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Please note that rules/guidelines published in this handbook do not overrule any rules or guidelines already in place with show societies except at shows solely affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. The onus is with the WPCS Panel Judge to be familiar with all rules pertaining to the classes he/she is judging.

Judges, exhibitors, owners and producers should regularly refer to WPCS website www.wpcs.com for any updates or changes to rules in this document.

INTRODUCTION

The WPCS Council reviews the Panel of Judges annually and invitations are sent to every Judge inviting them to remain as a panel Judge for the following year. It is conditional for all panel Judges to attend a Judges' Conference at least once every six years and failure to do so results in that Judge being removed from the panel until they have attended a conference. It is also incumbent on all panel Judges to keep themselves up to date with current rules and regulations. The return of the annual declaration and agreement forms to the WPCS Office by the closing date is also mandatory to ensure that the Judge remains on the panel.

BREED DESCRIPTIONS

Showing classes for animals registered in Sections A, B, C or D of the WPCS Stud Book must be judged in accordance with the breed description contained within the Stud Book. Judges are empowered to judge according to personal preference.

THE WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY

Not exceeding 121.9 cm (12.0 hands)

Section A of the Stud Book

General Character

Hardy, spirited and pony-like

Colour

Any colour, except piebald and skewbald

Head

Small, clean-cut, well set on and tapering to the muzzle

Eyes

Bold

Ears

Well placed, small and pointed, well up on the head, proportionately close

Nostrils

Prominent and open

Jaws and Throat

Clean and finely-cut, with ample room at the angle of the jaw

Neck

Lengthy, well carried and moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of mature stallions

Shoulders

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.

Forelegs

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.

Back and Loins

Muscular, strong and well coupled

Girth

Deep

Ribs

Well sprung

Hind Quarters

Lengthy and fine. Not ragged or goose-rumped. Tail well set on and carried gaily.

Hind Legs

Hocks to be large, flat, and clean with points prominent, to turn neither inwards nor outwards. The hind legs 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 slope and length. Feet well-shaped, hoofs dense.

Action

Quick, free and straight from the shoulder and hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and well under the body.

THE WELSH PONY

Not exceeding 137.2 cm (13.2 hands)

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.

THE WELSH PONY OF COB TYPE

Not exceeding 137.2 cm (13.2 hands)

Section C of the Stud Book.

THE WELSH COB

The height should exceed 13.2 hh (137.2 cms): no upper limit.

Section D of the Stud Book

Detailed Description of Sections C and D.

General Character

Strong, hardy and active, with pony character and as much substance as possible.

Colour

Any colour, except piebald and skewbald.

Head

Full of quality and pony character. A coarse head and Roman nose are most objectionable.

Eyes

Bold, prominent, and set widely apart.

Ears

Neat and well set.

Neck

Lengthy and well carried. Moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of mature stallions.

Shoulders

Strong but well laid back.

Forelegs

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.

Middlepiece

Back and loins, muscular, strong, and well-coupled. Deep through the heart and well-ribbed up.

Hind Quarters

Lengthy and strong. Ragged or drooping quarters are objectionable. Tail well-set on.

Hind Legs

Second thighs, strong and muscular. Hocks, large, flat, and clean, with points prominent, turning neither inward nor outwards. The hind legs must not be too bent, and the hock not set behind a line falling from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped. Hoofs dense.

Action

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.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this handbook the following definitions apply:

Member - Member of Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

Exhibitor – An owner, producer, or other person responsible for an animal at a show.

Producer – A person who provides an equine production service to another person for remuneration.

Trainer – A person who undertakes the training of a pony/cob/rider for any discipline.

Lessee/borrower – A person for the purpose of showing who is deemed to be the owner.

Immediate Family – The following are classed as immediate family for the purpose of rules relating to impartiality:

Father, Mother, Sister, Brother, Sister-in-Law, Brother-in-Law

Grandparents, Grandchild, Son, Daughter, Son-in-Law, Daughter-in-Law

Husband / Wife / Partners

Parents Partners

Stepparents, Step Grandparents, Stepson, Stepdaughter, Stepbrothers, Stepsisters

Legal Guardians/God Parents/God Children

(Exhibitors and judges maybe requested to verify/clarify any of the relationships above).

Competitor - Person who handles, rides, or drives an animal in the showing

Society – Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

Passport - A passport is a legal document which uniquely identifies a horse or pony. In terms of showing, it must travel with animals as it identifies the owner and the actual animal. It is the **legal** responsibility of the current owner to ensure the document is kept up to date in terms of ownership. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure the passport accompanies the animal to the show or activity. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society is the Passport Issuing Authority (PIO) for Welsh Ponies and Cobs and all changes of ownership must be recorded with the Society within 30 days of the sale of the animal. This is a legal obligation DEFRA / Welsh Assembly Government failure to do so could lead to a penalty fine from either of these bodies. It is important to note the WPCS passport is the property of the WPCS and not that of the owner of the animal.

Membership Card - Membership cards are issued annually to all paid up members of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. If the original card has been lost/stolen/misplaced duplicate membership cards are available from the WPCS Office at a cost of £10.00 per card.

Show Season – 1st January to 31st December.

For the purpose of Showing the following definitions apply:

Males

Stallion – an entire male, four years old and over. All stallions exhibited in hand, ridden, or driven must be in possession of a Welsh Pony & Cob Society Licence of Correctness (or acknowledged alternative) prior to showing.

When a stallion/colt is entered for a show, you should state their stallion licence number on the entry form for WPCS Affiliated Shows.

Colt – an entire male, not exceeding three years old. Colts are not required to be licensed for the purpose of showing. They are eligible to be licensed from 1st January of their 2nd year for breeding purposes.

All colts presented for stallion premiums must be licensed.

Gelding – a castrated male. All geldings should have their passports over-stamped “gelding” by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

Females

Mare - female 4 years old and over.

Filly – female not exceeding 3 years old.

Brood mares must be 4 years old or over with foal at foot or have produced a foal in the current year.

Brood mares must be accompanied in the ring by their own foal, or a veterinary certificate justifying the absence of the foal must be produced on request.

A ‘Novice brood mare’, must not have won a brood mare class prior to 1st January of the current year of showing.

A barren mare is a mare that has not produced a foal and will not produce a foal in the current year.

Fillies 3 years old and under with foals at foot cannot be shown.

Foal – either colt or filly born up to 31st December of year of birth.

Mares with foals under 3 weeks of age must not be exhibited.

Foals must not be bitted and must be shown in a halter or leather head collar/slip.

Foals must not be shod.

For the purpose of showing foals below the age of four months should not be exhibited without their dam, unless accompanied by a Veterinary certificate.

The age of all animals is calculated from 1st January in the year of birth.

JUDGES

At the point of receiving an invitation the Judge should:

Act promptly.

Check they are eligible to Judge the particular classes e.g., on correct panel or need for asterisk.

Check the show in question does not lie within the **40-mile** radius (as the crow flies) of any other affiliated appointment <https://www.doogal.co.uk/MeasureDistances.php>

Check expenses being paid, e.g., travel (recommended rate is 45p per mile) and/or accommodation.

Should a Judge, at a later date find circumstances prevent them from honouring the appointment the Judge should let the Show Secretary know as soon as possible and if possible, offer a suggestion for replacement remembering to check that the person is eligible to judge the particular classification.

On the day of the show the Judge should:

Be punctual.

Carry the Show schedule and WPCS Judging and Showing Handbook.

Make themselves known to the Show Secretary at least thirty minutes prior to classes starting.

On meeting the Ring Steward discuss procedure for the ring.

Consult with the Steward on any special awards.

On arrival at the ring assess for any Health & Safety issues and act accordingly.

Advise the Steward where animals should be lined up. Animals should always be lined up left to right.

If in hand classes, advise the Steward where the animals should be trotted out.

If ridden classes discuss the siting of the line-up, allowing suitable area for an individual show as well as outlining clearly any expected individual show so that the steward can relay this to each exhibitor.

On completion of the Judging, the Judge must ensure that the details entered on the Medal cards (if applicable) are correct, sign and date the form before leaving the showground.

A Judge should make every effort to:

Dress appropriately for judging – be clean, tidy and practical, Blue Denim is not acceptable.

