00

Memberships and Pony registrations are half price for members joining on or after 1st October 2026 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026 - this does not include Life Membership.

**Membership and Registrations will be suspended immediately, and ponies may be disqualified from any class and lose their qualification if cheques payable to the B.S.P.S., the B.S.P.S. Championships Show, a B.S.P.S. Area or any B.S.P.S. Affiliated Show are not honoured by the bank or if there is any money owing to the B.S.P.S., the B.S.P.S. Championships Show, a B.S.P.S. Area or a B.S.P.S. Affiliated show, or if ANY TROPHIES belonging to the B.S.P.S., the B.S.P.S. Championships Shows or a B.S.P.S. Area that are not returned by the requested date.**

**A surcharge of £10 will be charged if cheques have to be represented.**

*Neither the BSPS or any of its officers, assistants or stewards shall in any way be responsible for any loss, injury or damages that may happen to exhibitors or their assistants or other members of the public, or to any animal or property or to any vehicle brought into the Showground or on any premises used in conjunction with the Show, or while entering or leaving the same.*

*It is necessary all exhibitors carry Public Liability Insurance for an adequate indemnity to protect against their negligence including any injury caused by their animals or property.*

## SECTION B.

### Membership Requirements

1. If a pony is registered with the B.S.P.S. it must be registered in the name of the legal owner who must be a B.S.P.S. Showing Member, or in accordance with Rule 31. If there is more than one legal owner, their registration must be in all names and all such owners must be B.S.P.S. Showing Members. Ponies must be entered at Shows in the name of the registered owner.
2. A rider under 18 years on 1st January must be a B.S.P.S. Junior Member. Junior members registered without a guardian/parent are the responsibility of the owner of the pony they ride. A rider 18 to 25 years must be a B.S.P.S. Adult Showing Member. In all classes held under B.S.P.S. rules no child under the age of 3 years may compete in any Leading Rein Classes, including Tiny Tots, no child under the age of 5 years may compete in any other classes (except Tiny Tots First Ridden and Ridden where no child under the age of 4 years may compete).
3. If a pony is produced or trained by a person other than the owner, such person must be a Showing Member.

The B.S.P.S. Office must be notified in writing of any change of Producer.

Leaders in Lead Rein and Lead Rein Working Sports pony classes at R.I.H.S., L.I.H.S, Blue Riband Qualifying Shows and the B.S.P.S. Summer, Winter and Heritage Championships Shows and **must** be a B.S.P.S. Showing Member 16 years old or over.

4. Owners and Riders **MUST** be CURRENT B.S.P.S. members to qualify for the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships. (also see Rules 21 & 493)
5. Exhibitors in qualifying positions, who have never been members of the B.S.P.S are allowed 7 working days in which to become members and register their ponies. N.B. This Rule does not apply to classes with H.O.Y.S., R.I.H.S, HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP, or Blue Riband qualification.
6. Non-members competing in B.S.P.S. classes must be aware of and comply with the B.S.P.S. rules.
7. If it is established to the satisfaction of the Council upon receipt of a certificate memorandum of conviction before a Court of Law of an offence of cruelty towards a Horse or Pony or that a member has been placed on the Sex Offenders Register, then that member shall be expelled and their membership withdrawn.

### Scottish Section

8. All Scottish Membership fees must be sent to the Scottish Secretary.
9. Pony registration fees are payable to the B.S.P.S. Office in Sawtry when registering a pony.
10. All affiliation fees and draft schedules for shows held in Scotland must be sent to the Scottish Secretary.

## **SECTION C**

# **PONY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Age of Ponies**

11. Ponies must be four years old and over in all B.S.P.S. classes. The age of a pony shall be calculated from the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of its birth.

12. Ponies four years old and over may be registered from the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **Measurement of Ponies**

13. The Rules on the measurement of ponies are in accordance with the B.S.P.S. and the JMB Rule Book. Copies of the JMB Rule Book may be obtained from the JMB [www.thejmbonline.co.uk](http://www.thejmbonline.co.uk)

14. All animals (except Heritage M&M, Anglo PBA and Pretty Polly) qualifying for the RIHS and Blue Riband must have a JMB Full Height Certificate or a valid JMB Annual Height Certificate issued in the current year within 28 days of qualification.

14a). Ponies competing in height restricted classes that are resident in Ireland may submit a copy of their current/valid IPS height certificate at the time of registration and do not need a valid JMB certificate to compete at RIHS or LIHS if they have a valid IPS certificate. All ponies resident in Ireland will be required to be in possession of a current/valid JMB certificate within 28 days of qualification for HOYS.

15. Plaited ponies (except Young Dragonara, Pretty Polly and PBA) qualifying for RIHS have 28 days to get a JMB measurement after qualification or before the final, whichever is sooner. Ponies can be called for Measurement by the Society. (See Rule 76)

15.a) All animals qualifying for HOYS must have a JMB Full Height Certificate or a valid JMB Annual Height Certificate issued in the current year within 28 days of qualification or before the final, whichever is sooner.

15.b) In BSPS plaited Working Hunter/Sports Pony Classes only where the class requires a height certificate,(height restricted classes) including the RIHS WHP classes, a FEI height certificate will be accepted providing that;

1) You have a current FEI certificate when competing in qualifiers.

2) A copy of the certificate is sent to the BSPS office for verification.

3) Regardless of the status of the FEI height certificate, the BSPS has the right to request a measurement on the pony at the owner's expense within 21 days of notification by the BSPS through the Joint Measurement Board. See also rule 77.

4) An animal that is required to be remeasured, and measures over the required height classification for the class will forfeit any previous qualification gained for the RIHS and BSPS championship shows or classes in the current year and qualification will pass down to the next eligible exhibit within the eligible places.

The following restrictions apply;

1) If the pony competes in any other classes that are height restricted, where a height certificate is required, the pony will also require a valid JMB Annual or Full Height Certificate.

16. If a pony moves into a different height section it takes its CURRENT status in its new height section.

### **Registration of Ponies**

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

18. Overseas members' ponies must have their National Pony Passports. They may compete in England, Scotland and Wales on a visitors' visa.

19. Members from Ireland, who have their ponies stabled in England, Scotland or Wales must have a valid JMB Height Certificate within 28 days when qualifying in England, Scotland or Wales in R.I.H.S. classes.

20. Ponies MUST be registered before the date of the show at which they compete to qualify for the R.I.H.S. (including Pretty Polly and Heritage qualifying classes), Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship and Blue Riband Classes. Pony registration forms and payment must be received in the office no later than the last working day (Monday to Friday) prior to the date of the qualifying show. (see Rule 493)
21. Ponies must be registered before the date of the Show at which they qualify for the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships, except in the case of exhibitors who have never been members before who are allowed 7 days in which to become members and register their ponies. (see Rule 5)
22. Ponies with 2025 registration may qualify at Winter & Summer Shows held on or before 31.12.25 but must register for 2026 to be eligible to compete at the B.S.P.S. Winter, Summer & Heritage Championship Shows.

#### **Heritage M&M Registration**

23. Members must be adult Showing Members to Register Heritage Ponies. Riders under 18 years on 1<sup>st</sup> January must be B.S.P.S. Junior members. Riders 18 years and over must be B.S.P.S. Adult members.
24. Ponies must be correctly registered for showing in their respective Breed Society Stud Books to compete in the Heritage M & M classes.
25. Part Breds are not eligible.
26. Owners, Riders and Ponies must be registered with the B.S.P.S. before the date of the show at which they qualify for the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships, except in the case of exhibitors who have never been members before who are allowed 7 days in which to become members and register their ponies. This Rule does not apply to classes with R.I.H.S., or Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship qualification.
27. Applications for registration must be accompanied by a copy of the Breed Society Certificate.

#### **Transfer of Ponies**

28. If a pony has ever been registered with the B.S.P.S. and is transferred the new owner must notify the B.S.P.S. Office immediately and forward the Transfer Fee of £22.00. A Transfer Fee is payable whether or not the previous registration has lapsed. The Transfer form must be completed and signed by the purchaser.

#### **Leasing or Loaning Ponies**

29. If a pony is leased/loaned to another party it will be treated as the property of the Lessee/Borrower by the B.S.P.S., and all benefits and penalties relating to the pony shall be attributable to the Lessee/Borrower. When a lease/loan is negotiated the pony will not be treated as the property of the Lessee/Borrower until the lease/loan fee has been paid to the B.S.P.S. and the lease/loan registered.
30. A form for the registration of the lease/loan of ponies can be obtained from the B.S.P.S. Office and must be completed by both the Lessor/Lender and the Lessee/Borrower. A fee of £22.00 is payable whether or not the previous registration has lapsed.

## **Name and Identification of Ponies**

31. A pony must be shown in the name under which it was originally registered with the N.P.S., M. & M. Stud Books, B.S.P.S., B.S. or any other recognised society.

**The identification of ponies must be in accordance with the J.M.B. Certificate or National Passport at all times, disciplinary action will be taken against competitors breaking this rule. The B.S.P.S. will authorise spot checks at certain shows and riders breaking this rule will not be allowed to compete.** NB. Exhibitors are required by DEFRA to carry with them passports for all horses/ponies when competing or travelling. (Also see Rule 17)

## **Eligible Ponies**

32. Exhibitors MUST NOT exhibit a pony under a Judge in circumstances that would constitute a breach of Rule 442 by that Judge.

Producers/Trainers **MUST NOT** exhibit under a judge for whom or for whose immediate family they have produced a pony since 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year in which the class is being held. **From 2027, this will be since 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the previous year.** Lack of knowledge is not a defence to breach of this Rule and Exhibitors and Producers/Trainers must make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves that no breach of this rule will occur. Any breach of this rule will result in automatic disqualification of the pony concerned and may result in disciplinary proceedings being initiated against the Exhibitor or Producer/Trainer.

33. All B.S.P.S. Classes, except the Heritage M&M, Anglo and Part Bred Arab, London International Performance Coloured and ex 158cm classes, are restricted to mares and geldings.

34. Mares with a living foal born during the current season may not be shown in B.S.P.S. classes.

## **Entries and Substitutions**

35. Substitution or nomination entries are NOT permitted. Phase 1 W.H.P. Hors Concours entries are permitted at the Show Secretary's and Judges' discretion. In accordance with rule 138 - Animals are not allowed to compete Hors Concours and competitively at the same show in the W.H.P. section and neither are they allowed to withdraw without the Judges permission.

## **Riders and Animals**

36. Competitors are NOT allowed to withdraw from any class without the judge's permission.

37. Riders may ride up to two ponies in a class. The highest placed pony will qualify. This includes Mixed Height plaited and Heritage WHP, Cradle, Nursery, Tiny Tots Stakes, Winter and Summer Worker Stakes. Both ponies can go forward for Phase II judging. There may be no change of rider from phase one to phase two. In mixed height WHP/WH classes riders must declare if they are competing in the 153cms or Int WH section. For Method of Judging Mixed Height WHP/WH and Mixed height Heritage WHP, Rule 450. In Cradle and Nursery Stakes classes riders may only qualify one pony per class for the final of RIHS and LIHS.

38. Once a class has commenced there shall be no change of rider / handler except in a Championship (see Rule 447) In the event of a rider having to leave his pony in the ring, during the judging of a class, to enable him to participate in another class, then the rider must complete his show both ridden and in-hand (unless the Rider has a dispensation card-(Rule 48)

39. The Pony and Rider must return in time for the PRESENTATION of AWARDS, otherwise the pony cannot be considered in the final result.  
 This does not apply to competitors with more than one animal in the Mixed Height WHP/WH or Heritage WHP classes or to competitors **Except in H.O.Y.S. Qualifying Classes** who are competing in another class at the same time at the Winter, Summer & Heritage Championships Shows. IT DOES APPLY TO COMPETITORS IN THE EVENING PERFORMANCES AT THE WINTER, HERITAGE AND SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS. For HOYS qualifying classes, the rider must be on the pony for the presentation.

40. A fall of animal or rider in any ridden phase will result in elimination, and the rider must leave the ring dismounted. Please pay particular attention to Rule 46. If a rider / handler let's go of an animal under any circumstances the judge will determine if the animal's manners and behaviour should result in any disqualification.  
 Animals that get loose resulting in disruption to the class will be disqualified.

41. Animals displaying continued disobedience, or animals leaving the ring whether mounted or dismounted will be disqualified.

42. Grooms must have attained their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday for stripping in the ring or for lunging on the showground.

42 a). At B.S.P.S. Championship Shows, B.S.P.S. Area Shows no animal can be brought onto the showground unless it is entered in a B.S.P.S. class or another class within the schedule run by the Society or B.S.P.S. Area.

b) Riders must remain seated in the saddle at all times.

### **RIDERS SAFETY** **HATS**

43. Correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats Nos. PAS015 2011, VG1 2014-12, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 and 2023, SNELL E2016 and E2021 onwards, MUST be worn by riders at all times when mounted, including horse classes at BSPS Area Shows. Hats should have a plain cover, either Black, Navy Blue, Brown, Grey or Green. Velvet covers are encouraged. The B.S.P.S. encourages members to have their hats tagged through the B.S.P.S. scheme or via the Pony Club Scheme. Tagging indicates the hat meets the accepted standards, no check of the fit or condition of the hat is implied. It is considered to be the responsibility of the members/guardians to ensure the hat complies with current standards and is tagged before they compete. Members/guardians are responsible for ensuring the manufacturer's guidelines with regard to fit and replacement are followed. **Hat Tagging in B.S.P.S. classes is compulsory at BSPS Winter, Summer and Heritage Championship shows, Royal International Horse Show, London International Horse Show, Burghley Gold Cup and lead rein WSP final. (We are accepting British Eventing, British Riding Club and Pony Club tags)**

44. A rider whose hat comes off will be eliminated. A rider whose strap comes undone, whilst competing must on Penalty of Elimination replace it or fasten it before continuing. He may stop without penalty to fasten the strap.

45. In the interest of Health & Safety the B.S.P.S. Council are determined that riders must comply with Rule 43. The B.S.P.S. will authorise spot checks at certain Shows and riders breaking this rule will not be allowed to compete. Hat Tagging in B.S.P.S. classes is compulsory at BSPS Winter, Summer and Heritage Championship Shows, Burghley Gold Cup and lead rein WSP final, RIHS and LIHS.

## **CONCUSSION**

46. Concussion is a condition that is not always obvious. It can have very serious after effects. Following the fall of a rider, if concussion is suspected the advice of the medical professional must be sought and followed. Medical advice must be obtained before the Member rides again.

This advice must be relayed personally to the Parent/Guardian of the competitor and care must be taken to ensure that the Parent/Guardian fully understands the potential seriousness of the injury.

That the rider should be taken that day to a doctor or the A&E Minor injuries unit at a hospital.

That the rider must not ride again that day, and,  
The riding hat should be replaced.

The medical advice must include warnings about the danger signs which can occur later, namely:

Deterioration of consciousness

Restlessness and/or irritability

Vomiting

Persistent or worsening headache

The Parent or Guardian must be advised that if any of these symptoms occur, medical assistance must be sought immediately.

## **DRESS and ACCESSORIES**

47. During a class riders must wear correct Head Gear in accordance with Rule 43 and must wear a Riding Jacket, shirt and Tie or stock, a pair of breeches or jodhpurs and a pair of Top Boots or jodhpur Boots. Gaiters may be worn.

Chaps are not permitted.

Waterproof Jackets are permitted.

In extreme weather conditions a Judge may use his discretion regarding coats on the day.

Earrings and Body studs MUST NOT be worn. (See rule 472) If a Judge sees a rider with body studs, they should ask the rider to remove them or leave the ring, if they do not remove them then the Judge will disqualify the rider from the class.

Mobile telephones, smart watches and earpieces MUST not be taken into the ring, riders/grooms using these devices in the ring will be disqualified. It is recommended that riders do not use mobile phones or smoke/vape whilst mounted.

48. In all classes the rider must complete all phases, including the in-hand section, unless the rider has a B.S.P.S. dispensation card. Dispensation cards are available for riders with a permanent or temporary disability. Requests for dispensation cards must be made to the B.S.P.S. Secretary and must be accompanied by a doctor's letter stating their disability and their fitness to ride in the classes. The rider must stand the pony up, the pony can be run up by the representative.

49. No Rider may compete in B.S.P.S. classes with any type of broken limb.

## **BODY PROTECTORS**

50. Body Protectors **MUST** be worn when jumping in any WHP and WH classes Including practice rings at B.S.P.S. affiliated shows. (Including Tiny Tots, Cradle and Nursery Stakes, WSP, LRWSP and Training Stakes). Riders must wear a body protector when working in (practice jumps) and the jumping phase in all B.S.P.S. organised and affiliated events. A British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA) approved and appropriately labelled “Level 3 body protector” 2018 (Blue) shown on the label. BETA recommends body protectors are replaced at least every three to five years, after which the impact absorption properties of the foam may have started to decline.

Air Jackets may be worn. If a member chooses to wear an air jacket they are allowed in addition to a normal body protector, which meets BETA 2018 level 3 standard. Air jackets must not be worn under any jacket or body protector and numbers must be fitted with elasticated fastenings.

When an air jacket inflates the sudden noise can startle horses, thereby, causing difficulties for other members if used in confined areas, eg, indoor schools and ménages. Therefore, air jackets are not encouraged to be used in those areas except for medical reasons.

## **SPURS**

51. The wearing of spurs or dummy spurs in ALL classes held under B.S.P.S. Rules is forbidden. Spurs or dummy spurs must not be used when working in.

## **WHIPS**

52. In ALL classes held under B.S.P.S. Rules whips are not to exceed 75cms (30ins). Hunting Crops are permissible. This includes whips/sticks used by leaders in lead rein classes. If carried, padded whips must be used in WHP classes. A whip, if carried, must be held in the hand by the handle with the handle at the top. At all times the whip must be used; For a good reason, as an aid to encourage the horse/pony forward. At an appropriate time, namely when the horse/pony is reluctant to go forward with the normal aids of seat and legs. In the right place, namely down the shoulder or behind the leg. Never over arm. With appropriate severity. No more than twice for any incident. Riders must not hit a horse/pony before the start of a jumping course. Excessive use of a whip anywhere on a showground will result in disqualification of the horse and rider from any classes entered on that day.

This includes, but not limited to;

Use of the whip to vent a competitor’s anger is always excessive.

Use of the whip which causes injury, e.g. broken skin or weal is always excessive.

Use after elimination or retirement is always excessive.

Use on the horse/pony’s head and neck is always excessive.

Using a whip from the ground after a fall or dismount is always excessive.

If the rider’s arm comes above the shoulder when using the whip this is always excessive.

From 2026, in WHP and WSP classes riders must only use a baton whip.

## **TACK**

53. In Lead Rein classes Reins must be of a normal length and not knotted together or stitched together at a shorter length. Handles on saddles are permitted in lead rein classes only, but the reins must not be attached to the handle or to the saddle. When any pony is at rest or being warmed up with or without the rider reins must not be fixed behind the cantle of the saddle. Reins can be put behind the stirrups when warming up the pony, leading the pony or it is at rest, but only if the reins are of normal length and don't fix the pony's head in a set position, with a loop in the reins. If this not possible due the length of the reins, they should for safety be put through the throat lash and rest on the pony's neck

54. Under no circumstances may tack be changed during the judging of a class. If competing in a Championship the same tack used in the class must be worn. N.B. Whips are not considered tack.

55. Balance and Daisy Reins are not allowed.

55a). Stirrups which connect the boot and the stirrup magnetically are not allowed. Interlocking boot soles and stirrup treads are not allowed

55b). Competitors competing in B.S.P.S. classes must only use tack permissible in B.S.P.S. classes on the showground whilst mounted and should adhere to the welfare and warming up policy for permissible tack when warming up.

## **BRIDLES**

56. Leading Rein, Lead Rein Hunter Type, First Ridden, Novice Show Ponies, Tiny Tots Lead Rein, First Ridden, Tiny Tots SHP, First Pony SHT/SP, Novice Show Hunter Ponies, Novice Intermediates and Heritage Novice Ridden (Flat Classes), and Lead Rein must be shown in suitable Snaffle Bridles. If a Special Prize is awarded in an Open Show Pony class for Novice Ponies those eligible must be shown in a suitable Snaffle Bridle.  
Judges will take into consideration the severity of the bit, their opinions on suitable bridles may vary and their decision is final.

57. Bit-less bridles, running gags and fixed/solid metal curb chains and any form of blinker or amended bridles are not permitted.  
Nose nets are not permitted.

58. Any suitable bridles may be worn in Working Hunter Pony classes and Heritage Working Hunter Pony and Heritage First Ridden classes, except those mentioned in Rule 57.

59. Martingales and any nosebands are permitted in WHP, WSP, LR & FR WSP and LIHS Performance classes, but Judges must pay particular attention to their effectiveness and must be used in accordance with the BSPS Welfare Policy.

## **SHOEING and LEG PROTECTION**

60. A pony may be unshod at the discretion of the Owner.  
**Hind Boots are not permitted in any class.**  
Front Boots including Over-Reach Boots of a plain colour, may be used for Phase I of the W.H.P. Classes ONLY.  
No bandages or protective pads or gel pads on pony's legs or feet are permissible.  
Only normal shaped shoes that do not cover the frog are permissible.  
Normal shaped open heeled plastic stick-on shoes are permissible.  
No Bar Shoes are allowed.

## **TURN OUT**

61 In all classes, except Heritage Mountain & Moorland including Part Bred Heritage type classes, animals' manes must be plaited except animals with hogged manes. Tiny Tots and mixed classes are as stipulated in relevant schedule.

61 a) Ponies competing in Heritage Mountain & Moorland classes must not be shown with any false hair.

61 b) Weighted tails are not permitted in any classes and will result in disqualification.

62. **STALLIONS** – All stallions must wear an appropriate stallion badge. Stallion badges should be worn on ponies' bridles (not on the rider). For LIHS Performance classes riders of stallions not exceeding 148cm must be 14 years old on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Riders of stallions exceeding 148cm must be 16 years old on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Please see rules 296 & 297 for ages of riders for Heritage M&M stallions.

### **62. a) EQUINE INFLUENZA**

Equine Influenza and Tetanus vaccinations are a compulsory requirement for all pony / horses registered with the **B.S.P.S.** The requirement for the first 3 vaccinations is as follows from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025: the first 2 vaccinations 21 – 60 days apart, a third booster between 150-180 days, and an annual booster vaccination within 365 days thereafter. No pony / horse should enter competitions within 7 days of an EI vaccination. This Rule may be subject to change from guidance from the FEI/BEF and any changes will be notified via the [www.bspsonline.com](http://www.bspsonline.com) website. The current FEI ruling is for a 6 monthly booster as opposed to annual; therefore, it is recommended that you check with shows that fall under FEI regulation before entering e.g. Windsor, Hickstead, etc.

### **B.S.P.S. CUPS and TROPHIES**

62 b) The winner of a B.S.P.S. cup is held responsible for its safe return the following year. Cups and trophies must be returned to a B.S.P.S. Council Member or B.S.P.S. Area Chairman when notified by Head Office. They MUST NOT be sent by post. Membership and Registrations will be suspended immediately if ANY TROPHIES belonging to the B.S.P.S., the B.S.P.S. Championships Shows or a B.S.P.S. Area are not returned by the requested date.

### **B.S.P.S. ROSETTES**

62.c) All finalists competing at B.S.P.S. HERITAGE M&M Ridden Supreme Championship., B.S.P.S. Championships, and B.S.P.S. Winter Championships will receive finalist rosettes.

## **SECTION D.**

### **DOPING and DOPE TESTS**

#### **WARNING TO MEMBERS**

In common with other similar bodies, the B.S.P.S. takes a very serious view of doping, whether intentional or unintentional, having particular regard to the safety of children and welfare of horses and ponies. Members should be aware that many proprietary feeds and preparations contain Prohibited Substances (as defined below) as do many foods such as chocolate. Prohibited Substances can be absorbed through the skin and they are also contained in some homeopathic and herbal remedies including calmers.

**It is the responsibility of the Member having custody of a pony, particularly in the twenty four hours before a Show, to ensure that nothing is fed, administered or applied to a pony that contains a Prohibited Substance. Ignorance is not an adequate defence.**

The B.S.P.S. Office is not authorised to give guidance but the B.S.P.S. Office follows the Equine Prohibited Substances List ('EPSL') as published from time to time by the Fédération Equestre Internationale ('FEI'). Where appropriate the B.S.P.S. will adopt threshold levels published in the EPSL. Please note that the EPSL includes any other substance with a similar chemical structure or similar biological effect(s) as substances specifically mentioned on the list. All substances on the list, whether indicated as 'Banned' or 'Controlled', are prohibited substances under the B.S.P.S. Rules. Also prohibited are 'metabolites' of the substances and 'markers', both terms being defined below.

