



The Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa Show Rules

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Description of the Welsh Mountain Pony and Welsh Pony

*Adopted at a special meeting of members of the Society held at Shrewsbury on October 8th 1935
(incorporating amendments made at the Annual General Meeting of Members on December 8th 1951)*

THE WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY

Not exceeding 12 hands high (1,22m)

SECTION A of the STUD BOOK

<i>General Character</i>	Hardy, spirited and pony-like
<i>Colour</i>	Any colour, except piebald or skewbald
<i>Head</i>	Small, clean-cut, well set on and tapering to the muzzle
<i>Eyes</i>	Bold
<i>Ears</i>	Well-placed, small and pointed; well up on the head, proportionately close
<i>Nostrils</i>	Prominent and open
<i>Jaws and Throat</i>	Clean and finely-cut, with ample room at the angle of the jaw
<i>Neck</i>	Lengthy, well-carried and moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of mature stallions
<i>Shoulders</i>	Long and sloping well back. Withers moderately fine, but not “knifey”. The humerus upright so that the foreleg is not set in under the body.
<i>Forelegs</i>	Set square and true, and not tied in at the elbows. Long, strong forearm, well developed knee, short flat bone below knee, pasterns of proportionate slope and length, feet well-shaped and round, hoofs dense.
<i>Back and Loins</i>	Muscular strong and well-coupled.
<i>Girth</i>	Deep.
<i>Ribs</i>	Well sprung.
<i>Hind quarters</i>	Lengthy and fine. Not cobby, ragged or goose-rumped. Tail well set on and carried gaily.
<i>Hocks</i>	Hocks to be large, flat and clean with points prominent, to turn neither inwards nor outwards. The hind leg not to be too bent. The hock not to be set behind a line from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate shape and length. Feet well-shaped, hoofs dense.
<i>Action</i>	Quick, free and straight from the shoulder, well away in front. Knees and hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and hocks well under the body.

THE WELSH PONY

Not exceeding 13.2 hands high (1,37m)

SECTION B of the STUD BOOK

The general description of ponies in Section “A” of the Stud Book is applicable to those in Section “B”, but more particularly the Section “B” pony shall be described as a riding pony, with quality, riding action, adequate bone and substance, hardiness and constitution and with pony character.

Description of the Welsh Pony (Cob type) and Welsh Cob

SECTIONS C and D of the STUD BOOK respectively
(Section C not exceeding 13.2h hands high (1,37m))

<i>General Character</i>	Strong, hardy and active with pony character and as much substance as possible.
<i>Colour</i>	Any colour, except piebald or skewbald
<i>Head</i>	Full of quality and pony character. A coarse head and roman nose are most objectionable.
<i>Eyes</i>	Bold, prominent and set widely apart.
<i>Ears</i>	Neat and well set.
<i>Neck</i>	Lengthy, well-carried and moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of mature stallions
<i>Shoulders</i>	Strong but well laid back.
<i>Forelegs</i>	Set square and not tied in at the elbows. Long, strong forearms. Knees well developed with an abundance of bone below them, pasterns of proportionate slope and length, feet well-shaped, hoofs dense. When in the rough, a moderate quantity of silky feather is not objected to but coarse, wiry hair is a definite objection.
<i>Back and Loins</i>	Muscular strong and well-coupled. Deep through the heart and well-ribbed up.
<i>Hind quarters</i>	Lengthy and strong. Ragged or drooping quarters are objectionable. Tail well-set on.
<i>Hindlegs</i>	Second thighs, strong and muscular. Hocks large, flat and clean with points prominent, to turn neither inwards or outwards. The hind leg not to be too bent. The hock not to be set behind a line from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate shape and length. Feet well-shaped, hoofs dense.
<i>Action</i>	Free, true and forcible. The knee should be bent and the whole foreleg should be extended straight from the shoulder, and as far forward as possible in the trot. Hocks flexed under the body with straight and powerful leverage.

1. Queries

- 1.1 In so far as they are not at variance with the rules and regulations of the show-holding body, these rules shall apply to all Welsh Pony classes held under the auspices of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa.
- 1.2 Claims of ignorance or misinterpretation of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society Show Rules will NOT be accepted as an excuse for any contravention of the Rules. Any competitor breaking a Show Rule, deliberately or otherwise, may be disqualified from the class in question.
- 1.3 In the event of these rules not covering a problem that requires an immediate answer, a committee consisting of the Regional Administrator or deputy, a member of the show-holding body and an official of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa (e.g. Council Member, Regional Committee Member or Senior Judge) shall decide on the action to be taken. The decision of this committee is final.

2 General Conditions of Entry

- 2.1 Entries are restricted to owners who are fully paid-up members of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa.
- 2.2 Only ponies which have been birth notified with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa are eligible to compete. Ponies over the age of three years must be Registered (Purebreds) or Recorded (Partbreds) and Birth Notification Numbers (for ponies under three years) or Registration/Recording numbers shall appear on the entry form.
- 2.3 All ponies shall be entered in the name of the registered owner at the closing date of entries. Leased ponies are regarded as the property of the lessor. Any person found to have knowingly given false information on a show entry form shall be fined an amount as decided by Council from time to time.
- 2.4 The bona fides of ownership and breeding of ponies entered at any show held under the auspices of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa shall be checked by the Secretary or his representative.
- 2.5 The ages of all ponies and riders / drivers shall be calculated from date of birth to the first day of the show.
- 2.6 Mares with a suckling foal are not eligible to compete in riding or driving classes
- 2.7 No late or telephonic entries or entries without fees will be accepted.

3. Prize lists and Catalogues

- 3.1. Prize lists for National Championships shall be submitted to Council for approval before they are sent to the Show Holding body. In prize lists for Regional Championships a minimum of 20% of the classes must be taken from the latest National Championships prize list.
- 3.2 Convenors responsible for classes held under the auspices of the Welsh pony and Cob Society, shall, within thirty days of the end of the show, send to both the Welsh Pony and Cob Society office and their Regional Administrator, a catalogue clearly marked with the results of all the Welsh classes held at the show.

