



**Cymdeithas y Merlod a'r Cobiau Cymreig  
The Welsh Pony and Cob Society**



**Young Judges' Competition 2024**



**This pack contains the following:**

- 🐾 Entry Form
- 🐾 Young Judges Information Sheet
- 🐾 Young Judges Supporting Document
- 🐾 Example score cards
- 🐾 Young Judges – Things to think about before the day arrives



# Cymdeithas y Merlod a'r Cobiau Cymreig The Welsh Pony and Cob Society

Established 1901



Dear Potential Young Judge,

The Welsh Pony and Cob Society are writing to you regarding the Young Judges Competition. This is held on the Three Counties Showground, Malvern. WR13 6NW. This year's competition will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024, the afternoon prior to the National Welsh Championship Show. Could you be a future WPCS Judge?

As a young member or previous young member of the Society or an individual or association who has expressed an interest in taking part, we would like to invite you to apply to take part in the competition.

There are four age categories 10-13 years, 14-17 years, 18-21 years, and 22-25 years. This year the section forward for judging is the Section A. Your age category is defined as your ages as at the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

This year we are trialling a Ridden Young Judges competition to run alongside the In Hand competition.

Entry to this competition is **FREE** of charge and there will be lots of prizes available, including a Society young judge's rosette for everyone taking part and a WPCS goody bag, rosettes and certificates for competitors placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> in each group. A Society WPCS gold medal will be awarded for the Champion of the In Hand and Ridden competition. The winner will also receive The Young Judge of the year Rosette and Sash.

Team awards for associations taking part and special training bursaries will also be available to the champion and reserve champion team.

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There will also be the opportunity to attend training days prior to the event and details of these will be shared on the Society website and Facebook page and also the Young Judges Facebook page. We also encourage you to speak to your local association and studs to obtain your own training ahead of the competition.

Applications close on the 26th July 2024 and should be submitted either via post to The Welsh Pony and Cob Society, Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter. SA48 8AG. Or via email to [nicola.morgan@wpcs.uk.com](mailto:nicola.morgan@wpcs.uk.com)

Yours sincerely

Nicola Morgan

**Passport Officer**

📞 01570 471754    🌐 [www.wpcs.uk.com](http://www.wpcs.uk.com)    ✉ [enquiries@wpcs.uk.com](mailto:enquiries@wpcs.uk.com)  
Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 8AG

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## Welsh Pony and Cob Society Young Judges Competition 2024



### Information Sheet

The competition, started in 1997, is run under the rules and direction of the WPCS Judging and Showing Committee and holds a prominent place in the WPCS calendar. Over the years the competition has proved to be a valuable training ground for future judges of the WPCS panel. This year in addition to the In-hand Young Judges Competition we are trialing a Ridden Young Judges Competition for the first time.

**Aim:** The aim of the competition is to find annually the top Young Judges of the Welsh Breeds. It provides the opportunity for young people to develop their skills in terms of judging and present their understanding of the judging process in an interview situation.

**Eligibility:** The competition is open to all young people aged between 10 and 25 years of age. Area Associations and Overseas Societies are invited to enter teams and/or individuals. Each team will comprise of 3 individuals. Entries are also invited from individuals who are not members of an area association, or whose association is not participating in the scheme. You do not have to be a current member of the WPCS to take part in the competition. Competitors are eligible to compete in both competitions or just the in-hand or ridden competition if preferred. All entries must be made on the appropriate entry form and returned to The WPCS Offices no later than 26th July 2024. There is no entry fee for the competition.

**Classification:** The competition will be run in four age groups: 10 – 13 years, 14 – 17 years, 18 – 21 years and 22 – 25 years. The overall winner will be decided by the judges from the winners of the four groups.

**Date, time, and place:** This year the competition will be held on the Three Counties Showground, Malvern. WR13 6NW on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August. The Ridden Competition will run in the morning with registration opening at 09:45am ready for the competition to start at 10.15am. The in-hand competition will run in the afternoon with registration opening at 1.30pm ready for the competition to start at 2.15pm. The presentation of awards will be made later in the evening (approx. 6.00pm).

Following the presentation of the awards we are planning some fun activities and refreshments for all the family which will be open to Young Judges competitors, family, friends, and competitors staying on the showground for the show on Sunday. Refreshments will be subject to pre-booking; full details will be advertised nearer the time. The National Welsh and Welsh Part- bred show will take place on the showground on the following day.

**Assessors:** Miss C E Bigley (Llanarth) and Mrs J A Harriss (Drumaddie) will assess the in-hand candidates. Ms J Sheil (Dukeshill) and Mr R Parker Jones (Croston) will assess the ridden candidates.



