GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Intending exhibitors must read all Rules and Regulations carefully, and not to enter anything for exhibition unless they are prepared to comply strictly with the same.
The rules and conditions for each class and competition as published in this Competition Schedule are complete, final and binding. No other version of the class detail or rules are considered official.

Horse Show Entries

1. All entries must be made through the Online Entry System which is available via the following link: **https://www.dublinhorseshow.com/equestrian-information/online-entry/** for more information on the Online Entry System see pg 89.
2. All online entry forms must be accurately filled for every particular and an entry fee must be paid when submitting your entry online. No entry will be accepted unless it is made through the official Online Entry System and is accompanied by the full amount of the fees. The acceptance of an entry fee by the Society shall not be regarded as an admission that the exhibit is eligible to compete or receive an award.
3. All entry fees must be paid online by credit or debit card. Payment by cheque, cash or postal order is not accepted.
4. **Entries for all classes** will open on **Monday 25 May 2026,** at **9am** and close on **Monday 6 July 2026,** at **5pm**. With the exception of classes with qualifiers which take place after entries close, no late entries will be accepted. A refund of 60% of the entry fee will be made to any owner who cancels his / her entry in writing on or before 13 July 2026. All refunds will be processed after the Show.
5. Any horse entered in a wrong class may be excluded from competition. No alteration whatsoever can be made to an entry after it has been received, except under very exceptional circumstances, and if the notice is received in time. A fee of €40 must accompany each and every such alteration, which will be refunded if the alteration cannot be affected. An animal may not be entered in more than one class except as otherwise provided. No change of entries is permitted once the Catalogue is finalised.
6. Except as otherwise provided, no horse will be allowed on the Showgrounds unless duly entered in one of the classes.
7. All horses competing at the Show must be entered in the ownership as stated on its passport. All foals over six months of age entered at the Show must have a passport, and owners of foreign-bred or registered horses must complete a movement notification before entering at the Show.

   All particulars required in the online entry form must be fully stated; otherwise, the animal is liable to be disqualified for a prize, and to be excluded from the Show. The animal exhibited must be that described in the entry form and no other. The colour of each animal must be given on the entry form. Owners must state on the entry form the breeding of the horse, if known. The name and address of the breeder must also be given, if known. Each owner or agent must be prepared to verify every statement contained in the entry form in any manner the Committee may require. All horses and ponies must have a passport to enter the Showgrounds, and all animals issued with a passport after the 1 of July 2009 must be microchipped.
8. All horses must be entered and competed under their registered name, as it appears on the animal's passport currently. If a different name is given on the entry form, the Society reserves the right to refuse entry to the Showgrounds or change the name of the horse to its registered name.
9. All horses entered must be, from the time of entry to the date of the Show, bona fide, the property of the person in whose name the entry is made, except stallions which are hired for service in Ireland.
10. In the case of a horse entered in the name of joint owners, if any difference of opinion arises between the joint owners regarding entries, withdrawals, prize money or any other Show matter affecting the entry, the entry will be cancelled, no refund of the entry fee will be made, and all prize money will be forfeited.
11. The ages of horses competing is to be calculated from the 1 January, except in the case of yearlings and foals, when the month of birth must be given. An animal shall be regarded as a foal until the 1 January in the year after that in which it was foaled, and until the next succeeding 1 January it shall be regarded as a yearling, and so on.
12. Thoroughbred stock must be entered in the General Studbook (Thoroughbred) and must record the pedigree with the studbook reference given in the online entry form. In the case of Thoroughbred yearlings, the studbook reference of both the sire and dam must be given on the entry form.
13. No official of the Society is permitted to complete an online entry for an intending exhibitor.
14. Public Institutions may exhibit horses but shall not be eligible to receive prize money.
15. It is the responsibility of each owner to ensure that the handler, rider and horse meet all eligibility requirements when entering the Show. If an owner is found in breach of this rule they will be suspended from future Shows.
16. The Society reserves the right to decline or return any entry, without assigning any reason and shall not incur any liability thereby. In the event of the Society being unable to accept any entry, notice will be given as soon as possible after the final closing of the entries, and the fees lodged will be refunded.
17. No refund of entry fees will be made in the case of entries which are not sent forward for competition, or which are disqualified from the competition for failure to comply with regulations.
18. Only a certain number of stabling units are available on the Showgrounds, therefore entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis. Correct entries will receive preference.
19. Entire horses and ponies can only be entered in Classes 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 42, 43, 44, 48, 52, 54, 55, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 69, 70, 71, 76, 88, 89, 94, 95, 96, 97, 103, 104, 105, 106, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117. Stallions which are considered by the stewards to be dangerous or unmanageable will not be allowed to compete. Stallion identification tags and a blue 'hazard' tail ribbon must be worn on stallions at all times.