63(1) a) Any pony taking part in classes judged under B.S.P.S. Rules and any other pony present at a Show (whether or not competing at the Show) will be liable to Dope Testing (as defined below) in accordance with the Dope Testing procedure laid down by this Rule 63. A refusal or failure, after request, to submit a pony for Dope Testing, or obstruction of an Authorised Person (as defined below) in carrying out Dope Testing, by an Owner and/or Producer or other person having control of the pony shall constitute a breach of this Rule 63.

b) The presence in the tissues, body fluids, excreta, hair or skin of a pony of a Prohibited Substance (as defined below) shall constitute a breach of this Rule 63 by the Owner and/or Producer and/or any other person within Rule 63(1)(f).

c) "Authorised Person" means a person authorised to carry out Dope Testing pursuant to Rule 63 (2)(a).

d) "Dope Testing" means the examination of a pony by a duly qualified person appointed by the B.S.P.S. and includes the taking of samples for subsequent analysis of all or any body fluid, tissue, excreta, hair or skin scrapings at the discretion of the person conducting the examination.

e) "'Prohibited Substance" means any quantity of any substance listed as a 'Banned' or 'Controlled' substance on the Equine Prohibited Substances list ('EPSL') as published by the FEI and in force from time to time excluding any quantity of any substance under any threshold level specified in the EPSL but including any other substance with a similar chemical structure or similar biological effect(s) as any substance on the EPSL and also including any metabolites of such substances and any markers. The terms 'metabolite' and 'marker' shall have the same meaning as in the FEI Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations as published by the FEI from time to time. Please follow this link for further details: (<https://inside.fei.org/cleansport>)

f) Any person who administers or attempts to administer, or allows or causes to be administered, or connives at or promotes or encourages the administration, to a pony of a Prohibited Substance or has in their possession or control a Prohibited Substance at a Show, shall be guilty of a breach of this Rule 63.

g)(i) Whenever a positive dope test occurs, the matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee of the B.S.P.S. within 14 days of either the expiration of the period for requesting confirmatory analysis of Sample B (as defined below) or the receipt by the B.S.P.S. of a positive analysis of Sample B whichever is the later.

(ii) The Disciplinary Committee shall investigate the matter and decide within fourteen days of referral pursuant to Rule 63 (1)(g)(i) whether or not to institute disciplinary proceedings for a breach or breaches of this Rule 63 against the Owner and/or Producer and/or any other person within Rule 63(1)(f).

## **SAMPLING PROCEDURE**

63.(2) a)

Dope Testing may be carried out by personnel authorized by the following Societies: the B.S.P.S., the British Show Horse Association, the National Pony Society, the Coloured Horse & Pony Society (UK) or Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain and should take place as soon as possible after the participation of the pony in its class provided that it does not interfere with its programme in which case the Dope Testing should take place as soon as possible after the pony has completed its programme.

- b) It is the responsibility of the person in charge of the pony whether it be the Owner or the Producer or other person to supervise the pony from the time of notification of selection for Dope Testing until completion of the Dope Testing.
- c) The Owner, Producer or other person responsible for the pony or his representative shall be entitled to witness the Dope Testing from outside the loose box, horse box or testing area without disturbing the pony but if any such person is not present the Dope Testing will proceed in any event.
- d) All samples taken must be kept in a secure place and dispatched to the laboratory selected by the B.S.P.S. as soon as reasonably possible after collection.
- e) The sample must be divided into two parts hereinafter referred to as Sample A and Sample B and the initial analysis of Sample A must be completed within 21 days of receipt of the sample by the laboratory. If the initial analysis produces a suspicious positive result, then the B.S.P.S. may grant such extension as the laboratory requires to complete the analysis.
- f) If the result of the analysis of Sample A is negative then the laboratory may forthwith destroy Sample B.
- g) If the result of the analysis of Sample A is positive then the Owner or Producer may require confirmatory analysis of Sample B, by any laboratory approved by the Horseracing Forensic Laboratory provided that a written request for such confirmatory analysis is received by the B.S.P.S. within 14 days of dispatch by the B.S.P.S. of notification of a positive analysis of Sample A.
- h) The Owner or Producer may request that findings be made in respect of particular matters during the analysis of Sample B on the basis that they be responsible for all additional costs incurred whatever the result of the analysis of Sample B.
- i) Upon receipt of a valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B, the B.S.P.S. shall inform the laboratory immediately and the laboratory shall carry out the analysis of Sample B as soon as reasonably possible.
- j) If the result of the analysis of Sample B is positive then the person requesting the analysis shall reimburse the B.S.P.S. the cost of the analysis of Sample A and Sample B forthwith on demand.
- k) If the result of the analysis of Sample A is positive and no valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B is received, the Owner shall reimburse the B.S.P.S. the cost of the analysis of Sample A forthwith upon demand.

## **GOOD CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

64. The attention of Members and other persons is drawn to the disciplinary provisions of the B.S.P.S. whereby the B.S.P.S. 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 the B.S.P.S. The Rules are intended to ensure that Members compete against each other in B.S.P.S. 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.

65. All Members of the B.S.P.S. 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:-

- (a) submission of a membership application form followed by acceptance of membership.
- (b) submission of a request for annual renewal of membership followed by acceptance of such renewal.
- (c) registration of a pony.
- (d) registration of the lease/loan of a pony or its transfer.
- (e) any other act by a Member pursuant to the Rules of the B.S.P.S.

66. Neither the B.S.P.S. nor any of its National or Area Officials or Judges accept any financial responsibility for its or their decisions.

67. No Member of the B.S.P.S. shall conduct himself in a manner or be guilty of behaviour which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S. 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 B.S.P.S. 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 B.S.P.S. Social Media and Internet Policy set out in the back of this Handbook.

68. It is the duty of every Member to assist the officers of the B.S.P.S. 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.

69. Members shall not ill-treat ponies 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 and shall not cause or allow a pony to jump any handheld obstacle or to be rapped.

70. 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 B.S.P.S. a member of the Member's family in the widest sense.

71. Failure to observe any of the rules may result in disqualification of the pony concerned and the institution of disciplinary proceedings by the B.S.P.S. against the person breaking the rules in accordance with the B.S.P.S. Rules. In the event of disqualification of a pony after a cup, rosette or prize money has been awarded, such cup, rosette or prize money must be returned forthwith to the Show or the B.S.P.S. as appropriate.

71 a) Any Member or Non-Member or pony or horse that is suspended for any period of time as a result of any disciplinary action taken by the British Show Horse Association, Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain, Coloured Horse and Pony Society or the National Pony Society may not compete in a B.S.P.S. Show or a B.S.P.S. affiliated Show during the period of any such suspension unless the Disciplinary Committee, in its absolute discretion, decides otherwise after making such investigations as it deems appropriate.

## **Objections and Complaints**

72. Any objection or complaint relating to the rules of a particular Show Executive should be made to that Show Executive in accordance with the procedure set out in such rules, except a complaint relating to a J.M.B. Certificate or a B.S.P.S. Judge.
73. Members wishing to register an objection or complaint, whether it is against the judge course builder, exhibitor or the organiser of a show or otherwise, should write to the B.S.P.S. office. Two separate letters must be received from unrelated adult members of different families and they must be received within 14 days of the date of the event giving rise to the objection or complaint. The matter will then be dealt with in accordance with the procedure laid down in the B.S.P.S. Rules.
- 73 a) Whilst officiating a B.S.P.S. judge, course builder or steward, when wishing to register an objection or complaint against a member, should write to the B.S.P.S. office within 14 days of the date of the event giving rise to the objection or complaint. The matter will then be dealt with in accordance with the procedure laid down in the B.S.P.S. rules.
74. A Show Secretary wishing to register an objection or complaint against a judge or member, should write to the B.S.P.S. office, this must be received within 14 days of the date of the event giving rise to the objection or complaint. The matter will then be dealt with in accordance with the procedure laid down in the B.S.P.S. Rules.

### **J.M.B. Objections**

75. Any dispute or complaint in respect of a J.M.B. Certificate must be referred to the J.M.B. Stewards and will be dealt with in accordance with their Rules. If an objection is lodged against a height certificate or the B.S.P.S. requests a re-measurement the pony must be re-measured within 28 days of the notification by the J.M.B. of the objection or request. Unless the pony is re-measured within this time its B.S.P.S. 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 re-measurement will be suspended.
76. The B.S.P.S. have the right to request a measurement on any pony whether or not it has a valid J.M.B. Height Certificate. The pony must be measured at the owner's expense within 21 days of notification by the B.S.P.S.
77. Unless the pony is measured within this time its B.S.P.S. 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.
- 77(a) An animal that received an objection to its J.M.B. height certificate which is subsequently upheld will forfeit any previous qualification gained for H.O.Y.S, R.I.H.S, or B.S.P.S. Championships Shows in the current year and the qualification will be passed to the next eligible exhibit with the eligible placings.

The Joint Measurement Board Limited,  
P.O. Box 396, Hereford. HR1 9QQ

Tel:- 01981 510201 email [admin@thejmbonline.co.uk](mailto:admin@thejmbonline.co.uk) [www.thejmbonline.co.uk](http://www.thejmbonline.co.uk)

## **SECTION E** **SHOW PONIES**

78. **GALLOPING** 128cms, 138cms and 148cms Show Ponies may be galloped in their individual shows, or not more than 4 at a time.

79. **MARKING** - To be used at the H.O.Y.S. qualifying shows, optional in Blue Riband classes and the Winter & Summer Championships for Open Lead Rein, First Ridden, Show Ponies and Intermediate classes. **Marks will not be used at the qualifiers or the Final for the R.I.H.S.**

Manners & Way of Going	50
Conformation, Type & Freedom of Action	50
	100

80. In the event of a tie or ties the marks MUST NOT be altered. The mark for Manners and Way of Going will take precedence, followed by Conformation, Type and Freedom of Action mark. If there is still a tie, the Judge's decision is final.

### **NOVICE SHOW PONIES** **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Ponies**

81. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Show Pony classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Open Show Pony & part-bred classes will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice Show Pony classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

82. A Show Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Show Pony classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S, where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. in the Open Show Pony classes & part-bred will immediately be classed as an "Open Show Pony" for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice Show Pony classes(Animals may still enter the Novice Show Pony classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

83. A pony that has been de-noviced as a Show Pony (Riding Pony) under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice in B.S.P.S. Show Pony Classes.

### **Novice Show Pony Exemption**

84. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice 128cms., 133cms., 138cms., 143cms., 148cms. Show Pony:- Leading Rein, First Ridden, Open 133 and 143 Show Pony classes, Working Hunter Pony, Pairs, Side Saddle, Show Hunter Pony, Young SP.. Intermediates, Heritage, B.S.P.S. Challenge classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

85. A Novice Show Pony winning a Supreme Championship that is open to all Section Champions will not be de-noviced.

## **Novice Show Pony Classes**

86. The B.S.P.S. NOVICE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 128cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13th. birthday before 1st.January in the current year.

The B.S.P.S. NOVICE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, exceeding 128cms. but not exceeding 138cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 15th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

The B.S.P.S. NOVICE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, exceeding 138cms. but not exceeding 148cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 18th birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

## **Novice Show Pony Championship**

87. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in Novice 128cms. 138cms. and 148cms. Show Pony Classes only.

## **OR Mixed Height Class**

88. The B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT NOVICE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 148cms. Riders must be the correct age for the height of the pony they ride.

## **Challenge Open Show Ponies**

89. Animals eligible for Challenge Show Pony classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must **NOT** have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara.

90. Animals eligible for Challenge Show Pony at the Summer Championship Show please see rules 410 and 411.

## **Challenge Open Show Pony Classes**

91. The B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over not exceeding 128cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13th. birthday before 1st.January in the current year.

The B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, exceeding 128cms. but not exceeding 138cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 15th. birthday before 1st.January in the current year.

The B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE SHOW PONY, Mare or gelding, 4 years old or over, exceeding 138cms. but not exceeding 148cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

## **Challenge Open Show Pony Championship**

92. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in 128cms. 138cms. and 148cms. Challenge Open Show Pony classes only.

## **or Mixed Height Class**

93. The B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT CHALLENGE SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 148cms. Riders must be the correct age for the height of the pony they ride.

## **OPEN SHOW PONY CLASSES**

94. THE B.S.P.S. SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 128cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 128cms. and not exceeding 138cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 15th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 138cms. and not exceeding 148cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 18th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

## **Open Show Pony Championship**

95. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the **Open** Show Pony classes only.

## **Or Mixed Height Class**

96. The B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT OPEN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 148cms. Riders must be the correct age for the height of the pony they ride.

## **SECTION F.** **LEADING REIN SHOW PONIES**

(For Leading Rein of Hunter Type Class, see Section N.)

97. No child under the age of 3 years may compete.
98. In Lead Rein classes the leader must be 16 years old or over and may only lead one pony in a class. (See Rule 3)
99. At shows with R.I.H.S., or BLUE RIBAND qualification and at the B.S.P.S. Summer, Winter and Heritage Championships Leaders must be B.S.P.S. members.
100. In all Leading Rein Classes the rein MUST go directly from the bit to the rider's hand, with no extra aid or attachment to or on the saddle. The reins must be a normal length and not knotted together or stitched together at a shorter length. Handles on saddles are permitted but the reins MUST NOT be attached to the handle or to the saddle.
101. The attendant MUST affix the lead rein to the NOSEBAND ON WHICH IT MUST REMAIN WHILE THE PONY IS IN THE RING. The lead rein must go under the rein.
102. Riders in Lead Rein classes will not be asked to dismount, the ponies will not be stripped.
103. Cantering is not allowed.

### **NOVICE LEADING REIN SHOW PONIES**

#### **FOUR and FIVE year old Ponies**

104. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Lead Rein Show Pony classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. in the Open Lead Rein Show Pony classes will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice Lead Rein Show Pony classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

105. A Lead Rein Show Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Lead Rein Show Pony classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Open Lead Rein Show Pony classes, will immediately be classed as an "Open Lead Rein Show Pony" for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice Lead Rein Show Pony classes. (Animals may still enter the Novice Lead Rein classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)
106. A pony that has been de-noviced as a Lead Rein Show Pony under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice in B.S.P.S. Lead Rein Show Pony Classes.

### **Novice Leading Rein Show Pony Exemption**

107. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice Leading Rein Show Pony:- First Ridden Show Pony, 128cms. Show Pony, Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes, 133cms. W.H.P., 123cms. S.H.P., Lead Rein of Hunter Type, Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage, Tiny Tots LR, FR & SHP, First Pony SHT, Part Bred classes, Challenge classes, Burghley LR WSP and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

### **Novice Leading Rein Show Pony Class**

108. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE LEADING REIN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 8th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

### **CHALLENGE OPEN LEADING REIN SHOW PONIES**

109. Animals eligible for Challenge Lead Rein Show Pony classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the relevant class in the previous year, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

### **Challenge Open Leading Rein Show Pony Class**

110. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE OPEN LEADING REIN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 8th. birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **Open Leading Rein Show Pony Class**

111. B.S.P.S. LEADING REIN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 8th birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **Open Mini Show Pony Championships**

112. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Open Lead Rein Show Pony and Open First Ridden Show Pony classes only.

### **Tiny Tots Lead Rein Show Pony**

113. Ponies not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **Tiny Tots Mini Championship**

114. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Tiny Tots Lead Rein Show Pony, Tiny Tots First Ridden Show Pony or Tiny Tots S.H.P. classes only

## **SECTION G.** **FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONIES**

115. No cantering is allowed, except for individual performances. Ponies should leave the ring at the walk or trot.

### **NOVICE FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONIES**

#### **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Ponies**

116. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open First Ridden Show Pony classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Open First Ridden Show Pony classes will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice First Ridden Show Pony classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

117. A First Ridden Show Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) First Ridden classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. in the Open First Ridden Show Pony classes, will immediately be classed as an "Open First Ridden Show Pony" for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice First Ridden Show Pony classes. (Animals may still enter the Novice First Ridden Show Pony classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

118. A pony that has been de-noviced as a First Ridden Show Pony under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice in B.S.P.S. First Ridden Show Pony Classes.

#### **Novice First Ridden Show Pony Exemption**

119. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice First Ridden Show Pony:- Leading Rein Show Pony, Lead Rein of Hunter Type, Tiny Tots F.R., Heritage Tiny Tots Lead Rein and First Ridden, 128cms Show Pony, Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes, 133cms. W.H.P., Tiny Tots SHP, First Pony SHT, 123cms S.H.P., Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage, Part Bred, B.S.P.S. Challenge and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

#### **Novice First Ridden Show Pony Class**

120. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 10th. birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

## **CHALLENGE OPEN FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONY**

121. Animals eligible for Challenge First Ridden Show Pony classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

### **Challenge Open First Ridden Show Pony Class.**

122. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 10th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

### **Open First Ridden Show Pony Class**

123. THE B.S.P.S. FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONY, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 10th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **TINY TOTS FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONY**

124. THE B.S.P.S. TINY TOTS FIRST RIDDEN SHOW PONY. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 8th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

125. On the go round ponies will not be asked to change the rein.

126. In their individual shows ponies will be expected to walk up, trot back, cantering is optional but no figure of eight or change of rein required. In this class the Judge will be looking for a pony suitable to take its rider safely off the lead rein at all times.

127. Riders in Tiny Tots First Ridden classes will not be asked to dismount, the ponies will not be stripped.

### **Open Mini Show Pony Championship**

128. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Open First Ridden Show Pony and Open Lead Rein Show Pony classes only.

## **SECTION H.** **WORKING HUNTER PONY**

129. **GALLOPING** 133cms and 143cm.W.H.Ps may be galloped individually or four at a time. 153cms.ponies and Intermediate animals may be galloped individually or all together. In a WHP/WH Championship ponies may be galloped altogether.

130. Animals may only compete in one WHP height section at the same show on the same day, except in the Cradle and Nursery Stakes, or the Nursery Stakes and 133cm WHP.

131. Riders may ride up to two ponies in a class. This includes Mixed Height plaited and Heritage WHP, cradle, nursery, worker stakes and tiny tots stakes both ponies can go forward for Phase II judging. In Cradle and Nursery Stakes classes riders may only qualify one pony per class for the final of RIHS and LIHS. Riders must declare if they are competing in the 153cms or Intermediate WH section. There may be no change of rider from Phase one to Phase two. For Method of Judging Mixed Height WHP/WH and Mixed height Heritage WHP classes Rule 450.

132. **MARKING**

PHASE ONE	
Jumping	50
Style & Manners while Jumping	20
PHASE TWO	
Manners and way of going	10
Conformation, Type & Freedom of Action	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

133. At the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships Show, in the DESERT ORCHID BLUE RIBAND classes ONLY a bonus mark of 20 will be awarded to ponies that have completed a CLEAR ROUND.

134. **PENALTIES - PHASE ONE**

Jumping Knock Down	10
First Refusal	15
Second Refusal	20
Third Refusal	Disqualification
Fall of pony or rider in any phase	Disqualification

135. If the total after Phase I is minus it must be carried forward to Phase II  
1/2 or Plus Marks are not permitted.

136. **IN THE EVENT OF A TIE OR TIES** - The marks MUST NOT be altered the TOTAL MARK from PHASE 1 will take precedence, followed by the Manners Mark, and then the Conformation Mark. If there is still a tie the Judge's decision is final.

137. In W.H.P/W.H. Championships the class markings should be used as a guide.

138. Phase 1 W.H.P. Hors Concours Entries are permitted at the Show Secretary's and Judge's discretion - Animals are not allowed to compete Hors Concours and competitively at the same Show in the W.H.P. Section. Hors Concours entries must be declared when entering.

139. **Hind Boots are not permitted in any class.** Front Boots including Over-reach boots of a plain colour, may be used for Phase I of the W.H.P Classes ONLY. No bandages or protective pads or gel pads on pony's legs or feet are permissible. (See Rule 60)

140. No change of saddlery is allowed between Phases in a class.

141. N.B. Whips are not considered tack.

142. Body Protectors **MUST** be worn when jumping in any BSPS WHP and WH classes, including practice ring, at B.S.P.S. affiliated shows. (Including Tiny Tots, Cradle and Nursery Stakes, WSP, LRWSP, Worker Stakes and Training Stakes). Riders must wear a body protector when working in (practice jumps) and the jumping phase in all B.S.P.S. organised and affiliated events. A British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA) approved and appropriately labelled "Level 3 body protector" with the year 2018 (Blue and Black) shown on the label. BETA recommends body protectors are replaced at least every three to five years, after which the impact absorption properties of the foam may have started to decline. (See rule 50 regarding the use of air jackets)

## **Novice Working Hunter Ponies**

### **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Animals**

143. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open W.H.P. Classes a FOUR and FIVE year old pony may win, it retains its Novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. in the Open WHP classes will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice WHP class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championship Show providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Animals SIX Years Old and Over**

144. A W.H.P. SIX years old or over that wins three Open or Challenge Open Working Hunter Pony Classes (except Pretty Polly) affiliated to the B.S.P.S. where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Open WHP classes at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S., will immediately be classed as an "Open W.H.P." for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice W.H.P. classes. (Animals may still enter the Novice WHP class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championship Show providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

145. A Intermediate W.H. SIX years old or over that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly), Intermediate W.H. classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S. where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Open Intermediate W.H. class at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S., will immediately be classed as an "Open Intermediate W.H." for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice Intermediate W.H. classes. (Animals may still enter the Novice Intermediate W.H. class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championship Show providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year).

### **Novice W.H.P. Exemption**

146. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice W.H.P. for the 133cms.143cms.and 153cms.W.H.P. classes:- Show Pony, Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes, S.H.P., Intermediate., Heritage, B.S.P.S. Challenge, Worker Stakes and B.S.P.S. Horse classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.
147. In this connection an animal that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice Intermediate Working Hunter:- Working Hunter Pony Classes, Show Hunter Pony Classes, Intermediate, B.S.P.S. Challenge, Heritage, B.S.P.S. Horse Classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.
148. A pony that has been de-noviced as a W.H.P. (Hunter Pony) under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice in B.S.P.S. Working Hunter Pony.

### **Novice W.H.P Classes.**

149. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 15th birthday before 1st January in the current year.  
THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 143cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 18th birthday before 1st January in the current year.  
THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.  
THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE INTERMEDIATE WORKING HUNTER Mare or gelding 4 years old and over, not exceeding 158cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Novice W.H.P. Championship**

150. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the 133cms. 143cms.153cms. and Intermediate WHP classes only.

### **OR Mixed Height Class.**

151. THE B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT NOVICE W.H.P  
Mare or Gelding,4 years old or over, not exceeding 158cms.  
Riders MUST jump in their correct height section and be the correct age for the height of the animal they ride. Riders must declare if they are riding in the 153cm or the Intermediate Section

## **CHALLENGE OPEN WHP**

152. Animals eligible for Challenge WHP classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

### **Challenge Open WHP WH Classes**

153. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 15th birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 143cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 18th birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE OPEN INTERMEDIATE WORKING HUNTER. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, not exceeding 158cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Challenge Open W.H.P Championship**

154. Open to animals that have been placed first or second in the 133cms. 143cms. 153cms. and Intermediate WH Challenge **Open W.H.P.** classes only.

### **OR Mixed Height Class**

155. THE B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT CHALLENGE W.H.P Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, not exceeding 158cms. Riders MUST jump in their correct height section and be the correct age for the height of the animal they ride. Riders must declare if they are competing in the 153cm or the Intermediate section.

## **OPEN WORKING HUNTER PONIES.**

156. Open 133cms. W.H.Ps may not compete in Novice Nursery Stakes classes.

### **Open WHP Classes**

157. THE B.S.P.S. W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 15th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 143cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 18th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. W.H.P. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. OPEN INTERMEDIATE WORKING HUNTER.

Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, and not exceeding 158cms.

Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Open W.H.P. Championship**

158. Open to animals that have been placed first or second in the 133cms. 143cms. 153cms. or Intermediate WH **Open** W.H.P. Classes only.

### **OR Mixed Height Class.**

159. THE B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT OPEN W.H.P

Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, not exceeding 158cms. Riders MUST jump in their correct height section and be the correct age for the height of the animal they ride. Riders must declare if they are competing in the 153cm or the Intermediate section.

### **THE B.S.P.S. TRAINING STAKES WHP CLASSES**

(These classes are Open to Plaited Animals and Heritage Ponies)

For worker stakes rulings please see pages 67 and 71.

160. **THE B.S.P.S. TRAINING STAKES**

Animals 4yrs old or over. Riders any age MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF FENCES 50cms

### **THE B.S.P.S. TRAINING STAKES**

Animals 4yrs old or over. Riders any age MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF FENCES 60cms

### **THE B.S.P.S. TRAINING STAKES**

Animals 4yrs old or over. Riders any age MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF FENCES 70cms

### **THE B.S.P.S. TRAINING STAKES**

Animals 4yrs old or over. Riders any age MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF FENCES 80cms

Animals may be entered in more than one class in this section

**METHOD OF JUDGING** Animals will be required to jump a course of fences, they will immediately be asked to give a short show including a change of rein and gallop in the same ring.

161. **MARKS :-** Jumping 60 points, Style and Manners while jumping 20 points

Show Mark and Manners 20 points **TOTAL 100 Points.** Judges may record constructive comments on the mark sheets. Ponies may not be shown on the Lead Rein. Any Suitable tack.

## **SECTION I.** **CRADLE STAKES PONIES**

162. Cradle Stakes ponies may be galloped in their individual shows only.

### **Tiny Tots Stakes Class**

163. THE B.S.P.S. TINY TOTS STAKES. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9<sup>th</sup>. birthday before 1<sup>st</sup>. January in the current year. Maximum height and spread for fences 40cms. **Open to plaited or unplaited ponies.**

### **Open Cradle Stakes Class.**

164. THE B.S.P.S. CRADLE STAKES. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained not to have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Open Mini W.H.P Championship.**

165. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Open Cradle Stakes and Open Nursery Stakes classes only.

## **SECTION J.**

### **NURSERY STAKES**

166. Nursery Stakes Ponies may be galloped individually or four at a time.

167. Ponies and Riders in the Nursery Stakes may compete in the Open, Challenge Open and Novice W.H.P. classes, at the same show, if eligible.