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**Scoring for In Hand:** A maximum of 100 marks is awarded by the assessors as follows:

- 25 marks for candidate's placing
- 40 marks for candidate's accuracy and observation
- 25 marks for candidate's comparative rather than descriptive description
- 10 marks for candidate's interview presentation

A **further 30 marks** will be awarded subject to correctly answering 3 knowledge questions on current WPCS In-hand Showing Rules.

**Procedure for the In Hand Section:** Competitors will judge an in-hand class of four Section A ponies. They will be required to assess the animals standing, in walk and in trot. They will place the animals in their preferred order on the score card provided. The Assessors will judge the ponies at the same time as the competitors. A sheet with full details of the procedure is available and should be consulted.

**Scoring for Ridden:** A maximum of 100 marks is awarded by the assessors as follows:

- 25 marks for candidate's placing
- 40 marks for candidate's accuracy and observation
- 25 marks for candidate's comparative rather than descriptive description
- 10 marks for candidate's interview presentation

The following should be considered and commented on in the above responses.

- Conformation and movement
- Breed characteristics and type
- Correct way of going

A **further 30 marks** will be awarded subject to correctly answering 3 knowledge questions on current WPCS Ridden Showing Rules.

**Procedure for the Ridden Section:** The animals will enter the ring at a walk before being asked by the steward to 'trot on' and then canter. They will then be lined up in any order. Animals will then complete an individual show (which will be set by the assessors) before returning into line. The assessors will judge the ponies at the same time as the competitors. When all have completed their individual shows each animal in turn will be stripped and presented in hand. The candidates will have 2 minutes to judge each animal standing. The animal will then walk away from the candidates and trot back. Animals will then be tacked up before walking round as a class and the competitors will mark their placings 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> on the score card using A, B, X and Y before handing it to the steward. As they leave the ring. A sheet with full details of the procedure is available and should be consulted.



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**Dress:** Competitors are required to dress in a way consistent with judging at a show and this includes the wearing of a hat or bowler.

**Interview:** Following the judging of the ponies each competitor will be interviewed individually by one of the judges in a drawn order; interviews will be conducted indoors.

**Awards:** Prizes including a certificate and rosette which will be awarded to competitors placed 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> in each age group, in addition the highest placed WPCS junior member will also receive a rosette.

**In hand-** The winner of each age group will also receive a prize. The Overall winner of the In-hand competition will receive a WPCS gold medal and the Young Judge of the Year Sash. The Reserve Young Judge of the Year will also be presented with a sash. All competitors will receive a WPCS rosette. A special training bursary will be awarded to the Association gaining the highest average points score from their teams. Special Awards for highest placed overseas candidates.

**Ridden-** The winner of each age group will receive a prize. The Overall winner of the Ridden competition will receive a WPCS gold medal and the Young Judge of the Year Sash. The Reserve Young Judge of the Year will also be presented with a sash. All competitors will receive a WPCS rosette. Special Awards for highest placed overseas candidates.

**Acknowledgements** The Welsh Pony and Cob Society would like to thank the following for generously supporting to the competition:

Carl Nee CDN Bespoke Whips

Maureen Prottey

South Yorkshire Rosettes

Welsh Pony & Cob Society

The WPCS Young Judges Committee & Helpers

Mr Richard Pittman

Miss Catryn Bigley

Mr Nigel Burton

Mrs Janice Parry in memory of her late husband Jeff Parry (Talponciau Stud) – Training

Bursary Highest Placed Association Team

Mrs Lottie Stephens, Flydon Stud – Competitors Certificates

Llanarth Stud– Llanarth Trophy Overall Champion Young Judge





## Welsh Pony and Cob Society Young Judges Competition 2024



**Communication** All communication in the first instance will be with Nicola Morgan, The Welsh Pony and Cob Society, Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter. SA48 8AG.

Telephone Number: 01570 471754

Email: [nicola.morgan@wpcs.uk.com](mailto:nicola.morgan@wpcs.uk.com)

Welsh Pony and Cob Society  
Judging and Showing Committee  
Bronaeron  
Felinfach  
Lampeter  
SA48 8AG



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Competitors should make every effort to familiarise themselves with the format of the competition and the specific skills being assessed. Many Associations organise training sessions where potential competitors can learn and develop the skills and undertake interview practice. It is not sufficient to just place the animals in a preferred order, but competitors must be able to give reasons for their placings when interviewed. The interview will also contain set questions.

