IMPORTANT RULES FOR SHOW JUMPING COMPETITIONS

The attention of exhibitors is drawn to the following regulations relating to the jumping competitions, which will be in operation at the Dublin Horse Show.

1. In order to be eligible to compete in the jumping competitions at the Dublin Horse Show, ponies and horses must be entered either in their appropriate performance classes, or else in the special classes provided for jumping only ponies and horses (Classes 103 - 117). If horses or ponies are entered in any class other than Classes 103 – 117 they must comply with the conditions of entry for the particular class, i.e. arrival, presentation for adjudication, etc.
2. All jumping horses and ponies must be registered at the time of qualification with Showjumping Ireland (SJI) for the current year. Only horses and ponies that have duly qualified in their respective qualifying competitions organised by SJI shall be eligible to enter or compete in jumping competitions. A horse cannot compete in more than one show jumping qualifier category for the Dublin Horse Show. It is the responsibility of the owner / agent / athlete to ensure that all animals and athletes are eligible to compete in the relevant qualifying competition.
3. Entries for all jumping competitions close on **Monday 6 July 2026,** at **5pm** and late entries will not be accepted (except in the case of classes with qualifiers after that date).
4. A change of rider is permitted in the DHS 'Horse' category only. The change of rider must be notified in writing to the RDS Equestrian Department and the SJI Executive by the close of entries on Monday 6 July.
5. No substitution of horse or pony will be allowed. It is the owner's responsibility to enter the horse and or pony with the RDS once qualified. However, if the entry and fee is not received by **5pm** on **Monday 6 July 2026** the qualifying place will be forfeited.
6. Eligible horses and ponies will be automatically entered in all jumping competitions (A, B and C) at the Dublin Horse Show. If an owner wishes to withdraw his / her horse or pony from any of these competitions, they must do so in accordance with Rule 7 below.
7. The withdrawal of a horse or pony from a jumping competition must be made by email to the Equestrian Office at **equestrian@rds.ie** at least half an hour before the competition is programmed to commence; withdrawals will not be accepted unless made by email. If a horse or pony is absent from a competition in which it has been entered and the owner has failed to notify its withdrawal in accordance with the above regulation, a fine of €100 will be imposed on the owner.
8. In the case of a jumping horse or pony entered in the name of joint owners, if any difference of opinion arises between the joint owners regarding jumping entries, jumping withdrawals, or any other Show matter affecting the entry, the entry will be cancelled, and no refund of entry fee will be made.
9. 'Irish Exhibitor' shall mean an exhibitor of Irish nationality or one who has a residence in Ireland, and has not elected to represent any other country, or one who complies with Rule 10 below.
10. In order to be eligible to compete in the national jumping competitions at the Show, foreign riders must have been resident in Ireland for a minimum of 14 days before the first day of the Show, and their horses must have been located in Ireland for a similar period. In all cases riders must obtain permission to ride from Horse Sport Ireland. In the Pony and Children on Horses categories, only fully paid up members of SJI, resident on the island of Ireland for six months of the calendar year, may take up a qualifying place at the Dublin Horse Show. To be eligible to compete in the Dublin Horse Show qualifiers, both athlete and horse / pony must be fully paid up with SJI and the ponies must fulfil the same criteria for measurement and points applied to Irish registered ponies. In order to be eligible to compete in the Young Rider qualifiers for the Dublin Horse Show, athletes who are resident outside of the island of Ireland for more than six months of the calendar year must be available for selection for Ireland. The athlete and horse must also be registered with SJI for the current year.
11. All riders competing in the National Classes must be members of SJI.
12. Only the Chef d'Equipe, trainer and riders participating in the show jumping competitions will be permitted to walk the course for the competitions. They must be correctly attired in the arena at all times. Riders must wear a show jacket and boots. Failure to observe this rule will prevent access to the competition arena.
13. Riders may only compete as specified in the rules of the SJI bulletin.
14. It is the responsibility of the competitor to be in the correct ring, whether national or international, at the stated time.
15. No person may lead more than one horse or one pony at any time on the Showgrounds. Any person leading an animal must be competent to do so.
16. The four, five & six year old classes 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 were registered and approved / preliminary approved or selected for breeding in an Irish Studbook (approved by the Department of Agriculture).
17. Five year old mares having carried a foal to parturition as a four year old and providing that the foal was subsequently registered in a studbook will be permitted to compete in the Four Year Old qualifiers.
18. Registered ponies will not be remeasured for jumping competitions. They will not, however, be allowed to compete should it be proved that their colour, markings and age do not agree with the description as set out in their passport. Should this be subject to an appeal, the current measurement under the SJI / IPS Measurement Scheme shall be produced and the pony examined. Should the colour, age, or markings of the pony not agree with the description particulars as set out on its passport, the exhibit shall be disqualified, prize money withheld, and the owner penalised in such a manner as the Society shall decide (Rule 7, pg 18). Where applicable the micro-chip record may be used as a means of identification.

19. Entries for the Pony competitions are confined to ponies entered in Classes 69 - 97, or in Classes 112 - 117. Entries for all competitions close on **Monday 6 July 2026,** at **5pm** and late entries will not be accepted (except in the case of classes with qualifiers after that date).