### **NOVICE NURSERY STAKES PONIES**

#### **FOUR And FIVE Year Old Animals**

168. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Nursery Stakes Classes a FOUR and FIVE year old pony may win, it retains its Novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Open Nursery Stakes class at the R.I.H.S. or L.I.H.S or the will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice Nursery Stakes class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championship Show providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Animals Six Years Old and Over**

169. A Novice Nursery Stakes pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Nursery Stakes classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S. where the first prize is £5.00 or over or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S or L.I.H.S. in the Open Nursery Stakes class, will immediately be classed as an "Open Nursery Stakes Pony" for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice Nursery Stakes classes (Animals may still enter the Novice Nursery Stakes class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championship Show providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Novice Nursery Stakes Exemption**

170. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice Nursery Stakes Pony:- Cradle Stakes, Novice 133cms. W.H.P., S.H.P., Heritage classes, Show Pony, B.S.P.S. Challenge classes, and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

### **Novice Nursery Stakes Class.**

171. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE NURSERY STAKES. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **CHALLENGE OPEN NURSERY STAKES**

172. Animals eligible for Challenge Nursery Stakes classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for RIHS in the relevant class in the previous year, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

### **Challenge Open Nursery Stakes Class**

173. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE NURSERY STAKES. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Open Nursery Stakes Class**

174. THE B.S.P.S. NURSERY STAKES. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained not to have attained their 13th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Open Mini WHP Championship**

Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Open Nursery Stakes and Open Cradle Stakes classes only.

## **SECTION K**

### **INTER-COUNTRY W.H.P. TEAM COMPETITIONS**

175. A W.H.P. Team must consist of not more than four animals and riders made up of one animal and rider from each of the 133cms. 143cms. 153cms. WHP classes and one animal from the Intermediate WH class or one animal from three of the classes and the fourth animal from any one of the four classes.

176. Inter Country W.H.P. Team Competitions are open to teams from England, Scotland, Wales and overseas visitors.

177. A rider may only ride one pony in a Team and is not eligible to ride another pony in a second Team in the same competition.

**SECTION L.**  
**WORKING HUNTER PONY COURSES**  
**Heights for Fences, Spreads and Water**

178. At the B.S.P.S. Championships Shows, and the R.I.H.S. Course Builders are permitted an extra 5cms increase to the maximum heights of fences, for the OPEN classes and an extra 10cms – 15cms for the Desert Orchid Blue Riband Classes. **For the RIHS and HOYS qualifying classes Course Builders must be selected from BSPS, British Showjumping, British Eventing or NPS Course Builders Panels.**

179. Riders must have competed in at least 2 WHP qualifying rounds for the Royal International Horse Show before competing in the Final at the Royal International Horse Show.

180. <b>OPEN W.H.P.</b>	<b>HEIGHTS</b>	<b>SPREADS</b>	<b>HOYS height</b>	
			<i>Qualifier</i>	<i>Final</i>
Tiny Tots Stakes	max 40cms	max 40cms.		
Cradle Stakes	max 60cm	max 60cm		
<small>First fence not to exceed 50cms</small>				
<b>Cradle Stakes RIHS and LIHS qualifiers</b>	<b>max 65cm</b>	<b>max 65cm</b>		
Nursery Stakes	max 75cm	max 75cm		
133cms. WHP	max 85cm	max 85cm	<i>85cm</i>	<i>95cm</i>
143cms. WHP	max 95cm	max 95cm	<i>100cm</i>	<i>110cm</i>
153cms. WHP	max 105cm	max 105cm	<i>105cm</i>	<i>115cm</i>
Intermediate WH	max 110cm	max 110cm	<i>115cm</i>	<i>125cm</i>

For HOYS qualifying classes please check with HOYS Rule Book.

**Mixed plaited and Heritage WHP classes** heights and spread as per Heritage classes.

Mixed Cradle Stakes	max 55cm	47cm
Mixed Nursery Stakes	max 65cm	50cm

181. <b>Challenge W.H.P.</b>	<b>HEIGHTS</b>	<b>SPREADS</b>
Chal Cradle Stakes	max 55cm	55cm
Chal Nursery Stakes	<u>max 70cms.</u>	<u>70cms.</u>
133cms Challenge	<u>max 80cms.</u>	<u>80cms.</u>
143cms. Challenge	<u>max 90cms</u>	<u>90cms.</u>
153cms. Challenge	<u>max 100cm</u>	<u>100cm</u>
Int WH	<u>max 105cm</u>	<u>105cm</u>

182. <b>NOVICE W.H.P.</b>	<b>HEIGHTS</b>	<b>SPREADS</b>
Cradle Stakes	max 50cm	50cm
Nursery Stakes	max 65cms.	65cms.
133cms.	max 75cms.	75cms.
143cms.	max 85cms.	85cms.
153cms.	max 95cms.	95cms.
Int WH	max 100cms.	100cm

### 183. TRAINING STAKES

#### HEIGHTS

50cms  
60cms  
70cms  
80cms

184. In Mixed Height classes, the fences must be adjusted according to the heights of the ponies in the class and ponies MUST jump in their correct height section.

185. **It is mandatory that distances in combinations (doubles/trebles) must be adjusted according to the height of ponies in the classes.**  
In Training Stakes judges should satisfy themselves that the distances cater for the various heights of ponies in the classes.

### 186. Width for Water Jump      (Width)

133cms. W.H.P.	1m.85cms.
143cms. W.H.P.	2m.45cms.
153cms. W.H.P.	3m.05cms.
Intermediate W.H.	3m.05cms.

187. Water and Water Trays must not be used in the Tiny Tots or Cradle Stakes courses. Water must only be constructed as a hazard in Nursery Stakes or Heritage Nursery Stakes Courses, except Water and Water Trays are permitted in the R.I.H.S. Nursery Stakes qualifying classes and in the Open and Open Heritage Nursery Stakes classes at the B.S.P.S. Championships Shows.

188. Water must never be coloured, and only used in its natural form, whether as a separate jump, a hazard, or in some form of container. Water containers must be black or grey. The use of polythene sheets has proved very hazardous.  
Imitation water must not be constructed anywhere within the course.

189. Water jumps may be constructed as a fence or a hazard and they must be numbered in the course.

a) If constructed as a fence, a fence steward will be necessary, and a white tape or lath. The fence used must be sloping and the tape or lath adjusted so that the water does not exceed the maximum width.  
Ten penalties to be given if the pony has one or more feet on or behind the tape or lath.

b) If constructed as a hazard ponies must walk or trot through and they will be judged for style and manners, excessive speed or hesitations will be penalised in the style marks, refusals will be marked as at a fence in accordance with Rule 148.

190. Riders are allowed to walk the course dismounted before their class. Judges must walk the course with the course builder before the riders are allowed to walk the course dismounted before their class.

191. Ponies are not allowed to practice over any part of the course before the commencement of any of the classes.

192. No person, other than the Judge or the Course Builder 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.
193. If a combination or double fence is numbered as one fence, penalties incurred at each part are cumulative.
194. Any pony taking the wrong course or jumping another fence after completing the course will be eliminated.
195. If a pony positively stops, or turns its quarters to a fence, or has a complete turnaround these constitute refusals. If a pony jumps the incorrect fence out of a pen or lane it will be eliminated. Ponies displaying continued disobedience, or ponies leaving the ring whether mounted or dismounted will be eliminated.
196. No penalty is incurred unless the max. height of the fence is lowered in the same vertical plane.
197. The ponies required for Phase II judging will be those with clear rounds, but those with 10 or more penalties may be included at the Judge's discretion.
198. The Jumping Phase will be completed first, and any pony eliminated will not be required again.
199. Distances in pens must be true and there should be a line from entrance to exit, with a minimum distance for smaller ponies of 6.4m. (21 feet).  
Distances must be related to the size of the ponies in the class.  
This also refers to any combinations.
200. Bounce fences are NOT permitted.
201. If a fixed fence is used within the course, it must have a top knock down pole.
202. Safety plates must be used on back poles.
203. Heritage WHP courses must be built within the MINIMUM and MAXIMUM heights, according to the conditions of the ring, NOT ALL FENCES should be at maximum height.
204. Plaited WHP courses must consist of not less than 10 fences, maximum 14, 90% of the course must be at the designated height. A double and a change of direction must be included. Start and finish signs must not be used.  
**All H.O.Y.S. qualifying classes are run in accordance with the H.O.Y.S. Rules.**
205. The minimum number of fences the courses must consist of are:-  
Tiny Tots Stakes - 5 fences. No Double  
Cradle Stakes- 7 fences including a double.  
Nursery and all other WHP courses - 8 fences including a double, one fence MUST be a spread, and a change of direction MUST be included.  
(If material is available in order to construct fences correctly, more than the minimum number should be built, in order to give competitors more experience to jump Championship courses). All WHP fences including doubles must be clearly marked. Start and finish signs must not be used. In Cradle Stakes classes ONLY one vertical fence towards the end of the course may be at maximum height and the first fence must be MINIMUM height.

206. Course Builders have the option to reduce the number of fences if they consider it necessary for safety reasons.

207. There must be some decided change of course between Cradle Stakes and Nursery Stakes, and between Nursery Stakes and the 133cms. W.H.P. class, and between the Open, Challenge Open and Novice W.H.P. classes.

208. Bullfinches must be securely staked in the ground. On a surface a solid frame with fixed feet may be used. The height of the frame must NOT exceed the minimum height for the class. It is advisable to place this type of fence, either as an individual fence, or as the second element of a double.  
It is not advisable to use this fence in Cradle Stakes and Nursery Stakes.  
Bullfinches will be judged for style and manners and will be reflected in the style mark, there are no knockdown penalties, refusals will be marked as at a fence in accordance with Rule 134.  
Dykes, ditches with no knockdown pole will be marked for style and refusals.

209. Distances must be measured at ground level from the rear of one obstacle to the face of the next obstacle. A tape should be used to measure related distances.

210. **PRACTICE FENCES**  
The Practice fences are intended for warming up purposes only prior to competition. They are not to be used for prolonged schooling by competitors or others immediately, before, during or after the class.  
The practice fence in the collecting ring must be a cross pole with one end of each pole touching the ground, an upright, spread or parallel,  
Alternative sloping top poles (ie Swedish Oxer, St Andrew Cross) are not to be used.  
Spread obstacles are not to be jumped in such a direction that the front element is higher than the rear element.  
No pole or obstacle of any kind is to be held by hand for an animal to jump.  
All elements of practice fences must be capable of being knocked down in the normal manner and must not be fixed, jammed or positioned in a manner which prevents or hinders them from falling.  
No false ground lines allowed.  
No rugs, coats etc. are allowed to be placed over or under the poles in practice fences.  
Practice Fences must be correctly flagged with Red and White Flags, competitors must approach fence with Red Flag on their right.  
Members disobeying these rules are subject to elimination.

## **SECTION M.** **SHOW HUNTER PONIES**

211. **GALLOPING** 123cms, 133cms, and 143cms SHPs may be galloped individually or four at a time. 153cms ponies may be galloped all together. In a SHP Championship the 123cms SHP may be galloped individually or with the 133cms SHP. The 143cms and 153cms animals may be galloped all together.

212. **MARKING** - To be used at the H.O.Y.S qualifying Shows, and optional for Blue Riband qualifying Shows and the Open SHP/SH classes at the Winter and Summer Championships. **Marks will not be used at the R.I.H.S. qualifiers or the Final.**

Manners & Way of Going	50
Conformation, Type & Freedom of Action	<u>50</u>
	100

213. In the event of a tie or ties the marks MUST NOT be altered the Mark for Manners and Way of Going will take precedence, followed by Conformation, Type and Freedom of Action mark, if there is still a tie the Judge's decision is final.

### **Novice Show Hunter - Four and Five Year Old Ponies**

214. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Show Hunter Pony classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Open Show Hunter Pony and part-bred classes, will immediately be denoviced (Animals may still enter the Novice Show Hunter Pony classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Animals SIX Years Old and Over**

215. A Show Hunter Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Show Hunter Pony classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Open Show Hunter pony and part-bred classes, will immediately be classed as an "Open Show Hunter Pony" for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice Show Hunter Pony classes (Animals may still enter the Novice Show Hunter Pony Classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Novice Show Hunter Pony Exemption**

216. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice Show Hunter Pony:- Lead Rein of Hunter Type, First Pony of Show Hunter Type, Tiny Tots SHP, Heritage, Show Pony, Working Hunter Pony, Intermediate SH. W.H. and S.R., Young SHP., B.S.P.S. Challenge B.S.P.S. Horse Classes, and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

217. A pony that has been de-noviced as a Pony of Show Hunter Type (Hunter Pony Riding) under E.U. Member State Rules, is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice in B.S.P.S. Pony of Show Hunter Type.

218. A Novice Show Hunter Pony winning a Supreme Championship that is open to all Section Champions will not be de-noviced.

## **Novice Show Hunter Pony Classes**

219. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms. and not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 14th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms. and not exceeding 143cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 17th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 143cms. and not exceeding 153cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 20th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Novice Show Hunter Pony Championship**

220. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the 123cms, 133cms, 143cms, and 153cms Novice SHP classes only.

### **OR Mixed Height Class.**

221. THE B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT NOVICE SHOW HUNTER PONY Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 153cms. Riders MUST be the correct age for the height of the animal they ride.

### **CHALLENGE OPEN SHOW HUNTER PONIES**

222. Animals eligible for Challenge SHP classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara.

223. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

### **Challenge Open Show Hunter Pony Classes.**

224. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained not to have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms. and not exceeding 133cms.

Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 14th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms. and not exceeding 143cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 17th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 143cms. and not exceeding 153cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 20th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Challenge Open Show Hunter Pony Championship**

225. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the 123cms, 133cms, 143cms, and 153cms Challenge Open SHP classes only.

### **OR Mixed Height Class.**

226. THE B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT CHALLENGE SHOW HUNTER PONY Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 153cms. Riders MUST be the correct age for the height of the animal they ride.

### **OPEN SHOW HUNTER PONIES**

227. THE B.S.P.S. OPEN PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. OPEN PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms. and not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. OPEN PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms. and not exceeding 143cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. OPEN PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 143cms. and not exceeding 153cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **Open Show Hunter Pony Championship**

228. Open to ponies, 4 years old and over, that have been placed first or second in the 123cms, 133cms, 143cms, and 153cms. Open Show Hunter Pony classes only.

### **OR Mixed Height Class.**

229. THE B.S.P.S. MIXED HEIGHT OPEN SHOW HUNTER PONY Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 153cms. Riders MUST be the correct age for the height of the animal they ride.

## **SECTION N.** **LEAD REIN PONY OF HUNTER TYPE**

230. In Lead Rein of Hunter Type classes the Judge will be looking for a pony suitable to take its rider on country and town activities on the leading rein. Snaffle bridles only.

231. In their individual show ponies will be asked to negotiate small rural obstacles, minimum of three obstacles, maximum of five, but without water and without jumping. At the discretion of RIHS, there may be more obstacles at the final. Course to include a change of rein.  
Ponies MUST not be asked to walk on artificial material e.g. artificial grass, plastic sheeting etc. or to walk over obstacles other than a single pole on the ground. For the avoidance of doubt ponies will not be asked in this class to jump any obstacles.  
**Ponies may be trotted altogether in the class.**

232. Riders will not be asked to dismount.

### **NOVICE LEADING REIN OF HUNTER TYPE PONIES**

#### **Four and Five Year Old Ponies**

233. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retain its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Lead Rein of Hunter Type class at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice Lead Rein of Hunter Type classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

234. A Lead Rein of Hunter Type Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Lead rein of Hunter Type classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. in the Lead Rein of Hunter Type class, will immediately be classed as an “Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type” for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice Lead Rein of Hunter Type classes.  
Animals may still enter the Novice Lead Rein of Hunter Type classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Novice Leading Rein of Hunter Type Exemption**

235. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice Leading Rein of Hunter Type Pony:- Lead Rein, First Ridden, 128cms Show Pony, Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes, 133cms. W.H.P., 123cms S.H.P., Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage, Tiny Tots LR, FR. & SHP, First Pony SHT., B.S.P.S. Challenge classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

#### **Novice Leading Rein of Hunter Type Class**

236. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE LEAD REIN OF HUNTER TYPE, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

## **MINI NOVICE HUNTER PONY CHAMPIONSHIP**

237. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Novice Lead Rein of Hunter Type and the Novice First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes only.

### **CHALLENGE LEAD REIN OF HUNTER TYPE**

238. Animals eligible for Challenge Lead Rein of Hunter Type classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

### **CHALLENGE LEADING REIN OF HUNTER TYPE CLASS**

239. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE OPEN LEAD REIN OF HUNTER TYPE, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **OPEN LEADING REIN OF HUNTER TYPE CLASS**

240. THE B.S.P.S. LEAD REIN PONY OF HUNTER TYPE. Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

### **MINI OPEN HUNTER PONY CHAMPIONSHIP**

241. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type and the Open First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes only.

## **SECTION O.**

### **FIRST PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE SECTION**

242. No cantering is allowed except for individual performances. Ponies must leave the ring at the walk or trot.

Riders will be allowed to walk the course with an adult. Competitors will enter the ring as a whole class on the right rein at walk. Competitors will walk and trot on the right rein, (no cantering on the go round) change of rein in trot and onto the left rein. The judge may decide to “pull in” the class in a preferred order or line up in any order. Riders will not be required to wear a body protector.

Riders will present the pony to the judge, walk away and trot back (no stripping) they will then complete the course, after which they will canter on one rein down the long side of the ring/arena. At the final at the RIHS, they will canter on both reins.

At the completion of the class the judge may ask the competitors to undertake a final walk round or pull ponies forward from the line for final placings.

In their individual show ponies will be asked to negotiate small rural obstacles, minimum of four obstacles, maximum of six, but without water and without jumping. Course to include a change of rein. At the discretion of RIHS, there may be more obstacles at the final. Ponies **MUST** not be asked to walk on artificial material e.g. artificial grass, plastic sheeting etc. or to walk over obstacles other than a single pole on the ground. Snaffle bridles only.

For the avoidance of doubt, ponies will not be asked in this class to jump any obstacles.

#### **NOVICE FIRST PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE** **Four and Five Year Old Ponies**

243. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes a **FOUR** and **FIVE** year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its **SIX** year old year.

#### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

244. A First Pony of Show Hunter Type **SIX** years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, will immediately be classed as an “Open First Pony of Show Hunter Type” for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Novice First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes.

#### **Novice First Pony of Show Hunter Type Exemption**

245. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Novice First Pony of Show Hunter Type:- Lead Rein, First Ridden, 128cms. Show Pony, Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes, 133cms. W.H.P., 123cms S.H.P., Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage, Tiny Tots LR., FR. & SHP., Lead Rein Hunter Type, B.S.P.S. Challenge classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

### **TINY TOTS SHOW HUNTER PONY CLASS**

246. The B.S.P.S. TINY TOTS SHOW HUNTER PONY, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **NOVICE FIRST PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE CLASS**

247. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE FIRST PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 10th. birthday before the 1st. January in the current year.

### **MINI NOVICE HUNTER PONY CHAMPIONSHIP**

248. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Novice Lead Rein of Hunter Type and the Novice First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes only.

### **OPEN FIRST PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE CLASS**

249. THE B.S.P.S. OPEN FIRST PONY OF SHOW HUNTER TYPE, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 123cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 10th. birthday before the 1st. January in the current year.

### **MINI OPEN HUNTER PONY CHAMPIONSHIP**

250. Open to ponies that have been placed first or second in the Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type and the Open First Pony of Show Hunter Type classes only.

## SECTION P. INTERMEDIATES

251. Animals in Intermediate classes or Championships may be galloped altogether

252. **MARKING** - To be used at the H.O.Y.S. qualifying shows, optional in Blue Riband classes and the Winter & Summer Championships for Open Lead Rein, First Ridden, Show Ponies and Intermediate classes. **Marks will not be used at the qualifiers or the Final for the R.I.H.S.**

Manners & Way of Going	50
Conformation, Type & Freedom of Action	<u>50</u>
	100

253. In the event of a tie or ties the marks MUST NOT be altered. The mark for Manners and Way of Going will take precedence, followed by Conformation, Type and Freedom of Action mark. If there is still a tie, the Judge's decision is final.

254. If a horse has competed in Open Horse Classes (Hack, Riding Horse or Hunter), it must compete in the equivalent Intermediate section for that same type.  
If a horse has been placed in the top nine of any of the Horse Classes (Hack, Riding Horse or Hunter) at HOYS or RIHS, it cannot change its classification and type and compete in a different Intermediate section. Horses which subsequently change ownership cannot change type or classification in future classes. Horses that have not competed in Open Horse Classes may change their type, but they may do this only once.  
Animals can only qualify for the RIHS in one class of Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Intermediate Hack and Intermediate Show Hunter.

### NOVICE INTERMEDIATE FOUR and FIVE year old Animals

255. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Intermediate classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S in the Open Intermediate and part-bred classes will immediately be denoviced (Animals may still enter the Novice Intermediate classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### Animals SIX Years Old and Over

256. An Intermediate animal SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Intermediate classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Open Intermediate and part-bred classes will immediately be classed as an Open Intermediate Animal for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for the relevant Novice Intermediate classes (Animals may still enter the Novice Intermediate classes at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

## Novice Intermediate Exemptions

257. In this connection an animal that has won in any of the following events may still be a novice, Show Pony, Show Hunter, Working Hunter, Pairs, Side Saddle, Heritage classes, B.S.P.S. Challenge Young Intermediate classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S.

## Novice Intermediate Classes

258. THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE INTERMEDIATE SHOW RIDING HORSE. Mare or gelding 4 yrs old and over exceeding 148cm and not exceeding 158cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. NOVICE INTERMEDIATE HACK, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over exceeding 146cm and not exceeding 160cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th. birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE BSPS NOVICE INTERMEDIATE SHOW HUNTER, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over exceeding 148cm but not exceeding 158cm. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

## Novice Intermediate Championship

259. Open to animals that have been placed first or second in the Novice Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Novice Intermediate Hack Type and Novice Intermediate Show Hunter Classes only.

## Challenge Open Intermediates

260. Animals eligible for Challenge Intermediate classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must **NOT** have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara.

261. Animals eligible for Challenge Intermediate classes at the Summer Championship Show please see rules 410 and 411.

## CHALLENGE INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

262. THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE INTERMEDIATE SHOW RIDING HORSE. Mare or gelding 4 yrs old and over exceeding 148cm not exceeding 158cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. CHALLENGE INTERMEDIATE HACK, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over exceeding 146cm not exceeding 160cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th. birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE BSPS CHALLENGE INTERMEDIATE SHOW HUNTER, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over exceeding 148cm but not exceeding 158cm. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **Challenge Intermediate Championship**

263. Open to animals that have been placed first or second in the Challenge Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Challenge Intermediate Hack and Challenge Show Hunter Classes only.

### **Open Intermediate Classes**

264. THE B.S.P.S. OPEN INTERMEDIATE SHOW RIDING HORSE. Mare or gelding 4 yrs old and over exceeding 148cm and not exceeding 158cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE B.S.P.S. OPEN INTERMEDIATE HACK, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, exceeding 146cm and not exceeding 160cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25th. birthday before 1st January in the current year.

THE BSPS OPEN INTERMEDIATE SHOW HUNTER, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over exceeding 148cm but not exceeding 158cm. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

### **Open Intermediate Championship**

265. Open to animals that have been placed first or second in the Open Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Intermediate Hack Type and Intermediate Show Hunter Classes only.

### **Mixed Intermediate**

266. BSPS MIXED INTERMEDIATE, Mare or gelding 4 years old or over exceeding 146cm and not exceeding 160cm. Riders not to have attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. To incorporate Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Intermediate Hack Type and Intermediate Show Hunter.

### **Intermediate Show Horse – HOYS qualifier**

267. OPEN INTERMEDIATE SHOW HORSE, Mare or gelding 4 years old or over exceeding 148cm and not exceeding 160cm. Riders not to have attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Horses to be of Riding Horse, Hack or Show Riding Type.

268. Rule 264 will be the format of Intermediate classes held at qualifiers and the final for Royal International Horse Show. Rule 267 will be the format for Horse of the Year Show qualifiers and final. HOYS will hold a separate Intermediate Show Hunter class.

## **SECTION Q** **PRETTY POLLY**

### **AMATEUR HOME-PRODUCED PRETTY POLLY CLASSES AND RULES**

**TO COMPETE IN PRETTY POLLY CLASSES MEMBERS MUST HAVE BOTH AMATEUR AND HOME-PRODUCED STATUS.** It is expected that Exhibitors will compete in the true spirit and fair play of these Rules. The Directors/Board/Council reserve the right, in their absolute discretion, to reclassify an Exhibitor's Amateur/Home Produced status/entry should they deem it necessary. E.g if you ride/compete equines on a regular basis, which you do not stable at home, your Amateur/home-produced status will be reviewed.

269. **Home Produced Status.** Open to Horses/Ponies which are either stabled at home or in a D. I. Y. yard and have not been shown by a Professional Producer since **1<sup>st</sup> January 2026** or stabled in a Professional yard at any time in the current year. Except where the horse/pony has been purchased from professional producer or been produced by a professional producer and sold and to a home-produced owner/rider, with transfer of ownership and registration with the B.S.P.S, to be stabled at home or a D.I.Y yard may compete in Home Produced classes the following season.

Where the owner is moving their horse/pony to be home produced from the beginning of the current season (1<sup>st</sup> January) on a permanent basis due to financial or other circumstances where this is a permanent arrangement with approval from the BSPS office they may compete in home produced classes.