Avoid meeting exhibitors/handlers prior to judging them.

Avoid areas of the showground where animals may be located prior to judging them.

Give clear instructions to the Steward so they in turn can inform exhibitors.

Give every exhibitor the same amount of time while judging his/her animal.

Treat every exhibitor on equal terms and avoid any social conversation.

A Judge knows that his/her integrity is beyond question so through his/her action he/she should make sure that it is seen to be the case. A Judge should have presence in the ring and be seen to have full control in readiness of any situation that may occur while judging.

1.0 AFFILIATED SHOWS

- 1.1 All shows awarding WPCS Bronze or Silver status and rosettes must affiliate to Welsh Pony and Cob Society. The cost of affiliation is £15.00, and an affiliation form can be downloaded from the WPCS website.
- 1.2 Affiliation forms must be received by the Society office accompanied by the correct payment for the affiliation. Schedules will not be approved by the Society until forms and payment have been received.
- 1.3 All shows affiliating to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society must agree to abide by the Rules and Recommendations of the Society as detailed in this current Judging and Showing Handbook.
- 1.4 All shows wishing to affiliate to the WPCS must confirm that they have current valid Public Liability, Employers Liability insurance and a complaints procedure. They must also include the below GDPR wording within their show schedule. Failure to do this will result in the affiliation being withdrawn.

Below is a copy of the statement that must be included:

Your personal data

Exhibitor you will need to provide the WPCS with certain personal information relating to you. Your privacy is extremely important to WPCS, so we want you to know exactly how we will use that personal information. Our full privacy notice setting out detailed information about matters such as what personal information we use, for what purpose we use it, what our legal basis for doing so is and who we share your personal information with, can be viewed on our website <http://wpcs.uk.com/> If you would prefer to see a hard copy of our privacy notice, please ask a member of WPCS staff to provide you with the same.

- 1.5 Affiliated Welsh Pony and Cob classes must be judged by a Judge taken from the appropriate WPCS Panel of Judges. A Judge from any section of the in-hand panel is currently eligible to judge Welsh Part Bred in-hand classes.

RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO AFFILIATED SHOWS

General

- 1.6 The Society's Bronze and Silver statuses are awarded for In-hand classes at shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society which have paid the appropriate affiliation fee before the show date. **Specific shows catering only for youngstock are only eligible for Bronze status. The fee must include the affiliation and total cost of the status selected for the sections they wish to affiliate (bronze status) or all five sections (silver status). Subject to meeting the criteria, the fee covers the cost of the medal, the engraving and a display case.** Medals are not awarded on the day and are sent at a later date subject to meeting the criteria. Details of the

award an animal has obtained can be found on the 'Judging and Showing' section of the Society website. However, on the day, the Champion of a bronze or silver status section will receive a special rosette. Any breach in the following rules will result in the awards being withheld.

- 1.7 Where Silver status is awarded, that show cannot also award a Bronze status.
- 1.8 Affiliated Welsh Pony and Cob classes at an affiliated show must be judged by a Judge taken from the appropriate current WPCS Panel of Judges.
- 1.9 WPCS Medals can only be awarded at shows affiliated to the Society that meet the set criteria.
- 1.10 Schedules plus an entry form (blank is acceptable) for all affiliated shows, must be submitted 21 working days prior to the show date to the WPCS Office, for approval, prior to printing, together with the appropriate affiliation forms and fees.
- 1.11 Schedules for affiliated shows must include their unique affiliation number provided by the Society upon approval of their draft schedule.
- 1.12 Copies of show schedules are the responsibility of the Show Secretary and must be submitted to the Society for approval prior to being sent for final printing. The Society's office staff will check and approve a draft schedule within 21 days of receipt; however, shows must allow a reasonable amount of time for approval.
- 1.13 Silver and Bronze status shows MUST be pre-entered, no entries substitutions or nominations are allowed after the entry closing date.
- 1.14 Medals (subject to meeting the criteria) will only be awarded to an animal correctly listed in the results supplied to the WPCS office either by hand or recorded post.
- 1.15 Affiliated shows must lodge a catalogue of entries before the show date containing the entries in each class and giving the name and number of the exhibits as registered or entered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society's Stud Book. This can be via email or post. Failure to adhere to these rules will result in the status awards being withheld or lost by the show.
- 1.16 If an animal is successful in obtaining a medal award at a show and the animal is not registered at the time of entry at the show, the application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded.
- 1.17 Geldings not holding the correct status will be allowed 14 days from the date of the show to provide the Society with the passport including the fully completed castration section for updating to Gelding. Those not updated within 14 days will not be eligible for a Society medal (subject to meeting the criteria).
- 1.18 No animal shall be awarded more than one gold, silver, or bronze medal in any one season. The Welsh Mountain Pony Stallion Premium Champion is exempt from this rule.

Results

- 1.19 The results of all bronze and silver status shows are compiled by Society staff and printed in the annual WPCS Journal. Any animal eligible for a medal will receive this via post directly to the exhibitor following the engraving taking place. (Due to the fact that the medal can be offered to the Champion or Reserve Champion it is vitally important that the results are received within the time period as this does have a knock-on effect for shows held later in the year).

- 1.20 Copies of marked catalogues (as described 1.16) and correctly signed cards must be submitted to the WPCS office either by post, by hand or via email (enquiries@wpcs.uk.com). Marked catalogues/official record of entries must be lodged at the WPCS office within 7 days of the date of the show duly marked to show the placings 1st – 4th as a minimum as well as Champion and Reserve Champion. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in the medals being withheld or lost by the show.
- 1.21 If posted, all marked catalogues (as described above) and completed cards must be posted to the WPCS Office by Registered post or Recorded Delivery.
- 1.22 Shows must take full responsibility for the accuracy of results. It is the responsibility of individual shows to ensure that the information sent to the Society is accurate and free from errors.
- 1.23 If it is subsequently found that a medal has been awarded incorrectly due to an error or omission in the details provided to the Society, it will be the shows responsibility to facilitate the return of the wrongly awarded medal to the Society. The show will be liable for all cost incurred. Once the medal has been returned the medal will be reissued to the correct animal.
- 1.24 Medals will only be awarded to animals who meet the criteria set out in 1.40a and 1.46a and whose owners are members of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society who have paid their subscriptions for the current year or are life members, or who have submitted their name for membership and paid one annual subscription or life membership composition.
- 1.25 Owners/Lessees who are not current members will be allowed 14 days from the date of the show to join the Society.
- 1.26 Owners/Lessees/Producers/Handlers must ensure that the correct ownership of the animal is recorded within 14 days from the date of the show. Please refer to current Passport regulations.
- 1.27 Owner(s) / lessee(s) must ensure that animals are entered in their own name(s) irrespective of who actually exhibits or produces the animal.
- 1.28 Medals will only be awarded where the classes are judged by a Judge who is on the appropriate Welsh Pony & Cob Society Panel of Judges.
- 1.29 Show secretaries must ensure that the results card, which will be supplied on receipt of the completed affiliation form and appropriate fee, is available for each officiating Judge to sign confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion in each section.
- 1.30 Classification in the schedules of the shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society must in all cases be in keeping with the WPCS rules in relation to height limits.
- 1.31 The Society reserves the right to withdraw any awards from a show.
- 1.32 A Judge is empowered to withhold awarding a medal if they think the animal in question is of insufficient merit or not of conformity of the breed standard.
- 1.33 Results of Champion and Reserve Champion from each show will be published on the Show section of the Society website **as soon as reasonably practicable** after the show. Owners will then have 30 days from the date of publication of the results to raise any issues regarding the placings of Champion and Reserve Champion of that particular show. After this time scale the results shall be deemed final.