20. Irish bred classes - All horses in classes subject to the 'Irish bred' restriction must have the appropriate documentation to support that they were foaled in Ireland.

In the case of the show jumping classes for 4, 5 & 6 year old horses **only**, competitions are restricted to animals registered as being bred on the island of Ireland, and to those entire animals (stallions and mares) bred outside of Ireland, that are registered and approved / preliminary approved or selected for breeding in an Irish Studbook (approved by the Department of Agriculture).

21. Traditionally Bred Championship – Placed / rosette winning horses in Classes 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58 and 59 will compete for this Championship provided they are eligible by virtue of being identified as a Traditional Irish Horse (TIH) in the Irish Horse Register.

22. It is compulsory that all 4 and 5 year old horses / ponies entered in ridden and performance classes at the Show (with the exception of those classes with qualifiers) have competed in a minimum of three shows prior to 1 August 2026. Please note, owners will be required to state the three shows on their online entry form. An allowance will be made for owners who wish to compete in a Show scheduled between their time of entry and 1 August 2026, i.e. owners will be permitted to list a show that they intend to compete in. If an owner lists a future show but is then unable to attend the nominated show for reasons of force majeure, the owner must declare this to the Equestrian Office before 1 August 2026.

Proof of participation at these shows may be requested on arrival at the Dublin Horse Show and should incorrect or inaccurate information be supplied it will incur elimination. For 5 year old horses / ponies who competed as 4 year olds in 2025, this experience may be used to fulfil the three show requirement.

Postponement of Show

23. The Society reserves the right to postpone the Show or any part thereof definitely or indefinitely without incurring any liability to any owner, exhibitor or other party.

Prize Money and Refunds

24. Prize money and refunds will only be made payable to the Account Holder from which the entry was made. Prize money and refunds will be paid via transfer using the Trolley secure cloud-based payment platform only. (For more information on Trolley see the following link: https://trolley.com).

25. The prizes awarded will be paid before the end of September; but any prize not applied for within one year from the last day of the Show shall be forfeited; and none shall be paid until the Certificates of Qualification as may be required are produced.

26. A Parade of Champion and Reserve prize winning horses / ponies will take place in the Laya Arena as stated in the Programme; and every groom / exhibitor must be in attendance half an hour before the time announced for his / her Champion to appear in the parade. If a horse is absent from a parade, the owner will be liable to forfeit any prize or prizes which have been awarded to him / her for the horse. Any animals required for special parades must turn out for such parades when required to do so by the Society.

27. Any act of discourtesy or disobedience to the officials on the part of the owner, groom or rider will entitle the Organising Committee to disqualify the horse for adjudication or from taking a prize. The Society reserves to itself the power to remove any groom or horse from the Show, without being liable for compensation.

Welfare

28. Drugs

(a) The equine anti-doping rules of the Royal Dublin Society are the National Rules of Horse Sport Ireland, in particular, without limitation, National Rules 1.2, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and the Appendix, as may be amended from time to time, and these National Rules are and shall be construed as the rules of the Royal Dublin Society and apply to and are effective and binding on all owners of horses exhibited at the Dublin Horse Show who shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to comply strictly with the applicable National Rules.

(b) The selection of animals for testing will be decided by a Committee consisting of the RDS Chief Executive, the Chairman of the Equestrian Committee and the Show Director.

(c) The veterinary testing procedure will be explained by the testing veterinary surgeon to an owner / agent on request immediately prior to the testing procedure.

29. The Society reserves the right to publish any findings of any drug test and or any decisions or findings pursuant to Rule 28, 77, 81 or 82.

30. Rapping, excessive spurring, or any other form of cruelty is strictly forbidden. Breach of this rule may entail disqualification of rider and horse from this and future shows of the Society.