Failure to abide by this rule and return the pony to professional production or to be ridden by a professional at any time during the season will result in the owner/rider losing their home-produced status for a minimum period of three years.

270. **Amateur Status** – 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:

**Ownership:** All owners should be registered in the passport as per the latest DEFRA regulations.

271. **Professional Show Producer/Trainer/Rider:** A person who undertakes the preparation/training/keeping at livery, production of show equines/riders or competes as a show Rider or jobbing Rider.

272. **Professional Show Groom:** 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 in showing.

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.

273. **Professional Showing Status:** 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).

274. **Amateur Status** – 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/pony owned or sponsored by a company or a commercial firm or show a horse/pony 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, BSPS or otherwise.

(iv) Act as a Brand Ambassador, in any showing classes, BSPS or otherwise.

(v) A competitor is not eligible to compete in Amateur/home-produced classes on an Exhibit, which has been ridden by a Professional Rider in ANY class, BSPS or otherwise during the current year and the following year, up to and including the Royal International Horse Show.

(The above Rule does not apply, if the horse/pony has been Professionally Produced and ONLY ridden by a Professional, during the previous season, or if the horse/pony has subsequently been sold and re-registered under new Ownership).

(vi) If you ride/compete equines on a regular basis, which you do not stable at home, your Amateur/home-produced 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.

At any time whilst on the showground, where an Exhibit is going to be competing in Amateur/home-produced classes, Professionals, including Professional 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.

275. **Amateur Home Produced:** Open to horses/ponies, which are either stabled at home or in a D. I. Y. yard, assisted livery permitted, and which since 1st January in the current year, have not been shown/ridden 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/pony remains stabled at home. No Professional, including Professional Grooms, are allowed into the ring to groom/strip the horse/pony.

## **PRETTY POLLY RIHS QUALIFYING CLASSES**

**Ponies do not need a JMB measurement to compete in RIHS Pretty Polly classes and the Young Dragonara Riders Championship.**

276. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE M&M PRETTY POLLY (R.I.H.S.) LEADING REIN PONY. Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
277. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE M&M PRETTY POLLY (R.I.H.S.) FIRST RIDDEN PONY. Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 128cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
278. The B.S.P.S. PRETTY POLLY (R.I.H.S.) MIXED HEIGHT SHOW PONY. Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 148cms. Riders in the 128cms class must not have attained their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Riders on ponies exceeding 128cms must not have attained their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
279. The B.S.P.S. PRETTY POLLY (R.I.H.S.) MIXED HEIGHT SHP  
Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Riders must not have attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.  
Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 153cms. Riders not to have attained their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
280. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE M&M PRETTY POLLY (R.I.H.S.) RIDDEN MIXED BREEDS. Registered Pure Bred Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh Section A or B, Connemara, Dales, Fells, Highland, New Forest, Welsh Section C or D ponies, 4yrs old or over. Riders any age.  
This class will be judged as a whole but may be divided for the go round into Small and Large Breeds if sufficient entries the two sections will then be lined up together to do the individual show and conformation, following completion of these phases the judge or judges will determine the final result.

## **YOUNG DRAGONARA RIDERS CHAMPIONSHIP RIHS**

281. THE BSPS YOUNG DRAGONARA RIDERS CHAMPIONSHIP (RIHS)  
Mare or gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cm of show pony or show hunter pony type. Riders not to have attained their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Riders not to have ridden in any class at HOYS (except lead rein and Search for a Star), or LIHS Heritage Supreme Ridden Championship and not to have been placed 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> in any ridden show class at RIHS (except lead rein, Young Dragonara and Pretty Polly classes) in 2024 and 2025. Riders must be suitably mounted and ponies must not be undersized for the rider. Ponies and riders may be professionally produced as long as they adhere to the above criteria. Ponies will walk, trot and canter all together on the go-round.

## **SECTION R** **BSPS LONDON INTERNATIONAL SHOWING SERIES**

### **282. London International Horse Show Qualifying Classes**

**PLEASE NOTE THESE CLASSES ARE ONLY TO BE HELD AT AFFILIATED ASA SHOWS AND MAY NOT BE HELD AT OTHER B.S.P.S. AFFILIATED SHOWS.**

<b>Class 1</b>	<b>BSPS Junior Performance Pony</b> , Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over not exceeding 138cms. Plaited ponies. Riders not to have attained their 13 <sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1 <sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
<b>Class 2</b>	<b>BSPS Performance Pony</b> Mare or Gelding 4 years old and over, not exceeding 148cm Plaited ponies. Riders not to have attained their 17th birthday on 1st January in the current year.
<b>Class 3</b>	<b>BSPS Performance Pony</b> Stallion, Mare or Gelding 4 years old and over, not exceeding 158cm. Plaited ponies/horses. Riders any age.
<b>Class 4</b>	<b>BSPS Performance Coloured Native/Cob/Traditional Horse/Pony Class.</b> Stallion, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over. Riders any age. Unplaited.
<b>Class 5</b>	<b>BSPS Performance Coloured Non-Native Horse/Pony Class.</b> Stallion, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over. Riders any age. Plaited.

**Marks:**

Performance	70 Marks
Manners and way of going	10 Marks
Presentation, suitability and condition	10 Marks
Type and freedom of action	10 Marks
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 Marks</b>

#### **Method of judging for Classes 1-5**

Exhibitors enter the ring as a whole class on the right rein. (Classes may be split on the go round dependent on numbers at the judge's discretion). Exhibitors will walk, trot and canter, including change of rein and canter on the left rein before coming back to walk. No galloping on the go round. NO PULL IN. In the event of a tie performance marks take precedence.

Exhibitors will perform an individual display, this must include a walk, trot and canter on both reins, a free walk on a long rein, canter circle, extension at canter (not a gallop) on one rein, and a halt. Canter transitions must be executed on the straight, (not at a corner). Competitors will only be marked for the first time they attempt a movement.

No stripping. Any suitable bridle, including a Micklem bridle, flash or grackle, nosebands etc, and a correctly fitted running martingale can be used. Coloured or plain brow bands can be used. Bit-less bridles and Running Gags are not permitted. Classes 1-3 and 5 ponies must be plaited. Running plaits are acceptable providing the forelock is plaited. Shows may put on a Championship for the two highest exhibits. Please see rule 62 for ages of riders for stallions.

### **283. BSPS Heritage Lead Rein Working Sports Pony**

<b>Mare or Gelding, 4yrs old and over, Mountain and Moorland registered ponies and non-registered Mountain and Moorland type ponies not exceeding 128cms. Ridden by a child to have attained their 4th birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year and not to have attained their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Any suitable snaffle bridle.</b>
---

In Lead Rein WSP classes the Judges will be looking for a pony suitable for a child to begin their future in Working Sports Pony classes.

**Marks:**

Manners & Style whilst performing the test (including go round and jumping)	60 Marks
Type, Movement and Freedom of Action	20 Marks
Presentation, condition and suitability of pony for the rider	20 Marks
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 MARKS</b>

## Criteria

The Leader must be 16 years old or over and may only lead one pony in a class.

The rein MUST go directly from the bit to the rider's hand, with no extra aids or attachments to or on the saddle.

Handles on saddles are permitted but the reins must not be attached to the handle or to the saddle. The Lead Rein must be affixed to the noseband on which it must remain while the pony is in the ring.

Whilst in the ring ponies must always be led by the leader.

The Leader must lead on the near side with the lead rein in the left hand.

RIDERS - Hats in accordance with BSPS Rules, Tweed Jackets, Beige or cream jodhpurs, Shirt, tie, boots and gloves.

Body protectors are compulsory in this class.

No Buttonholes

LEADERS Country attire, Gentlemen Trilby Hats or Caps, Ladies modest hats.

## Method of Judging

Ponies will enter the ring at the walk, they may be trotted altogether at the Judges' discretion. They will be pulled into line and asked to perform an individual test around obstacles, minimum 5 obstacles, maximum 7, including jumping a maximum of three small upright fences not exceeding 30cms. No spread fences. A change of rein to be included in the course. Water will not be included. Ponies will not be asked to walk on artificial material e.g. plastic sheeting during the test. *Riders will not be asked to dismount.*

Judges will penalise refusals, knockdowns or taking the wrong course at their discretion.

A stride or two of canter over the fences will not be penalised.

There will be NO conformation marks. **Ponies must be shown unplaited and in accordance with their breed standards.**

## 284. Heritage First Ridden Working Sports Pony

Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, For registered Mountain and Moorland ponies and non-registered Mountain and Moorland type ponies not exceeding 128 cm. Ridden by a child to have attained their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year and not to have attained their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Any suitable snaffle bridle. Ponies to be shown unplaited.

In First Ridden WSP classes the Judges will be looking for a pony suitable for a child to begin their future in Working Sports Pony classes. Ponies will be shown unplaited.

### Marks:

Manners & Style whilst performing the test

(including go round and jumping) 60 Marks

Type, Movement and Freedom of Action 20 Marks

Presentation, condition and suitability of pony for the rider 20 Marks

**TOTAL 100 MARKS**

## Criteria

Martingales are permitted

RIDERS - Hats in accordance with BSPS Rules, Tweed Jackets, Beige or cream jodhpurs, Shirt, tie, boots and gloves.

Body protectors are compulsory in this class.

No Buttonholes

**Method of Judging** -Ponies will enter the ring at the walk, and then trotted altogether at the Judges' discretion. They will be pulled into line in any order and asked to perform an individual test around obstacles, minimum 5 obstacles, maximum 8, including jumping a maximum of three small upright fences not exceeding 30cms. A change of rein to be included in the course. At the end of the test, they will canter down one side of the arena to finish. No spread fences. Water will not be included. Ponies will not be asked to walk on artificial material e.g. plastic sheeting during the test. *Riders will not be asked to dismount.* Judges will penalise refusals, knockdowns or taking the wrong course at their discretion. Cantering over the fences will not be penalised. There will be NO conformation marks.

285. **Open Cradle Stakes Class LIHS** Mare or Gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms.  
 Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained not to have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

**MARKING**

PHASE ONE

Jumping	50
Style & Manners while Jumping	20
PHASE TWO	
Manners and way of going	10
Conformation, Type & Freedom of Action	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	100

PENALTIES - PHASE ONE

Jumping Knock Down	10
First Refusal	15
Second Refusal	20
Third Refusal	Disqualification
Fall of pony or rider in any phase	Disqualification

286. **Open Nursery Stakes Class LIHS**, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, not exceeding 133cm.  
 Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

**MARKING**

PHASE ONE

Jumping	50
Style & Manners while Jumping	20
PHASE TWO	
Manners and way of going	10
Conformation, Type & Freedom of Action	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	100

PENALTIES - PHASE ONE

Jumping Knock Down	10
First Refusal	15
Second Refusal	20
Third Refusal	Disqualification
Fall of pony or rider in any phase	Disqualification

**Method of Judging**

This is a judged over a course of WHP fences individually with a separate conformation section and then all ponies come together for the final result.

Shows may put on a Championship for the two highest placed animals.

287. **The BSPS/LIHS Working Sports Pony 148cm**, (Height of fences 85cm) For mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 148cm. Riders not to have attained their 18th birthday on the 1st January in the current year. Ponies must be shown plaited. Running plaits, providing the forelock is plaited, are permissible. To be ridden in any suitable bridle, including a correctly fitted running martingale.

288. **The BSPS/LIHS Working Sports Pony 158cm** (Height of fences 95cm) For stallions, mares or geldings, 4 years old or over not exceeding 158cm. Riders any age. (To ride a stallion, refer to rule 62 for age of riders in LIHS Classes) Ponies must be shown plaited. Running plaits, providing the forelock is plaited, are permissible. To be ridden in any suitable bridle including a correctly fitted running martingale.

289. Competitors may compete two ponies in each qualifying class. The highest placed pony will count for final placings. The same pony/rider combinations can only qualify in one class. Competitors can compete in both classes, but will qualify for the final in the first class they qualify in. The highest placed pony not already qualified will qualify for the final, providing the pony, owner and rider are registered with the BSPS within seven days. Riders can only qualify one pony in each class.

A JMB height certificate is not required. All other rules for competing in WHP classes apply in these classes. All BSPS rules apply to these classes. Body protectors are compulsory.

290. **BSPS LIHS Working Sports Pony Method of Judging.**

The class will be judged by one judge.

At the final the height of fences will remain at 85cm for 148cm and 95cm for 158cm.

The course will consist of a minimum of 10 fences, maximum of 12 fences.

Riders will enter the ring individually, and present their pony to the judge, who will assess the pony's conformation, freedom of movement, (asking the rider walk and trot back before commencing their jumping round) type and athleticism. Awarding a mark out of 10.

The judges will award up to 30 marks for style, technique and athleticism whilst jumping.

At end of the jumping round the rider will gallop the pony down the long side of the ring, for which a mark out of 10 will be awarded

Riders will then canter, trot, walk and halt, demonstrating, manners, correct paces and training, for which a mark of 10 will be awarded.

A final mark of 10 will be awarded for the style, position and effectiveness of the rider.

#### **Marks**

Points remaining after jumping max 50

Style, technique and athleticism whilst jumping max 30.

Gallop at the end of jumping round max 10

Canter, trot, walk and halt after gallop, (manners /way of going) max 10

Style, position and effectiveness of rider max 10

Conformation, freedom of action, type and athleticism max 10

Total 120

In the event of tie, the total jumping and style mark takes precedence, followed by the style and position of the rider and then conformation.

#### **Penalties**

10 penalties for each knock down

15 penalties for first refusal

20 penalties for the second refusal

3 refusals or fall of pony or rider, elimination.

## **SECTION S**

### **THE B.S.P.S. "HERITAGE" MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND.**

291. **MARKING** - To be used at the Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship and qualifying shows and optional at Winter, Summer and Heritage Championships for the Open Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden and Ridden Classes. **Marks will not be used at the R.I.H.S. qualifiers or the Final.**

Show/Freedom of Action	Maximum	50
Breed Type/Conformation	Maximum	<u>50</u>
		100

292. In the event of a tie or ties the marks MUST not be altered. The mark for **Conformation and Breed Type** will take precedence followed by the Show/Freedom of Action mark, if there is still a tie the Judge's decision is final.

293. **GALLOPING** – Ponies in Heritage Ridden classes must not be galloped all together. Galloping is allowed only in the individual show and in Championship.

294. No child under the age of 3 years may compete.

295. Stallions **are not** permitted in Lead Rein and First Ridden classes. Stallions are permitted in Heritage Ridden and WHP classes.

296. Riders must be 12 years old or over on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year to ride any Stallions not exceeding 138cms, or Small Breed Mountain & Moorland Stallions i.e. Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh Section A & B.

297. Riders must be 14 years old or over on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year to ride any Stallions ex. 138cms. or Large Breed Mountain and Moorland Stallions i.e. Connemara, Dales, Fells, Highland, New Forest, Welsh Section C & D.

298. In Heritage Lead Rein classes the leader must be 16 years old or over and may only lead one pony in a class.

299. Leaders in Heritage Lead Rein classes at shows with R.I.H.S. qualification and at the B.S.P.S. Summer, Winter and Heritage Championships must be B.S.P.S. members 16 years old or over.

300. All Ponies in Novice Ridden (Flat Classes) and Lead Rein classes must be shown in suitable snaffle bridles.

301. Ponies in Heritage Open Ridden, First Ridden, Tiny Tots First Ridden and WHP classes may be shown in any suitable bridle, except those mentioned in Rule 57. (See also rule 58).

302. Cantering is not allowed in Heritage Lead Rein classes.

303. In all Lead Rein classes, the rein MUST go directly from the bit to the rider's hand, with no extra aid or attachments to or on the saddle. Handles on saddles are permitted but the reins MUST NOT be attached to the handle or to the saddle. The reins must be a normal length and not knotted together or stitched together at a shorter length.

304. Riders in Heritage Lead Rein and Heritage Tiny Tots First Ridden will not be asked to dismount, the ponies will not be stripped.

- 305. Heritage First Ridden (except Heritage Tiny Tots First Ridden) ponies may be stripped. In R.I.H.S. qualifying classes Judges MUST make every effort to strip an adequate number of ponies, unless on health and safety grounds it is deemed unsafe to do so. This will be agreed at the discretion of the organiser and judge(s).
- 306. No Cantering is allowed in Heritage First Ridden classes, except for individual performances. Ponies should leave the ring at walk or trot.
- 307. No pony shall be shown on a leading rein except those entered in Leading Rein classes.
- 308. In all Heritage classes, ponies are restricted to the breed standard and height limits laid down by their appropriate Breed Societies.
- 309. Ponies Breed Society Registration Numbers MUST be stated when entering Heritage Classes.
- 310. Judges will penalise ponies that have been **excessively** clipped or trimmed within the breed standard.
- 311. All other B.S.P.S. General Rules are applicable.

#### **HERITAGE CHALLENGE CLASSES**

- 312. Animals eligible for Challenge Heritage Lead Rein and First Ridden classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara, or been placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at the Heritage Supreme Final at LIHS in the previous year. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

#### **HERITAGE NOVICE LEAD REIN** **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Ponies**

- 313. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Heritage Lead Rein classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S. in the Mountain and Moorland Lead Rein classes will immediately be denoviced, except any qualification held for the Novice Heritage Lead Rein class at the current years B.S.P.S. Winter Championships Show remains valid. (Animals may still enter the Novice Lead Rein class at the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

- 314. A Heritage Lead Rein Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Heritage Lead Rein classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Mountain and Moorland Lead Rein classes, will immediately be classed as an “Open Heritage Lead Rein Pony” for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Heritage Novice Lead Rein classes, except that any qualification held for the Heritage Novice Lead Rein classes at the current years B.S.P.S. Winter Championships Show remains valid. (Animals may still enter the Novice Lead Rein class at the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

#### **Heritage Novice Leading Rein Exemption**

- 315. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Heritage Novice Lead Rein Pony, Lead Rein, First Ridden, 128 Show Pony, Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes, 133cms. WHP, Tiny Tots SHP., 123cms SHP., Lead Rein of Hunter Type, First Pony SHT, Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage Tiny Tots LR., & FR., Heritage First Ridden, Heritage Ridden and Heritage WHP, B.S.P.S. Challenge Classes, LIHS WSP and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S. A pony that has been denoviced as a M&M Lead Rein under EU Member State rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice M & M Lead Rein pony.

## **HERITAGE NOVICE FIRST RIDDEN**

### **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Ponies**

316. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Heritage First Ridden classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. in the Mountain and Moorland First Ridden classes will immediately be denoviced, except any qualification held for the Novice Heritage First Ridden class at the current years B.S.P.S. Winter Championships Show remains valid. (Animals may still enter the Novice First Ridden class at the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

317. A Heritage First Ridden Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Heritage First Ridden classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S. or H.O.Y.S in the Mountain and Moorland First Ridden classes. will immediately be classed as an “Open Heritage First Ridden Pony” for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Heritage Novice First Ridden classes, except that any qualification held for the Heritage Novice First Ridden classes at the current years B.S.P.S. Winter Championships Show remains valid. (Animals may still enter the Novice First Ridden class at the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Heritage Novice First Ridden Exemption**

318. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Heritage Novice First Ridden:-, Lead Rein, First Ridden, 128 Show Pony, Cradle & Nursery Stakes, 133cms.WHP, 123cms. SHP., Lead Rein of Hunter Type, First Pony SHT., Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage Tiny Tots LR., & FR., Heritage Lead Rein, Ridden and WHP., B.S.P.S. Challenge Classes, LIHS WSP and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S. A pony that has been denoviced as a M and M First Ridden under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice M & M First Ridden pony.

## **HERITAGE NOVICE RIDDEN PONIES**

### **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Ponies**

319. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Heritage Ridden classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the R.I.H.S., H.O.Y.S. or Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship in the Mountain and Moorland Open Ridden classes will immediately be denoviced, except any qualification held for the Novice Heritage Ridden classes at the current years B.S.P.S. Winter Championships Show remains valid. (Animals may still enter the Novice Ridden class at the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

320. A Heritage Ridden Pony SIX years old or over, that wins three Open or Challenge Open (except Pretty Polly) Heritage Ridden classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S. where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Mountain and Moorland Open Ridden classes at the R.I.H.S., H.O.Y.S. or Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship will immediately be classed as an “Open Heritage Ridden Pony” for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Heritage Novice Ridden classes, except that any qualification held for the Heritage Novice Ridden classes at the current years B.S.P.S. Winter Championships Show remains valid. (Animals may still enter the Novice Ridden class at the B.S.P.S. Summer Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year)

## **Heritage Novice Ridden Exemption**

321. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Heritage Novice Ridden Pony:-, Lead Rein, First Ridden, Show Pony, Cradle & Nursery Stakes, WHP, SHP., Tiny Tots SHP., Lead Rein of Hunter Type, First Pony SHT., Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage Tiny Tots LR & FR, Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden and WHP., B.S.P.S. Challenge Classes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S. A Pony that has been denoviced as a M&M Ridden Pony under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice M&M Ridden Pony.

## **HERITAGE NOVICE WORKING HUNTER PONIES**

### **FOUR and FIVE Year Old Ponies**

322. Regardless of the number of Novice or Open Heritage WHP classes a FOUR and FIVE year old animal may win, it retains its novice status at the commencement of its SIX year old year, except any animal that has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Mountain and Moorland WHP classes at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S. will immediately be denoviced. (Animals may still enter the Novice WHP class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year). Animals cannot compete in the Heritage Novice Cradle & Nursery stakes if they have been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at HOYS in the 122cm WHP class.

### **Ponies SIX Years Old and Over**

323. A Heritage WHP SIX years old or over, that wins **three** Open or Challenge Open, (except Pretty Polly) Heritage WHP classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S. where the first prize is £5.00 or over, or has been placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in the Mountain and Moorland WHP classes at the R.I.H.S. or the H.O.Y.S., will immediately be classed as an "Open Heritage WHP" for the rest of its showing career and is no longer eligible for Heritage Novice WHP classes. (Animals may still enter the Novice WHP class at the B.S.P.S. Summer and Winter Championships providing they were novices on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year ) Animals cannot compete in the Heritage Novice Cradle & Nursery stakes if they have been placed 1st to 8th at HOYS in the 122cm WHP class.

### **Heritage Novice WHP Exemption**

324. In this connection a pony that has won in any of the following events may still be a Heritage Novice WHP:-, Lead Rein, First Ridden, Show Pony, Cradle & Nursery Stakes, WHP, SHP., Tiny Tots SHP., Lead Rein of Hunter Type, First Pony SHT., Side Saddle, Pairs, Heritage Tiny Tots LR. & FR., Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden and Ridden, Challenge Classes, Worker Stakes and any other classes not affiliated to the B.S.P.S. A pony that has been denoviced as a M and M WHP under E.U. Member State Rules is no longer eligible to compete as a Novice M & M WHP.

## **HERITAGE CHALLENGE CLASSES**

325. Animals eligible for Challenge Heritage classes during the Winter series and at the Winter Championship Show must NOT have qualified for HOYS in the relevant class in the previous year or been placed 1st – 5th at RIHS in the previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara, or the Heritage Supreme Final at LIHS in the previous year. For the Challenge eligibility at the Summer Championship Show, please see rules 410 and 411.

## **MARKING FOR HERITAGE WHP**

326. PHASE 1	Jumping	50
PHASE 2	Style whilst jumping	20
	Manners and way of going	10
	Conformation, freedom of action and Breed Type	20
	Total	100
<b>PENALTIES:</b>		
	Knock Down	10 faults
	1st. Refusal	15 faults.
	Second Refusal	20 faults.
	Third Refusal	Disqualification
	Fall of pony or rider in any Phase	Disqualification

327. In the event of a tie or ties - The marks MUST NOT be altered.  
The TOTAL MARK from Phase 1 will take precedence, followed by the Manners Mark, and then the Breed Type Mark. If there is still a tie the Judge's decision is final.

328. **HEIGHT OF FENCES FOR HERITAGE WHP CLASSES**

**At B.S.P.S. Championship Shows Course Builders are permitted an extra 5cms for open classes.**

	<b>HEIGHT</b>	<b>SPREAD</b>	
<b>NOVICE CLASSES</b>	Min	Max.	Max
Ponies not exceeding 122cms.	47cms.	60cms	47cms.
Ponies ex. 122cms not ex. 133cms	55cms.	65cms.	55cms.
Ponies ex. 133cms. not ex. 143cms	65cms.	75cms.	65cms.
Ponies exceeding 143cms	75cms	85cms	75cms
<b>CHALLENGE CLASSES</b>	Min	Max.	Max
Ponies not exceeding 122cms.	50cms.	65cms	50cms.
Ponies ex. 122cms not ex. 133cms	60cms.	75cms.	60cms.
Ponies ex. 133cms. not ex. 143cms	70cms.	85cms.	70cms.
Ponies exceeding 143cms	80cms	95cms	80cms
<b>OPEN CLASSES</b>	Min	Max.	Max
Heritage Cradle Stakes	47cms	55cms	47cms
Heritage Nursery Stakes	50cms.	65cms.	50cms.
(HOYS Junior) 122cms.	45cms.	60cms.	50cms.
Ponies not exceeding 122cms	55cms	70cms	55cms
Ponies ex. 122cms not ex. 133cms	65cms.	80cms.	65cms.
Ponies ex. 133cms not ex. 143cms	75cms.	90cms	75cms.
Ponies exceeding 143cms	85cms	100cms	85cms

The width of water trays should not exceed the maximum spread. Water is not permitted in Heritage Cradle Stakes classes.