SPECIFIC MEDAL DETAILS

GOLD

- 1.34 The Society's In-Hand Gold Medals are only awarded at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society's Annual Show. The Gold Medal must only be awarded to the Champion Male, Female and Youngstock. If an animal wins the Youngstock and Overall championship only one medal will be awarded. In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded. The Gelding section Champion is also awarded a Gold Medal, Geldings not holding the correct status will be allowed 14 days from the date of the show to provide the Society with the passport including the fully completed castration section for updating to Gelding.
- 1.35 To award Society Gold Medals a judge must have an asterisk for that section.
- 1.36 A Judge, or persons using the same prefix, appointed to Judge an In-hand WPCS section at The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show must not judge or show in that section at affiliated shows from 1st January up until the last day of The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show (in that year).
- 1.37 Once a Judge has officiated at The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show for a particular section, that Judge cannot officiate in that section ever again, i.e., to judge a particular section is a once in a lifetime achievement.
- 1.38 A Judge having been nominated to Judge at The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show, must abstain from judging any Welsh sections at the show for the next two years, e.g., if a Judge officiates in the Section A's in 2022, they would not be allowed to Judge Section B, C, D or WPBR in 2023 or 2024. Ridden and driven classes are exempt.

SILVER

- 1.39 To be eligible for the award of the Society's Silver Status, an affiliated show must award Silver status to all 5 sections of the Stud book and have classification in their schedule providing at least six classes for any one section of the Stud Book for stallions, mares, geldings and youngstock registered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society Stud Book (with the exception of Stallion & Youngstock Shows).
- 1.40 **For Silver medals to be awarded in a particular section, the minimum number of animals forward in a section must be 20 and all sections must have at least six classes each. If not, all sections reach 20 animals forward, only those sections that do reach 20 and above will receive a medal.**
- 1.40a In a case where entries **forward** warrant the award of a Society medal this will only be awarded subject to the following:
- Medals will only be awarded to the Champion or Reserve Champion. Where there is full classification, the medals cannot be restricted to Youngstock Champion/Reserve Champion but must be offered to section Champion/Reserve.
 - In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded.
 - Geldings not holding the correct status will be allowed 14 days from the date of the show to provide the Society with the passport including the fully completed castration section for updating to Gelding or the medal will be withheld.

- 1.41 A Judge appointed to adjudicate Silver status classification must be in possession of an *asterisk for that section.
- 1.42 **A show awarding Silver Status for sections A, B, C, D & WPBR must appoint a minimum of 2 separate judges from the WPCS judges panel who are eligible to judge the appointed sections.**
- 1.43 Judges must not officiate at more than three bronze status, plus one silver status (if eligible to judge) affiliated shows in any one calendar year per section, (i.e., if a Judge is on the panel for Section A and B they can judge up to 3 Section A bronze status shows and 3 Section B bronze status shows per year, plus one Silver status show for the appropriate section(s). Judges, once they have judged the section at a show cannot judge the same section at the same show for at least five years.
- 1.44 During the show season, Judges must not Judge the same section at an affiliated show within a **40-mile** radius (as the crow flies) of the showground.
<https://www.doogal.co.uk/MeasureDistances.php>
- 1.45 On completion of judging an in-hand affiliated show, all Judges must sign the GREY result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion **and sign the appropriate box confirming the number of entries forward**. It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show secretary, that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.

BRONZE STATUS

- 1.46 To be eligible for the award of the Society's Bronze Status, **an affiliated show can select whichever of the 5 sections it wishes to apply for, not all five are required**. You must have classification in the schedule providing at least four classes for any one section of the Stud Book for stallions, mares, geldings and youngstock registered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society Stud Book (with the exception of Stallion & Youngstock Shows).
- 1.46a **For Bronze medals to be awarded in a particular section, the minimum number of animals forward in a section must be 14 and all sections must have at least four classes each. If not, all sections applied for reach 14 animals forward, only those sections that do reach 14 and above will receive a medal.**
- 1.46b In a case where entries **forward** warrant the award of a Society medal, this will only be awarded subject to the following:
- Medals will only be awarded to the Champion or Reserve Champion. Where there is full classification, the medals cannot be restricted to Youngstock Champion/Reserve Champion but must be offered to section Champion/Reserve.
 - In the case of an animal not registered at the time of entry at the show at which a medal is competed for, application for registration must be made within one month of the date of the show, otherwise the medal will not be awarded.
 - Geldings not holding the correct status will be allowed 14 days from the date of the show to provide the Society with the passport including the fully completed castration section for updating to Gelding or the medal will be withheld.

- 1.47 On completion of judging an in-hand affiliated show, all Judges **MUST** sign the brown result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion, **and sign the appropriate box confirming the number of entries forward.** It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show secretary, that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.

WPCS IN HAND ROSETTE AWARD

- 1.48 At a show where WPCS rosettes are awarded entries can be taken on the day.
- 1.49 There is no limit to the amount of WPCS Rosettes one animal can win in any one season.
- 1.50 To be eligible for the award of the Society WPCS Rosette, an affiliated show must have classification in their schedule providing at least four classes for any one section of the Stud Book for stallions, mares, geldings and youngstock registered in the Welsh Pony & Cob Society Stud Book.
- 1.51 WPCS Rosettes are to be awarded on the day. Prior to awarding the rosette, the judge should see sight of a WPCS membership card valid for that year. Failure to produce a membership card within the ring will result in the rosette being passed to the Reserve providing they are able to produce a valid WPCS membership card. Should neither the Champion nor Reserve be in possession of a valid WPCS membership card, it is at the judge's discretion if they wish to pass to the 3rd place upon production of a valid WPCS membership card. Shows that award rosettes to competitors who are not eligible may risk future affiliations being withdrawn.
- 1.52 On completion of judging an in-hand WPCS Rosette class, all Judges must sign the lilac result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion (3rd place as well if the Rosette has been awarded to this placing). It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show Secretary, that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.

WPCS IN-HAND GOLD STATUS SHOW FOR 2024

The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show

WPCS BRONZE AND SILVER STATUS SHOWS FOR 2024

Please see www.wpcs.uk.com to see the current updated list of approved affiliated shows.

WPCS GOLD PERFORMANCE MEDAL

An Animal can only be awarded one Gold Performance medal in any one season.

The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show - Champion Ridden Section A, B, C, D, Champion Welsh Driving exhibit

HOYS - The winners of the ridden Section A, B, C and D classes and the highest placed Welsh Part-bred in the Part-bred class.

OVERSEAS MEDALS

The Society's Overseas Medals are awarded for In-hand classes at shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony & Cob Society which have paid the appropriate affiliation fee before the show date. The medal fee includes the cost of a display case for each medal.

- 1.53 An Affiliated Show, to be eligible for the award of the Society's Overseas Medal, must have classification in their schedule providing at least four classes for any one section of the Stud book for stallions, mares, geldings or youngstock registered in the appropriate Overseas Stud Book or the Welsh Pony and Cob Society Stud Book.
- 1.54 The Judge nominated must be on at least one of the WPCS judging panels.
- 1.55 Copies of show schedules must be forwarded to the WPCS Office prior to going to final print for approval.
- 1.56 Overseas Association rules will apply to all WPCS classes.
- 1.57 Additionally, Show Secretaries, if they wish the medal results to be included in the annual WPCS Journal, must return to the WPCS Office the result cards supplied. These must be correctly signed by the officiating Judge/s, to confirm the Champion in the appropriate sections / championships where medals are awarded.
- 1.58 It is not compulsory for the awards to be printed in the Journal, please indicate on the result card where appropriate, but the results card/s MUST be returned to the Society within 21 days of the date of the show, whether the results are to be printed in the Journal or not.
- 1.59 Copy for the Journal must be submitted to the WPCS by 30th September annually.
- 1.60 IF THESE RULES ARE NOT ADHERED TO THE SOCIETY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW THE AWARD OF MEDALS

WPCS PERFORMANCE MEDALS

WPCS Performance Medals may be awarded in any discipline where the Welsh breeds successfully compete.

Shows/events awarding WPCS Performance medals must:

- 1.61 Affiliate to WPCS by completing the affiliation form accompanied with a fee of £15.00.
- 1.62 Select Judges from the WPCS ridden panel for 'Welsh only' ridden classes.
- 1.63 Obtain proof that the animals are eligible for the award e.g., name and registration number, or the passport. Animals must be registered in the WPCS Stud Book including Welsh Part-breds.
- 1.64 Ensure the results sheet is sent back to WPCS Office for checking to establish eligibility. Performance Medal Cards must be signed by the Judge.
- 1.65 There is no limit to the number of medals one animal can win in any one season.
- 1.66 Performance medals will be awarded from the Society Office following the return of the Performance Medal Cards. Subject to the animal being in the correct ownership or a valid lease being in place covering the show date; alongside the relevant membership (full or junior) being in place at the time of the show. Performance medals not awarded will be carried over to the next year.
- 1.67 In mixed company in any performance event, medals can be awarded to the highest placed Welsh animal but no lower than fourth place.
- 1.68 In ridden showing classes, medals can only be awarded by a breed Society Ridden Panel Judge, if in mixed company only to the highest placed Welsh animal but no lower than fourth place.