4. Judges

- 4.1 The Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa or its representatives shall obtain the services of competent judges. Where shows involve Regional or National Championships the Senior judge shall be from the Regional or National Panel of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa or from the Senior

National Panel of their own country in the case of overseas judges. Whenever possible the names of judges shall be printed in the prize list.

4.2 No judge may enter a pony at a show where he or she is judging.

5. Dividing or combining of classes

5.1 The show holding body, in conjunction with the Society's Regional Administrator or the convenor of the Welsh section, has the right to combine, divide or cancel classes should this be necessary.

5.2 At National or Regional Championships, any class with three or less entries may be combined or cancelled, with the proviso that the affected competitor shall be informed before the start of the show and given the opportunity of withdrawing from the class and having his entry fee refunded for that class.

5.3 If there are more than five ponies of any Section entered in a class of ten or more ponies, the class may be divided by Section. This rule may be waived in the following classes: Lead Rein, First Pony, Obstacle Driving, Ride & Drive Scurry, Working and Farm Pony classes, Best Rider / Driver and jumping classes which are already divided by the height of pony.

5.4 Purebred and Partbred classes should only be combined in such events as show jumping where the class is judged on performance only and the divisions are by height.

5.5 At National or Regional Championships, Purebred Sections may not be combined in breed classes.

5.6 At National or Regional Championships, Every pony should be assessed with ponies of the same gender, within the same age group.

6. Championships

6.1 Ponies awarded championships at a National or Regional Championship show shall be recognised by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa as being the National or Regional Champion in their respective section for that year.

6.2 For a show to be recognised as a National or Regional Championship a minimum of twenty five ponies, entered by at least five exhibitors must be judged.

7. Victor Ludorum

7.1 A Victor Ludorum Award may be offered by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of S.A. to the pony in each section, including partbreds, that gains the most points in Welsh classes. Points will be awarded as follows:

Supreme Champion	10	Second	4
Champion	7	Third	3
Reserve Champion	6	Fourth	2
First	5	Fifth	1

7.2 In breed group classes each member of the group will receive full points.

7.3 In harness classes each pony in a team will receive full points.

7.4 Exhibitors showing groups or driving doubles, tandems or teams will receive the relevant points per entry, not per pony. The exhibitor making the entry will receive the points.

8. Objections

- 8.1 Persons wishing to lodge an objection to any class must submit their claim in writing, with a deposit of R500.00, or an amount as may be decided by Council from time to time, to the Show Convenor or Secretary, within sixty minutes of the end of the class.
- 8.2 Persons wishing to lodge an objection to any other matter pertaining to a show, must submit their claim in writing, with a deposit of R50.00, or an amount as may be decided by Council from time to time, to the Show Convenor or Secretary, within sixty minutes of the occurrence.
- 8.3 A Committee consisting of the Regional Administrator or deputy, a member of the Show holding body and an official of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa (e.g. Council Member, Regional Committee Member or Senior Judge) shall decide on the validity of the objection and the action to be taken. If the objection is upheld the deposit will be returned to the objector.

9. Ill Treatment of Ponies

- 9.1 Any member ill treating a pony at any show will be brought before Council and appropriate action will be taken. All complaints in this regard should be submitted as soon as possible after the incident, in writing, to the Council or Show Authority.
- 9.2 Any competitor striking a pony with a stick, cane or any other instrument more than 3 times in a class will be disqualified and asked to leave the arena.
- 9.3 Any competitor striking a pony on the head, ears or genitals or kicking the pony from the ground will be immediately disqualified and asked to leave the arena.

10. Turnout of Ponies

- 10.1 All Purebred ponies shall be shown natural and unplaited except for one, optional, long plait immediately behind the ears. There will be no ribbons or braid in the plait in In-hand or Riding classes. In Driving classes a braid or ribbons of not more than 3 colours may be braided into the long plait immediately behind the ears. Tails shall not be squared at the bottom. Ponies shall not be clipped out but the long hairs in the ears and under the jaws may be trimmed. Any competitor transgressing this rule will be disqualified from the relevant class.
- 10.2 Partbred ponies may be shown naturally or plaited and trimmed as the exhibitor prefers.

11. Conformation

- 11.1 In all classes where conformation is a criterion, ponies shall be judged according to the relevant Breed Standard.
- 11.2 In partbred classes animals shall be judged on their merits and need not show any marked Welsh characteristics.
- 11.3 Blue eyes or wall eyes shall not be discriminated against.
- 11.4 In all classes where the action of the pony is judged the correct action is that laid down in the relevant Breed Standard.
- 11.5 The walk shall be flat-footed.
- 11.6 The length of hooves, shod or unshod, shall not exceed 90mm for ponies 1,37m and under and 100mm for ponies or Cobs over 1,37m. Un-natural hooves shall be discriminated against. The length of the hoof is measured from the coronet band to the tip of the hoof.

12. Shoeing

- 12.1 The weight of shoes shall not exceed 250g for ponies 1,37m and under and 500g for ponies or Cobs over 1,37m.
- 12.2 Trick shoes, pads, hooks or loading are not permitted. Bar shoes are permitted providing they comply with the applicable weight restriction.
- 12.3 Ponies under two years should preferably be shown unshod, but if shoes are necessary very light plates should be used.

13. Bits

Bits may not be square, twisted, serrated or made of wire or chain. The use of string, wire, twine, cord or anything similar in the horse's mouth is prohibited.