31. Trimming or removal of an animal's whiskers is not permitted in line with international horse welfare regulations.

32. The Society reserves the right to make such additional regulations in relation to animal health and welfare as may be required to implement the directions of any statutory body relating there to.

33. Video cameras will be in operation in the warm-up and practice arenas as a security measure and to monitor that the welfare standards of the Society are adhered to.

Responsibility

34. Neither the Society nor any of its Officers, Officials or Servants shall be in any way responsible or accountable for anything that may happen (from any cause or circumstance whatsoever) to owners or their agents, or to any exhibit or property brought into the Show premises or for anything else in connection with, or arising out of, or attributable to, the Society's Show. The Society shall not, in any way be responsible for, or accept any liability for horses or ponies left on the Society's Showgrounds after the last day of the Show. Each owner shall be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to or occasioned by, or arising from any animal or article exhibited by him / her, and for its description as given in the Catalogue, and shall indemnify the Society against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto and take out appropriate

insurance cover for this purpose. The Society will endeavour to have the Catalogue as complete as possible and in accordance with the particulars given on the entry forms; it cannot, however, hold itself responsible for any additions, omissions, or mistakes which may occur for any reason, whatsoever, in the Catalogue. Owners will be held responsible for the behaviour of their servants, or agents, and for the consequences of any misconduct of such servants or agents.

35. Owners and their agents are responsible for the security of their own animals. Whilst the RDS engages security personnel to provide general security during the Dublin Horse Show, this should not be understood to provide individual security for an exhibit. The security and the integrity of the exhibit remains solely the responsibility of the owners and their agents.

36. Any injury to an equine on the Showgrounds is the sole responsibility of the owner / agent.

37. Owner Responsibilities

(a) All exhibitors leading, riding or showing equines in competition must be over 16 years of age on 1 January 2026, unless otherwise stated in class description. No person under 16 years of age will be allowed to show, ride or lead ponies / horses in parade **with the exception of riders in the Connemara Performance Hunter, Small Hunters, Riding Horses, Ridden Connemara Ponies and Coloured Horses**.

(b) Owners must have a competent attendant in charge of their horses or ponies at all times until same are removed from the Showgrounds.

(c) Owners are responsible for ensuring that their animal(s) is presented for adjudication or competition when required.

38. No person may lead more than one horse or one pony at any time on the Showgrounds. Any person leading / riding an animal must be competent to do so. Each owner must ensure that their exhibits are in the ring at the correct time. Owners must see that (a) those in charge of led stock in the rings or general enclosure must be neatly dressed, (tracksuits and jeans are strictly forbidden, see Rule 61, pg 22) and (b) riders of their exhibits are correctly attired. Protective headgear conforming to the current recommended BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark standards – PAS 015 2011, Snell E2016 (with official Snell label and number), ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards with SEI Mark), VG1 01.040 (2014-12), UTAC / CRITT or AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards and must have SAI Global mark), and fitted with an adjustable harness, is compulsory for all riders. (Please note that as of 1 January 2023 hats with PAS 015 (1998) and Snell E2001 kitemarks / standards can no longer be accepted). It is compulsory for riders under the age of 16 years and for all riders competing in performance classes i.e. Working Hunter Horses, Working Hunter Ponies, Performance Irish Draught, Connemara Performance Hunter, Junior Equitation, Young Event Horse and Junior / Young Rider Event Horse. In the ridden show classes, gentlemen and lady riders over 16 years of age may, if they so choose, wear a bowler hat (gentlemen) or a velvet hunt cap (ladies).

39. All exhibitors leading, riding or showing equines in competition must be over 16 years of age on 1 January 2026, unless otherwise stated in the class description. No person under 16 years of age will be allowed to show, ride or lead ponies / horses in parade **with the exception of riders in the Connemara Performance Hunter, Small Hunters, Riding Horses, Ridden Connemara Ponies and Coloured Horses.**

Arrivals / Departures

40. Particulars regarding times of arrival will be supplied to owners prior to the Show. Owners must ensure that passports for each animal must be available for inspection on the actual day of arrival. If this passport is not available, the animal will not be allowed into the RDS Showgrounds (see also Rule 57 & 66).