Nominations for Performance Medals

- 1.69 Medals can also be awarded by nomination. The Society welcomes nominations for consideration for the WPCS Performance Medal on the grounds of outstanding achievement in the field of performance. Full details of the animal's achievement, detailing the venue, level/type of competition and any other supporting evidence. Factors which will be taken into account in making an award will be level of competition, competition against other breeds/types and the significance of the achievement in terms of promoting the Welsh breeds and their part-breds. To submit a nomination please visit the downloads section of the website and complete the nomination form.

WPCS Association Medal

- 1.70 An Association Medal can be requested by Affiliated WPCS Associations, for award at one of their Bronze or Silver status show on an annual basis. This is to be awarded to the Overall Show Champion of sections A, B, C, D, Welsh Part-Bred **or Welsh ridden** Association medals will be supplied free of charge by the Society.
- 1.71 The Association Medal will only be issued upon receipt of the correctly completed paperwork and affiliation paperwork prior to the show at which the Association wishes to award the Medal.
- 1.72 WPCS Association Medals will be available to be awarded on the day to the show, subject to complying with rule 1.71.

2.0 RULES FOR JUDGES

- 2.1 All Judges must hold single current membership of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. Joint membership is not permitted.
- 2.2 A Judge must attend a WPCS Judges Conference/Seminar a minimum of once within every six years to enable them to remain on the Judging Panel. If a Judge does not attend, their name will be deleted from the Judging Panel until they attend a WPCS Judges Conference/Seminar within a nine-year period.
- 2.3 The onus to declare themselves fit medically, physically or mentally to judge lies solely with the judge, otherwise they may present Health & Safety issues for themselves and/or others. A Judge must desist from judging if they are not medically /physically/mentally fit.
- 2.4 A Judge must complete and return the annual disclosure form and the Judge's agreement form within the given time frame; failure to return will result in their name being removed from the Judging Panel.
- 2.5 A Judge must be fully conversant with all WPCS judging and showing rules. If any doubts arise at a show, they must refer to the handbook for clarification.
- 2.6 A Judge must at all times adhere to the Codes of Conduct as published on the Society website www.wpcs.uk.com
- 2.7 A Judge must not judge the same section of the WPCS Stud Book, at an affiliated show within a local area more than once during a season. A local area is defined as a **40-mile** radius (as the crow flies) from the showground.

- 2.8 On completion of judging a section at a WPCS In-hand **status** show, a Judge must sign the result card confirming the Champion and Reserve Champion and sign the appropriate box confirming the number of entries forward. It is the Judge's responsibility to ensure, with their Steward and or Show Secretary, that the correct animal and the correct exhibitor catalogue number correspond and appear on the card.
- 2.9 When a Judge officiates in WPCS affiliated classes at a show, they or their immediate family, must not compete or exhibit in other WPCS affiliated classes at that show.
- 2.10 A Judge must not refer to the show catalogue prior to or during judging.
- 2.11 A Judge must not accept any hospitality from an exhibitor at a show where they are judging.
- 2.12 A Judge must be smartly dressed at all times during the show where they are judging; casual clothing is deemed inappropriate. Blue Denim is not acceptable.
- 2.13 All Judges must wear a hat while judging.
- 2.14 A Judge must not smoke whilst in the ring.
- 2.15 A Judge must not use a mobile phone whilst in the ring.
- 2.16 A Judge must not wear an earpiece whilst in the ring. With the exception of aids for the hearing impaired.
- 2.17 Judges must present rosettes unless a sponsor is requested to do so. It is the Judge's prerogative to withhold rosettes if they feel entries are of insufficient merit. Unless a show has a policy in place as a result of a pandemic or government guidance, Judges must present rosettes.
- 2.18 A WPCS Panel Judge cannot judge the same section at The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show, **Lampeter Stallion Show (Welsh Breeds)** and Glanusk Welsh Stallion Show within a 3-year period.

IMPARTIALITY - JUDGES

- 2.19 A Judge must not judge any animal bred by themselves.
- 2.20 A Judge must not judge an animal with which they have had any financial involvement; livery, and schooling are included but NOT stud fees and associated costs.
- 2.21 A Judge must not judge an animal which has been owned, bred, leased by their immediate family.
- 2.22 A Judge must not judge an animal that that they themselves, any member of their immediate family or employer has owned, bred, leased, produced or had a financial involvement with that animal.
- 2.23 A Judge must not judge a person who has ridden, driven or produced in hand for them in the previous and/or current showing season.
- 2.24 A Judge must take firm action against any exhibitor who withdraws their animal from the ring before the class has ended without permission. The Exhibitor's number should be noted and the incident must be reported to WPCS Office.

- 2.25 A Judge must take firm action if, in their opinion, an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident. The Judge must dismiss the animal from the class.
- 2.26 A Judge must take firm action against any exhibit whose performance is enhanced /potentially enhanced by the use of any artificial aids or outside assistance. Plastic bags, excessive and abnormal use of whips, noise producing objects are all deemed to be artificial aids. Such exhibits may be dismissed from the class, and such action will be fully supported by the Society. The incident must be reported to the WPCS office.
- 2.27 A judge must uphold the WPCS showing rules whenever adjudicating in the ring; The show rules are a condition of affiliating and exhibiting at a WPCS medal show. Upon identifying a breach of the Society show rules (as set out in the handbook for the respective show season) in relation to an exhibitor or an animal presented before him/her, the judge must act by placing the exhibit to stand at the bottom of the line up. Consideration should be given to allow the exhibitor to remove the animal from the ring. This should be recorded by the judge in the comments box when signing the Medal card at the end of the show. This must also be reported to the Society office as soon as practicable after the show.**
- 2.28 The Society will fully support its judges when upholding the Society rules as set out in the handbook for that respective show season.**
- 2.29 A Judge must not express their views on specific animals/exhibitors/Judges or their judgement via any form of social media via the Internet in accordance with the WPCS Social Media policy.
- 2.30 If in the event Judges cannot agree in a championship class, the independent Judge invited can only judge the animals involved in the disagreement.
- 2.31 Asterisk Rules *
- In order to be considered for an in-hand asterisk * you must complete an application form and list details of shows at which you have officiated since your appointment to the Panel of Judges. To be considered for an asterisk you must:
 - Have been a panel Judge for a minimum of **7** consecutive years on the 'Section' you are applying for.
 - Have officiated in at least **7** WPCS Bronze Status shows (previously known as bronze medal shows) on the 'Section' you are applying for.

To be considered for a ridden asterisk * you will need:

- To have been on the 'Ridden panel for a minimum of **7** consecutive years.
- To have Judged a minimum of 10 ridden shows, **7** of which must be affiliated to the WPCS.

3.0 EXHIBITORS, OWNERS, PRODUCERS

Showing is the main shop window for the Welsh breeds and as such attracts a huge amount of public interest. Therefore, exhibitors must conduct themselves at all times in an orderly, polite manner as they represent the Welsh breeds and consequently the WPCS. Everyone involved with showing are deemed to be fully conversant with the Codes of Conduct available on the Society website www.wpcs.uk.com. Any breaches will be severely dealt with by the Society. Bad behaviour to fellow exhibitors, owners, producers, judges, stewards or show officials brings the Society into disrepute.

- 3.1 Exhibitors competing at affiliated shows are deemed to be fully conversant with rules contained within this handbook and also the rules pertaining to the respective show. **Exhibitors are responsible for any handlers or riders exhibiting their animals.**
- 3.2 Exhibitors are solely responsible for the accuracy and eligibility of their entries. Any misrepresentation of any exhibit will be dealt with under the WPCS Disciplinary procedures.