### How does the competition work?

**For the In Hand competition a maximum of 100 marks are awarded as follows:**

- 25 marks for competitor's placing \*
- 40 marks for competitor's accuracy and observation
- 25 marks for competitor's comparative rather than descriptive comment
- 10 marks for competitor's interview presentation

*\* (The 25 marks for placing will be derived from the scoring system commonly used within Young Farmers competitions **however please note the interview will not follow the usual Young Farmers format.**)*

Competitors will be scored by the assessors on their ability to:

- describe type, conformation and movement of the animals using appropriate terminology.
- compare animals in terms of conformation, type, and movement.
- give constructive reasons for their decisions.
- communicate their judgement of the animals in a coherent manner.

A **further 30 marks** will be awarded subject to correctly answering 3 knowledge questions on current WPCS In-hand Showing Rules.

**For the Ridden competition, a maximum of 100 marks are awarded as follows:**

- 25 marks for candidate's placing
- 40 marks for candidate's accuracy and observation
- 25 marks for candidate's comparative rather than descriptive description
- 10 marks for candidate's interview presentation

Competitors will be scored by the assessors on their ability to:

- describe their observations and comparisons on correct way of going in the group go round, and individual show, accuracy of set show execution.
- describe type, conformation and movement of the animals using appropriate terminology.
- compare animals in terms of conformation, breed type and movement.
- give constructive reasons for their decisions.
- communicate their judgement of the animals in a coherent manner.



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A **further 30 marks** will be awarded subject to correctly answering 3 knowledge questions on current WPCS Ridden Showing Rules.

A score card will be provided and there is a tear off part for competitor's individual comments; however, it is recommended that competitors bring a clip board and paper for their use and remember a spare pen or pencil. The score cards will be collected but all notes remain with the competitor; everyone is encouraged to use their notes in the interview.

### **What happens on the day?**

The Ridden Competition will run in the morning with registration opening at 09:45am ready for the competition to start at 10.15am. On arrival all competitors must register with the steward. The in-hand competition will run in the afternoon with registration opening at 1.30pm ready for the competition to start at 2.15pm. On arrival all competitors must register with the steward. Competitors will be briefed by the steward and the assessors introduced to the competitors. Competitors will be issued with their score card. Please note that this session is for competitors only and family and friends will not be able to be present in the area but will have a separate area allocated for the duration of the competition should they wish to stay. Health and safety issues remain a top priority for the organisers. At no stage should competitors handle the ponies and at all times they must follow the direction of the steward in charge.

### ***The Judging In Hand***

The steward will escort all the competitors and the assessors to the centre of the judging ring. The Competition will run as an in-hand showing class for four Section A ponies. The equines will be identified by letters A, B, X or Y. No competitor will be allowed to talk to anyone outside the ring during the judging. The Assessors will view the ponies at the same time as the competitors.

Competitors will observe the animals in walk before each pony is trotted. The ponies will be lined up. Competitors will be divided into groups and each group will have approximately 2 minutes to view each pony. The animals will then walk away and trot back. This procedure will be repeated until each group has assessed all the ponies. The ponies will then be walked as a class, and the competitors will mark their placings 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> on the score card using A, B, X and Y before handing it to the steward. A presentation will be made to the handlers supplying the ponies and a group photograph taken before the competitors leave the ring and return indoors.

### ***Ridden***

The steward will escort all the competitors and the assessors to the centre of the judging ring. The Competition will run as a ridden showing class for four Section A ponies. The equines will be identified by letters A, B, X or Y. No competitor will be allowed to talk to anyone outside the ring during the judging. The Assessors will view the ponies at the same time as the competitors. The animals will enter the ring at a walk before being asked by the steward to 'trot on' and then canter. They will then be lined up in any order. Animals will then complete an individual show (which will be set by the assessors) before returning into line. The assessors will judge the ponies at the same time as the competitors. When all have completed their individual shows each animal in turn will be stripped and presented in hand. The candidates will have 2 minutes to judge each animal standing. The animal will then walk away from the candidates and trot back.





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Animals will then be tacked up before walking round as a class and the competitors will mark their placings 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> on the score card using A, B, X and Y. A presentation will be made to the riders of the ponies and a group photograph taken before the competitors leave the ring and return indoors. Score cards should be handed to the steward as competitors leave the ring.

### ***The Interview***

Competitors will then be interviewed individually in a previously drawn order and interviews will last for approximately five minutes. It is important that all competitors are treated fairly and that includes having the same amount of time. One assessor will start interviewing the 14 -17 years group while the other will interview the 10 -13 years group before moving on to the 18 - 21 years and 22-25 years group. The Assessor will have the competitor's score card with the placings; assessors will question competitors on their placings and their observations on the ponies forward. The assessor will also ask each competitor 3 knowledge questions on current WPCS Showing Rules. During the interview the assessor will be accompanied by a timekeeper whose sole responsibility is to advise the assessor on the timing of the interviews. Once a competitor has completed their interview, they are free to go but will be required later for the presentation.