41. No horse or pony will be admitted into the Showgrounds before the Monday prior to the Show.

42. All animals which have completed their adjudication, and are not required for parades, may be removed between 8.00am and 8.00pm via the Arrivals / Departure Area on surrendering their head number or travelling label. All animals that are finished their classes and not taking part in parades must be removed from the Showgrounds on the day they last compete.

43. No horse / pony shall be removed from the Show unless in consequence of illness requiring immediate veterinary treatment. To obtain a 'pass-out' for a horse so affected the owner or his / her agent must have his / her animal examined by one of the Society's official veterinary surgeons and on this certifying that the horse is ill, and that the necessary veterinary treatment cannot be delayed without serious risk or damage to the animal, and recommending its removal, the owner will be furnished with the necessary 'pass-out' by the Equestrian Office.

Competition / Catalogue Numbers

44. Exhibitors will be notified of their horse's Competition / Catalogue Number via their Online Account in the days leading up to the Show. Exhibitors must check their Online Account before arriving at the RDS Showgrounds and have each horse's Competition / Catalogue Number to hand for presentation and inspection at Arrivals.

Each horse / pony will be allocated its Competition Numbers in the Arrivals Area, one number to be worn by the handler and one to be displayed on the animal. These numbers must be worn by both the handler and equine when the animal is out of its stable or box. These Competition Numbers must be worn during **ALL** competitions and during exercise. *On the horse's neck in the case of jumping competitions. **No equine is permitted to leave its stabling area without displaying its Competition Number on its browband or around its neck.**

45. A penalty of €50 will be imposed if horses or ponies which are present on the Showgrounds are absent from the competition or judging ring unless prevented or excused by one of the Society's official veterinary surgeons.

Tack

46. Each horse / pony must be provided with sufficiently strong, well maintained and correctly fitting saddlery and harness and it must be suitable for the task. In the showing and show jumping classes saddles and bridles must be used. In the led classes (yearlings and upwards) a leather bridle complete with a suitable bit and lead rein must be used. Double bridles are not permitted in the Young Horse classes. Foals must have a sufficiently strong, leather head collar and lead rein. Any exhibitor who presents a horse in the competition arena with incorrect tack will be eliminated.

Stabling

47. All equines with stable accommodation must be in situ and remain undisturbed in their allocated accommodation from 9pm to 5am. No equine will be permitted entry or exit to the stable area after 9pm and / or end of competition and before 5am.

48. Grooms of horses remaining on the Showgrounds overnight must be in attendance at 7.30am each morning, and the boxes or stables must be cleaned out before 8.30am or after 6.30pm. A €60 fine will be levied on owners in breach of this rule.

49. No horse / pony shall be stabled by day or night, in any box, other than that allotted to it. No box must be used for purposes other than the stabling of the appropriate exhibit. **STABLE SWAPPING / MOVEMENT OF HORSES FROM ASSIGNED STABLES IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Any owner / exhibitor found in breach of this rule will have to remove their horse from the RDS Showgrounds with immediate effect, forfeiting any entry fees paid and prize money won. In addition, the owner / exhibitor in question will be automatically prohibited from competing at the following year's RDS Dublin Horse Show. No appeals or excuses will be entertained. Each horse will be allocated a Competition Number and corresponding Stable. It is the responsibility of the owner / exhibitor to ensure the horse is stabled, and remains, in the assigned stable whilst on the Showgrounds. The RDS will enforce a Zero Tolerance policy in relation to stable swapping for a variety of reasons, most notable animal welfare and organisational needs.

50. Owners, or their servants, are to examine the boxes allotted to their horses, and should they see any defect in such boxes, they are to report the matter in writing to the Equestrian Office on the Showgrounds. The marking or defacement of the doors or walls of stables, and the removal of the numbers affixed thereto, is prohibited. The lighting and use of stoves, lamps or fires within the Showgrounds is prohibited. Smoking is strictly prohibited in the stabling areas.

51. Horses and ponies must be bridled at all times when out of their stable, under no circumstances can they be led using a headcollar only.

52. Hay will be provided free of charge. Exhibitors should bring their own hard feed. Stables will be bedded in shavings and exhibitors will receive the initial bed and a top up bale free of charge, any additional bedding required can be purchased from the supplier on site at a special Show rate. An exhibitor may bring their own personal supplies, should he / she so prefer. Exhibitors should remember to bring their own utensils for mucking out.