IMPARTIALITY – EXHIBITORS, RIDERS AND HANDLERS

- 3.3 Owners, exhibitors, riders and handlers must thoroughly investigate past connections of their exhibits to avoid breaches with the rules dealing with impartiality during judging.
- 3.4 An exhibitor must not enter any animal bred by the Judge, previously owned or produced or leased by the Judge or with which the Judge has had any financial connection such as livery/ handling/schooling.
- 3.5 An exhibitor or producer must not enter any animal in a class under a Judge who has produced an animal for that person in the previous and current showing season.
- 3.6 An exhibitor must not enter an animal under a Judge whose immediate family or employer owned, bred, leased or produced that animal.
- 3.7 A rider, whip or handler must not compete in a class judged by a person for whom he/she has ridden, driven or produced in hand during the previous and current showing season.
- 3.8 An animal must not be exhibited if under the ownership or production of any person for whom the Judge has obtained or provided livery in the previous and current showing season.
- 3.9 Substitutions and nomination of entries are not allowed once the entry closing date has passed.
- 3.10 The welfare of their pony or cob is paramount and no lame, sick, undernourished or overly fat animal should be brought to the show or into a class. (See condition scoring diagram inside back cover).
- 3.11 Exhibitors must not approach a Judge on the day of the show.
- 3.12 A change of handler or rider is not allowed once the class has commenced, except in exceptional circumstances (injury or illness).

- 3.12a The class is closed and you will not be allowed into the ring:**
In Hand - When the last horse/pony has done its individual trot around the ring before being lined up.
Ridden - When the class goes into trot.
Leading Rein - When the last pony has done its individual trot around the ring before being lined up.
WHP - 2 minutes after the last pony has jumped.
- 3.13 Exhibitors must comply with the Steward's or Judge's requests at all times.
- 3.14 Exhibitors should be dressed neatly and appropriately. A Judge is empowered to ask an exhibitor to leave the ring if considered inappropriately dressed. Blue denim Jeans are not acceptable.
- 3.15 Exhibitors are encouraged to avoid loud, or gaudy coloured clothing and patterns and their attire should not detract from the animal.
- 3.16 Exhibitors must not wear clothing displaying any form of advertising.
- 3.17 Exhibitors must wear the correct number for the animal they are showing.
- 3.18 An exhibitor must not leave the ring prior to the completion of judging unless instructed by the Judge or Steward. A class is completed when the Judge requests the class to be dismissed.
- 3.19 Exhibitors must not use **any** artificial aids to aid the showing of their animals. **For example**, plastic bags, excessive and abnormal use of whips, noise **or visual** producing objects are all deemed to be artificial aids. Outside assistance using similar aids is also forbidden and Judges are empowered to ask exhibitors making use of such assistance to leave the ring. Judges will receive the full support of the Society.
- 3.20 Exhibitors must have their animals under control at all times. If, in a Judge's opinion, an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the Judge has the power to ask that the animal leaves the ring.
- 3.21 **Adherence of the WPCS Showing rules are a condition of exhibiting at an affiliated show. The judge is empowered to stand the exhibit at the end of the line or to leave the ring if these rules are breached. Providing that the Judge follows the rules within the current handbook his/her decision will be final and binding; any objections must be lodged initially with the Show Secretary according to the Show's Complaints Procedure.**

4.0 GENERAL SHOWING RULES FOR AFFILIATED SHOWS

These rules/guidelines are aimed to assist Show Secretaries, Judges and Exhibitors participating at shows affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society and must take precedence over other societies' rules when WPCS bronze and silver status is awarded.

4.1 Height

All ponies, four years old and over, come under the jurisdiction of the Joint Measurement Board (JMB). The following heights apply to the five sections of the Welsh Stud Book.

Section A	Welsh Mountain Ponies	Not exceeding 121.9 cm (12.0 hands)
Section B	Welsh Ponies	Not exceeding 137.2 cm (13.2 hands)
Section C	Welsh Ponies (Cob Type)	Not exceeding 137.2 cm (13.2 hands)
Section D	Welsh Cobs	No upper height limit
WPBR Welsh Part Bred Pony		Not exceeding 148cm (14.2 hands)
WPBR Welsh Part bred Horse		Over 148cm (14.2 hands)

4.2 **Freeze Branding**

The Society has no objection to ponies and cobs being freeze branded and this must not be seen as detrimental to animals in the show or sale ring and is encouraged by the Society.

4.2a Scarring as a result of accident or surgery should not be penalised in the show ring.

4.3 **Age of Animal**

Age is calculated from 1st January in the year of birth.

4.4 **Soundness**

If an animal entered in a class is, in the opinion of the Judge unsound or obese where the welfare of the animal is at risk, the Judge shall, at their discretion, request the exhibitor to withdraw the animal from that class or stand it at the end of the line. The Judge's decision in this matter is final. The judge should politely communicate this to the exhibitor so that the reason is clear.

4.5 **Show Ring production**

The overall image has to be in keeping within the natural beauty of the Welsh breeds. Pulled and shortened manes and tails detract from this native look as does clipping of body hair. Exhibitors and Judges alike should be aware that production of this nature serves to do the Welsh breeds an injustice in the show ring. Any act of production which looks artificial and detracts from a 'native' look should be discouraged.

4.5a Tails **should** not be banged level **or shaved**.

4.6 **Trimming for Shows**

It is acceptable for Welsh breeds to have their hair trimmed under the jaw line and protruding from the ears. **Animals 3yrs and under** must not be body clipped (see diagrams inside front cover)

4.6a Whiskers must not be trimmed. Following the FEI General Assembly held on 23 November 2020, a new rule that prohibits the clipping/shaving of sensory hairs was passed as part of the veterinary regulations. This has been implemented on welfare grounds.

4.7 **Clipping**

Animals four years old or over, which have been clipped for winter riding and driving activities can be shown and should not be penalised. Judges must take special note

of this. Legs must not be clipped.) **Animals 3yrs and under** must not be body clipped (see diagrams inside front cover).

4.7a Artificial changes to the original markings of an animal as recorded on the Passport will not be allowed.

4.8 **Plaiting**

Manes and tails must not be plaited with the exception of an optional single **Welsh** plait behind the ear for Sections A, B, C and D.

Welsh Part-bred animals can be plaited.

4.9 **Whips and Canes**

The whip or cane must not exceed 75cm (30 inches) in total.

Any use of plastic at the end of the whip/cane is prohibited.

Conduct

4.10 Where an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the Judge is empowered to ask the handler and exhibit to leave the ring without any reward.

4.11 An in-hand class is closed, and animals are not allowed to enter the ring when the last pony has completed its trot prior to being lined up.

IN HAND CLASSES

4.12 **Age of handler**

In the interest of safety all colts and stallions, two years old or over must be suitably bitted and led by a handler aged 14 years or older. **Age as of 1st January.**

4.13 **Young Handlers**

Handlers under the age of 14 must wear a **current** British Safety Standard Hard Hat, gloves (optional) and suitable footwear. Age as of 1st January. Young handler rules apply to both young handler and open classes.

4.14 No colt/stallion or mare with foal at foot may be shown in young handler classes.

4.15 Parents/guardians should be advised that the animal must be of suitable height and temperament for the handler and class.

In-Hand Tack

4.16 Youngstock may be shown in a white webbing or rope show halter, leather head collar or show bridle (excluding two & three-year-old colts which must be bitted). Coloured brow bands are optional.

4.17 Mares or geldings, four years old or over may be shown in a white webbing or rope show halter, leather head collar/slip, show bridle or riding bridle. Coloured brow bands are optional.

4.18 Foals should be led in a halter or leather headcollar/slip. They must never be bitted.

4.19 For stallions the use of stallion show tack is optional.

- 4.20 Entire males, 2 years old or over must be shown bitted, with the exception of those in the Premium Stallion classes.

Foals

- 4.21 Foals accompanying their dam must be at least three weeks of age.
- 4.22 Foals must not be shod.
- 4.23 Yearlings may be shod with light shoes only.

RIDDEN CLASSES

- 4.24 Judges must not ride the exhibits * Apart from the RWAS show which has special dispensation for a ride judge to officiate and ride the exhibits.
- 4.25 Judges must be selected from the WPCS Ridden Panel.
- 4.26 All animals competing in ridden classes must be four years old and over.
- 4.27 Mares with a suckling foal are not eligible to compete in ridden classes.