14. Show Ring Etiquette

- 14.1 It is the responsibility of competitors to have their ponies in the show ring on time.
- 14.2 At the Ring Steward's direction, with the judge's permission, ponies may be allowed to enter the ring after the class has begun. However, in classes where performance is judged, all ponies shall take part in all phases of the class before being considered for a prize.
- 14.3 All instructions from the judges or stewards shall be carried out and no competitor may retire from a class without the judge's permission.
- 14.4 In addition to show officials only those persons actually showing exhibits (and their grooms on the carriage in driving classes) will be allowed into the arena during the judging of a class. Any person contravening this rule will be removed and may be fined an amount as laid down by Council from time to time. Except in emergencies where there is risk of serious injury to a person or animal no person other than arena officials and grooms in driving classes, may give assistance to a competitor during a competition.
- 14.5 No person shall be allowed to crack a whip or in any way attract the attention of an exhibit being judged to the detriment of other exhibits in the class.
- 14.6 No whip or cane over 110cm long may be used in in-hand or ridden classes unless otherwise specified in the show schedule.
- 14.7 The use of artificial performance enhancers is not permitted and the Show Committee or Council has the right to order the examination of any pony if this practice is suspected. If the use of artificial performance enhancers is proved all ponies exhibited by the owner shall be withdrawn from the show and any prize monies shall be forfeited. The Council will decide if any further action should be taken.
- 14.8 Drawing of blood is a discrimination or a disqualification if excessive. Blood in the mouth is always a disqualification from that specific class.
- 14.9 Any animal which is not completely under control or which is acting in a manner dangerous to other exhibitors shall be asked to leave the arena.
- 14.10 Judges will discriminate against "Stretching"
- 14.11 Action may be taken against any person behaving in a manner likely to bring disrepute to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa.
- 14.12 Competitors are required to take part in all parades arranged by a show society unless they have a medical or veterinary certificate permitting their withdrawal, otherwise prize money shall be forfeit and future entries may be refused.
- 14.13 All persons in the arena must be neatly dressed. Assistants for driving classes must wear a shirt with a collar & tie and long trousers.

15. Substitutions

- 15.1 Either pony or rider/driver but not both pony AND rider/driver may be substituted.
- 15.2 Substitutions on a suitable form, signed by the owner or exhibitor, must be made to the organising committee of the show not later than thirty minutes before the commencement of the class concerned.
- 15.3 Substitution of ponies is not permitted in classes for which entry is restricted by qualification from previous classes.
- 15.4 An owner or exhibitor may substitute any pony in a class PROVIDED the pony complies with the normal requirements of the Society and the show for eligibility to the class as at the first day of the show.
- 15.5 Substitution of a rider / driver may be permitted in any class PROVIDED the rider / driver complies with the normal requirements of the Society and the show for eligibility to the class as at the first day of the show.
- 15.6 Any member found to be in breach of the rules governing membership, registration, grading, height, qualification or age groups of rider/ driver or pony as a result of a substitution shall be disciplined by Council in terms of clause 6.2d of the Constitution.

16 Participation after Withdrawal

Ponies or riders who have been withdrawn on veterinary or medical grounds, may participate in further classes at the same show provided they are fit to do so.

17 Measuring of ponies

- 17.1 The onus is on the exhibitor to ensure that his ponies are entered in the correct class and are not over the height limit laid down in the Breed Standard.
- 17.2 Section B ponies that are over height may compete in classes where performance is the sole criterion for judging and the breed section is not specified in the prize list.
- 17.3 Officiating judges, stewards or show convenors have the right to measure any pony if they suspect it has been entered in the wrong class.
- 17.4 A Senior Judge, a member of the show committee and one other impartial, experienced person (preferably a senior judge of another breed) shall measure the pony. The decision of this committee is final. If necessary and possible the pony will be transferred to the correct class.
- 17.5 Height certificates may be requested at any show held under the auspices of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa.

18 Procedure in Championship classes

- 18.1 Unless specifically described otherwise in the prize list the procedure for all Championship classes is as follows: All first and second prize-winners of the qualifying classes enter the ring together. ROSETTES MAY NOT BE WORN. The Championship is judged as a new class.
- 18.2 Should any rider/driver be involved in another class at the same time as a Championship or have two ponies qualified for the same Championship, he/she may nominate another eligible competitor to ride/drive one of the ponies.

Rules applicable to In-Hand classes Only

19 Conditions of entry for In Hand classes

- 19.1 No exhibitor may enter a stallion over four years in a Breed class unless the stallion has a veterinary certificate of clearance from genital abnormalities and hereditary defects and has been DNA tested as required by the Society. The requisite certificates shall be in the possession of the Secretary of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa by the closing date of entries to the relevant show.
- 19.2 At a National or Regional Championship, no stallion over the age of eight years will be allowed to compete in a breed class unless the stallion has sired at least one birth notified foal or a mare is certified in foal to the stallion and such certificate is in the possession of the Secretary of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa by the first day of the relevant show.
- 19.3 At a National or Regional Championship show, no mare over the age of eight years will be allowed to compete in breed classes unless she has produced at least one birth-notified foal or is certified in foal and such a certificate is in the possession of the Secretary of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa by the first day of the relevant show.
- 19.4 At National or Regional Championships a class shall be offered for Barren Mares that have never produced a live foal. The first and second prize-winners from such a class shall be eligible to compete in the Supreme Breed Championship for the relevant section.
- 19.5 At National or Regional Championships geldings may not compete with mares or stallions in Breed classes.
- 19.6 At National or Regional Championships geldings may not compete in any Breed Championship class other than a Championship specifically for geldings.

20. Tack to be used in In-Hand classes

- 20.1 All ponies, other than stallions aged two years and over, may be shown in halters, headcollars with or without slip chains or bridles.
- 20.2 Stallions aged two years and over must be shown in bridles or headcollars with slip chains.
- 20.3 Stallions may be shown in stallion rig (Surcingle, crupper and sidereins), however exhibitors must be prepared to remove the rig during the class at the request of the judge.
- 20.4 Ponies that are shown in bridles may use any of the bits listed in the show rules.