53. No placards or notification of any description shall be placed over any horse's box, or circulated on the Showgrounds, in reference to any horse exhibited unless sanctioned by the Committee.

Adjudication

54. The decision of the judges shall be final, except in cases of fraud, misrepresentation, substitution, or other breach of the rules, when the decision of the Society shall be final. No person shall enter the space enclosed or set apart for the adjudication or hold any communication with the judges or examining veterinary surgeons, without permission of the stewards of the class. Should a horse show any obvious symptoms of unsoundness to the judges when under adjudication in the ring, the judges may place the horse accordingly. Should it be deemed that there is an immediate welfare issue relating to the horse, the judges shall inform the Chief Steward of the class who will arrange for the horse to be examined by one of the Society's veterinarians who shall be entitled to call in any other of the Society's veterinary surgeons in consultation, and their determination on whether or not the animal is fit to continue in competition shall be final.

55. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor / competitor to ensure that his or her horse is present in the assembly ring 15 minutes before their class / competition is programmed to commence. The stewards may, if they wish, commence the judging of any class / competition 15 minutes before the programmed time.

Power of Stewards

56. The Committee shall be entitled to appoint as many stewards as they may consider necessary to assist at the Show, and all such stewards shall have full power to enforce all the foregoing Rules and Regulations.

Height Measurements

57. Ponies and horses from the 32 counties of Ireland entered in any class that has a height requirement (Classes 20 – 23, 25, 28, 77 – 81, 88 – 97) must have a current and valid measurement under the Showjumping Ireland / Irish Pony Society Measurement Scheme and their passports must be available on arrival for inspection. Only animals from Great Britain may present a JMB measurement certificate at the Show.

Tickets

58. Two wristbands will be issued for each horse or pony entered.

Additional exhibitor (season) wristbands can be pre-purchased via the Online Exhibitor Portal. Exhibitor (season) wristbands are priced as follows: €99.15, if purchased in advance of the Show. If purchased via the Online Exhibitor Portal during the Show, an exhibitor (season) wristband will cost: €105 (inclusive of processing fee).

The wristband system operates as follows – if pre-purchased each owner / exhibitor will receive an e-ticket which must be surrendered / redeemed upon arrival at the Showgrounds in exchange for a wristband.

E-tickets are not admission tickets and must be used to redeem a wristband at the designated areas, in either the Concert Hall Foyer, at the Shrewsbury Gate Porta Cabin or at the Belvedere Gate upon first arrival.

Each e-ticket holder must exchange their initial e-ticket for a wristband. An exhibitor will not be permitted to exchange e-tickets or collect a wristband on behalf of another individual, groom or rider etc. Wristband will be fastened securely by a member of the RDS Ticketing Staff. Removal of or tampering with wristbands throughout the five days of the Show will make them 'void' and invalid for use.

There are no concession prices available for exhibitor tickets. Please note exhibitor tickets are not available at the Equestrian Office.

Lost, mislaid, broken wristbands or wristbands that have been removed or tampered with will NOT be replaced free of charge. Wristbands that have been loosened may be confiscated by the Access Control Staff.

Please note the RDS does not issue child rider passes.

59. Grooms in charge of horses stabled on the Showgrounds at night will be admitted at Gate L, Simmonscourt Road on production of their exhibitor wristband.

60. Owners are advised that they will be held entirely responsible in all circumstances for any misuse of any wristbands issued to them by the RDS or any parties acting on behalf of the RDS.

Dress Code

61. Neat dress is required in the judging rings at all times. Please see below details of the acceptable dress for the various participants in the showing section;

a. Ridden Show Classes

- Tweed jacket for both ladies and gentlemen
- Neat shirt and tie
- Beige, fawn or cream breeches
- Long black boots
- Gloves
- Protective headgear conforming to the current recommended BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark standards – PAS 015 2011, Snell E2016 (with official Snell label and number), ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards with SEI Mark), VG1 01.040 (2014-12), UTAC / CRITT or AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards and must have SAI Global mark), and fitted with an adjustable harness, is compulsory for all riders. (Please note that as of 1 January 2023 hats with PAS 015 (1998) and Snell E2001 kitemarks / standards can no longer be accepted). It is compulsory for riders under the age of 16 years to wear protective headgear. In the ridden show classes gentlemen and lady riders over 16 years of age may, if they so choose, wear a bowler hat (gentlemen) or a velvet hunt cap (ladies).
- Showing cane

b. Working Hunter Horse, Working Hunter Pony, Performance Irish Draught, Connemara Performance Hunter, Junior Equitation*, Young Event Horse and Junior / Young Rider Event Horse Classes