After each interview the Assessor will complete the competitor's score card awarding scores for each of the elements. The total scores awarded will be the basis for the placings; should two or more competitors tie on marks then the final decision will lie with the assessor. For the overall award assessors will confer and may ask to interview some of the competitors again.

### ***The Presentation of Awards***

The presentation of awards will be made on the showground at around 6.00pm where friends and family will be warmly welcomed. The presentation is part of the competition and competitors should remain dressed as they were earlier – casual wear would not be appropriate.

Prior to the presentation the assessors will give their placings of the ponies and their reasons. Score cards will be returned to the competitors and the assessors will be available after to answer any competitor's questions on an individual basis. Competitors are encouraged to ask the assessors any questions which will help them in their development as judges.

Each Young Judge of the Year is also welcomed to accompany a judge the following day.

### **Need further help or information?**

The Welsh Associations have been a backbone of this competition through training, assessing, and encouraging young people to take part. In a recent development, the competition was widened to include young people from overseas and those not involved with an Association who can now enter on an individual basis. Some competitors might not readily have access to training and support, and they may find the following publications helpful:

*WPCS Judging Welsh Ponies and Cobs Conference 2008 DVD*

*WPCS Judging and Showing Handbook 2024 (this can be found on the society website)*

*An Introduction to Welsh Ponies and Cobs – Wynne Davies (Chapters 1 and 7)*

Any further requests for support should be addressed in the first instance through the WPCS Office.



**Welsh Pony & Cob Society  
Young Judge's Competition 2024**



**Saturday 10th August 2024  
Three Counties Show Ground**

**Entry Form**

The Young Judge's competition is open to all young people aged between 10 and 25 years of age.

Area Associations and Overseas Societies are invited to enter teams and/or individuals. Each team will comprise of 3 individuals.

*Entries are also invited from individuals who are not members of an area association, or whose association are not participating in the scheme.*

**Entries must be received no later than 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024.      Entry fee FREE**

**Name of organisation or parent/guardian entering competitor(s):**

.....

**Contact person for the organisation or parent/guardian:**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Telephone number(s)</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	

**Signed :** .....

**Completed entry form should be forwarded no later than 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 to:  
Nicola Morgan, Welsh Pony Cob Society, Bronaeron, Felinfach, Lampeter. SA48 8AG**





## Welsh Pony and Cob Society Young Judges Competition 2024



### **Young Judges – Things to think about before the day arrives**

- 🐾 Familiarise yourself with the expected behaviours and dress code of a judge when at a show, details of this can be found in the Judging and Showing Handbook or you could watch a judge at a local show to you.

### **Young Judges Interview Techniques**

- 🐾 Familiarise yourself with the current WPCS judge's handbook this can be found on the society website <https://wpcs.uk.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/FINAL-2024-JS-HANDBOOK-v2.pdf>
- 🐾 Familiarise yourself with the breed standards for the section you will be judging.
- 🐾 Smile and be friendly when entering the room and introduce yourself to the interviewer.
- 🐾 Sit up in your chair and engage with the interviewer via eye contact.
- 🐾 Engage with the questions giving enough information but remaining on the topic of the question.
- 🐾 Make sure you answer the question.
- 🐾 Thank the interviewer for their time when you leave the room.

Things to remember when placing the animal, to help in your interview. These are all things that can be noted during the judging of the in-hand/ridden class and referred to in the interview so we would encourage you to make as many notes as possible to help you then speak about the animals and their placings in the interview.

- 🐾 Comparisons between animals and the reasons for the placings rather than giving a description of the animals
- 🐾 Observations of any fault or differences between animals
- 🐾 Justifications for the placings of the animal e.g., why was he 3<sup>rd</sup> and not second

If you would like to practice a mock interview, please add a note with your application with an e-mail address and the society will arrange an online mock interview for you. Good luck with your application. We hope you enjoy!

**Welsh Pony & Cob Society  
Young Judges' Competition**



**For competitor's notes  
(to be detached)**

Name: .....

Competitor's placing:

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>

	Max Mark	Mark gained
<b>Competitor's placing</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>Accuracy of observations</b>	<b>40</b>	
<b>Ability to compare exhibits</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>Interview presentation</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>Questions</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	

**Candidate Feedback**

Feedback on placings
Feedback on observations and comparisons
Feedback on Interview
Additional Comments