20. No child under 14 years of age on 1 January 2026, is eligible to compete in any jumping competition except those specially arranged for ponies. The exception being the Children on Horses competition, which is open to riders from the year in which they reach their 12th birthday to the year in which they reach their 14th birthday.

21. Owners must see that the riders of their horses and ponies are correctly attired and that 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).

22. The stewards are empowered to refuse permission to enter the enclosure to anyone incorrectly dressed. For international competitions dress in accordance with FEI rules must be worn.

23. For national competitions dress in accordance with SJI Article 256N must be adhered to. All hats must be properly secured.

24. Pony riders are not permitted to remove their hats while mounted or during prizegiving ceremonies.

25. The times and days on which the jumping competitions are programmed to take place are subject to alteration should the Committee consider the alteration necessary.

26. All national competitions will be judged under SJI Rules.

27. Horses may not compete at the Show in both national and international competitions, with the exception of horses qualified under Rule 28 below.

28. Up to six Irish riders, not competing in the CSIO classes, will be invited to compete in the Puissance. The rider and horse combinations eligible to compete will be determined by qualifiers, both horses and riders must comply with FEI rules. Further details on pg 82.

29. The top two rider and horse combinations in five of the six Plusvital Premier Grand Prix Series shows - Barnadown Showjumping, Mullingar Equestrian Centre, Cavan Equestrian Centre, Maryville Stables, National Balmoral Show and Tattersalls Ireland July Show - will be invited to compete by the Organising Committee as Irish Individual riders in the CSIO5* classes at the Dublin Horse Show. In addition, two invitations will be issued to Irish-based riders who compete outside of Ireland in 2* Grand Prix or ranking classes at 3* shows or above between the 28 February and 31 May 2026. And a further four invitations will be issued to Irish riders by Horse Sport Ireland's High-Performance Jumping Director on, or before, the 21st of July 2026. For further information on CSIO5* Dublin Invitations see **www.dublinhorseshow.com**.

30. A total of 8 nomination places will be reserved for international athletes representing Ireland at CSIO team events, during the period from the first 'Horse' qualifier to the final 'Horse' qualifier. (While preference will be given to Irish-based athletes, these places will not be exclusively retained for Irish-based athletes). In all cases the nominated horse(s) must not have been competed at the 2026 DHS 'Horse' Qualifiers. Athletes will be subject to the overall limit of 8 horses in national show jumping classes at the Show. Athletes availing of this provision in the rules will only be allowed to nominate horses in the 5 & 6 year old classes. ***There will be no nominations for the 4 year old class or the 7 & 8 year old class.*** Athletes must enter their nomination online before the close of entry on the 6 July. Athletes must be members of, and nominated horses must be registered with, SJI for the current season, prior to the first qualifying competition. Recommendations as to the allocation of such places will be made by Horse Sport Ireland.

31. All four, five and six year old horses must compete in their own category regardless of their grade with the exception of five year old mares, as per Rule 17 (above).

32. In the international competitions, additional prizes will be awarded to give a scale of one prize for every four competitors.

33. A course plan will be displayed in the Jumping Pocket specifying what fences are to be jumped for each competition. The fences for a jump-off will also be specified on the plan.

34. There will be a time allowed and a time limit in all competitions, except as otherwise stated.

35. Objections to a decision of the Ground Jury or to the eligibility of a horse or pony competing in national show jumping classes must be made in writing to the President of the Ground Jury for the relevant competition. Such objections must be accompanied by a fee of €100. All objections must be made in accordance with SJI rules Article 259N.

36. Horses competing in the four year old classes are not permitted to wear hind boots or bandages. Only non-performance enhancing hind boots may be worn in all other classes for the Dublin Horse Show, with the exception of the Puissance. Each rider / owner wishing to avail of the use of hind boots on their horse must ensure that the boots are those permitted under Article 257N Saddlery of the SJI rules. Under no circumstances will non-specified hind boots, or bandages of any kind except for those outlined under Article 257N Saddlery Rule 2.4N be permitted. Please refer to the SJI Rule Book at **www.sji.ie/Shows/Rules.**

37. The FEI boot rule for young horses (Ref. FEI Art. 257.2.4) will apply at both the qualifiers and the Final of the International 7 & 8 Year Old competition.

38. No pony will be permitted to jump with **draw reins** in the warm-up arenas.

39. Unless competing in international competitions, riders will not be permitted to wear the Irish flag on their saddle cloths.

40. In all jumping competitions at this Show (whether judged under FEI rules or National Rules) only a running martingale is permitted.

41. Spurs are allowed in all show jumping competitions.

42. The wearing of blinkers is prohibited.

43. Earphones and / or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited in jumping competitions, and such usage is penalised by elimination. Furthermore, Athletes may not wear earphones at any time while mounted; this applies everywhere within the Showgrounds.

44. Stabling groups may be accommodated depending on the number of horses entered. If you wish to be considered for a stabling group, please indicate so when making your entries on the Online Entry System.

45. In the case of competitors under the age of 18 in the Pony, Children on Horses and Young Rider categories, entries can only be accepted if the parent verifies that the child has attained the level of competence for the class / classes they are entered in on the Online Entry System.

46. For all competitors in the Pony, Children on Horses and Young Rider categories the trainer must also be identified on the online entry form in the space provided, permission for their inclusion should be obtained and is the responsibility of the parent. If it is the case that a parent primarily conducts the child's training, this should be recorded on the entry form also.