In Mixed Height classes, the fences must be adjusted according to the heights of the ponies in the class and ponies MUST jump in their correct height section

329. The Course for Heritage WHP classes must consist of a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 12 fences. (The Maximum number does not apply at Championships Shows). Rules 187 to 203 and 206 to 210 to apply.

330. Junior 122cms (HOYS) Mountain and Moorland Working Hunter Pony. The course of fences must contain only one double and no water tray.

**CLASSES FOR SUMMER SEASON.**  
**HERITAGE TINY TOTS CLASSES**

331. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND TINY TOTS LEAD REIN**  
Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 122cms.  
Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup>.  
January in the current year.

332. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND TINY TOTS FIRST RIDDEN.**  
Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 128cms.  
Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1st.  
January in the current year.

333. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE TINY TOTS MINI CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies  
that have been placed 1st. or 2nd. in the Tiny Tots Heritage Lead Rein and First  
Ridden classes.

**OPEN HERITAGE LEAD REIN & FIRST RIDDEN CLASSES**

334. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN LEAD REIN.**  
Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 122cms.  
Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9th. birthday before 1st.  
January in the current year.

335. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN FIRST RIDDEN.**  
Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 128cms.  
Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12th. birthday before 1st.  
January in the current year.

336. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MINI CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have  
been placed 1st. or 2nd. in the Open Heritage Lead Rein and First Ridden classes.

**OPEN HERITAGE RIDDEN CLASSES (& R.I.H.S. Qualifiers)**

337. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN CLASS**  
Registered Pure Bred Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders  
any age.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN CLASS**  
Registered Pure Bred Welsh Section A & B Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any  
age.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN CLASS**  
Registered Pure Bred Welsh Section C & D Ponies 4 years old or over.  
Riders any age

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN CLASS**  
Registered Pure Bred New Forest and Connemara Ponies 4 years old or over.  
Riders any age.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN CLASS**  
Registered Pure Bred Fells, Dales, and Highland Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders  
any age.

**OR**

338. Separate Open classes may be held.  
Different Mixed classes may be held with permission from Head Office

339. **Classes with R.I.H.S. qualification must be held in accordance with Rule 337.**

340. Shows with Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme LIHS Championship semi-final and direct qualifiers must hold four classes only. Six classes will only be held at the BSPS Heritage Championship Show and Royal Windsor Horse Show semi-final London International qualifiers.

Four classes – Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh A & B - Welsh C & D - New Forest and Connemara - Fells, Dales and Highlands.

Six classes – Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland - Welsh A&B - Welsh C - Welsh D - New Forest and Connemara – Fells, Dales and Highlands.

Semi-final and direct qualifiers, the top three ponies will qualify for the final at the BSPS Heritage Championships, excluding the champion (direct qualifiers) who qualifies for London International Horse Show.

341. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Heritage Open Ridden Classes.

**OR**

342. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND OPEN RIDDEN MIXED BREEDS.** Registered Pure Bred ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age

**OPEN HERITAGE WHP CLASSES**

343. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN CRADLE STAKES.** Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 yrs. old and over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

344. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN NURSERY STAKES.**

Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 yrs. old and over, not exceeding 133cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 13th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE OPEN MINI WHP CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Heritage OPEN Cradle Stakes/Nursery Stakes classes.

345. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN WHP.  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over not exceeding 122cms.  
Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN WHP.  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 122cms. but not exceeding 133cms. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN WHP.  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 133cms, but not exceeding 143cms. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN WHP.  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 143cms. Riders any age.

346. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN WHP CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Open to ponies that have been placed 1st. and 2nd. in The Heritage Open WHP classes.  
OR

347. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND OPEN WHP. MIXED HEIGHT.  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4yrs. old or over.  
Riders any age. Ponies must jump in their correct height section.  
**Classes may be divided by height and fences adjusted for each height section**

#### **NOVICE HERITAGE LEAD REIN & FIRST RIDDEN CLASSES**

348. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE LEAD REIN.  
Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 122cms.  
Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

349. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE FIRST RIDDEN.  
Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 128cms.  
Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.

350. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE NOVICE MINI CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1st. or 2nd. in the Heritage NOVICE Lead Rein/First Ridden classes.

#### **NOVICE HERITAGE RIDDEN CLASSES**

351. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN CLASS  
Registered Pure Bred Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN CLASS  
Registered Pure Bred Welsh Section A & B Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN CLASS  
Registered Pure Bred Welsh C & D Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN CLASS  
Registered Pure Bred New Forest and Connemara Ponies 4years old or over.  
Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN CLASS  
Registered Pure Bred Fells, Dales, Highland Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

**N.B. If sufficient entries separate Novice classes may be held.**

352. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Heritage Novice Ridden Classes.

OR

353. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND NOVICE RIDDEN MIXED BREEDS.** Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

**NOVICE HERITAGE WHP CLASSES**

354. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE WHP.** Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over not exceeding 122cms. Riders any age.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE WHP.**  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 122cms. but not exceeding 133cms. Riders any age.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE WHP.**  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 133cms. but not exceeding 143cms. Riders any age.

**THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE WHP.**  
Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 143cms. Riders any age.

355. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE WHP CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1st. and 2nd. in The Heritage Novice WHP classes.

OR

356. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NOVICE WHP. MIXED HEIGHT.** Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4yrs. old or over.  
Riders any age. Ponies must jump in their correct height section.

**Classes may be divided by height and fences adjusted for each height section**

## **CHALLENGE HERITAGE LEAD REIN & FIRST RIDDEN CLASSES**

357. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE LEAD REIN. Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 122cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
358. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE FIRST RIDDEN. Registered Pure Bred Mare or Gelding 4 yrs. old or over, not exceeding 128cms. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 12th. birthday before 1st. January in the current year.
359. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE CHALLENGE MINI CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1st or 2nd in the Heritage CHALLENGE Lead Rein and First Ridden classes.

## **CHALLENGE HERITAGE RIDDEN CLASSES**

360. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN CLASS Registered Pure Bred Dartmoor, Exmoor, and Shetland Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.  
THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN CLASS Registered Pure Bred Welsh Section A & B Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.  
THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN CLASS Registered Pure Bred Welsh Sec C & D Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.  
THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN CLASS. Registered Pure Bred New Forest and Connemara Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.  
THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN CLASS. Registered Pure Bred Fells, Dales, and Highland Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

**OR**

**N.B. If sufficient entries separate Challenge classes may be held.**

361. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Heritage Open Ridden Classes.  
**OR**
362. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND CHALLENGE OPEN RIDDEN MIXED BREEDS. Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over. Riders any age.

## **CHALLENGE HERITAGE WHP CLASSES**

363. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE WHP. Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over not exceeding 122cms. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE WHP. Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 122cms. but not exceeding 133cms. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE WHP. Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 133cms. but not exceeding 143cms. Riders any age.

THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE WHP. Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4 years old or over exceeding 143cms. Riders any age.

364. **THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE WHP CHAMPIONSHIP.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1st. and 2nd. in The Heritage Challenge WHP classes.

OR

365. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CHALLENGE WHP. MIXED HEIGHT. Registered Pure Bred Ponies 4yrs. old or over. Riders any age. Ponies must jump in their correct height section.

**Classes may be divided by height and fences adjusted for each height section**

**HERITAGE YOUNG RIDERS RIDDEN CLASSES**

366. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE YOUNG RIDERS MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND MIXED BREEDS RIDDEN. Registered Pure Bred Connemara, Dales, Dartmoor, Exmoor, Fell, Highland, New Forest, Shetland, Welsh Sections A, B, C and D, Stallion, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

367. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE YOUNG RIDERS MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND SMALL BREEDS RIDDEN. Registered Pure Bred Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh Section A or B, Mare or Gelding 4 years old or over. Suitable to be ridden by a rider not to have attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

368. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE YOUNG RIDERS MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND LARGE BREEDS RIDDEN. Registered Pure Bred Connemara, Dales, Highland, New Forest, Fell, Welsh Section C or D, Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over. Riders not to have attained their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

369. THE B.S.P.S. HERITAGE YOUNG RIDERS MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND RIDDEN CHAMPIONSHIP -Open to ponies that have been placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Heritage Young Riders Ridden classes

## **SECTION T**

### **ANGLO & PART BRED ARAB SECTION**

370. In R.I.H.S. Classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S. the B.S.P.S. rules take precedence.
371. Owners must be B.S.P.S. Adult Showing members.
372. A Rider under 18 years, on 1st January in the current year, must be a B.S.P.S. Junior Member, to ride in the Anglo and Part Bred Arab R.I.H.S. qualifying classes, the final at the R.I.H.S. and at the B.S.P.S. Winter and Summer Championships Show.
373. A rider over 18 years, on 1st January in the current year, must be a B.S.P.S. Adult Showing member to ride in the Anglo and Part Bred Arab R.I.H.S qualifying classes, the final at the R.I.H.S. and at the B.S.P.S. Winter and Summer Championships Shows.
374. Animals must be registered in the Arab Horse Society, Anglo and Part Bred Arab Stud Book and registration numbers must be declared when entering.
375. Hats must be in accordance with the B.S.P.S. Rules.
376. Any suitable bridles may be worn.
377. | Spurs or dummy spurs may not be worn in the Anglo and part-bred Arab classes.
378. | Animals will be judged as a riding pony class and will not be ridden by the judge, each exhibitor will give an individual show. At the final at RIHS there will be one class combining both height sections. The class will be split on the go-round, small and large.
379. If a judge considers an exhibit ill-mannered unsound or unsuitable, he may ask the exhibit to retire without being ridden.

## **MARKING**

380. **Marks will not be used at the R.I.H.S. qualifiers or the Final.**

Performance/Ride	50
Conformation, Type and Freedom of Action	<u>50</u>
TOTAL Maximum Mark	100

381. In the event of a tie or ties the marks MUST NOT be altered the Mark for Performance/Ride will take precedence, followed by the Conformation, Type and Freedom of Action mark, if there is still a tie or ties the judge's decision is final.

## **JUDGES**

382. The judges to be selected from the B.S.P.S “SH” Panel with a star. (Please also see Rule 454 & 455).

383. All other B.S.P.S. General and Championships Show Rules are applicable.

## **CLASSES**

384. THE B.S.P.S. RIDDEN ANGLO AND PART BRED ARAB. (inc R.I.H.S.)  
Mare, Stallion or gelding 4 years old or over, not exceeding 148cms. Riders any age.

385. THE B.S.P.S. RIDDEN ANGLO AND PART BRED ARAB. (inc R.I.H.S.)  
Mare, Stallion or Gelding 4 years old or over, exceeding 148cms. Riders any age.

386. THE B.S.P.S. RIDDEN ANGLO AND PART BRED ARAB CHAMPIONSHIP  
Open to 1st and 2nd prize winners in the Anglo and Part Bred Arab classes.

## SECTION U

### WINTER SHOWS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Ages of Riders see under relevant sections)

387. Shows held on or before 31st December 2025, all rules as per the 2025 Rule Book.  
Shows held on or after 1st January 2026, all rules as per the 2026 B.S.P.S. Rule Book.
388. Winter shows that affiliate to the BSPS must include the BSPS Winter Worker Stakes Young Plaited Pony and Young Heritage Pony Winter qualifying classes. They should also hold mixed height novice classes for show ponies, show hunter ponies and heritage ponies, although these will not be qualifying classes.
389. BSPS Area shows that do not hold a winter show must include the above classes at the RIHS qualifying shows that are held before 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Qualifications after the closing date of the BSPS Winter Championships will be accepted.
390. B.S.P.S. Area Winter Shows affiliated to the B.S.P.S. may not include classes affiliated to other Societies unless they include the full range of B.S.P.S. Winter qualifying classes at their Winter Qualifying shows.

#### B.S.P.S. WINTER WORKER STAKES

391. **60cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland Ponies 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 12yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class who will also qualify for the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships.**
392. **70cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 14yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class who will also qualify for the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships.**
393. **80cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 18yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class who will also qualify for the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships.**
394. **90cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 18yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class who will also qualify for the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships.**
395. **100cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 25yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class who will also qualify for the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships.**

**N.B. Ponies may compete in more than one height section. Rider should be appropriate age 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.**

396. The Highest placed 3 ponies will qualify for the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships together with the highest placed junior rider.

**FENCES**

There must be a minimum of 8 fences up to a maximum of 12 fences. Two judges may be used for these classes if numbers warrant.

Marks will be awarded:-

Jumping	70 marks
Style whilst Jumping	30 marks
Conformation and way of going	20 marks
<b>Total</b>	<b>120 marks</b>

398. **Method of Judging – One Judge – If using one judge, the exhibitor will enter the ring and present themselves to the judge.** The judge will judge the pony for conformation, the exhibitor will then be asked to walk away and trot back before commencing their jumping round. (Front boots can be worn) (Conformation phase)

At the end of the jumping round the exhibitor will extend (gallop) canter, trot, walk and halt. (way of going phase). The judge will then allocate the style while jumping mark (out of 30) and the conformation and way of going out of 20, (10/10 split)

399. **Two judges** – judge one will judge the jumping round allocating up to 30 marks for style while jumping. The exhibitor will then go to phase 2 with judge two. Front boots to be removed. Exhibitors will complete a short show as directed by the judge. Ponies will not be stripped. The judge will allocate 20 marks for conformation and way of going. (10/10 split)

## **YOUNG PONY WINTER QUALIFIERS**

**400. THE BSPS YOUNG PLAITED PONY OF THE YEAR**

Mare or Gelding, 4, 5 or 6 yrs. This class is open to Show Ponies, not exceeding 148cms. Show Hunter Ponies not exceeding 153cm and Intermediates not exceeding 160cm. Riders any age, but must be suitably mounted for the animal they ride.

**401. THE BSPS YOUNG HERITAGE PONY OF THE YEAR**

Registered Heritage Stallion, Mare or Gelding. 4, 5 or 6 yrs. old. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the animal they ride.

402. In the Young Pony classes ponies can be shown in any suitable bridle.

403. The highest placed three ponies will qualify for the BSPS Winter Champs. At the BSPS Winter Championship Show there will be separate classes for each plaited section.

404. The Winter Worker Stakes and the Young Pony classes are qualifiers for the Winter Championship Show, no other BSPS classes require qualification.

## **SECTION V** **QUALIFICATIONS.**

### **B.S.P.S. SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

405. B.S.P.S. "SIMPLY THE BEST" OPEN CLASSES. B.S.P.S. affiliated shows that give a 1st. prize of £5 or over are qualifiers for the B.S.P.S. Championships, ponies qualify as follows:

406. 1st. and 2nd. prize winners in the following classes:-  
Open Lead Rein.  
Open First Ridden.  
Open 128cms, 138cms, and 148cms Show Ponies.  
Open Nursery Stakes.  
Open 133cms, 143cms, 153cm and W.H.P.  
Open 123cms, 133cms, 143cms and 153cms S.H.P.

407. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winners in the following classes:-  
Open Cradle Stakes.  
Open Intermediate Classes, including Mixed height Intermediate

408. **MIXED HEIGHT OPEN CLASSES**  
The 1st. 2nd. 3rd. and 4th. placed ponies will qualify.

409. **B.S.P.S. BLUE RIBAND PONY OF THE YEAR**  
B.S.P.S. Affiliated Shows that are qualifiers for  
"The BSPS Blue Riband Pony of the Year"  
The 1st and 2nd placed pony, will qualify in the following classes:  
Open Leading Rein Show Pony and First Ridden Show Pony.  
Open 128cms, 138cms, and 148cms Show Pony classes.  
Open 123cms, 133cms, 143cms, and 153cms Show Hunter Pony classes.  
Open 133cms, 143cms, 153cms and Int WHP,  
Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Hack and Show Hunter Classes

410. **THE B.S.P.S. THOR ATKINSON STEEL FABRICATIONS LTD CHALLENGE**  
All B.S.P.S. qualifying shows are qualifiers for the B.S.P.S. Challenge. Animals must qualify for the Challenge by attending any B.S.P.S. affiliated show and competing in the appropriate class:- Open Lead Rein Show Pony, First Ridden Show Pony, Lead Rein of Hunter Type, Open Show Pony, Open SHP, Open Cradle and Nursery Stakes, WHP, Intermediates and Open Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden, Ridden and WHP classes.

411. For the Summer Championship Show ponies must NOT have qualified for the Horse of the Year Show in the current year, been placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at HOYS in the previous year or been placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at RIHS in the current or previous year in the relevant class, excluding Pretty Polly and Young Dragonara, or been placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> in the BSPS Heritage Supreme at LIHS in the previous year. If a pony qualifies for the Horse of the Year Show it will forfeit its qualification for the B.S.P.S. Challenge.

#### 412. **THE B.S.P.S. VIEW POINT CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS**

At ALL B.S.P.S. affiliated shows the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize winners in the following classes will qualify for The Champion of Champions:- Open Lead Rein, First Ridden, Open Show Ponies, Open WHP, Open SHP, Open LRHT, Open FRHT, Open Intermediates and Open Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden, Ridden and WHP Classes.

#### 413. **THE B.S.P.S. VIEW POINT MINI WHP CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS** At

ALL B.S.P.S. affiliated shows the 1<sup>st</sup> prize winners in the Open Cradle and Nursery Stakes will qualify for The Mini WHP Champion of Champions

#### 414. **ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW**

At B.S.P.S. Affiliated Shows that are qualifiers for the R.I.H.S. The highest placed pony, not already qualified, from the first **Three** ponies will qualify in the following classes: **(Except at Royal Windsor Horse Show and B.S.P.S. Winter Championships – The highest placed pony not already qualified will qualify)**

Open Lead Rein Show Pony, Open First Ridden Show Pony.

Open 128cms, 138cms, and 148cms Show Pony.

Open Cradle Stakes & Nursery Stakes.

Open 133cms, 143cms, 153cms and Intermediate Working Hunter Pony.

Open Lead Rein Hunter Type and First Ridden of Hunter Type

Open 123cms, 133cms, 143cms and 153cms. Show Hunter Pony.

Open Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Intermediate Hack and Intermediate Show Hunter Heritage M&M Pretty Polly Lead Rein and First Ridden

Pretty Polly Mixed Height Show Pony Class.

Pretty Polly Mixed Height Show Hunter Pony Class

Young Dragonara Riders Challenge

Heritage Lead Rein and Heritage First Ridden.

Heritage Ridden Classes.

Heritage M&M Pretty Polly Ridden Mixed Breeds

Anglo and Part Bred Arab not exceeding 148cms and exceeding 148cms classes.

#### 415. **N.B. ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW QUALIFICATION IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION FROM B.S.P.S. HEAD OFFICE. Pony, owner and rider MUST be registered with the BSPS before competing in any RIHS qualifying classes.**

#### 416. **HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW**

At B.S.P.S. Affiliated Shows that are qualifiers for the H.O.Y.S.

The highest placed pony, not already qualified, from the first five ponies will qualify in the following classes:

Open Lead Rein, Open First Ridden classes,

Open 128cms. 138cms. and 148cms. Show Pony classes.

Open 133cms. 143cms. 153cms and Int WH Working Hunter Pony classes.

Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type.

Open 123cms.133cms. 143cms. and 153cms. Show Hunter Pony classes.

Open Intermediate Show Horse and Intermediate Show Hunter

Part Bred

Mountain & Moorland Classes – Highest placed not qualified from top three ponies

**N.B. THE HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW QUALIFICATION IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION FROM THE HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW**

## **B.S.P.S. SUMMER WORKER STAKES**

417. **60cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland Ponies 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 12yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class.**

418. **70cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 14yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class.**

419. **80cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 18yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class.**

420. **90cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 18yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class.**

421. **100cm Worker Stakes** Plaited or Heritage Mountain and Moorland ponies, 4yrs old and over not exceeding 158cms. Riders any age but must be suitably mounted for the pony/horse they ride. **An Award Card for the highest placed rider under 25yrs of age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year in this class.**

422. **N.B. Ponies may compete in more than one height section. Rider should be appropriate age on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.**

423. No qualification required for the B.S.P.S. Summer Championship Show.

424. **FENCES**  
There must be a minimum of 8 fences up to a maximum of 12 fences. Two judges may be used for these classes if numbers warrant.  
Marks will be awarded:-

Jumping	70 marks
Style whilst Jumping	30 marks
Conformation and way of going	20 marks
<b>Total</b>	<b>120 marks</b>

425. **Method of Judging – One Judge – If using one judge, the exhibitor will enter the ring and present themselves to the judge.** The judge will judge the pony for conformation, the exhibitor will then be asked to walk away and trot back before commencing their jumping round. (Front boots can be worn) (Conformation phase)  
At the end of the jumping round the exhibitor will extend (gallop) canter, trot, walk and halt. (way of going phase). The judge will then allocate the style while jumping mark (out of 30) and the conformation and way of going out of 20, (10/10 split)

426. **Two judges** – judge one will judge the jumping round allocating up to 30 marks for style while jumping. The exhibitor will then go to phase 2 with judge two. Front boots to be removed. Exhibitors will complete a short show as directed by the judge. Ponies will not be stripped. The judge will allocate 20 marks for conformation and way of going. (10/10 split)

## **GOLD CUP**

427. Nursery Stakes, mare or gelding, 4 years old and over not exceeding 133cm. Riders not to have attained their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. Height of fences 75cm for WSP and 80cm for show jumping. NOT A QUALIFYING CLASS.

Sports Pony, mare or gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 138cm. Riders not to have attained their 15th birthday on the 1st of January in the current year. Height of fences in the qualifying rounds 85cm for WSP and 90cm for show jumping. Height of fences at the final 90cm for WSP and 95cm for show jumping

Sports Pony, mare or gelding, 4 years old and over not exceeding 148cm, riders not to have attained their 18th birthday on the 1st of January in current year. Height of fences in the qualifying rounds 95cm for WSP and 100cm for show jumping. Height of fences at the final 100cm for WSP and 105cm for show jumping

Sports Pony, mare or gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 158cm, riders not to have attained their 25th birthday on the 1st of January in the current year. Height of fences in the qualifying rounds 105cm for WSP and 110cm for show jumping. Height at the final 110cm for WSP and 115cm for show jumping.

**METHOD OF JUDGING THE GOLD CUP** - To be run in accordance with the BSPS Rules for Combined Training and Gold Cup Classes. No pony may compete in more than one class. No rider will be allowed to ride more than one pony per section.

**SECTION A** – Bits to comply with British Dressage rules.

**SECTION B** The Gold Cup Performance WORKING SPORTS PONY will be run in accordance with the BSPS Combined and Gold Cup Rule Book.

MAXIMUM MARKS

JUMPING	60
STYLE and MANNERS	20
POSITION OF SEAT AND EFFECTIVENESS OF RIDER	10
GALLOP	10
TOTAL	100 Maximum Marks

Entries will be limited; competitors MUST enter both sections A & B to be eligible to go forward to Section C.

WSP – scores lower than 45 regardless of combined placing will not go forward to show jumping.

**SECTION C** will be a show jumping course.

There will be a jumping course consisting of coloured fences which will be run in accordance with the BSPS Combined and Gold Cup Rule Book Rules. There will be an ALTERNATIVE JOKER FENCE included within the timed course, a BONUS MARK of TEN will be awarded to competitors who successfully jump the alternative fence and 20 penalties if it is knocked down. All faults will be deducted from the total score carried forward from Sections A and B. This phase will be open to competitors gaining the highest amalgamated scores from Section A & B. The ponies to go forward will be announced before the Show Jumping starts. Anyone eliminated in S/J will not come forward for overall rosette.

## **SECTION W**

### **JUDGING OF CLASSES**

428. The elements when judging are manners, conformation and type and way of going. A Judge may ask for a pony to leave the ring, if in his opinion the pony's manners are unacceptable, or if it is receiving undue outside assistance.
429. A fall of pony or the rider in ridden phase will result in elimination, and the rider must leave the ring dismounted. If a rider / handler lets go of an animal under any circumstances the judge will determine if the animal's manners and behaviour should result in any disqualification. Animals that get loose resulting in disruption to the class will be disqualified.
430. Ponies displaying continued disobedience or ponies leaving the ring whether mounted or dismounted will be disqualified.
431. If a competitor dismounts in the Final Line-up, their placing will not be awarded.
432. If a rider breaks any B.S.P.S. rule during a class then the Judge shall have the power to disqualify the pony being ridden by such a rider.
433. A class commences when a pony enters the ring if the Judge is then present in the ring. If the Judge is not present, then the class shall commence when the Judge enters the ring.
434. A class is over when the Judge has given permission for the class to leave the ring.
435. Any ride Judge who has a fall must not remount the same horse.
436. Marks MUST be recorded in ink.
437. A mark must be recorded immediately after each pony's show or jumping round and Conformation Phase.
438. Judges MUST NOT alter Marks except pursuant to Rules 439 and 440 or in other exceptional circumstances, if the marks are altered the Judge MUST initial each alteration on the Mark Sheet.
439. Judges have the right to alter marks and placings if a pony misbehaves after its marks have been awarded. If the marks are altered the Judge MUST initial each alteration on the Mark Sheet.
440. The Judges decision is final except if a mistake in the marks is discovered, even after dismissing a class, it MUST be corrected and the results too, and any qualification amended accordingly and a correct placed rosette must be awarded to any rider that had been incorrectly placed but the other rosettes should not be altered.
441. If in the opinion of a Judge a pony entered for an event adjudicated or about to be adjudicated by the Judge is in an unsound condition, the Judge may at his discretion request the Exhibitor to refer the matter to the Veterinary Surgeon officiating at the Show. If, however, no Veterinary Surgeon is officiating, or one is not available, the Judge's decision is final.
442. B.S.P.S. Judges must not knowingly:-
  - a) Judge and exhibit in or produce an exhibit for any BSPS classes at the same show on the same day. This rule does not apply to BSPS Winter, Summer & Heritage Championship shows or Royal International Horse Show and London International Horse Show.
  - b) Judge BSPS classes at shows on the same day where members of their immediate family are competing in BSPS classes. This rule does not apply to the BSPS Winter, Summer or Heritage Championship Shows or Royal International Horse Show and London International Horse show.
  - c) Judge and exhibit or produce an exhibit in B.S.P.S. classes in the same section at any B.S.P.S. show, including Winter, Heritage and Summer Championships shows and Royal International and London International Horse Show.