See Rule 13

21 Exhibitors

- 21.1 Exhibitors shall be neatly and smartly dressed.
- 21.2 With the permission of the Judge a competitor may show more than one Pony or Cob in the individual run-out phase of a class providing that there is a second handler to lead one of the animals in the other phases of the class.

Rules applicable to Riding Classes

22. Age of rider

In riding classes a Junior shall be a person under the age of eighteen years and an Adult shall be a person eighteen years or older.

23. Age of ponies

23.1 No pony under the age of three years shall be shown in riding classes.

24 Turnout of Riders

Correct riding dress shall be worn in all classes except where specifically stated otherwise in these rules or in a prizelist. The correct dress is: hunt cap or bowler, jacket, shirt and tie (or American style shirt and stock), jodhpurs and boots (or breeches and long boots, if preferred, for adults). Gloves and crop or showing cane are optional. Police or Military uniform is permitted.

In working classes a plain, light coloured, short-sleeved shirt with a collar may be worn without a jacket but full dress must be worn in subsequent championships.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES may a rider compete without a hard hat.

25. Tack to be used in riding classes.

25.1 No martingales, boots or bandages will be allowed. This rule shall not apply to show jumping classes or the jumping phase of Working Hunter classes.

25.2 No saddle cloths with stud names or advertising logos shall be used, except as decided by Council from time to time.

25.3 Plastic sacks may not be used as saddle cloths in any class.

25.4 Only bits from the list of permissible bits may be used. N.B. Some of the listed bits may only be used in In-Hand or Driving classes.

Snaffle bridles, pelhams or double bridles may be used in all classes unless specifically stated otherwise in these rules or in a prize list. **See rule 13**

25.5 The use of very narrow or sharp bits or bits with cheekpieces longer than 10cm will be penalised.

25.6 Any competitor riding a pony with a bit that causes bleeding or bruising will be asked to leave the arena and disqualified from the class.

25.7 Only non-rowelled blunt spurs may be used. Spurs must be worn with the points facing down. Spurs are prohibited in certain classes – please see rules for specific classes.

26. Ridden stallions

26.1 Stallions may be ridden by children, juniors or adults unless the prizelist specifically states otherwise. It is responsibility of the owner to ensure that the stallion is under complete control of the rider.

26.2 In no class where stallions are allowed to compete may a judge discriminate against the pony because it is a stallion.

27. Cross entries

27.1 Cross entries are not permitted between Novice and Open ponies in classes of the same type.

27.2 No cross entry of pony is allowed in any working or Farm Pony type classes where the class is divided by age of rider.

28. Junior Ponies

- 28.1 In riding classes a Junior Pony shall be under the age of five years.
- 28.2 Junior ponies shall be ridden in snaffle bridles (as per list of permissible bits) with a drop, cavesson or flash noseband.
- 28.3 Spurs may not be used on Junior ponies.

29. Novice Ponies

- 29.1 Unless specifically stated otherwise in the prizelist a Novice is a pony that has not gained eleven points or won a Championship in the relevant Welsh class.
- 29.2 Novice ponies shall be ridden in a snaffle bridle with a drop, cavesson or flash noseband or a simple pelham bridle with a cavesson noseband and either two reins or a single rein with rein connectors. (see list of permissible bits)

30. Leadrein classes

- 30.1 Stallions may not be ridden in Leadrein classes.
- 30.2 In a lead rein class, the pony must be ridden in a snaffle bridle with the leadrein attached to the noseband and not to the bit.
- 30.3 In a leadrein class the rider may not wear spurs or carry a crop.
- 30.4 In a leadrein class the rider must be over three years and under ten years and the leader must be over twelve years of age.
- 30.5 Children who ride in a leadrein class may not cross enter with any other type of class unless this is specifically allowed in the prize list.
- 30.6 Leadrein classes shall be ridden at the walk and the trot.
- 30.7 Leaders shall be neatly and suitably dressed. There may be no discrimination against leaders in riding clothes.

31. First Pony classes

- 31.1 Stallions may not be ridden in First Pony classes
- 31.2 In First Pony classes the rider may not wear spurs.
- 31.3 In a First Pony class the rider must be over three years and under twelve years
- 31.4 Ponies may be ridden in a snaffle or a pelham bridle. Double Bridles are not permitted in First Pony classes.
- 31.5 At the discretion of the show convenor, First Pony classes may be split into First Pony & First Year First Ridden classes. Where only one type of class is offered it will be treated as a First Pony class, unless it is specifically stated otherwise in the prize-list.
- 31.6 All First Pony classes will be ridden at a Walk and Trot. In First Pony classes competitors may canter in their individual show but this must never be a compulsory requirement of the class. In First Year First Ridden classes competitors may not canter at any stage.
- 31.7 Children who ride in first pony classes may not cross enter with any other type of class unless this is specifically allowed in the prize list.

32. Three-Gaited classes

Ponies shall be judged at a walk, trot and canter.

33. Ridden Welsh Pony

- 33.1 Ponies shall be judged at a walk, trot and canter. At the judge's discretion competitors in Open classes may be asked to extend the trot, lengthen the canter and / or rein-back.

- 33.2 Time allowing, all ponies shall be asked to give an individual test. Show convenors should, if possible, make allowance in the time-table for individual tests by all competitors.
- 33.3 Ponies will not be stripped in Welsh Ridden classes.

34. Working, Utility or Farm Pony type classes.

- 34.1 In working classes competitors will be judged on performance only. Conformation and turnout shall not be taken into account. A test will be set by the judge and a points system of scoring shall be used. The points score-sheet will be made available to the competitors within a reasonable time after the completion of the class.
- 34.2 In Farm Pony classes the turnout of the rider will be taken into account. The pony and rider should be turned out in dress appropriate for working on the farm but a hard hat and closed shoes with heels must be worn. This class is not a Fancy Dress class.