Ridden Classification:

- 4.28 Pure Bred & Part-bred Lead Rein

Open to registered Welsh Sections, mares or geldings not exceeding 121.9cm (12hh). Riders must have attained their 3rd birthday but must not have attained their 9th birthday before 1st January in the current year. Ponies to be shown in a snaffle bridle - The reins must go directly from the bit to the child's hands with no extra aid or attachment to or on the saddle. The reins must be of normal length and not knotted or stitched together at a shorter length. Handles on saddles are permitted but the reins must not be attached to the handle of the saddle. The lead rein must be attached to the noseband only.

- 4.29 Pure Bred & Part-bred First Ridden

Open to registered Welsh Sections, mares or geldings, not exceeding 128cm (12.2hh). Riders must not have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year. Ponies are to be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle. The reins must be of normal length and not knotted or stitched together at a shorter length. Ponies must not be cantered except in their individual show.

Open and Novice Ridden Classes

- 4.30 Ridden classes are open to stallions, mares and geldings.
- 4.31 All sections shown under saddle must be Judged at the walk, trot and canter. The class is not to gallop as a group. Riders should be expected to gallop during their individual show.
- 4.32 Classes will be judged on conformation, breed type, way of going and manners.
- 4.33 No animal may be shown on a lead-rein except in a specific lead rein class.
- 4.34 Once judging has commenced, if a pony leaves the ring, it will be eliminated from the class.

Novice Status

4.35 A ridden animal shall be deemed to be a Novice if, by 1st January of the current year, it has not won an Open class within the discipline in which it is currently competing.

4.36 All Novice ridden animals must be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle.

4.37 Age of Rider

For Junior ridden classes, the rider must have attained their 3rd birthday but not attained their **18th** birthday before the 1st of January of the current year with the exception of Lead Rein and First Ridden classes who have their own age limitations. Separate rules also apply for stallions in that riders must have attained their 12th birthday before the 1st of January of the current year when riding a Section, A, B, C, Welsh Part-bred under 137.2 cm (13.2hh) and their 14th birthday before the 1st of January of the current year for Section D, Welsh Part-bred over 137.2 cm (13.2hh). Riders of Welsh Part-bred animals may be governed by specific age groups within the classification **they are competing under**.

4.38 Riders

Where a rider has been unseated or fallen from his/her animal, the rider cannot remount in the ring. The animal must be led out of the ring and cannot re-join the class. No change of rider will be allowed during a class. Where an exhibitor qualifies two animals for a championship, they must elect a substitute rider who conforms to the regulations of the class.

4.39 Hat

Correctly secured British Safety Standard skull caps/riding hats up to current British Safety Standard must be worn at all times when mounted by riders of all ages. A competitor whose hat comes off, or chin strap comes undone whilst competing must, on penalty of elimination replace it or fasten it before continuing. The rider may dismount without penalty to recover the hat or have it passed up from the ground or may stop without penalty to fasten the chin strap.

4.40 Spurs

Spurs must not be worn in any WPCS affiliated **ridden** class.

4.41 Jewellery

Jewellery must not be worn.

4.42 Ridden Dress

The overall impression should be smart, appropriate, safe and comfortable.

- a. Jodhpurs: Cream or fawn breeches or jodhpurs; style of boots optional.
- b. Jacket: Tweed riding jacket, with or without a plain coloured waistcoat.
- c. Shirt: Light shirt with collar and tie.
- d. Gloves: Should be worn.

4.43 **Ridden Tack**

Any suitable saddle or bridle should be worn. Animals competing under novice status must be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle. Bitless bridles are not permissible in any class. Welsh Part bred animals may be shown in bridles with a coloured browband.

4.43a **The Society strongly recommends that Solid metal straight bar curbs (with leather sleeve) should not be used or permitted by shows.**

4.44 **Additional Tack**

No extra tack to be worn in flat classes. Martingales and brushing boots are permissible in Working Hunter Pony classes but must be removed before the conformation section. Style of boots is optional.

4.45 **Conduct**

Where an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the Judge has the power to ask that the animal leaves the ring.

4.46 **Riders must not remove their animals from the ring during judging, without the Judge's permission; the class ends when the Judge requests the class to be dismissed.**

4.47 **Grooms**

When in the ring to help strip an animal, a groom must at all times look neat, be smartly dressed and wear a hat.

4.48 **Working Hunter Classes**

Working Hunter classes, open to stallions, mares and geldings, 4 years and over. No change of rider or saddlery is allowed between phases or during a phase. Protective boots may be used for the jumping phases only. Bandages and protective pads on an animal's feet are not allowed.

Three classes are recommended:

	Exceeding	Not Exceeding
Height Section 1	-	121.9 cm (12 hh)
Height Section 2	121.9 cm (12 hh)	137.2 cm (13.2 hh)
Height Section 3	137.2 cm (13.2 hh)	

If Welsh Part-breds are competing they should be shown in respective height sections

FENCES

4.49 **Fences must be of a hunting type built with rustic materials and be as substantial as possible.**

4.50 **The maximum spread must be at the base of the fence.**

- 4.51 Round poles must have round cups and gates must have flat cups.
- 4.52 The jumping phase must be taken first, and any animal eliminated will not be required again.
- 4.53 The course must consist of a minimum of seven fences, one of which must be a spread, with no more than two double elements. A change of direction must be included.
- 4.54 It is recommended that competitors be allowed to walk the course on foot before their class.
- 4.55 **Height of Fences**

Open

	Height Min	Max	Spread Max
Height Section 1	53 cm (1'9")	61 cm (2'0")	53 cm (1'9")
Height Section 2	69 cm (2'3")	84 cm (2'9")	69 cm (2'3")
Height Section 3	84 cm (2'9")	99 cm (3'0")	76 cm (2'6")

Novice

	Height Min	Max	Spread Max
Height Section 1	47 cm (1'6")	53 cm (1'9")	47 cm (1'6")
Height Section 2	61 cm (2'0")	69 cm (2'3")	61 cm (2'0")
Height Section 3	76 cm (2'6")	84 cm (2'9")	76 cm (2'6")

Penalties

Jump knock down	10 faults
First refusal	15 faults
Second refusal	20 faults
Third refusal	Elimination
Fall of horse/rider	Disqualification

Marking

Jumping	50
Style while jumping	20
Conformation, freedom of action & Breed type	20
Manners	10
If on equal marks, Performance marks take precedence, then style, if still equal, the Judge's preference	

4.56 **DRIVING CLASSES**

4.57 In driven competition the driver, groom(s) and passenger(s) must have attained their 14th birthday by January 1st of the current year. In the event that the driver is under the age of 18, they must be accompanied in the vehicle by a person aged 18 years or over. Proof of age will be required in the event of a query.

4.58 In all driven classes, animals must be four years old or over.

4.59 'Private Drive' classes will follow the rules of the British Driving Society.

4.60 **Conduct**

Grooms and handlers, when entering the ring, must at all times look neat, be smartly dressed. All grooms must wear a hat.