- Tweed or hunting style jacket for both ladies and gentlemen
- Neat shirt and tie
- Beige, fawn or cream breeches
- Long black boots
- Gloves
- Protective headgear conforming to the current recommended BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark standards – PAS 015 2011, Snell E2016 (with official Snell label and number), ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards with SEI Mark), VG1 01.040 (2014-12), UTAC / CRITT or AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards and must have SAI Global mark), and fitted with an adjustable harness, is compulsory for all riders. (Please note that as of 1 January 2023 hats with PAS 015 (1998) and Snell E2001 kitemarks / standards can no longer be accepted).
- A body protector must be worn by all riders. A correctly fitted, BETA approved, and appropriately labelled Level 3 body protector manufactured in the year 2018 or after is recommended. If a rider chooses to wear an airbag style body protector, it must be worn over a recommended body protector.
- Showing cane (not permitted in the Junior Equitation classes).

*For Junior Equitation show jumping jackets will also be permitted.

c. In-Hand Show Classes

- Gentlemen should wear a suit or jacket and trousers, with collar and tie in addition to a bowler hat.
- Ladies may wear a tweed jacket and trousers with a hunting cap or a suitable skirt or suit with a hat.
- Footwear for both ladies and gentlemen should be appropriate for the terrain – non-slip, sturdy and low heeled i.e. jodhpur boots. Trainers are not permitted under any circumstance.
- Gloves
- Showing cane

d. Grooms

- Grooms must be neatly attired when entering the show ring, failure to observe the dress code will result in immediate expulsion from the ring.
- Neat collar and tie.
- Jacket or gilet.
- Trousers – jeans are not permitted under any circumstance.
- Suitable footwear i.e. jodhpur boots. Trainers are not permitted under any circumstance.

Veterinary

62. An area will be set aside to be used for private examination by veterinary surgeons from Thursday to Sunday. Please contact the Equestrian Office for further details.

63. Every owner of horses or ponies shall be liable to pay to the Society a sum not exceeding €1,000 for liquidated damages, if any animal which he / she sends for exhibition is, in the opinion of the Society's veterinary surgeons, affected with any contagious or infectious disease, or with any form of disease likely to prove dangerous to other animals, and for each and every such case, if more than one. All horses sent for exhibition will be inspected by the Society's veterinary surgeons, who are authorised to expel from the Showgrounds or place in quarantine any animal if it be affected with any disease which, in

their opinion, is likely to prove dangerous to other animals, and are instructed to give a certificate of the reason to the person in charge of the animal.

64. All horses and ponies must be examined, and certified free from infectious or contagious disease before entering their allotted stables. No animal suffering from skin or other disease or infection or from excessive warts can be admitted; and, should any animal manifest symptoms of disease or illness during the Dublin Horse Show, it must be immediately sent to the stables reserved for sick animals, and if necessary, removed from the Showgrounds. Jumping horses and ponies with recent superficial injuries to the skin surfaces, which are liable to come into contact with girths, bridles, etc. may be refused permission to compete.

65. For the convenience of exhibitors, the Society has arranged that a veterinary surgeon will be on call to attend to sick or injured animals but fees for his / her services will be payable by the owners concerned. The Society's veterinary surgeons may be contacted through the Equestrian Office during the day. Should the service of a veterinary surgeon be required during the night, contact can be made through the night security personnel. The Society, its Officers, Officials or Servants shall not, in any way be responsible for or accept any liability for any advice or treatment given or drugs administered, or tests or procedures carried out by these veterinary surgeons. Any contract entered into for the provision of veterinarian services is solely between the owner / their agent and the veterinary surgeon.