Rules applicable to Driving classes

It is the wish of Council to encourage driving in all its forms, in all sections of Welsh Ponies and Cobs. To achieve this objective as few restrictions as possible must be introduced while maintaining the highest standard possible.

35 Assistants

- 35.1 As a safety measure, Drivers may, at any time, have an assistant on the vehicle. In Single Harness, Double Harness and Tandem classes, the assistant should not speak or interfere in any way with the driving.
- 35.2 In a team of four, the assistant may help the driver.
- 35.3 In a team of eight, there is no limit to the number of assistants nor to the amount of assistance they may give the driver.

36 Vehicle and Harness

- 36.1 There must be no discrimination against the type of vehicle or harness as long as it is in a good state of repair, clean and suited to the particular type of class being judged.
- 36.2 *Single Harness*
The following vehicles are acceptable in a Single harness class:
- Four wheeled rubber-tyred light spider
 - Four wheeled cartwheel light spider
 - Two wheeled rubber-tyred light cart
 - Two wheeled cartwheel light cart or gig
- 36.3 *Double harness*
The same vehicle may be used in double harness as for single harness but it will have one shaft instead of two.
- 36.4 *Tandem*
- a) In a Tandem class the same vehicle may be used as for single harness.
 - b) Breeching is recommended for the wheeler. A suitable strap across the shafts
 - c) may be used for the same purpose.
 - d) The leader's traces may be attached to either the shafts or to the wheeler's harness.

36.5 *Team of Four*

- a) The same vehicle may be used as for double harness, keeping in mind that the vehicle for a team of four may be heavier than a double harness vehicle. A four wheel vehicle such as a light spider is perhaps most suitable.
- b) The wheeler harness must have suitable breeching.
- c) The use of a coupling bar is optional.

36.6 *Team of eight*

- a) A team of eight should be shown in an iron tyred wagon in a good state of repair and with effective brakes.
- b) The wheelers should be harnessed in wheel harness. This means reinforced brake thongs, breastplate and traces. The wheelers' swingle trees and swingle tree straps must be strong enough to hold the entire team in case of emergency, e.g. if the shaft should break or come loose.
- c) The use of a coupling bar and long traces (two front bars) is optional.

37. Bits

37.1 Any suitable type of bit or snaffle (as per list of permissible bits) may be used.

See rule 13

37.2 No materials may be used to tie down a pony's tongue during a harness class.

38. Dress

38.1 Gentlemen

- a) A suit or sportswear with a jacket and tie. In a team of eight class no jacket or tie need be worn.
- b) A hat should be worn.
- c) Gloves are optional.
- d) A driving apron or rug is optional.

38.2 Ladies

- a) Suitable dress, either a skirt or slacks. Riding clothes should not be worn.
- b) A hat may be worn.
- c) Gloves are optional but are preferred dress.
- e) A driving apron or rug is optional.
- d) Ladies fine harness classes are driven in evening dress.

38.3 Juniors

Juniors under the age of eighteen years may drive in riding clothes unless stipulated otherwise in the Prize list.

38.4 Private Drive

Hats, gloves and a driving apron or rug are compulsory for all drivers.

39. Age of ponies

- a) No pony under the age of two years shall be driven in harness classes.
- b) In Tandem, double harness, tricorn or team of four (or more) classes for ponies five years and over, one or more ponies under the age of five years may be used but ponies of five years and over may never be driven in a class for ponies under the age of five years.

40. Ownership of ponies

In double harness or tandem classes both the ponies must be the property of one owner. In teams of four, three of the ponies must be the property of one owner. In teams of six or eight, five of the ponies must be the property of one owner.

41. Gaits

41.1 Single Harness

- a) **WALK.** The walk must be flat-footed. An animated walk simulating a short gait or jog is not permitted and must be discriminated against.
- b) **WORKING TROT.** This is a slow trot but the speed as such is unimportant. It is a gait that can be kept up for long distances without overtiring the pony.
- c) **EXTENDED TROT** This is intended to show the “up and forward” action of the Welsh Pony or Cob. It is not a race and speed will vary with the individual pony.

41.2 Ladies Fine Harness

The gait is a slow, stylish showy trot. Ponies will come back to a walk to change direction.

41.3. Tandem, Double Harness & Team of Four

The gait is a working trot.

41.4. Team of six or eight

The gait is a working trot. Exhibitors may be requested to give an individual show but they will retire immediately when asked to do so.

42. Overtaking

When under judgement, in any class and at any gait, a competitor may overtake on either the inside or the outside providing he does not obstruct the vehicle he is passing. Any competitor willfully obstructing another competitor who wishes to pass will be penalised.

43. Procedure for Single Harness classes

Competitors enter the ring anti-clockwise at a working trot. They will then also be judged at an extended trot and walk in both directions, as required by the judge. Competitors will not be judged during the turn-around.

44. Procedure for Private Drive classes

Competitors enter the ring at a walk. At the judge’s instruction the steward will request the competitors to trot and then to “drive on” at an extended trot. Competitors are requested to return to the trot and then change rein across the arena. The same procedure is followed on the other rein. Competitors are called in to line in the order decided by the judge. The judge walks down the line and inspects each entry with regard to turnout and safety. Each competitor is requested to do an individual show before the final placings are made. In Open classes a rein-back may be requested.

45. Procedure for all other classes

In all other classes competitors enter at a working trot and thereafter obey the judge’s instructions.

46. Instructions

Providing all the necessary officials and equipment are available the judge, through the Ring Steward, will give instructions via the announcer over the public address system so that competitors can hear the commands. The instructions which the Ring Steward gives to the announcer are as follows:

- a) Walk - one finger in the air

- b) Working trot - two fingers in the air
- c) Extended trot - outspread hand waved in front of the body
- d) Come in - two hands circling towards the body
- e) Reride - closed fist in the air.