5.0 **WPCS AWARDS**

WELSH PONY & COB GELDING INCENTIVE SCHEMES

Junior Geldings - Kindly sponsored by SARUM STUD

The SARUM STUD Junior Gelding Rosettes

- 5.1 The award is to encourage the showing of junior geldings 3 years and under in-hand, therefore, expanding the market for the colt foal and enabling the creation of a network of potential performance prospects to represent the best Native breed in the World at the highest level.
- 5.2 The Gelding Champion and Reserve Champion Rosettes are generously sponsored by SARUM STUD and are obtained free of charge from the Society's office.
- 5.3 They are to be awarded to the Overall Junior Gelding Champion and Reserve from a specific Gelding Championship after all the In-Hand classes are complete.
- 5.4 To be competed for by the highest placed junior geldings from each appropriate class within Sections A, B, C, D & WPBR.
- 5.5 Owners of junior geldings do not need to be members of the WPCS in order to compete.
- 5.6 The junior gelding points competition runs from 1st January to 30th September annually.
- 5.7 Results from the top **ten** shows will be included for each junior gelding, with a maximum of **two** classes per show.
- 5.8 There is no need to request points card for any Junior gelding competing within Welsh in hand classes at an affiliated show. These points will be automatically collated by the WPCS Office (subject to receiving the results from the show)
- 5.9 Points are allocated as follows:

At shows affiliated to the WPCS

1st – 8 points 2nd – 6 points 3rd – 4 points 4th – 2 points

Extra points will be awarded for –

Receiving a Champion Gelding rosette - 10 points

Receiving a Reserve Champion Gelding rosette - 6 points

Senior Geldings - Kindly sponsored by the TREVALLION STUD

The TREVALLION Senior Gelding Rosettes

- 5.10 The Gelding Champion and Reserve Champion Rosettes are generously sponsored by TREVALLION and are obtained free of charge from the Society's office.
- 5.11 They are to be awarded to the Overall Senior Gelding (4 years plus) Champion and Reserve from a specific Gelding Championship after all the In-Hand classes are complete.
- 5.12 To be competed for by the highest placed senior geldings from each appropriate class within Sections A, B, C, D & WPBR.
- 5.13 Owners of senior geldings do not need to be members of the WPCS in order to compete.
- 5.14 The senior gelding points competition runs from 1st January to 30th September annually.
- 5.15 Results from the top **ten** shows will be included for each senior gelding, with a maximum of **two** classes per show.
- 5.16 There is no need to request points card for any **senior** gelding competing within Welsh in hand classes at an affiliated show. These points will be automatically collated by the WPCS Office (subject to receiving the results from the show)
- 5.17 Points are allocated as follows:

At shows affiliated to the WPCS

1st – 8 points 2nd – 6 points 3rd – 4 points 4th – 2 points

Extra points will be awarded for –

Receiving a Champion Gelding rosette - 10 points

Receiving a Reserve Champion Gelding rosette - 6 points

VETERANS

WPCS MINMON IN-HAND VETERAN SCHEME

kindly sponsored by Ann Holland of the Minmon Stud

- 5.18 The MINMON WPCS Veteran Scheme is aimed at in-hand veterans over 19 years of age and does not include ridden classes as not to encourage animals being over worked.
- 5.19 The scheme includes stallions, barren mares and geldings in In-hand classes.
- 5.20 Veterans to be classed as 19 years or over for the purpose of this scheme.

- 5.21 A Championship class for the highest placed veterans in WPCS Sections to compete for the MINMON Veteran Championship, Champion and Reserve Rosettes will be awarded.
- 5.22 The Scheme to run from 1st January to 30th September annually.
- 5.23 There is no need to request points card any 19-YEAR-OLD OR OVER veteran competing within Welsh in hand classes at an affiliated show. These points will be automatically collated by the WPCS Office (subject to receiving the results from the show)

At shows affiliated to the WPCS

1st – 8 points 2nd – 6 points 3rd – 4 points 4th – 2 points

Extra points will be awarded for -

Veteran Champion - 10 points

Veteran Reserve Champion - 6 points

SIRE-RATINGS AND RESULTS

IN-HAND SIRE-RATINGS

- 5.24 Shows included in the Scheme are pre-approved by the Society's Council.

The list of included shows for 2024 is as follows **(subject to affiliation)**:

Aberystwyth	Royal Bath & West
Anglesey	Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society
Blaenavon	Society
Brecon	Royal Cornwall
Cothi Bridge	Royal Highland
Denbigh & Flint	Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show *
Glanusk Welsh Stallion Show	
Kent County	Royal Norfolk
Lampeter Stallion Show Welsh Breed	Scottish All Welsh
National Welsh Championships	Suffolk
Northern All Welsh	Three Counties
Notts County	Towerlands
Pembroke	Usk
Pontardulais	Worsley Gala

- 5.25 **At the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Show points from any animal that is sired by a stallion owned or bred by the Judge of that section will not be counted.
- 5.26 Welsh Pony & Cob Society Area Associations are eligible to nominate one of their Association Shows to be included in the Scheme. Nominations must be sent to the WPCS Office.
- 5.27 As the results are printed in the Society's Annual Journal, shows eligible for the Scheme must be held prior to the end of September to allow sufficient time for the results to be compiled.

SIRE RATINGS RESULTS

- 5.28 Results must be submitted to the Society's Office in the form of a marked catalogue, showing the placing 1st to 4th in each relevant class. Results sent in any other format will be returned to the show in order that they may submit them in the correct format.
- 5.29 The Society does not query any of the results submitted. If, for example, the catalogues are only marked from 1st to 3rd, only these will be recorded.
- 5.30 Points are allocated as follows:
1st place – 8 points, 2nd place – 6 points, 3rd place – 4 points, 4th place – 2 points
- 5.31 The maximum number of points any individual progeny of an animal could contribute would be limited to that animal's five best results.
- 5.32 In the event of a tie, the highest number of progeny recorded for the sire would decide the winner.
- 5.33 In the event of a further tie, the number of 1st placings attained by the progeny would then be taken into consideration.
- 5.34 The results will be printed in the Society's Annual Journal, listing the name and number of the sire, number of progeny involved in attaining the points and the total number of points.
- 5.35 Where foal classes are included at a show, registration forms for foals must be received by the WPCS Office within one month of the date of the show. Registrations for foals not registered in time will not have their results recorded.
- 5.36 **PERFORMANCE SIRE-RATINGS**
- 5.37 Shows included in the Scheme are pre-approved by the Society's Council. The list of included shows for 2024 is as follows **(subject to affiliation)**:
- Under Saddle:** Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Brecon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Derbyshire Festival, Glanusk, Great Yorkshire, Horse of the Year Show, Kent County, Lampeter Stallion Show Welsh Breed, Lincolnshire, Monmouth, National Welsh Championships, Newark & Notts, Northern All Welsh, NPS Summer Champs, Pembroke, Pontardulais, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Norfolk, Royal Welsh, Scottish Horse Show, Scottish All Welsh, Suffolk, Three Counties, Vale of Glamorgan, Worsley Gala, WPCS Performance Show.
- Lead Rein/First Ridden:** Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Brecon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Derbyshire Festival, Horse of the Year Show, Kent County, Great Yorkshire, Lampeter Stallion Show Welsh Breed, Lincolnshire, Midland Counties, Monmouth, National Welsh Championships, Newark & Notts, Northern All Welsh, NPS Area 11 Summer, NPS Area 4 Summer, Pembroke, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Norfolk, Royal Welsh, Scottish All Welsh, Scottish Horse Show, Suffolk (First Ridden only), Three Counties, Vale of Glamorgan, Worsley Gala, WPCS Performance Show.

Working Hunter Pony: Aberystwyth, Anglesey, Brecon, Cothi Bridge, Denbigh & Flint, Derbyshire Festival, Great Yorkshire, Kent County, Lincolnshire, Monmouth, National Welsh Championships, Newark & Notts, NPS Area 11 Summer, NPS Summer Championship, Pembroke, Royal Bath & West, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Welsh, Suffolk, Three Counties, Vale of Glamorgan, WPCS Performance Show,

Driving: Aberystwyth, Bakewell, Brecon, British Driving Society (Windsor), Edenbridge & Oxted, Great Yorkshire, Lampeter Stallion Show Welsh Breed, Lincolnshire, Newark & Notts, Pembroke, Pontardulais, Royal Cheshire Agricultural Society, Royal Cornwall, Royal Highland, Royal Norfolk, Royal Welsh, South of England, Three Counties, WPCS Performance Show.

Welsh Pony & Cob Society Area Associations are eligible to nominate one of their Association Shows to be included in the Scheme. Nominations must be sent to the WPCS Office on the appropriate forms supplied by the Society.

Results

- 5.38 Results must be submitted to the WPCS Office in the form of a marked catalogue, showing the placing 1st to 4th in each relevant class. Results sent in any other format will be returned to the show in order that they may submit them in the correct format.
- 5.39 The Society does not query any of the results submitted. If, for example, the catalogues are only marked from 1st to 3rd, only these will be recorded.
- 5.40 Points are allocated as follows:
1st place – 8 points, 2nd place – 6 points, 3rd place – 4 points, 4th place – 2 points
- 5.41 In the event of a tie in any one discipline, the highest number of progeny recorded for the sire would decide the winner.
- 5.42 In the event of a further tie, the number of 1st placings attained by the progeny would then be taken into consideration.