- d) Judge ponies owned, leased, loaned, produced or ridden by a person or their Immediate family who keeps or has kept any horses or ponies at livery with him or if he has or has or had any ponies or horses at livery leased, loaned or produced by the producer/owner since 1st January in the previous year. Stud fees are exempt.
- e) Adjudicate in a class if he owns or has owned, bred, sold, leased, loaned, produced, ridden or received financial gain from an exhibit in that class. (Group Teach-Ins are exempt providing Rule 442(d) is adhered to.
- f) Judge ponies that are or have been owned, produced, exhibited, bred or ridden by a member of the immediate family, a godchild or by anyone with whom he is in a business partnership with, employed by or employees or lives with.
- g) Judge any child who has shown a pony belonging to him or produced by him since 1st January of the current year.
- h) Judge ponies owned or produced by a person who he has purchased ponies from or sold ponies to since 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
- i) Judge ponies produced by a person who is producing any ponies he (the judge) has sold since 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
- j) Judge ponies owned or produced by a person whose child has shown a pony belonging to him (the judge) or produced by him since 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
- k) Judge ponies owned or produced by a person who the judge has employed since 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. **From 2027, this will be since 1st of January in the previous year.**
- l) Judge ponies owned or produced by a person who has employed the judge since 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year. **From 2027, this will be since 1st of January in the previous year.**
- m) Must not knowingly judge any pony or rider that has been taught by the judge or members of their immediate family, with the exemption of group clinics held by BSPS areas.

443. Competitors please see Rule 32 regarding competing under judges. Exhibitors MUST NOT exhibit a pony under a Judge in circumstances that would constitute a breach of Rule 442 by that Judge. Producers/Trainers MUST NOT exhibit under a judge for whom or for whose immediate family they have produced a pony since 1st January in the year in which the class is being held. Lack of knowledge is not a defence to breach of this Rule and Exhibitors and Producers/Trainers must make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves that no breach of this rule will occur. Any breach of this rule will result in automatic disqualification of the pony concerned and may result in disciplinary proceedings being initiated against the Exhibitor or Producer/Trainer.

444. If a judge has reasonable grounds for belief that any section of Rule 442 is being contravened, he must ask the rider to leave the ring and the rider must withdraw. The judge's decision is final in all cases.

445. Exhibits which appear late, missing the walk round, will be excluded from the class. Exhibits will not be allowed into the ring after the ponies have been asked to trot, except at the Judge's discretion BUT they will be judged Hors Concours.

446. No person including exhibitors or handlers should enter the ring at any time without the judges' permission.

447. Once a judge has commenced judging a class, a pony may not be taken out of the ring without the permission of the Judge. Once a class has commenced there shall be no change of rider handler, except in a Championship class when a rider finds that he has more than one exhibit eligible to compete. The substitute rider must be the correct age for the height of the pony he rides. If no other rider is available, the pony may be led into the ring if permission is granted by the Judge BUT must be ridden to be considered for a placing in the Championship.

448. Ponies must NOT be escorted beyond the entrance to the ring.

449. A substitute judge is not allowed in any class or phase of a competition, i.e. in W.H.P. / W.H. classes the conformation Judge must judge all the ponies in the conformation phase and the Judge for the jumping must judge all the ponies in the jumping phase. In other pony classes the Judge must judge the whole class.

450. Method of Judging MIXED HEIGHT WHP/WH and HERITAGE WHP CLASSES. Judges may judge Phase 2 of each animal immediately after their jumping round **OR** If a Judge chooses to judge the whole of Phase 1 before Phase 2 and sees the animals going round together at the commencement of Phase 2, then riders with more than one animal will be allowed to ride one animal and have the other led into the ring by an attendant. After the rider has completed Phase 2 on the first animal, they must change animals and complete Phase 2 on their other animal, the Judge should try to see all animals go round in company. **PLEASE ALSO SEE RELEVANT SECTION**

## SECTION X- JUDGES

451. Judges on the Panel are appointed yearly.

452. Judges who fail in the observance of the B.S.P.S. Rules or whose conduct in any respect shall be, in the opinion of the B.S.P.S. Council, derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S., may be suspended or removed from the Panel of Judges at any time, by the B.S.P.S. Council.

453. B.S.P.S. BLUE RIBAND, R.I.H.S., H.O.Y.S. and DIRECT HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP. Only Judges with stars \* on the appropriate panel may be invited to judge BLUE RIBAND, R.I.H.S., H.O.Y.S. and DIRECT HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP qualifying classes.

454. If a Judge has judged a Direct Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Championship qualifier, they are not eligible to Judge a Heritage M&M Ridden Supreme Semi Final at the Heritage Championships Show.  
B.S.P.S. R.I.H.S. ANGLO & PART BRED ARAB CLASSES, only Judges on the B.S.P.S. \*SH panel may be invited to judge the R.I.H.S. Anglo and Part Bred Arab qualifying classes.

455. Judges may only accept to judge **ONE** qualifying Show for the H.O.Y.S. & HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP.  
**ONE** qualifying show for the **RIHS** and **LIHS** for each section:  
A) Show Ponies.  
B) Leading Rein Show Pony/First Ridden Show Pony. (RIHS)  
C) Lead Rein and First Ridden of Hunter Type (RIHS)  
D) Cradle and Nursery (RIHS)  
E) Working Hunter Pony (RIHS)  
F) Show Hunter Pony. (RIHS)  
G) Intermediate Riding Horse, Hack and Show Hunter (RIHS)  
H) Heritage M&M Pretty Polly Lead Rein and First Ridden (R.I.H.S.)  
I) Pretty Polly Mixed Height Show Hunter Pony  
J) Pretty Polly Mixed Height Show Pony  
K) Young Dragonara Riders Challenge (RIHS)  
L) Heritage M & M Lead Rein/First Ridden (R.I.H.S.)  
M) Heritage M & M Ridden (R.I.H.S.)  
N) Heritage M&M Pretty Polly Ridden Mixed Breeds (R.I.H.S.)  
O) Anglo and Part Bred Arab.  
P) Performance (LIHS)  
Q) Performance coloured (LIHS)  
R) Heritage LR/FR WSP (LIHS)  
S) Cradle and Nursery Stakes (LIHS)  
T) Working Sports Pony (LIHS)

456. Judges may judge an additional qualifier if Shows have been let down at short notice, providing the Show asks Head Office for approval. Rule 453 must be adhered to.

457. Council members have the power to appoint substitute Judges in emergency situations.

458. Judges must not accept to judge at the R.I.H.S. Final and HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP more than once per 5 years in the same Section and this must be strictly adhered to. Judges asked to judge any final at RIHS must not judge a qualifying class for RIHS or HOYS prior to the final.

459. Judges are not allowed to ride ponies in B.S.P.S. classes.

460. Selected Judges from Overseas may be invited to judge at the B.S.P.S. Winter and Summer Championships Shows.

461. **FUTURE JUDGES** applications from members to become Future Judges on the B.S.P.S. Panel should be made to the B.S.P.S. Office. All applicants will be required to pass an assessment before being accepted on the Future Judges Panel. Details and application forms are available from Head Office.

## **GUIDELINES AND ADVICE FOR JUDGES**

462. Judges are requested to exercise discretion and not accept to judge the same type of class at more than one or two Shows in the same Area in the current year.

463. Judges are not allowed to charge a fee for judging but are entitled to have their expenses reimbursed and are advised to make prior arrangements, with the Show Secretary, regarding the rate.

464. Judges should carry the B.S.P.S. Rule Book when Judging. It is essential to have a Rule Book for reference if any questions or problems on rules arise.

465. It is the duty of all Judges on the Panel to understand and comply with the rules in the Rule Book and to ensure they are fit and well to judge.

466. In Show Pony Classes and S.H.P. Classes where entries are very large and/or time is limited, it may be necessary for ponies lower down the line to give their shows two at a time.

467. In B.S.P.S. BLUE RIBAND, R.I.H.S. or HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP qualifying classes judges MUST make every effort to strip an adequate number of ponies, except in the Lead Rein Classes. First Ridden ponies will be stripped, unless on health and safety grounds it is unsafe to do so. Conformation in this case will be assessed by a walk up and trot back mounted. This will be agreed at the discretion of the organiser and judge(s).

468. Riders in Lead Rein, Heritage Lead Rein, Tiny Tots Lead Rein, Tiny Tots First Ridden and Heritage Tiny Tots Lead Rein and Tiny Tots First Ridden classes MUST NOT be asked to dismount, the ponies must not be stripped.

469. In W.H.P. classes when time is limited and ponies are not stripped, it is essential for Judges to see the ponies trotted towards and away from them.

470. All Judges are requested to explain to the mark steward the correct method of filling in the mark sheets, and it is advisable to have the marks checked before the final placings are made.

471. Galloping is an essential part of a W.H.P./W.H. and S.H.P./S.H. Performance.

472. If a Judge sees a rider with body studs, they should ask the rider to remove them or leave the ring, if they do not remove them then the Judge will disqualify the rider from the class.

473. Judges have overall responsibility for the WHP course, in co-operation with the Course Builder they should walk the course before the commencement of a class.

474. Bridles – Judges should take into consideration the severity of the bit.

475. Whiskers – Judges should not penalise ponies who have had their whiskers trimmed in plaited classes. Judges **must** penalise ponies whose whiskers have been trimmed in Mountain and Moorland classes and who are not shown in accordance with their breed standard.

476. Newly elected judges **MUST** use marks and display them at every show they judge during their first year on the panel.

## **SECTION Y**

### **AFFILIATED SHOWS**

477. The B.S.P.S. require that all Affiliated Shows use the wording as drafted in Sections E,F,G,H,I,J,L,M,N,O,P,Q,R,S,U,V and Y for any classes they may wish to include in the schedules.

478. B.S.P.S. Classes **MUST NOT** be called by other names.

479. B.S.P.S. Area Summer Shows affiliated to the B.S.P.S. that include the Heritage Mountain & Moorland qualifying classes may include Mountain and Moorland classes affiliated to other Societies, providing they include the FULL section of Heritage classes, they may not have qualification for other Societies in the Heritage classes.

480. Schedules must state:  
"This Show is affiliated to the British Show Pony Society ("B.S.P.S."), and all persons entering, competing, showing or otherwise taking part in B.S.P.S. classes, whether or not members of the B.S.P.S. are subject to the Rules of the B.S.P.S., including the disciplinary procedures, and shall be deemed to have consented to the jurisdiction of the B.S.P.S."

481. In all classes affiliated to the B.S.P.S., the B.S.P.S. Rules take precedence. **Except in H.O.Y.S. qualifying classes.**

482. A draft schedule **MUST** be forwarded to the B.S.P.S. Office for approval and confirmation of classes **BEFORE** it is printed. A copy of the final schedule must also be forwarded. A Show will not be affiliated until:-  
a) The affiliation form and appropriate fee has been received.  
b) The draft schedule, which must include judges' names, has been approved.  
c) The final schedule has been received.

483. If Affiliated Shows have any doubts or problems regarding B.S.P.S. rosettes or challenge cups, or find it difficult to obtain a Judge, contact the Chairman of the Area Committee, in which the show is situated, who will give every possible assistance.

484. A **CHANGE OF SHOW SECRETARY** must be notified to the B.S.P.S. Office immediately this occurs.

485. Any B.S.P.S. Affiliated Show with **BLUE RIBAND**, **L.I.H.S**, **R.I.H.S.** (including **Heritage**), or **HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP** qualification may not have qualification for any other Society in these particular classes.

486. **THE BLUE RIBAND PONY OF THE YEAR.**  
Schedules for Shows with qualification for  
"The B.S.P.S. Blue Riband Pony of the Year" must state:-  
This Show is a qualifier for the B.S.P.S. Blue Riband Pony of the Year, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winners in the Open Lead Rein Show Pony, Open First Ridden Show Pony OR Open Show Pony OR Open Working Hunter Pony OR Open Show Hunter Pony OR Intermediate Classes will qualify.

487. **THE B.S.P.S. THOR ATKINSON STEEL FABRICATIONS LTD CHALLENGE**  
All B.S.P.S. Affiliated shows are qualifiers for the B.S.P.S. Challenge and Schedules must state:-  
This show is a qualifier for the B.S.P.S. Challenge. Animals competing in the following Open classes will qualify, Open Lead Rein Show Pony, First Ridden Show Pony, Lead Rein of Hunter Type, Show Pony, SHP, Cradle and Nursery Stakes, WHP, Intermediates and Open Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden, Ridden and WHP classes.

488. **ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW**

Schedules for Shows with qualification for “The Royal International Horse Show must state:- This Show is a qualifier for the R.I.H.S. Only one pony in each of the three Open **(Except Royal Windsor Horse Show and the B.S.P.S. Winter Championships – The highest placed pony not already qualified will qualify)**, Show Pony OR Cradle Stakes, Nursery Stakes OR Open W.H.P. OR Lead Rein Hunter Type, First Ridden of Hunter Type, OR Open S.H.P. Classes, OR Lead Rein Class OR First Ridden Class OR Open Intermediate Show Riding Horse, Hack Type and Show Hunter,,, OR Mixed Height Pretty Polly Show Pony, Pretty Polly Mixed Height SHP, Pretty Polly Heritage Mixed Breeds Ridden, Heritage M&M Pretty Polly Lead Rein, First Ridden, OR Open Heritage Lead Rein and First Ridden, Open Heritage Ridden, Young Dragonara Riders Championship OR the Anglo and Part Bred classes qualifies, and the highest placed, (not already qualified), from the first **THREE** ponies placed in each class will qualify.

489. **N.B. THE R.I.H.S. QUALIFICATION IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION FROM B.S.P.S. HEAD OFFICE.**

490. **THE B.S.P.S. VIEW POINT CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS**

All B.S.P.S. Affiliated Summer shows which hold the relevant Classes are qualifiers for the View Point Champion of Champions. Schedules must state:- This show is a qualifier for the B.S.P.S. Champion of Champions the 1<sup>st</sup> prize winners in the following classes will qualify :- Open Lead Rein Show Pony, Open First Ridden Show Pony, Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type, Open First Ridden of Hunter Type, Open Show Pony, SHP, WHP, Intermediates and Open Heritage Lead Rein, First Ridden, Ridden and WHP classes.

491. **B.S.P.S. VIEW POINT MINI W.H.P. CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS ALL**

B.S.P.S. Affiliated Summer shows which hold the relevant classes are qualifiers for The Mini WHP Champion of Champions and Schedules must state:- This show is a qualifier for the B.S.P.S. Mini WHP Champion of Champions the 1<sup>st</sup> prize winners in Open Cradle and Nursery Stakes will qualify.

492. **HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW**

Schedules for Shows with qualification for The Horse of the Year Show” must state:- This Show is a qualifier for the H.O.Y.S. Only one pony in each of the three Open S.P. Classes or Open W.H.P. Classes or Open S.H.P. Classes or L.R. Class or First Ridden Class or Lead Rein Hunter Type or Intermediate and M&M classes qualifies, and the highest placed, (not already qualified), from the first five ponies placed in each class will qualify for plaited and highest placed from the top three in M&M classes.

**THE H.O.Y.S. QUALIFICATION IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION FROM H.O.Y.S.**

493. Owners and riders must be B.S.P.S. Members before the date of the show to qualify in classes with qualification for BLUE RIBAND, R.I.H.S., (including Pretty Polly and Heritage qualifying classes), and HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP. Animals must be registered with the B.S.P.S. except for the Anglo and Part Bred Arabs who must be registered with the AHS. Membership forms and payment must be received in the office no later than the last working day (Monday to Friday) prior to the date of the qualifying show. (see Rule 20)

494. Affiliated Shows with qualification for the RIHS, HOYS, LIHS and HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP direct qualifier will be required to give a first prize of not less than £15.00, other prizes pro rata.

495. Qualification for the B.S.P.S. Championships.  
 Schedules for Shows with the above qualification must state:-  
**FOR SHOWS HELD ON OR BEFORE 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2026**  
 This Show is a qualifier for the 2026 B.S.P.S. Championships Show, to be held at Arena UK. The 1st and 2nd prize winners only in the following classes, (State the Class numbers) and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prize-winners in the Open Intermediate, and CS and Heritage classes will qualify. In MIXED HEIGHT CLASSES the 1st. 2nd. 3rd. and 4th. placed ponies will qualify for the B.S.P.S. Championships Show, provided the animal is registered in accordance with Rules 5, 21 and 26 and ridden by a B.S.P.S. member.

496. Qualification for the B.S.P.S. Championship Schedules must state:-  
**FOR SHOWS HELD ON OR AFTER 10<sup>th</sup> August 2026**  
 "This Show is a qualifier for the 2027 B.S.P.S. Championships Show. The 1st and 2nd prize winners only etc. as above.

497. Affiliated Shows wishing to be qualifiers for the Summer Championships must give a first prize of £5.00, or over in each qualifying class.

498. Any class with a first prize of under £5.00 must state:-  
 "This class is not a qualifier for the B.S.P.S. Championships Show."  
 Novice and Challenge Open NS., Novice and Challenge Open LR, Novice and Challenge Open FR, Tiny Tots Classes, Novice First Pony SHT, Novice and Challenge Open Lead Rein of Hunter Type, Novice and Challenge Open 123cms. SHP, Novice and Challenge Open SHP, Novice and Challenge Open Show Pony, Novice and Challenge Open WHP, Novice and Challenge Open Intermediate, Heritage Cradle Stakes, Heritage Nursery Stakes Classes, Tiny Tots, Heritage Tiny Tots, Pretty Polly classes, Heritage Novice, Open and Challenge Ridden and WHP classes, Heritage Novice, Open and Challenge Lead Rein and First Ridden classes, Part Bred classes, mixed Intermediate classes, and teams are NOT qualifiers.

499. Shows must choose Judges from the appropriate B.S.P.S. Panel and must forward a copy of the schedule, as soon as they are available, to the appointed Judges.

500. Summer Shows affiliated to the B.S.P.S. will be issued, annually, with an Official Number, and this should be PRINTED IN THE SCHEDULES.

501. Selected Shows overseas recommended by their Country's governing body and approved by the B.S.P.S., are allowed to be qualifying Shows for the B.S.P.S. Championships Show, the B.S.P.S. BLUE RIBAND PONY of the YEAR.

502. Shows are expected to reimburse Judges with their expenses and should make prior arrangements regarding the rate.

503. When Telephoning Judges please make sure you speak to the Judge direct and do not just leave messages.

504. When inviting Judges please inform them if their classes are qualifiers for the BLUE RIBAND, R.I.H.S., H.O.Y.S., L.I.H.S, or HERITAGE M&M RIDDEN SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP.

## **SECTION Z**

### **SPECIAL SHOW STEWARDS**

505. The B.S.P.S. shall have power to appoint a minimum of two Special Show Stewards to attend any Affiliated Show, the appointment to be made by at least two of the following, namely the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, Executive Member of Council or The Executive Officer.
506. B.S.P.S. Council Members are automatically appointed to act as Special Show Stewards and may appoint a witness to assist them in accordance with Rule 507.
507. The Special Show Stewards shall ensure so far as they are able that classes at the Affiliated Show for which they have been appointed are conducted in accordance with the B.S.P.S. Rules and that generally the B.S.P.S. Rules are observed at such Affiliated Show.
508. Special Show Stewards shall have the power to appoint such stewards to assist them as they consider necessary.
509. The Special Show Stewards may investigate any infringement of the B.S.P.S. Rules observed by them or any alleged infringement reported to them by a show official, a Judge, a Member or any Exhibitor.
510. When an infringement or possible infringement of the B.S.P.S. Rules is observed by a Special Show Steward or an alleged infringement is reported to him he shall investigate the position and if he concludes that an infringement has taken place he shall impose one of the penalties set out in Rule 512.
511. If the Special Show Steward cannot decide whether an infringement has taken place or does not consider that an infringement has taken place, he may report the matter to Council, by notice in writing given to the Secretary to be received by the Secretary within 14 days of the date of the Affiliated Show in question. Council will decide whether to deal with it themselves or to refer it to the Disciplinary Committee or the Judges Enquiry Committee.
512. If the Special Show Stewards decided that an infringement has taken place he may impose one or the more of the following penalties on the person committing the infringement.
  - (a) admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct.
  - (b) direct that any pony belonging to such person or produced by such person or ridden by such person at the time of the commission of the infringement shall be disqualified from the class in which it was taking part at the time of the commission of the infringement.
  - (c) direct that such person and any pony belonging to him or being produced by him be disqualified from competing in any B.S.P.S. classes at that Affiliated Show.
513. If in the opinion of a Special Show Steward a penalty greater than that permitted by Rule 512 should be imposed he may refer the matter to the Council or to the Disciplinary Committee or the Judges Enquiry Committee by notice in writing given to the Secretary to be received by the Secretary within 14 days of the date of the Affiliated Show in question.
514. The decision of the Special Show Steward shall be final and binding on all parties on the day of the Affiliated Show in question. However, any party aggrieved by the decision of the Special Show Steward may refer the matter by way of appeal to the Disciplinary Committee.
515. Any such appeal shall be by notice in writing given to the Secretary to be received by the Secretary within 14 days of the date of the Affiliated Show in question and shall be accompanied by an appeal fee of a sum equal to ten times the current membership. If the appeal is successful then the appeal fee shall be refundable but if the appeal is unsuccessful the appeal fee shall be forfeited to the B.S.P.S.

516. On appeal the Disciplinary Committee shall rule as to whether the decision of the Special Show Steward was correct or not.
517. Special Show Stewards shall have control over and free access to all places used for the purpose of B.S.P.S. (Members, Exhibitors or Authorised Representatives) at an Affiliated Show but may only enter a horsebox or stable in the presence of the pony's owner or other person responsible for the pony.

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF AREA COMMITTEES**

- (A) To run the Area Company as a Franchisee of the British Show Pony Society (Company number 5308982) in accordance with any Franchise Agreement to Be entered into with the British Show Pony Society from time to time.
- (B) To protect and improve the showing of children's and adults' ponies and horses.
- (C) To develop and search for new members and aid recruitment.
- (D) To encourage existing members and generally to promote the British Show Pony Society.
- (E) To encourage potential Judges, Stewards and Course Builders by organising Conferences and Teach-Ins.
- (F) To encourage junior members by organising instructional courses, teach-ins and other events.
- (G) To give members an opportunity to get together in their own area and discuss Problems common to them all and to put forward suggestions for the betterment of the British Show Pony Society.
- (H) To encourage Show Committees to affiliate their shows to the British Show Pony Society.
- (I) To organise money raising functions and shows.

## **STANDING ORDERS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AREAS AND THE SCOTTISH BRANCH**

The Standing Orders and Terms of Reference for the Areas and the Scottish Branch (“the SOTR”) shall form part of the Rules of the B.S.P.S.

The SOTR shall consist of the following :-

- (A) The articles of association of the relevant Area Company or the Scottish Branch as amended from Time to time.
- (B) The franchise agreement in force from time to time between the B.S.P.S. and the relevant Area Company or the Scottish Branch.
- (C) Such other standing orders and terms of reference as may be issued by the Council of the B.S.P.S. From time to time.

A copy of the articles of association or the franchise agreement is available for inspection by contacting the Chairman of the Area or the Scottish Branch. Alternatively, copies can be obtained from the B.S.P.S. Head Office on request at a charge of £5.00 per copy.

The standing orders and terms of reference currently issued by the Council of the B.S.P.S. at the date of Publication of these Rules are as follows:-

- (1) Area Committees and the Committee of the Scottish Branch (which includes the boards of directors of those entities) are obliged to comply with the SOTR.
- (2) It is the duty of every member of an Area Committee or the Committee of the Scottish Branch to ensure so far as possible that their Committee complies with the SOTR at all times
- (3) Any member of an Area Committee or of the board of directors of an Area Company or the Committee of the Scottish Branch or of the board of directors of the Scottish Branch Company shall be guilty of a breach of the Rules if they vote in favour of a resolution which is in breach of the SOTR or they fail to vote in favour of a resolution to remedy such breach when requested to do so by the B.S.P.S.
- (4) The Chairman of an Area Committee or of the Scottish Branch shall attend all meetings convened by the Chairman of the Area Chairmen or procure that a representative attends in his place.
- (5) All Areas and Scottish Branch shall organise Points Awards, Christmas Parties, training and any other matters relevant to the Areas and the Scottish Branch.