Recommendations for Driving Classes

1. Natural Action

The Welsh breed has a beautiful natural action which should be preserved at all costs. This action is quick, free and straight from the shoulder, well away in front to give a high reaching action. Hocks should be well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and well under the body.

2. Colour

Because Welsh Ponies cover the entire colour spectrum of recognized colours in horses, lesser emphasis should be laid on matched colours. Of all the requirements needed to make an excellent pair, matched colour is by far the least important and should, therefore, only ever be a recommendation and never a requirement. Breeders must never be tempted to breed substandard animals for the sake of colour.

3. General Impression

The outstandingly good temperament of the Welsh Pony is one of the two most important characteristics of the breed and it should be easily observed in all Welsh classes. When in motion ponies must give the impression that they are happy and enjoying themselves. Their carriage must be proud and dignified.

4. Single Harness

- 4.1 The overall picture is important.
- 4.2 Style, set, action and balance must be maintained throughout the class whenever the pony is in movement.
- 4.3 The head should be carried proudly and gaily with no star-gazing or over-bending. The mouth must be shut and the pony must not give the impression it is unhappy with the bit. The driven pony should always be comfortably up on the bit indicating conscious obedience.
- 4.4 Action must be flowing and harmonious. Short, choppy strides must be discouraged.
- 4.5 The pony should not break into a canter, but if it does it must come back to a trot without any problems. If the pony breaks often it must be discriminated against.
- 4.6 At the trot all four legs must maintain an even rhythm. The pony should not trail its hind legs nor canter with its hind legs while trotting in front.
- 4.7 The pony must be easy to handle. At a walk the pony should be able to make an about turn in any direction when asked to do so, to demonstrate its obedience.
- 4.8 When asked to "drive on" or "show your ponies" the judge must discriminate against overdriving. Exhibitors cannot expect their ponies to maintain style and balance if they drive them too fast.

5. Tandem

- 5.1 All recommendations for Single Harness apply to tandem classes.
- 5.2 The leader must be under sufficient control that the wheeler is not forced to continually apply brakes.

- 5.3 In the event of one pony being slightly larger than the other, the smaller pony should be the leader and the larger pony the wheeler.
- 5.4 On the straight, the vehicle and both ponies should be in as straight a line as possible. The leader should not be too far from the wheeler and should constitute a unit with the wheeler and the vehicle.

6. Double Harness

- 6.1 Up to 4cm difference in height when standing still should not be discriminated against if it is not prominently visible when the ponies are in motion.
- 6.2 Matched colours in driving classes are, at best, a recommendation but can never be a requirement.
- 6.3 The ponies must be matched as far as type of action, carriage, ability and presence are concerned.
- 6.4 Welsh action should be encouraged; any trend towards Hackney movement should be discouraged.
- 6.5 Style, action and set must be maintained in this class. Heads must be carried proudly, up on the bit, without pointed noses or stargazing.

7. Team of Four

- 7.1 All the recommendations for Tandem and Double Harness apply where appropriate.
- 7.2 The idea of a team of four is to travel over a distance with a load that is too heavy for a pair or a tricorn therefore the workload must be distributed equally among the ponies. At modern agricultural shows, where it is not always practical to insist on the ideal vehicle, discretion must be exercised when applying this rule, because the wheelers might be slightly against the breeching, but not to their discomfort.
- 7.3 The wheelers should follow their respective leaders in a straight line. Wheelers should not drag sideways or lean on the shaft.
- 7.4 If there is a difference in size, the larger pair should be the wheelers.

8. Team of Eight

- 8.1 The ideal is to have the three spaces between the four pairs as equal as possible. Care must be taken that any pair in front does not pull on the necks of the pair behind them. The Neck straps of the middle two pairs should be almost vertical if correctly harnessed. Leaders and wheelers should not wear halters.
- 8.2 In the event of all the ponies not being exactly the same height, the largest pair should be the wheelers with the ponies decreasing in size towards the front. The smallest pair being the leaders.
- 8.3 All eight ponies should work together as a team, with all four pairs comfortably up on their bits, pulling the same weight.
- 8.4 The four ponies at either side of the team must follow their respective leaders in a straight line. No member of the team should either drag away from the tow-line or bear against it.
- 8.5 When turning, all four pairs must actively participate, indicating that they are all equally up on their bits.

Recommendations to Judges and Procedures for Riding Classes

1. Leadrein class

This class is judged on the overall picture presented by pony, rider and leader.

1.1 Pony

a) Type and Movement

While type must always be a consideration in PUREBRED classes the action of a lead rein pony will not be as spectacular as one might expect in a Breed or Harness class. The pony should move with a free, forward action, which neither throws the rider out of the saddle because of an exaggerated length of stride nor causes the rider to bounce up and down because it has short, restricted paces.

The ideal pony stays at the shoulder of the leader and neither pulls away in front so that it needs to be restrained nor trails behind so that it has to be dragged along. It is essential that a lead rein pony should halt and stand when requested to do so.

b) Turnout

The pony should be neatly turned out in a plain leather snaffle bridle, with the lead rein, which should preferably be leather or dark webbing, attached to the back of the noseband NOT the bit. The Judge may, through the steward, request that the leadrein be correctly placed if it is wrongly attached.

Sheepskin saddles, pony pads and saddles with a leather loop in front must not be discriminated against and are preferable to a leather saddle that is too big for either child or pony.

Purebred ponies should be shown unplaited. In classes where pure and partbred ponies compete together the fact that the partbred ponies may have been trimmed should not be a discriminating factor.

1.2 Rider

a) Ability

The rider must exhibit some degree of control over the pony and be able to give simple aids requiring the pony to move forward, turn to either side and halt. The ability of the rider to rise to the trot is a recommendation but should not be the only deciding factor in placing a class.

b) Turnout

While the ideal turnout is a rider in correct riding dress (see rule 23), it must be accepted that there may be practical limitations with respect to small children.