66. **Compulsory Vaccination against Equine Influenza** - To control Equine Influenza, all equines must be vaccinated every year as a routine measure. The primary vaccination must consist of two inoculations given at intervals not less than twenty-one days and not more than ninety-two days apart. Booster given between one-hundred-and-fifty days (5 months) and two-hundred-and-fifteen days (7 months) after the primary vaccination. The annual booster dose must be administered within twelve months of the previous inoculation. This must be properly documented on the animal's passport. Failure to do so will result in the animal not being admitted to the Showgrounds (see also Rule 40). Owners should consult their veterinary surgeon about vaccination of their animals. This is particularly important in the case of broodmares. Please note foals should be vaccinated from 5 months of age.

The following vaccination programme is therefore recommended and should be carried out routinely every year to provide adequate protection:

- Foals before weaning.
- Foals and yearlings before going to public sales.
- Stallions and teasers between breeding seasons.
- All horses in training when not in strong work.
- Store horses before going into training.
- Show jumping and three-day-event horses and ponies during the closed season.

Control: The influenza virus is easily destroyed outside the body. Cleanliness is required to control it. The greatest risk of spread appears to be by nasal discharge and by attendants' hands. Horses may harbour the virus for about nine or ten days after coughing ceases. The virus will survive in wet, humid conditions in horse boxes, stables, etc., but in warm dry conditions it soon dies.

N.B. All horses and ponies entering the Showgrounds must be vaccinated against Equine Influenza. Evidence of such vaccination must be entered and certified on the animal's passport. All entries must have a passport that is in accordance with the relevant current EU and Irish legislation. The primary vaccination which consists of two inoculations given at intervals not less than twenty-one days and not more than ninety-two days apart **will suffice for entry.**

ADMISSION TO THE SHOWGROUNDS WILL ONLY BE GIVEN TO ANIMALS WITH APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION AND ON WHICH THE CURRENT VACCINATION STATUS IS PROPERLY CERTIFIED BY A QUALIFIED VETERINARY SURGEON.

ALL DOCUMENTED VACCINATIONS MUST BE SIGNED BY THE VETERINARY SURGEON WHO VACCINATES THE ANIMAL AND HIS / HER OFFICIAL PRACTICE STAMP, AND / OR HIS / HER OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CODED DATE STAMP MUST AUTHENTICATE EACH VACCINATION.

Statutory Declaration

67. Each owner of a horse must be prepared, when required by the Organising Committee, to make a statutory declaration that the Rules and Regulations affecting such horses have been complied with.

Photography / Videography

68. The Society reserves the right to photograph any horses in the Showgrounds. The grooms must lead out horses to be photographed when required to do so by the steward appointed for that purpose.

69. The Society reserves the right to use photographs, images, videos etc. arising from an entry for its own commercial and publicity purposes without further reference to or consent from the persons / competitors concerned.

Showgrounds

70. Condition of entrance to this Show is that owners and their agents only shall be allowed to transact business, and no persons will be permitted to solicit money except if he or she holds a licence from the Society to do so. Visitors or others infringing this rule shall be liable forthwith to be immediately removed from the Show and shall have no claim to a return of their admission money.

71. Dogs (with the exception of guide dogs) will not be permitted to any part of the Showgrounds including the Arrivals Area.

72. The use of mobile phones is prohibited in all judging rings, exercise rings and jumping arenas.

73. The Society reserves the right to refuse entry into any arena / judging ring to owners / agents of exhibits in any capacity.

74. For reasons of safety, the riding of bikes (motor or pedal) is not permitted within the Showgrounds.

75. Exercise areas, in which some fences will be provided, will be available from the Monday preceding the Show onwards where exercise or examination of any horse or pony should take place.

76. Horses may only be ridden or led on the designated pathways, riding or leading a horse on any other part of the Showgrounds is prohibited at all times.

Anti-Doping Rules

77. The anti-doping rules of the Society for competitors are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by Sport Ireland launched in 2004, and updated 1 January 2021, and as amended from time to time. An owner or their representatives must submit to a doping test at any time during the Dublin Horse Show when requested by a representative of Sport Ireland or HSI. See Rules 81 and 82.

Refusal to Comply with Instructions

78. The Society shall have the power to remove from its premises the stock or property belonging to any owner who shall infringe any of the regulations or conditions of the Show, or who shall refuse to comply with any instructions given by the stewards or officials.