OTHER SOCIETIES

RULES AND REGULATIONS - relating to other showing societies.

Please note that rules/guidelines published in this handbook do not over-rule any rules or guidelines already in place with show societies, except at shows solely affiliated to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society.

Horse of the Year Show Qualifiers

Eligibility of WPCS Panel Judges

Only WPCS Judges with an *R on the WPCS Ridden panel are eligible to Judge the Ride or Conformation phase of all Ridden qualifying classes for HOYS.

Qualifying classes include

- M&M Lead Rein/ First Ridden
- M&M Junior Ridden
- M&M Open Ridden
- M&M Working Hunter Pony
- Ridden Welsh Part Bred Pony

Please be fully aware of HOYS Rules. <https://hoys.co.uk/>

NPS Qualifiers - Advice to WPCS Judges

When Judges are judging Ridden Mountain & Moorland and Welsh classes incorporating NPS Qualifiers, the Judge must:

Sign qualifying cards in the ring.

- When awarding Silver Medal Rosettes (NPS), check the exhibitor's NPS Membership Card to confirm membership. This must be produced in the ring. If the Champion does not have the card in the ring it can be offered to Reserve Champion but no further down the line. At Breed Shows ponies can win Silver Medal Rosettes even if their owners are not members of the NPS but they must become NPS Qualifying members to enter the final.

Contact details for other Societies and Showing Organisations

National Pony Society, Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LG | Tel: 01420 88333 | www.nationalponysociety.com

British Show Pony Society, 124 Green End Road, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE28 5XS | Tel: 01487 831376 | Email: info@bsps.com | www.bsps.com

UK Ponies & Horses, Debbie Miller, Withybridge Farm, Withy Road, West Huntspill, Highbridge, Somerset, TA9 3NN | Tel: 07957 503631 | Email: info@ukponies.uk | www.ukponies.uk

British Driving Society, Hoste House, Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1NR | Tel: 01284 630591 | Email: info@britishdrivingsociety.co.uk | www.britishdrivingsociety.co.uk

HOYS, Grandstand Media Ltd, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ | Tel: 02476 858205 | Email: info@hoys.co.uk | www.hoys.co.uk

The Showing Register | Tel: 02476 587010 | Email: info@theshowingregister.co.uk | www.theshowingregister.co.uk

6.0 PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES POLICY & PROCEDURES

- 6.1 No animal, Pony or Cob shall be treated (whether under veterinary supervision or not) with any substance which may affect its performance in any way or with any, body or condition enhancing substance.
- 6.2 All substances prohibited by the Jockey Club will be included (and any others which may be notified by the Society from time to time) and any substances used as agents to mask the use of performance and behaviour altering substances and any metabolites of such substances and any artificial growth or condition enhancing substances.
- 6.3 It shall be a breach of these rules for any animal present at any show, event or competition with Society affiliation or where Society medals are awarded or at any official sale run under Society rules to contain any prohibited substances within its body or on its exterior.
- 6.4 The making of an entry to any such show, event or competition or sale shall be deemed to accept the requirement to present an animal for testing for prohibited substances as may be required by the Society.
- 6.5 Refusal to allow testing of any animal shall be a breach of these rules and shall be punished as if any subsequent test had proved positive.
- 6.6 Any prohibited substances in the tissue, hair, skin, body fluids, excreta or body of an animal at any level or quantity shall be a breach of these rules.
- 6.7 The Society shall direct at which shows or events or competitions or sales animals shall be tested. Choice may be computer generated at random. Tests may be required at random or for specific classes or whether performance, behaviour or condition of an animal is noted to be unusual or different.
- 6.8 Testing shall constitute the examination of the animal by a qualified person and include taking of samples, of tissue, hair, skin, and body fluids or etcetera as directed by the person examining for subsequent analysis.
- 6.9 The samples shall be divided into two parts and the owner or person having care of the animal shall be offered one sample for independent testing at their own expense.
- 6.10 The Society shall direct as to which laboratories are approved for samples to be tested.
- 6.11 If a prohibited substance is confirmed by the laboratory in a sample, then:
- The animal will be disqualified from any prize championship or qualification and shall forfeit all placings, awards, or prize money in any classes from the day before it was tested and the outcome of a subsequent Disciplinary Hearing.
- The animal is suspended from being shown or taking part in any **WPCS AFFILIATED** show, event or sale pending the outcome of the subsequent Disciplinary Hearing.
- The owner and/or producer having care of the animal shall be suspended from all rights and privileges of membership of the Society pending the outcome of the subsequent Disciplinary Hearing.
- The period of suspension shall commence on the day after posting by the Society to the owner of the notification of a positive test result.

The matter shall be reported forthwith to the Society for referral to disciplinary procedure.

6.12 It is the responsibility of the owner of an animal or the owner's agents or producer or the person having care of an animal for fourteen days before and during a show or event to ensure that nothing is administered fed or applied to an animal that contains any prohibited substance.

6.13 Lack of knowledge will not be an excuse nor a defence.

6.14 **IMPORTANT NOTES**

Some feeds and proprietary preparations and homeopathic and herbal remedies may contain prohibited substances.

Absorption can be by ingestion, injection or application through the skin.

Before presenting an animal at a show, event, competition or sale it is advisable:

To obtain advice from a veterinary surgeon as to the length of time during which any prohibited substance may be present in an animal's body.

To obtain advice and confirmation from feed merchants or manufacturers as to the freedom of feed stuffs from prohibited substances.

6.15 Sampling Procedures

a) Testing should take place as soon as possible after the participation of the pony in its class provided that it does not interfere with its programme in which case the test should take place as soon as possible after the pony has completed its programme.

b) It is the responsibility of the person in charge of the pony whether it be the owner or producer or other person to supervise the pony from the time of notification of selections for a test until completion of the test.

c) The owner, producer or other person responsible for the pony or his representative shall be entitled to witness the testing from outside the loose box, horse box or testing area without disturbing the pony but if not present the test will proceed in any event.

d) All samples taken must be kept in a secure place and dispatched to the laboratory selected by the Society as soon as reasonably possible after collection.

e) The sample must be divided into two parts hereinafter referred to as Sample A and Sample B and the initial analysis of Sample A must be completed within twenty-one days of receipt of the sample by the laboratory. If the initial analysis produces a suspicious positive result, then the Society may grant such extension as the laboratory requires to complete the analysis.

f) If the result of analysis of Sample A is negative, then the laboratory may forthwith destroy Sample B.

g) If the result of analysis of Sample A is positive then the owner or producer may require confirmatory analysis of Sample B, by any laboratory approved by The Horseracing Forensic Laboratory provided that a written request for such

confirmatory analysis is received by the Society within fourteen days of dispatch by the Society of notification of a positive analysis of Sample A.

h) The owner or producer may request that finding be made in respect of particular matters during the analysis of Sample B on the basis that they will be responsible for all additional costs incurred whatever the result of the analysis of Sample B.

i) Upon receipt of a valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B. the Society shall inform the laboratory immediately and the laboratory shall carry out the analysis of Sample B.

j) If the result of analysis of Sample B is positive, then the person requesting the analysis shall reimburse the Society the cost of analysis of Sample A and Sample B forthwith on demand.

k) If the results of analysis of Sample A is positive and no valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B is received, the owner shall reimburse the Society the cost of analysis of Sample A forthwith upon demand.

l) The samples shall be taken by a qualified veterinary surgeon or a suitably qualified scientific technician.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE WPCS

The Society website www.wpcs.uk.com hosts the following further information.

General Code of Conduct.

Social Media and Internet Policy.

Code of Conduct for Competitors and Exhibitors.

Feedback and Comments Policy.

The Complaint processes.

Disciplinary Procedure.

Process to raise concerns / complaints about the welfare of animals.

Anti-bullying and harassment policy (members).

Equal Opportunities policy.

How to affiliate guide.

How to apply to become a judge.

These are regularly updated, and members, exhibitors and Judges are encouraged to visit the site for the latest information on the Society and any changes in its protocols and procedures.