Providing children have correct hard hats and closed shoes with heels, items such as school blazers and school shoes should not be discriminated against.

Waistcoats, instead of jackets, are permissible.

1.3 Leader

a) Competence

The leader should not give the impression of pulling the pony along or noticeably holding it back. He / she should appear to be acting as an “emergency brake”.

Leaders must be competent enough to control the pony in an emergency and be able to remove the child from the saddle if necessary.

b) Turnout

The leader should be dressed in a neat, practical unobtrusive outfit. While riding kit is not ideal it should not be discriminated against. Any form of dress that impedes the leader’s movement, such as long riding boots or high heeled shoes,

or distracts from the overall picture, such as a tight or slit skirt, is not suitable for this class.

1.4 Judging Procedures

a) Lead Rein class

Competitors circle the judge at a walk with the leader on the outside of the circle. The judge may request the class to halt and then trot on, one at a time, to the back of the circle. The class is then lined up as the judge requires. Competitors give an individual show to demonstrate a walk, trot and halt. Competitors should not be requested or encouraged to dismount in this class.

b) Lead rein working pony class

This class is judged on performance only. Tests should be performed at a walk and trot. There will be a maximum of five tests that may include the following:

- Lead at a trot over trotting poles.
- Lead at a trot between bending poles.
- Halt next to a drum or similar while rider picks up a small object such as a cuddly toy.
- Rider to dismount & remount from a straw bale.
- Rider to dismount and lead pony a short distance.
- Leader to walk along one side of a lane of bales while pony & rider walk through the lane.

Lead rein competitors must NOT be asked to jump.

c) It is strongly recommended that in Lead rein classes only the first two or three ponies are placed and that the rest of the class is announced as equally “highly commended”. All competitors should receive a rosette.

2. First Pony Classes

2.1 Pony

a) Type and Movement.

Recommendations for lead rein ponies will apply in First Pony classes. A pony which is too strong for the rider, or one that has to be kicked at each step to move forward, must be heavily penalised.

b) Turnout

Recommendations for Lead rein classes will apply.

c) Tack

Ponies may be ridden in a snaffle or a pelham bridle. Double Bridles are not permitted in First Pony classes.

2.2 Judging Procedures

a) First Pony class

Competitors walk, and then on command, trot one behind the other, in a large circle around the judge. One competitor is asked to change the rein, and the others follow diagonally across the ring and trot in a circle in the opposite direction. The competitors are then requested to walk and line up in accordance with the judge’s requirements. Each competitor is requested to give an individual show at a walk and trot. Competitors may canter in their individual show if they wish to do so but this should not be the deciding factor in judging a class. Once all the individual tests have been completed, the competitors walk in a large circle until they are called into line in order of the judge’s preference.

In regions where First Pony classes are well supported, they may be divided into “First Year First Ridden” and First Pony. The **“First Year First Ridden” class**

will be judged according to the procedure given above but competitors may not canter during their individual show. Where the type of class is not specified the class will be judged as a **First Pony class**.

b) **First Working Pony**

A maximum of five simple tests should be used. Tests will be judged at a walk and trot only unless the class is an Advanced First Working class. In such a class a maximum of two tests may include a canter. (In **“First Year First Ridden”** working classes no tests will be ridden at a canter). Tests should be similar to those used in Lead rein classes. A small (max.50cm) jump may be included. Riders in First Working Pony classes must not be asked to rein-back. Items which make a noise when they are carried should be avoided. Competitors in “First Year First Ridden” classes may not enter First Working Hunter classes.

c) All competitors in “First Year First Ridden” First Pony and First Working Pony classes should receive a Rosette. In all First Pony, First Working Pony and First Working Hunter classes the lap of honour will be ridden at a trot.

3. Purebred Riding classes

3.1 Type

In all Purebred Riding classes, except Working and Farm Pony, Breed Type must be taken into consideration and judges must be aware of the differences in movement associated with the different Purebred sections. Ponies are not stripped for the judging of the type and conformation phase of the class.

3.2 Tack

While Novice Ponies may only be ridden in a Snaffle or simple Pelham bridle, no discrimination should be made with regard to bits used in Open classes, providing they conform with the list of bits in the Show Rules.

3.3 Judging Procedures

a) **Purebred Ridden Pony**

Ponies enter the arena one behind the other, walking in a circle on the right rein (clockwise). On command competitors trot and then canter. One competitor is requested to change the rein diagonally across the arena and canter on the opposite rein. The remaining competitors follow the lead rider. Once competitors have cantered on both reins they are requested to trot, then walk and line up in accordance with the judge’s requirements. Each competitor is then requested to give an individual show. In Novice classes competitors will be judged at a walk, trot, canter and halt only. In Open classes competitors may additionally be required to extend the trot, lengthen the canter and rein-back. On completion of all the individual tests, all the competitors walk in a large circle until they are called into line in order of the judge’s placings. Prize winners should line up from left to right facing the judge.

b) **Purebred Hunter**

Procedure for this class is the same as for Purebred Ridden Pony except that the emphasis in the individual test should be on the gallop. It is not recommended that competitors gallop together. Paces suitable to the hunting field and hunter type, should be taken into consideration in this class.

c) **Purebred Three-Gaited Class**

Ponies enter the ring on the left rein (anti-clockwise), one behind the other, at a trot. On command, competitors trot, walk, canter, walk, turn around and repeat

the procedure on the other rein. Competitors then come in and line up. The judge walks down the line before giving the final placings to the steward. Placings are announced over the microphone and competitors trot forward to receive their rosettes as their names are called. This class is judged on action, presence, schooling, manners and turnout, in that order. The gaits should be executed in a collected manner. The walk should be prompt, showy, done cheerfully in form, without any dancing or fretting. The trot is the gait most emphasized and must be true and well collected; excessive speed is not desired. The canter should be slow, rhythmic and performed on the correct leads.