## **B.S.P.S. CHILD PROTECTION (SAFEGUARDING) PROCEDURE**

- 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. The B.S.P.S. ensures its response to safeguarding concerns are in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023).
- The British Show Pony Society is primarily a children's society and as such takes its responsibilities to ensure that children competing at our events do so in a safe and protected environment.
- It is acknowledged that when children compete in B.S.P.S. competitions this is done so 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.
- 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 B.S.P.S. competitions
- The B.S.P.S. takes its responsibilities in this regard very seriously and requires all its paid employees, directors (Council Members), judges and officials who appear in the B.S.P.S. 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.
- 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.
- At B.S.P.S. 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.
- It is everyone's responsibility to report and take action, 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](mailto:equestrian@safetoplay.co.uk)

# **British Show Pony Society Disability Policy**

The British Show Pony Society (B.S.P.S.) is supportive of riders competing in its classes who may suffer from a physical or learning disability.

The Society recognises that horses and ponies can have a very positive impact on the lives of people suffering a disability and as an inclusive organisation, will endeavour to be as supportive as possible in these situations.

Riders who have a disability are welcome to compete in B.S.P.S. classes providing the following criteria are met;

- ✓ All riders are judged equally, one against the other;
- ✓ Riders with a disability must only compete in classes in accordance with the rules and eligibility as described the B.S.P.S. Rule Book;
- ✓ The Society has the right to make reasonable adjustments to allow a rider with a disability to compete in its classes; this is at the sole discretion of the Officers and/or Council of the Society;
- ✓ All riders in B.S.P.S. classes must be competent and able to compete without putting the safety of others at risk
- ✓ Any rider seeking a dispensation card for a permanent or temporary physical disability must also have a doctors letter stating their fitness to ride in the class (Rule 49; No rider may compete in B.S.P.S. Classes with any type of broken limb).

This policy does not set out all of the circumstances of what are and will be approved as reasonable adjustments to enable a rider with a disability to compete in B.S.P.S. classes.

For example; the Society already issues dispensation cards for riders with a permanent or temporary disability to allow another person to complete the 'In Hand' section of a class (Rule 48).

It is recognised that riders with, for example, hearing loss or learning difficulties may require extra patience and care from stewards, judges and officials to ensure they clearly understand any instructions given to them, e.g., setting a show or being asked questions by the judge. In such circumstances, the parent or those with responsibility for care of the competitor must advise the steward in advance of the class, who will then ensure the judge, is made aware of the particular circumstances in advance of the class commencing and make reasonable adjustments.

Any member who has any issues or concerns regarding competing in B.S.P.S. classes with any form of disability, should contact the Executive Officer of the Society

**The Showing Council**  
**Equine Welfare and General Best Practice Guidance and**  
**Unified Rules Pack**

The BSPS is supportive of the Showing Council Equine Welfare and General Best Practice Guidance and Unified Rules. This is a ‘best practice’ guidance. Where the practice is exactly aligned with the BSPS rules, these are denoted with the Showing Council icon. Where the BSPS rules exceed the guidance, these are noted in **bold** below the relevant wording. Where the document differs or exceeds the BSPS Rules these are noted in *italics*. The BSPS rules take precedence and must be adhered to.

#### **Status of this Guidance**

- This document has been produced by The Showing Council and represents welfare-led best practice guidance in keeping with our wish to uphold our Social Licence to Operate.
- This document has been developed to support responsible ownership, promote best practice, and will continually seek to support improvement of the ways in which we keep our horses by prioritising their wellbeing.
- A scientific evidence base supports its recommendations and will be reviewed annually as new evidence emerges.
- All Member Bodies are strongly recommended to follow this guidance.
- If a Member Body decides they do not wish to follow this guidance, the responsibility and the liability shall be their own. A guidance document, such as this, can be used as a benchmark for standards when used within a court of law.
- This guidance principally applies to events, although some aspects apply equally outside the competition environment.
- This guidance is provided for Competitors, Owners, Producers, Show Organisers, Judges, Show Officials and Volunteers. For simplicity the term **Exhibitor** will generally be used throughout the document to cover many of these categories.
- This document is intended to provide guidance for the wellbeing of all equids (horses, ponies, donkeys and their hybrids). For simplicity we will use the term horse.
- Where the  symbol appears, this element of the guidance is unified and accepted across all the Showing Council's member bodies

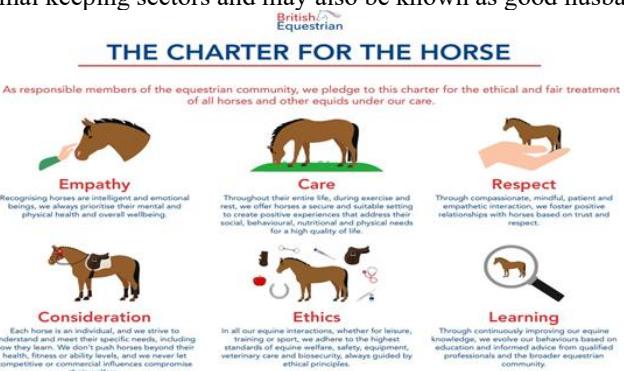
#### **Underpinning welfare principles**

The standards developed under British Equestrian's (BEF) Charter for the Horse have helped our approach to this guidance. As a member of BEF, The Showing Council has committed to endorse the highest standards of equine welfare, wellbeing and ethics included in this Charter.

The Charter for the Horse has been developed with BEF stakeholder groups to be adopted across the equestrian industry. Under the six headings of **empathy, care, respect, consideration, ethics and learning**, the Charter outlines actions we must observe to guarantee the individual mental, physical and behavioural needs of our horses are met.

At the heart of the Charter are the internationally recognised ‘three Fs’ of freedom, friends and forage, and the Five Domains Model (Mellor et al 2020) which refer to **nutrition, physical environment, health, behavioural interactions and mental state** as the crucial factors for an animal’s positive experience.

The Five Domains Model emphasises both the negative and positive aspects of welfare, moving beyond preventing suffering to **positively promoting wellbeing and helping horses attain a good life**. It is widely used in research, policy-making and veterinary practice and across all animal keeping sectors and may also be known as good husbandry.



## General

1. This guidance should be interpreted in the spirit of integrity, transparency and common sense.
2. It was initially developed in conjunction with the British Horse Society which kindly continues to support us. We are grateful for help provided by British Equestrian and The Horse Trust.
3. The relevant laws that underpin this guidance are the Animal Welfare Act (2006), the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006, the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, The Protection of Animals During Transport Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 as implemented by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 and corresponding legislation in the devolved administrations. These are collectively referred to as the *Welfare Acts*. Every exhibitor has a duty of care to ensure a horse's wellbeing under the Welfare Acts, failure to do so may lead to prosecution in a court of law.
4. For horses of all ages, at all stages during preparation and training, welfare is paramount. This includes, but is not limited to good horse management, training methods, farriery, use and fitting of tack and transportation, on and off the showground. At no time should welfare of the horse be subordinated to commercial or competitive interests. 
5. There is a requirement upon all exhibitors to inform member bodies or show organisers as soon as possible if they have witnessed unacceptable practices. 
6. In any and all contact with horses, exhibitors must be suitably and safely dressed. This means wearing correctly fitted current standard safety body protection, headwear, suitable footwear and gloves. In jumping classes, current standard safety body protection should be worn and this is a requirement for riders under 16 years of age.  
*In any contact with horses, exhibitors must be suitably and safely dressed. This means when riding, whether warming up or competing and lunging correctly fitted current safety headwear, suitable footwear and gloves, should be worn, this a requirement for anyone under 18 years of age. In jumping classes, current standard body protection should be worn and this a requirement for riders under 18 years of age.*

**BSPS Rules 50, body protectors to be worn by competitors in any WHP and WSP classes and when warming up for these classes. Please see BSPS Rules 43 regarding hat specification and rules 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50.**

## Forbidden substances

This means banned substances and controlled medication.

7. No substance can be administered to a horse before entering or on a showground which may mask an underlying health problem, enhance performance or bring about sedation, whether that horse is intended to compete or not. 
8. At the current time there is no unified anti-doping policy run by The Showing Council, all Member Bodies should have one of their own. 

## Biosecurity

This means the methods we use to promote good health and reduce the spread of infectious disease. Both the owners and keepers of horses, along with veterinary surgeons, have a legal duty to report any suspicion of a specified communicable (designated as "notifiable") equine disease to the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA).

9. The risk of spreading equine disease is significant when attending shows. Exhibitors should not attend a show if there is a disease outbreak at their yard or nearby, even if the horse appears well, because some diseases have an incubation period of up to 21 days. 
10. Exhibitors should be aware of their horses' usual temperature and vital signs in order that they can identify when they deviate from the norm, potentially indicating that they are incubating disease. Further information is available on the British Equestrian website in the Health & Biosecurity section<sup>1</sup>. 
11. Vaccinations. Exhibitors must check the specific vaccination requirements for each event and comply with vaccination requirements of affiliated societies. 
12. For show organisers, it is advisable to check the vaccination rules of a particular venue when hiring equestrian facilities and notify exhibitors in advance of any specific requirements. 
13. Equine identification is central to traceability in the event of disease. Exhibitors must ensure that they comply with the relevant equine identification regulations for the region they live in and are travelling to/from - which includes making sure that the ownership details in their horses' identification documents are up to date<sup>2</sup>. 
14. Should a competition be part of a wider FEI show then FEI Regulations will take precedence. 

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.britishequestrian.org.uk/equine/health-biosecurity/biosecurity>

15. To prevent the spread of disease, horses should not share water buckets or troughs. Exhibitors are strongly advised to provide their own feed, buckets, hay nets and not to loan or borrow grooming kit, tack or other equipment. 
16. There is an increased disease risk when stabling horses away from home. Best practice is to remove any pre-existing bedding and treat the stable with an effective disinfectant before bedding down with fresh bedding material. 
17. Horses that are not competing may only be on the showground by prior arrangement with the show organiser. 

#### Transport –

18. Exhibitors should familiarise themselves with the Welfare Acts, listed on page 3, to ensure they have the necessary vehicle and transporter authorisation.
19. A Certificate of Competence for transporting horses is a compulsory qualification for individuals transporting horses for economic purposes/activity on journeys over 65km (40 miles) in the UK. This will demonstrate an individual (either the driver or attendant) has been assessed and has the knowledge and skills to ensure the welfare of the horses during transit. The qualification covers various aspects of animal welfare, transport regulations, and practical handling. Economic activity is not defined in the regulations but would include anyone transporting horses for hire or reward or in the course of business or trade and can include those paid to transport horses to an event.
20. A general duty of care exists under UK domestic law, primarily the Animal Welfare Act 2006, which mandates that all owners and keepers must prevent their horses from suffering and meet their welfare needs. This means any person transporting horses must ensure they are prepared for and habituated to undertake the journey (both mentally and physically) and that the journey is planned to be as short as possible, and that the transport conditions, including space, ventilation, access to food, water, and rest, are appropriate so as to ensure the horse's wellbeing.
21. In extremes of temperatures, consideration must be given to the best time of day to travel and to minimising travel outside of these times.
22. Travelling can be stressful and tiring for horses and can compromise their wellbeing, potentially weakening their immune systems. This should be taken into consideration at all times, particularly during the busy show season, avoiding frequent long journeys.
23. Transported horses must be accompanied by their up to date equine identification document (passport) in accordance with Equine Identification Regulations for England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and across these borders.
24. Any vehicle used to transport horses must be safe and designed for the purpose.
25. It is recommended that horsebox or trailer recovery insurance is in place.

#### Welfare of horses

26. Responsibility for the horse lies with the owner (even if they are not present) as well as the individual who is in charge of the horse (or keeper) on the day of a show. All those responsible for horses have a duty of care in all circumstances to meet their horse's welfare needs as undertaken in the Charter for the Horse and as set out in law. These people must follow the advice of stewards and officials.
27. Sensory hairs provide natural protection and are important for equine wellbeing and comfort. The hard hairs located on the horse's muzzle (nose and mouth) and around the eyes are also known as 'whiskers'. Sensory hairs should not be trimmed, clipped, shaved or removed other than for veterinary purposes where a vet's letter should be provided in good time to the relevant member body/show organiser.
28. Sensitive hairs are also found inside the horse's ear. These hairs are a barrier to foreign objects entering the ear canal. Trimming of ear hair should be minimised.
 

*Judges will penalise ponies that have been excessively clipped or trimmed within the breed standard. (Rule 310)*

*Judges should not penalise ponies who have had their whiskers trimmed in plaited classes. Judges must penalise ponies whose whiskers have been trimmed in Mountain and Moorland classes and who are not shown in accordance with their breed standard. (Rule 475)*
29. No exhibitor shall be penalised for leaving a horse's sensory or sensitive hairs untrimmed. 
30. Weighted Tails should not be used. 
31. Nose nets should not be used. 

32. Blood before competition. On occasions a horse may accidentally injure themselves whilst travelling or whilst being warmed up. Each situation shall be individually considered by a veterinary surgeon in consultation with officials, and a decision taken as to whether the horse may continue to compete. 

33. Blood in competition. Blood on the flanks, mouth or nose during competition shall lead to elimination. Abrasions in the same areas that have not yet resulted in blood will be referred to a veterinary surgeon who may, following examination and consultation with officials, determine an approach that can safely be taken.  
*This will only happen if a vet is present at the showground.*

34. Blood or abrasions in other areas on the body shall be considered by a veterinary surgeon who may, following examination and consultation with officials, determine an approach that can safely be taken.

35. In the event that a show does not retain a veterinary surgeon on site for the event, an alternative suitably qualified and experienced person shall be appointed to intervene by the Show Organiser.

36. Horses and exhibitors must be fit, well prepared and competent enough for the work asked of them, including the journeys to and from the event, in order to compete.

37. Body Condition Score<sup>3</sup>. All horses should be fit and healthy for the competition they are participating in or the work they are undertaking, this means a body condition score of 2.5-3. Horses should not compete with a body Condition Score of below 2 or above 4.5 on the Carroll & Huntingdon Scale. A healthy body condition significantly decreases the risk of developing serious health issues such as:

- Equine metabolic syndrome
- Laminitis
- Arthritis
- Increased stress on heart and lungs and breathing difficulties
- Increased risk of development of orthopaedic problems in young and growing horses
- Strain on feet, joints and limbs
- Inefficient body temperature cooling

The Showing Council and its member bodies continue to work closely with The Horse Trust's Body Condition Awards scheme (#weightowin).

### Whips, canes and spurs

38. Show Canes and whips must not exceed 75cms (30") in any classes (ridden or in-hand). 

39. Hunting crops are only permissible for riders over the age of 18 in ridden championship classes. - *BSPS 52, rule hunting crops are permissible for riders of any age.*

40. The use of schooling whips is not permitted within any area of a showground, with the exception of classes where British Dressage tests form part of the assessment, and are permitted for those exhibitors only. 

41. Padded whips may be used provided they do not exceed 75cms (30"). The end of the whip must be padded and smooth with no raised surface and must be made of shock absorbing material throughout. - **BSPS Rule 52, padded whips compulsory for WHP.**

42. When lunging, the use of a lunging whip is permitted, but it must not come into contact with the horse.

43. A whip or cane, not more than one metre in length 99cms (39"), may be carried in Side Saddle classes, and be of sufficient length to be used as a "right leg". **Not applicable as BSPS do not hold side saddle classes.**

44. A whip must only be used as a light tap to support leg aids in encouraging the horse to go forwards, or to help the rider to encourage the horse in the right direction, such as down the shoulder to keep a horse straight on the approach to a fence. 

45. A whip must never come into contact with the horse more than twice in any incidence. 

46. The arm must never be raised above the shoulder whilst using the whip. 

47. The whip must always be carried and used in the backhand position (handle pointed upwards) and never in the forehand position (handle pointed downwards).

48. If whips are used in anger, or against the head or neck, the competitor will be referred to the steward, the official veterinarian and the organiser, who will expel them from the event. BSPS rule 52 states that excessive use of the whip will result in disqualification of the horse and rider for any class on the day.

49. Spurs may be worn for warming up only if permitted within the rules of a class(es) the horse is competing in. BSPS Rule 51, spurs are not permitted in any BSPS classes.

50. Spurs must only be made of smooth material (metal or plastic) and must be blunt. The overall length should not exceed 2cm from the back of the boot to the end of the spur. Not applicable in BSPS classes.

51. Spurs may only be used lightly to reinforce leg aids and must never be used to reprimand a horse. If they are, the competitor will be referred to the steward, official veterinarian and the organiser and will be expelled from the event. Not applicable in BSPS Classes.

## Tack and equipment

52. When their horses are out of the stable or vehicle, exhibitors must ensure that numbers are worn at all times in order that they can be clearly identified. The BSPS deems this as best practice and competitors must adhere to show rules. However, it is recognised that for shows with entries taken on the day competitors often warm-up whilst entries and numbers are being made and collected.

53. Tack must always be designed and fitted correctly and used in a way that protects and safeguards the welfare and safety of both horse and exhibitor. Tack that has been modified is not permissible.

54. Horses must only be warmed up and ridden in tack and/or equipment that is permitted within the class(es) that they are competing in, with the exception of a correctly fitted running or standing martingale.

55. If used, a standing martingale may only be attached to a cavesson noseband, not to the higher or lower straps of a grackle noseband. Currently in the warming up policy.

56. Officials may use measuring devices to make sure that nosebands are not too tight. For example - FEI-regulated equestrian events mandate the use of a standardised measuring device to ensure nosebands are not too tight. The device slides under the noseband on the horse's nasal bone and if it cannot pass through easily, the noseband is too tight<sup>4</sup> and will require loosening. This can only be carried out by FEI stewards or at BSPS affiliated shows the BSPS Welfare Officer or somebody authorized by them to carry out this task.

57. Neck straps are permitted.

58. Bits must be smooth and never be used to reprimand a horse. BSPS rule 57, bitless bridles, running gags and fixed/solid metal curb chains and any form of blinker or amended bridles are not permitted.

59. No modifications to a bit manufacturer's standards are permitted, and curb chains must only be attached using the curb chain hooks.

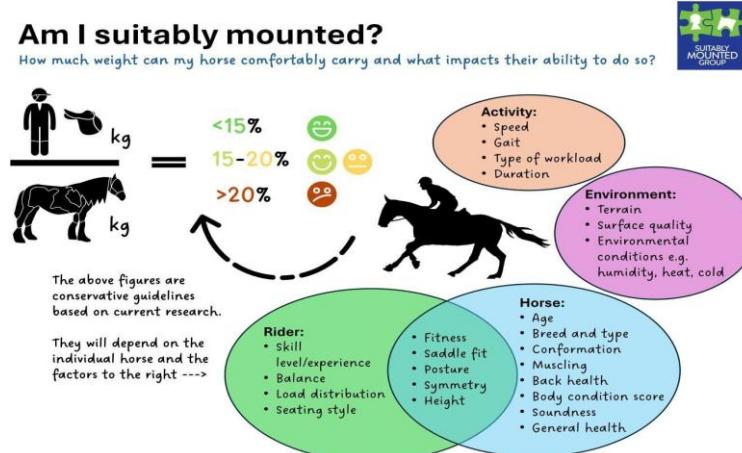
60. For guidelines on the use of bandages and boots, refer to the relevant society. Please see BSPS Rule 60.

4 Noseband tightness guidance video <https://youtu.be/rJNYzf1W5IU>

## Welfare of the horse on the showground

61. Horses must not be undersized for the rider (applicable to both adults and children) when being ridden in the ring or warmed up. Where we refer to size, we take into account both height and build of the rider.

62. It is recommended that the weight a horse is required to carry, including tack and equipment, should ideally be between 15-17% of their horse's body weight, and no more than 20%, as set out in the graphic below provided by the Suitably Mounted Group<sup>5</sup>



63. A horse's body condition score should be under 4 (ideally 2.5-3) according to the Carroll & Huntingdon Scale. Find out how to Body Condition Score your horse<sup>6</sup>

64. No horse should be left unattended unless they are in a stable or horsebox/trailer and have been well habituated enough to remain comfortable being left.

5 Suitably Mounted Group <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61578141354678>

6 Body Condition Scoring <https://storage.googleapis.com/worldhorsewelfare-cloud/2025/01/9d2f5fde-fat-scoring-instructions-and-resources-dec24.pdf>

65. Supervised horses tied to the outside of a horsebox/trailer must be safely tied, using a quick release knot or device, and never tied to a hay net.

66. All horses must have regular access to forage and water.

67. Weather conditions affect a horse's needs. Exhibitors must make the necessary adjustments to safeguard wellbeing in adverse conditions such as very high or very low temperatures or excessively wet conditions.

68. During hot weather the temperature in horseboxes/trailers becomes high very quickly and in order to maximise air flow, windows and roof vents must be kept open and ramps left down provided it is safe to do so. Horses must be well hydrated and cooled<sup>7</sup>.

69. During wet weather, consideration should be given to using waterproof sheets whilst warming up and these can be kept over the horse's hind quarters until they enter the class. At the discretion of the judge, grooms may enter the ring to provide a waterproof sheet in inclement weather.

70. No horse should be ridden or lunged for an extended period. "Extended period" is not defined for the time being, however a maximum duration may be added as necessary. It is preferable to manage the horse's day to day environment at home, in line with the Charter for the Horse agreement, using a combination of training, ridden work, work from the ground and turnout, such that prolonged riding in or lunging periods at events are not needed.

71. Lunging duration is indicated by the age and fitness of the horse as well as weather conditions but should not in any case exceed 10 minutes, based on walk, trot and canter all being included, equally on each rein. FEI lunging guidance is here<sup>8</sup>  
*BSPS Policy states - Horses/ponies should be warmed up for an appropriate amount of time depending on their age, level of fitness, maturity and the surface on which they are being worked and the prevailing weather conditions. It is good practice to lunge for a maximum of 10 minutes on each rein.*

72. All handlers lunging horses must be over the age of 16 and do so within a designated safe space. 

73. Horses must be lunged in a cavesson or bridle with the noseband removed, or a head collar.

74. Ideally horses would be warmed up unrestricted. If side reins are used, they may only be of the flexible/elasticated type. **Only when lunging.**

75. Lunge whips are for safety and guidance and must never be used against the horse.

76. Long reining is not permitted.

## Stabling

7 Cooling of horses <https://www.fei.org/stories/lifestyle/teach-me/3-steps-cooling-down-your-horse-cavalor>

8 Lunging of horses <https://www.fei.org/stories/lifestyle/my-equestrian-life/how-structure-20-minute-lunging-session-your-horse>

77. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to ensure overnight provisions and stabling offer the space to lie down, get up and turn around and unrestricted clean, fresh water in a safely contained space. Provision of facilities should be checked in advance of arrival at a show since horses must not be kept overnight in a horsebox/trailer.

## Age & gender of horses

78. Horses under four years of age must not be ridden at any event.

79. Pregnant mares are not permitted to compete under saddle without the prior written agreement of a veterinary surgeon.

80. Mares may not be ridden after six months of gestation.

81. Mares with a foal at foot, born during the current year may not be shown in ridden classes.
82. When stallions are being exhibited, a stallion disc must be worn on the bridle. The exhibitor must be at least 16 years of age and competent to handle, compete or strip the horse in the ring and/or lunge.  
*BSPS rules on age of riders for stallions, for LIHS Performance Pony and Sports Pony, stallions not exceeding 148cm riders must be 14 years old or over on 1st January in the current year. Stallions exceeding 148cm, riders must be 16 years old or over on 1st January in the current year. M&M small breeds, stallions not exceeding 138cm riders must be 12 or over on 1st January in the current year. Large breed stallions exceeding 138cm riders must be 14 years old or over on 1st January in the current year.*
83. Stallions should be noted on all activity application/entry forms and if being stabled must be in a suitable and safe environment with regard to other horses stabled in close proximity.
84. When being led, stallions must be led from a bit with reins or with a lead rein.
85. The temperament of all horses must be taken into consideration and he should not be on a showground if they are likely to be a danger to anyone or any other horse present.
86. All horses, especially young and/or inexperienced horses require quiet, confident handling which must be carried out by someone with the necessary skills and experience.

#### **General conduct and responsibilities**

87. Under the Welfare Acts (page 3), parents/guardians of those under 16 years old are responsible for the welfare of young peoples' horses and must supervise them at all times.
88. Exhibitors must consider the Health and Safety of other people at the event and must not behave in any way that could cause accident, injury or stress or harassment to any other person.
89. Where young handler classes are scheduled, societies should have documented processes to ensure that safety protocols are in place.
90. When riding outside the warm-up areas and show rings, exhibitors should remain in walk or controlled trot and be vigilant at all times.
91. Horses must be ridden or led in designated horse-walks, where provided.
92. Grooms and spectators must use designated pedestrian walkways
93. Exhibitors should adhere to the rules of warming up in an arena or other dedicated space:
  - a. passing left-hand to left-hand
  - b. only making a tack adjustment when safe to do so
  - c. announcing the intention to enter an indoor practice arena
  - d. not halting or walking on the outside track
  - e. giving way to the faster pace
94. When lunging is allowed, exhibitors must only do so in designated areas and at such times that do not interfere with others.
95. Exhibitors should keep alert for potential problems and maintain a sensible distance from any individual having difficulties with their horse.
96. Any horse that falls in a warm-up area should only compete with the agreement of an official veterinary surgeon or other suitably qualified and experienced person as advised by the Show Organiser.
97. In a jumping warm up arena, no horse should jump a fence in the wrong direction and fences must be flagged accordingly at all times.
98. Practice fences should be no higher than permitted in a competition nor modified nor added-to in any way.

#### **Conduct in the show ring**

99. Exhibitors must behave in a safe and respectful manner at all times.
100. Exhibitors must follow instructions from the judge, ring stewards or veterinary surgeon at all times.
101. The amount of work and number of classes a horse participates in must be in accordance with its age, experience and fitness.
102. No one under the age of 16 years may enter a show ring to groom, strip or handle horses. 
103. Those entering show rings must be suitably and safely dressed.