Protests

79. **Qualifier Events -** Complaints or protests arising at, or from Qualifier Events, will be dealt with by the Qualifier Organiser on the day as per the documented protest /complaints procedure. The RDS will not hear or entertain protests or appeals in relation to or arising from competition at qualifier events. The decision of the judge(s) in conjunction with the Chief Steward / appointed Officials on the day of the qualifier will be final and binding. The RDS will only hear an appeal where it relates to the applicability or interpretation of a rule.

80. Any owner, official or staff member wishing to lodge a protest having reference to exhibits at this Show must obtain from the Equestrian Office and properly fill up and sign a printed form for the purpose, and must deposit therewith a sum of €100, which will be refunded if the protest is sustained, or at the discretion of the Committee. All protests must be delivered at the Equestrian Office within 30 minutes of the end of the last competition on the evening of the day on which the award in dispute was made, and no protest will be subsequently received unless a satisfactory reason for the delay is provided. Objections arising in jumping competitions should be made in accordance with the rules under which the competition is judged.

Results of all national classes and competitions are deemed provisional until 30 minutes after the end of the last competition on the evening of the day on which the class / competition takes place.

Penalties for Breaches of Rules and Code of Conduct

81. In case it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Society that the owner of an animal exhibited, or any person in his employment, or under his control, has been guilty of any violation of the Rules or Regulations and / or the Code of Conduct, including but not limited to the following; making a false statement in the entry form; substituting another animal for that described in the entry form; placing a horse in a box, by day or night, other than that to which he / she is entitled; removing the competition number from the horse during the time the horse remains in the Showgrounds; or has been guilty of any practice calculated to deceive or mislead, or to secure an unfair advantage, the owner shall be liable to forfeit any prize, cup, medal, etc., awarded to him / her at this Show, together with all fees and deposits paid by him / her, and his / her horse or ponies will be liable to be immediately removed from the Showgrounds, and the owner shall be liable to be prevented from competing at this or any future shows of the Society.

All breaches and violations will be dealt with by the Show Protest Committee, whose role and composition are outlined below.

Interpretation Conditions

82. The Society reserves to itself the right to interpret these or any other prescribed conditions and regulations of the Competition Schedule and to settle and determine all or any matters, questions, or differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of, or connected with, or incidental to the Show. The Society also reserves the right to refuse or to cancel any entries, disqualify owners, prohibit exhibition of entries, vary or cancel awards of prizes or reserved numbers, and relax conditions as the Society may deem appropriate. The Society may act in respect of these General Rules and Regulations including the interpretation and implementation of same through a panel of not more than 5 persons, who will be known for the purpose of these rules as the Show Protest Committee as may be approved from time to time by the Trustee Council of the Society and / or through such an Executive Officer of the Society as may be approved from time to time by the Trustee Council of the Society.

The quorum for the Show Protest Committee shall be three members acting on any matter coming before such a Committee.

The Show Protest Committee is entitled on behalf of the Society to interpret these Rules and Regulations and any other conditions or provisions in this Competition Schedule and to investigate, settle and determine all or any matters, questions or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with or incidental to the Show including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the conduct of any owner, handler, rider, groom or their servant or agent.

Any decision made by the Society or the Show Protest Committee which involves an owner / exhibitor, or any person connected with or to that owner / exhibitor may be appealed by the person so affected to three persons nominated by the President of the Society, or in his / her absence nominated by the Vice President (in either case the 'Nominees'). Any such appeal must be made in writing (stating in summary the grounds of the appeal) which must be lodged with the Registrar of the Society within 15 days of the person being notified of the decision of the Society and the decision of the Nominees will be final in all respects. In hearing the appeal, the Nominees will be entitled to hear such submissions and evidence, whether in written or in oral form as they deem necessary, so as to enable them to make a decision on the appeal.

Data Protection Notice

83. The RDS respects and is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who provide us with their personal information. The DHS privacy policy explains how we collect, use, store, share and protect your personal data in compliance with Data Protection legislation. Our privacy policy is available at **www.dublinhorseshow.com/privacy**.

ALL EXHIBITORS AND PERSONS ADMITTED TO THE SHOWGROUNDS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE RULES, ORDERS AND REGULATIONS OF THE SOCIETY