4. Partbred Riding classes

4.1 Type

The Show Rules state that Welsh pony type must not be taken into account when Partbred ponies are judged. Emphasis must be placed on suitability for the type of class being judged. Ponies are not stripped for the judging of the type and conformation phase of the class

4.2 Tack

While Novice Ponies may only be ridden in a Snaffle or simple Pelham bridle, no discrimination should be made with regard to bits used in Open classes, providing they conform with the list of bits in the Show Rules.

4.3 Judging Procedures

- a) Partbred Show Pony and Show Riding Pony - As for Purebred Ridden Pony
- b) Partbred Show Hunter - As for Purebred Hunter
- c) Partbred Three-Gaited - As for Purebred Three-gaited

5 Pure & Partbred Working Pony

5.1 Judging Procedures

- a) Working Pony classes are judged on TEST only. If the “general impression” column of the score sheet is used, it should contain a mark reflecting the smoothness and ease with which all the tests were performed. No mark should be given for conformation, turnout & / or Breed type.
- b) Five or six tests are sufficient and should be of a practical nature, suitable to the average age of the rider.
- c) Tests should be designed to show that the pony is obedient, well schooled, able to jump, extend its paces, show a steady temperament and stand still when required to do so.

6. Pure and Partbred Farm Pony

6.1 Turnout of Pony

- a) Clean, tidy, unplaited pony.
- b) Sturdy clean bridle, with a halter under the bridle, and lead attached to the halter.
- c) Saddle with stirrups and a suitable saddle cloth.

6.2 Turnout of Rider

- a) Hard hat and closed shoes with a heel are compulsory.
- b) Suitable, neat farm clothes such as jeans and a t-shirt or open-necked shirt

6.3 Judging procedures

- a) Five or six tests should be sufficient for a class. Each test should be marked out of ten and a similar mark should be given for turnout. The class will be decided on these marks only.
- b) Suggested tests for Farm Pony classes are listed below but they do not need to be in the order listed and other tests reflecting farm situations may also be used.
 - Open & close a gate
 - Negotiate a lane made of shrubs or bales. (other equipment may be used to make the lane. If live animals, such as sheep, are available, they can easily be incorporated into this test.)
 - Dismount, drop reins, and leave pony to stand while rider retrieves an object.
 - Pick up a bag of straw, mount the pony and ride to a suitable drop-off point.
 - Gallop around a section of the arena, walk and halt.
 - Jump a small obstacle e.g. straw bale.
 - Crack a stock-whip while trotting or cantering around the arena. (N.B. this test is NOT suitable for small children)
- c) Judges must always remember that , not only should tests be imaginative and entertaining to both competitors and spectators, but must be as safe as possible, particularly when small children are competing.

7. Purebred and Partbred Working Hunter

7.1 Judging Procedure

After having walked the course, competitors enter the arena individually to jump a course of between six to eight jumps, hunter style, followed by a hunting gallop around the arena. Once all the competitors have jumped the course, those that were not eliminated re-enter the arena together to be judged for conformation, hunter type and, in Purebred classes only, Welsh type.

7.2 Marks

Marks are awarded as per the score sheets provided. Points are deducted from a total of 50 for fences knocked or refused. Marks out of 10 each are awarded for hunter pace, style & manners and gallop. A further mark out of 10 is awarded for type and conformation.

7.3 Recommended heights for Jumps

- Recommended height for First Working Hunters - 50cm
- Purebred Cub Hunters - 55cm
- Purebred Fox Hunters & Partbred Cub Hunters – 65cm
- Partbred Fox Hunters – 75cm

The Bits listed below are allowed in all classes providing nothing to the contrary is stated in these Show Rules

N.B. Please refer to Rule 13

Ball cheek Snaffle with plain jointed mouth piece
Bridoon & Curb
Bridoon & ported Curb
Curb Bit
D ring Snaffle - jointed
Eggbutt Bridoon and fixed cheek Curb
Eggbutt Pelham
Eggbutt Snaffle
Fixed cheek Pelham
Full spoon Snaffle
Globe Pelham
Half moon Eggbutt Snaffle
Half moon Eggbutt Snaffle – vulcanite
Half moon Loose Ring Snaffle
Half moon Pelham
Half moon stallion bit
Half spoon Snaffle
Jointed Eggbutt Snaffle
Jointed Kimblewick
Jointed Pelham
Kimblewick
Loose Ring vulcanite or rubber Snaffle
Loose Snaffle with cheek pieces
Military Pelham
Ported Pelham
Portuguese Snaffle
Reversed cheek Pelham
Ring Snaffle with jointed mouth piece
Ring Snaffle with double jointed mouth piece
Stallion Bit with port
Straight bar loose ring Pelham
Straight mouth Pelham
Vulcanite Pelham
Wilkie Snaffle

The following bits may only be used in In-Hand classes

Colt anti-rearing bit
Colt In-Hand bit
Tattersall Ring bit
Tattersall bit with keys

The following bit may only be used in Driving classes

Liverpool bit

Recommended Dress for Show Officials

Ladies	Gentlemen
Wide brim hat for protection against the sun	Hat or cap – preferably a wide brim hat for protection against the sun
Winter – smart-casual jacket Summer - optional	Sports Jacket – optional in Summer
Long sleeve dress, blouse or shirt for protection against the sun	Smart-casual shirt in a pastel colour
smart scarf - optional	Tie must be worn
Skirt – long enough not to blow up in wind, about knee level. Stockings – optional. Tailored slacks are also acceptable. Jeans are not suitable.	Smart-casual slacks, jeans are not suitable
Smart, comfortable, low heeled shoes. Takkies are not suitable	Smart, comfortable, low heeled shoes. Takkies are not suitable

This edition of the Show Rules comes into effect from 1st November 2019

Because the Rules were originally published in English, the English version is accepted as the official version. In cases of discrepancy between the English and Afrikaans versions the English version will be considered correct.

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