#### **Insurance**

104. All exhibitors are strongly advised to have Public Liability insurance in place to provide cover for potential third-party injury or property damage arising from legal liability or negligence. This is a standard requirement of entry for many events. **This is a requirement for anyone entering a BSPS affiliated show and/or class.**
105. Personal Accident insurance, in addition to Public Liability insurance, should be in place for all judges. **The BSPS has comprehensive insurance in place for judges and officials.**

## Conduct of show organisers with regard to spectators

106. Organisers should put in place adequate information/signage to ensure that:

- a. Children (under 16 years of age) are fully supervised at all times and people who are not directly connected to an exhibitor remain at a safe distance from horses.
- b. Prams or buggies are prohibited from all warm up arenas, stabling areas and horse walks. In the lorry park they must be kept at a safe distance from horses and overseen at all times.
- c. Spectators are made aware they should not run, shout or cause excessive noise in the vicinity of horses and are prohibited from entering lorry parks and stabling areas without the necessary access pass.
- d. If dogs are allowed on the showground they must be kept on a short lead away from horses and safely managed at all times.
- e. Dogs must be given access to water and not left unattended in vehicles in hot conditions.

## Provision for equine veterinary and emergency treatment at events

110. Show Organisers should carry out a risk assessment with regard to the provision of on site veterinary provision.
111. At some Shows a veterinary surgeon may not actually be in attendance, in which case the Show Organiser should ensure that a veterinary surgeon is available 'on call' and within reasonable driving time (suggested maximum 20 minutes).
112. Show Organisers should plan for the provision of adequate interim care whilst awaiting arrival of veterinary cover.
113. All shows should endeavour to have:
  - Communication for use in an emergency which have been circulated in advance to relevant parties and rehearsed
  - Good accessibility to the venue and planned routes to bring in equipment directly to a patient as quickly and efficiently as possible
  - Facilities for dealing with minor injuries, e.g. clean stable or other covered well-lit area and provision of clean water
  - A horse ambulance for equines to be transferred to a referral facility if necessary and a plan for where and how euthanasia is to be carried out if necessary
  - A designated responsible person to attend an oversee any significant occurrence and to act as a liaison point with the show organiser.
  - The responsible person must be capable of producing an accurate record at the scene of any incident, to include taking photographs and logging contact details of relevant persons including witnesses.
  - A screens protocol, in place to ensure privacy for both equestrian and exhibitor injuries, to be rehearsed in advance.
  - An emergency incident communications plan, including appointment of spokesperson, prepared draft media statements and social media protocol to promote positive communication, minimise distress to all affected parties and reduce likelihood of disinformation
  - Under the provisions of the Welfare Acts (page 3) there is joint responsibility between exhibitors and show organisers, however the exhibitor of a horse has prime responsibility for its welfare and as such must ensure that:
    - The owner is clearly identified on the entry form
    - Next of kin stated
    - Contact details are listed in case of an emergency during the day, or night if their horse is being stabled
    - It is clear who has responsibility for making decisions about their horse with regard to provision of emergency treatment, transfer to a surgical facility and/or euthanasia

## Advisory note

This guidance does not detail specific rules. Where such detail is needed, please refer to the rule book of the society you are showing under. The Showing Council will review and revise this document on an annual basis. Within the 2027 revision, sections proposed for inclusion shall be:

- The working of horses with heads behind the vertical position
- Horses that appear unlevel in the ring and veterinary involvement
- Riding four year olds in qualifying classes
- Bitting and bridle fitting
- Application of topical products to the skin and coat of a horse
- Reporting and handling of welfare and safeguarding concerns and incidents, accidents and fatalities to relevant bodies and recognised centralised IT systems
- Guidance on leaving the arena whilst a class is underway
- Docking and shaving of tails

## **SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET POLICY**

1.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The B.S.P.S. acknowledges the importance of the internet and social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, home web-pages, chat rooms, BBM and all other forms of electronic communication and the role which “social media” plays in the day to day lives of members.

This policy note is to remind members that the Rules of the B.S.P.S. apply to members when using social media and the internet. Failure to adhere to this policy note could lead to disciplinary action being taken against a member.

2.

### **USING SOCIAL MEDIA**

- 2.1 You should be aware that the B.S.P.S. may from time to time carry out internet Searches to identify postings which include references to the B.S.P.S. and its members.
- 2.2 B.S.P.S. produced images are the subject of copyright and should not be copied or used in social media save as provided in the B.S.P.S. website user terms and conditions.
- 2.3 You should ensure that any material that you transmit or post to social media is clearly stated to be your personal view and is not held out to be, or could be mistaken as, the view of the B.S.P.S.
- 2.4 You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of the B.S.P.S. or its members, or which is derogatory to the character of or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S.
- 2.5 You must not post or transmit any material relating to the B.S.P.S., members or their horses or ponies, or which could otherwise be associated with or which may reasonably be attributed as coming from the B.S.P.S.
  - 2.5.1 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
  - 2.5.2 which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of the B.S.P.S. 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.
- 2.6 Any breach of this policy may constitute a breach of the B.S.P.S. Rules and could also lead to civil and/or criminal proceedings being brought against you.

Bullying and abuse on social media can have a devastating and detrimental effect on those subjected to it and also 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](http://ridersminds.org). Call 0300 102 1540, or text 07860 065 202. Rider Minds offer an online counselling support, one to one sessions and a 24/7 helpline.

### **DISCLOSURE UNDER LAW OR REGULATION**

You should be aware that the B.S.P.S. will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing the B.S.P.S. 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, the B.S.P.S. is entitled to do so.

## **BYLAWS OF THE BRITISH SHOW PONY SOCIETY**

### **PART I - GOOD CONDUCT DISCIPLINE AND COMPLAINTS INTRODUCTION**

1.

- 1.1 These Bylaws are made by the Council pursuant to the Articles, which confer on the Council full power, either itself or through the Executive Committee or any other standing committee or sub-committee to whom its powers in that behalf may be delegated, to make rules and Bylaws for the good conduct and discipline of members of the B.S.P.S in relation to the affairs of the B.S.P.S and for the good conduct and discipline of all persons (whether members of the B.S.P.S or not) entering, competing, showing or otherwise taking part in any Affiliated Show.
- 1.2 These Bylaws are binding upon every member of the B.S.P.S and (so far as practicable) every person (whether a member of the B.S.P.S or not) entering, competing, showing or otherwise taking part in any Affiliated Show, and every member and any other such person as aforesaid shall accept as final any decision given under or pursuant to these Bylaws. Whenever a Junior Member or other person being a minor enters, competes, shows or otherwise takes part in any Affiliated Show, any person accompanying such Junior Member or minor and being his parent or guardian or otherwise being (either generally or for the particular occasion) *in loco parentis* to such Junior Member or minor shall be deemed for all purposes of these Bylaws to be taking part therein.

### **COMPLAINTS**

2.

- 2.1 Subject to the provisions of Bylaw 12, any complaint (except a complaint relating to a Joint Measurement Board Certificate which shall be dealt with under Joint Measurement Board Rules or a complaint relating to a judge which shall be dealt with by the Judges Enquiry Committee under Bylaw 4) that any member of the B.S.P.S or any other person has or may have committed or has or may have been party or privy to any breach of these Bylaws or has been guilty of conduct which has or may have been derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S shall in the first instance be submitted in writing to the Chairman, the Executive Officer or the Secretary.
- 2.2 Any complaint so submitted shall forthwith be investigated by the Chairman, the Executive Officer or the Secretary of the B.S.P.S as appropriate and if he can settle the complaint satisfactorily to the person making the complaint and to the person against whom the complaint is made he shall do so and thereupon the matter shall be considered at an end. Any complaint so settled shall be recorded by the officer investigating the same and brought to the attention of the Council.
- 2.3 If any complaint cannot be disposed of by the Chairman, the Executive Officer or the Secretary as appropriate he shall report the complaint to the Disciplinary Committee and shall forward full details of the investigation together with all documents connected therewith.

## DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

3.

3.1 The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Executive Members of Council and the Executive Officer. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Disciplinary Committee shall be three.

3.2 Upon receipt of the report of any complaint the Disciplinary Committee shall carry out further investigation of the complaint if it considers this to be necessary and shall decide whether to deal with the complaint summarily or to refer the same to the Stewards by reason to the gravity or the circumstances of the complaint.

3.3 If the Disciplinary Committee shall decide to deal with the complaint it shall proceed by way of written submissions only and no party shall be entitled to attend in person or be represented.

3.4 In any case in which in its opinion any person has committed or been party to or privy to any breach of any Bylaw or has been guilty of conduct which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S, the Disciplinary Committee may :-

- 3.4.1 admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct;
- 3.4.2 fine such person up to a maximum amount of £5,000;
- 3.4.3 direct that such person being a Member shall be suspended from all or any of the rights and privileges of membership of the B.S.P.S for such period as it shall determine not exceeding one year;
- 3.4.4 direct that such person shall not enter any horse or pony at any Affiliated Show or otherwise take part in any Affiliated Show for such period as it may determine not exceeding twelve calendar months;
- 3.4.5 direct that any horse or pony belonging to such a person or ridden by such person at the time of the commission of the offence shall be disqualified from the class in which it was taking part at the time of the commission of the offence; and/or
- 3.4.6 direct that any horse or pony belonging to such person at the time of the commission of the offence or at any time thereafter during any period of suspension shall (whether or not still belonging to such person) be suspended from being entered or shown or otherwise taking part in any Affiliated Show for such period as it may determine not exceeding twelve months and such suspension shall be operative even if the Owner ceases to be a Member of the B.S.P.S or the horse or pony to be a registered horse or pony at any time prior to the termination of the period of such suspension;
- 3.4.7 in relation to a breach of Rule 63 impose no penalty provided that it is satisfied that the Prohibited Substance was not administered intentionally by the Owner or Producer or by any other person whether connected with the Owner or Producer or not and that all reasonable precautions had been taken to avoid a breach of Rule 63.
- 3.4.8 "direct that any penalty imposed pursuant to Bylaws 3.4.2 to 3.4.6 inclusive be suspended for a period of up to two years. If during the period of such suspension the person subject to the suspended penalty commits a further breach of the Bylaws or is guilty of conduct which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S. ('Offence'), the Disciplinary Committee may cancel the suspension of the penalty and impose the original penalty together with any other penalty it deems appropriate in relation to the subsequent Offence."

3.5 The Disciplinary Committee shall hear any appeals from decisions of Special Show Stewards in accordance with the Rules from time to time. In such case the Disciplinary Committee shall invite submissions from the appellant and the Special Show Steward whose decision is being appealed before making its determination. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee on such appeal shall be final and binding on the parties.

3.6 The Disciplinary Committee shall determine references from Special Show Stewards requesting the imposition of greater penalties or otherwise in accordance with the Rules from time to time. In such case the reference shall be dealt with as if a complaint had been made and referred pursuant to Bylaw 2.3.

3.7 The Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council shall within seven days of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee notify the parties to the complaint in writing of the findings of the Disciplinary Committee and of any penalties imposed. Any person upon whom a penalty is imposed by the Disciplinary Committee (other than pursuant to Bylaw 3.5 or 3.6) may by notice in writing given to the Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council within 14 days of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee require the complaint to be submitted to the Stewards for consideration PROVIDED that as a condition precedent to the complaint being so submitted such person shall deposit with the Executive Officer or the Secretary a sum equal to ten times the then current membership subscription for a Showing Member. If after investigation the Stewards shall decide in their absolute discretion that the matter is trivial or frivolous the deposit shall be forfeited to the B.S.P.S.

## JUDGES' ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

4.

- 4.1 The Judges' Enquiry Committee shall consist of seven members of the B.S.P.S to be appointed by the Council at least one of whom shall be a member of the Council. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Judges' Enquiry Committee shall be three, at least one of whom shall be a member of the Council. In the event of there being no member of the Council available for the transaction of business of the Judges' Enquiry Committee (whether because of a conflict of interest or any other reason), then the Judges Enquiry Committee shall have power to co-opt a member of the Council onto the Judges' Enquiry Committee to establish the necessary quorum.
- 4.2 Upon receipt of the report of any complaint the Judges' Enquiry Committee shall carry out further investigation of the complaint if it considers this to be necessary.
- 4.3 The Judges' Enquiry Committee shall proceed by way of written submissions only and no party shall be entitled to attend in person or be represented. The proceedings shall be conducted anonymously in that no member of the Judges' Enquiry Committee shall be aware of the identity of any complainant or that of the judge in respect of whom the complaint has been made or that of the Show at which the judge was judging and all papers submitted to the Judges' Enquiry Committee shall be edited accordingly.
- 4.4 The Judges' Enquiry Committee may in any case in which in its opinion any person has committed or been party to or privy to any breach of any Bylaw of the B.S.P.S or has been guilty of conduct which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S:-
  - 4.4.1 admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct;
  - 4.4.2 remove the judge's star or stars;
  - 4.4.3 instruct Council not to re-elect the judge on to the Judges' Panel; and/or
  - 4.4.4 suspend such a person as a judge for such period as it shall determine not exceeding three years.
- 4.5 The Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council shall within fourteen days of the decision of the Judges' Enquiry Committee notify the parties to the complaint in writing of the findings of the Judges' Enquiry Committee and of any penalties imposed. Any person upon whom a penalty is imposed by the Judges' Enquiry Committee may by notice in writing given to the Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council within fourteen days of receipt of the notification of the decision of the Judges' Enquiry Committee require the complaint to be submitted to the Judges' Enquiry Appeal Committee for consideration PROVIDED that as a condition precedent to the complaint being so submitted such a person shall deposit with the Executive Officer or the Secretary a sum equal to 10 times the then current membership subscription for a Showing Member. If after investigation the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall decide in their absolute discretion that the matter is trivial or frivolous the deposit shall be forfeited to the B.S.P.S.

## JUDGES' ENQUIRY APPEALS COMMITTEE

5.

- 5.1 In any case in which a matter is referred to the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee pursuant to Bylaw 4 the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall fix a date for a meeting to consider the complaint.
- 5.2 The Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall consist of five members of the B.S.P.S. to be appointed by the Council. The Quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall be three. No member of the Judge's Enquiry Appeals Committee who adjudicated on the decision being referred to the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall serve on the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee in relation to that matter. In the event of there being insufficient persons to serve on the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee for whatever reason then the Council shall have power to co-opt any Member of the B.S.P.S. to serve on the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee to establish the necessary quorum.
- 5.3 The Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall proceed by way of written submissions only and no party shall be entitled to attend in person or be represented. The proceedings shall be conducted anonymously in that no member of the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall be aware of the identity of any complainant or that of the judge in respect of whom the complaint has been made or that of the Show at which the judge was judging and all papers submitted to the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall be edited accordingly.
- 5.4 The Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council shall give to the person making the complaint and to the judge against whom the complaint is made at least 14 days' notice in writing of the date on which the complaint will be considered by the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee. Such notice shall be exclusive of the days upon and for which it is given and shall contain a statement of the complaint to be dealt with.
- 5.5 In any case in which in the opinion of the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee any person has committed or been party to or privy to any breach of any Bylaw of the B.S.P.S or has been guilty of conduct which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S it may:-
  - 5.5.1 admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct;
  - 5.5.2 remove the judge's star or stars;
  - 5.5.3 instruct Council not to re-elect the judge onto the Judges' Panel;
  - 5.5.4 suspend such person as a judge for such period as it shall determine not exceeding five years; and/or
  - 5.5.5 remove such person as a judge from the Judge's Panel with immediate effect.
- 5.6 The Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council shall within seven days of the decision of the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee notify the parties to the complaint in writing of the findings and of any penalties imposed.
- 5.7 The findings of and penalties imposed by the Judges' Enquiry Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties in every case.

## STEWARDS

6.

- 6.1 There shall be at least three but not more than ten Stewards of the B.S.P.S who shall be elected annually by the Council at its last meeting before the annual general meeting in each year and shall hold office until the close of the last meeting of the Council before the next following annual general meeting. A retiring Steward shall be eligible for re-election.
- 6.2 The Council may remove any Steward before the expiration of his period of office and may elect at any time a Steward to fill the vacancy occurring by reason of any such removal or of the death of a Steward or otherwise
- 6.3 The duties and powers of the Stewards under the Bylaws shall be carried out and exercised by a quorum consisting of not less than three Stewards.
- 6.4 The Stewards shall for all purposes relating to or connected with good conduct and discipline (other than in respect of the exercise of the powers of the Council under Bylaw 12) be deemed to be a standing committee of the B.S.P.S.

7.

- 7.1 In any case in which a matter is referred to the Stewards pursuant to Bylaw 3 the Stewards shall fix a day, time and place for a meeting to consider the complaint.
- 7.2 The Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council shall give to the person making the complaint and to the person against whom the complaint is made and to the registered owner of any horse or pony concerning or arising out of the showing of which the complaint is made at least 14 days' notice in writing of the date, time and place at which the complaint will be considered by the Stewards. Such notice shall be exclusive of the days upon and for which it is given and shall contain a statement of the complaint to be dealt with.
- 7.3 Upon consideration by the Stewards of any complaint the parties thereto, being the persons to whom notice is required to be given under this Bylaw, shall be entitled to attend and be heard and to call oral evidence but not to be represented (unless the Stewards in their absolute discretion otherwise decide) except that a Junior Member or person under the age of 18 years at the time of the hearing if not a member is always to be accompanied by his parent or guardian or other person *in loco parentis*. If any such party to a complaint shall not attend the meeting of the Stewards at which the same is to be considered and no reason sufficient in the opinion of the Stewards for non-attendance shall have been received consideration of the complaint shall proceed and be adjudicated upon in the absence of such party.
- 7.4 In any case in which in the opinion of the Stewards any person has committed or been party to or privy to any breach of any Bylaw or has been guilty of conduct which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S, the Stewards may impose on such person any one or more of the following penalties:-
  - 7.4.1 admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct;
  - 7.4.2 fine such person in such amount as they shall in their absolute discretion direct;
  - 7.4.3 direct that such person being a Member shall be suspended from all or any of the rights and privileges of membership of the B.S.P.S for such period as they shall determine;
  - 7.4.4 direct that such person being a Member shall be expelled from the B.S.P.S;
  - 7.4.5 direct that such person shall not enter any horse or pony at any Affiliated Show or otherwise take part in any Affiliated Show for such period as they may determine;
  - 7.4.6 direct that any horse or pony belonging to such a person or ridden by such person at the time of the commission of the offence shall be disqualified from the class in which it was taking part at the time of the commission of the offence;
  - 7.4.7 direct that any horse or pony belonging to such person at the time of the commission of the offence or at any time thereafter during any period of suspension shall (whether or not still belonging to such person) be suspended from being entered or shown or otherwise taking part in any Affiliated Show for such period as they may determine and such suspension shall be operative even if the Owner ceases to be a member of the B.S.P.S or the horse or pony ceases to be a registered horse or pony at any time prior to the termination of the period of such suspension.
  - 7.4.8 in relation to a breach of Rule 63 impose no penalty provided that they are satisfied that the Prohibited Substance was not administered intentionally by the Owner or

- 7.4.9 Producer or by any other person whether connected with the Owner or Producer or not and that all reasonable precautions had been taken to avoid a breach of Rule 63.
- 7.4.10 “direct that any penalty imposed pursuant to Bylaws 7.4.2 to 7.4.7 inclusive be suspended for a period of up to two years. If during the period of such suspension the person subjected to the suspended penalty commits a further breach of the Bylaws or is guilty pf conduct which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S. (‘Offence’), the stewards may cancel the suspension of the penalty, or any penalty suspended by the Disciplinary Committee pursuant to Bylaw 3.4.8, and impose the original penalty together with any other penalty they deem appropriate in relation to the subsequent Offence”
- 7.4.10 direct that if such person owns ponies registered with the Society they will be unable to transfer those ponies into the membership of someone else until the suspension is lifted.
- 7.5 During the period of suspension no entry shall be accepted from any person who or whose horse or pony shall have been suspended pursuant to this Bylaw and any entry accepted in contravention of this Bylaw shall be void and of no effect provided that in the case of a horse or pony being suspended under this Bylaw the prohibition provided for in this Bylaw shall apply only to the horse or pony so suspended.
- 7.6 The Executive Officer or the Secretary or other officer designated by the Council shall within seven days of the decision of the Stewards notify the parties to the complaint in writing of the findings and of any penalties imposed.
- 7.7 The findings of and penalties imposed by the Stewards shall be final and binding on all parties in every case.
- 8. The powers provided by the last preceding Bylaw are in addition and without prejudice to the powers conferred upon the Council in Bylaw 12.

#### **DEFAULT**

- 9. If any person fails to pay a fine imposed pursuant to these Bylaws within 28 days of the date of despatch of the notification of such fine:-
  - 9.1 if the person is a Member, he shall be suspended automatically from all or any of the rights and privileges of membership until such time as the fine has been paid;
  - 9.2 if the person not a Member, any horse or pony belonging to such person at the time the fine is imposed or at any time thereafter during the period of non-payment of the fine shall (whether or not still belonging to such person) be suspended from being entered or shown or otherwise taking part in any Affiliated Show until such time as the fine has been paid.

#### **TEAM MANAGERS**

- 10. The Chef d’Equipe or Team Manager or his duly authorised deputy whilst accompanying Members on a course of training or on a tour or team visit (whether or not such course of training or tour or team visit takes place in the United Kingdom) shall have power in his absolute discretion to regulate, control or adjudicate upon the conduct of Members on such course of training tour or team visit and shall have the power to direct that a Member shall be suspended from competing or taking part in such course of training or in any competition taking place on such tour or team visit.

## SPECIAL SHOW STEWARDS

11.

- 11.1 The Council shall have power to elect any number of Special Show Stewards at its last meeting before the annual general meeting in each year. Such Special Show Stewards shall hold office until the close of the last meeting of the Council before the next following annual general meeting. A retiring Special Show Steward shall be eligible for re-election.
- 11.2 The Council may remove any Special Show Steward before the expiration of his period of office and may elect at any time a Special Show Steward to fill the vacancy occurring by reason of any such removal or of the death of a Special Show Steward or otherwise.
- 11.3 The duties and powers of the Special Show Stewards shall be as specified under the Bylaws of the B.S.P.S from time to time.

## DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

12. The Council shall have power in any case where it considers that any Member of the B.S.P.S or any other person has or may have committed or has or may have been party or privy to any breach of any Bylaws, of the B.S.P.S or has been guilty of conduct which has or may have been derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the B.S.P.S to initiate disciplinary proceedings against such Member or other person whether or not a complaint has been made in accordance with the foregoing Bylaws whereupon the matter shall be dealt with pursuant to Bylaw 3 or 4 mutatis mutandis as if a complaint had been made.

## PUBLICATION OF DECISIONS

13. Any decision of the Disciplinary Committee, Judges' Enquiry Committee or the Stewards made pursuant to the powers conferred by these Bylaws may be published on the B.S.P.S. website, ,in any newspaper or periodical published by the B.S.P.S. or in the Horse and Hound or otherwise as the Disciplinary Committee, Stewards or the Council may direct.”

## NOTICES

14. “Any complaint to be submitted or notice to be given pursuant to Bylaws 1 to 13 inclusive shall be sent by recorded delivery or registered post. In all other respects the provisions of the Articles shall govern the giving of notice under these Bylaws.

## PART II - RULES

15. The Rules contained in the Rule & Show Handbook published each year by the B.S.P.S as amended from time to time shall be deemed to be incorporated in these Bylaws.

## PART III – INTERPRETATION

16.

- 16.1 Words and expressions defined in the Articles of Association and the Rules of the B.S.P.S (as amended from time to time) ("Articles") shall have the same meanings in these Bylaws.
- 16.2 "**Affiliated Show**" means a show affiliated to the B.S.P.S in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Council from time to time.
- 16.3 "**B.S.P.S.**" means The British Show Pony Society a company limited by guarantee registered number 5308982.
- 16.4 "**Stewards**" means the persons for the time being appointed as the stewards of the B.S.P.S.

## **Form of Nomination For Council Membership of The British Show Pony Society (Registered Number 5308982)**

Notice is hereby given that at the next Annual General Meeting (“AGM”), Council Members of the British Show Pony Society (“the Company”) will retire and there will therefore be vacancies for Council membership of the Company.

To be eligible to stand for election as a Council Member, each candidate: must be a member of the Company or the former association for at least 5 years (although not necessarily consecutive years); and Current member of the Company. And cannot be a Scottish branch member or a Junior member.

Please note that retiring Council members are eligible for re-election, subject to their fulfilling the above eligibility criteria.

Should you fulfil these criteria and wish to be put forward as a Council member, please confirm to the Company Secretary on the form below:-

1. Your name and address;
2. Whom you are proposed and seconded by (both of which must be members of the Company who are not Junior members or Scottish branch members); and
3. That you are willing to be nominated for election to Council.

NAME: .....  
(In Block Letters)

SIGNATURE .....

ADDRESS: .....

.....  
PROPOSED BY: ..... SIGNATURE.....

SECONDED BY: ..... SIGNATURE.....

Any such nominations must be received by the Company Secretary ON OR BEFORE 56 CLEAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE AGM.

The final candidates for nomination will be notified to all members with the notice of the AGM, which will follow in due course. A vote for all Council memberships will then take place between all nominated candidates, with the final result being reported to all members of the Company at the AGM.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND THIS FORM BEFORE 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026.**

Nomination Forms to: The Secretary, B.S.P.S. Office, 124 Green End Road, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 5XS