



JUDGES' POCKET HANDBOOK

2025



WELCOME

Dear Judge

This Pocket Handbook has been published in a format that can be kept close at hand at events.

It is published annually to ensure you always have access to current rules and regulations.

Please keep this handbook with you whenever judging.

It is an honour to have a position on the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Panel of Judges.

To be appointed as a WPCSA Judge, you have shown that you have the knowledge and experience to represent the Society.

Shows are the 'shop window' for all those interested in the Welsh breed and are often the introduction to the breed for many.

You have a large influence on, and therefore, a responsibility regarding the future of the Welsh breed.

Thank you for giving your time and commitment to the Welsh breed, members and enthusiasts.

Committee of Management



Published by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc. © September 2025
Wholly set up and printed in Australia
Printed by Metro Print 202-206 Roberts Road Airport West VIC 3042
ISBN: 978-0-9592573-1-1
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“The horse, with beauty unsurpassed,
strength immeasurable, and grace unlike
any other, still remains humble enough to
carry a man upon his back.”

Amber Senti

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Animals registered in Sections A, B, C, D or E of the WPCSA Stud Book must be judged in accordance with the breed description contained within the Stud Book.

WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY

Not exceeding 12.0 hh

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 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 matured 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 knees, 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.

HINDQUARTERS

Lengthy and fine. Not cobby, 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 leg not to be too bent. The hock not to be set behind a line from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped, hoofs dense.

ACTION

Quick, free and straight from the shoulder, well away in front. Hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and well under the body.

WELSH PONY

Not exceeding 13.2hh

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.

WELSH PONY OF COB TYPE

Not exceeding 13.2hh

Section C of the Stud Book

The Welsh Pony of Cob Type is a stronger counterpart of the Welsh Pony, with Cob blood. Refer to the general description for Section D of the Stud Book.

WELSH COB

The height should exceed 13.2hh, no upper limit

Section D of the Stud Book

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.

HINDQUARTERS

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 inwards 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.

WELSH GELDING

No upper height limit.

Section E of the Stud Book.

Welsh Geldings are produced by any of the four sections of the Stud Book and this is noted on their registration certificate ie. Section E Gelding of (A) Breeding. Over height geldings are eligible to be shown in their relevant class.

PART WELSH REGISTER

No upper or lower height limit.

Part Welsh animals have a minimum of 12.5% registered Welsh blood in their parentage, which can come from the sire, the dam, or cumulative from both. There is no restriction on the colour.

Part Welsh vary greatly in type with differing percentages of Welsh breeding. They should be judged as for an open class, based on their conformation and movement and not for Welsh characteristics or traits.

CHILDREN'S CLASSES



HANDLER CLASSES

- Handlers 11 years and under must wear approved helmets for all in-hand classes.
- Handlers MUST be 3 years and over on the first day of the show.
- Handlers 3 – 6 years on the first day of the show MUST have a person 16 years and over beside them to compete.
- Handlers 7 years and over on the first day of the show may compete independently.

LEADING REIN CLASSES

- Rider to be 3 years and under 8 years on first day of show.
- Pony to be 12 hh and under.
- Snaffle bit only and lead rein to be attached to noseband.
- No spurs.
- Handler to be 16 years and over and handler only may carry a whip.

FIRST RIDDEN CLASSES

- Rider to be 5 years and under 12 years on first day of show.
- Pony to be 12. 2 hh or under.
- Snaffle bit only.
- No spurs.
- Whips, crops and hacking canes length to not exceed 75 cms excluding tails.
- Walk and trot only on the ring.

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

- Rider to be 5 years and under 18 years on the first day of show.
- Snaffle bit only.
- No spurs.
- Whips, crops and hacking canes length to not exceed 75 cms excluding tails.

The maximum number of ridden combinations on the circle at any one time in a class must not exceed 12. Classes may be judged in divisions. This excludes leading rein classes.

FALLS

- A fall of a rider results in rider disqualification from that class. The rider must not remount in the ring.
- After a fall in the ring or an injury at an event, handlers, riders and drivers must consult the First Aid provider and follow their recommendations before continuing to compete in further classes.

HOT WEATHER

- When the temperature reaches 35 DEGREES, children 12 years and under MUST remove their jackets while competing.



CLASS DEFINITIONS

These definitions apply to led and ridden classes.

WELSH CLASSES

- Welsh only.
- Presented unplaited.

PART WELSH CLASSES

- Part Welsh only.
- May be plaited or unplaited.

WELSH HUNTER CLASSES

- Welsh only.
- Presented unplaited.

A competitor must choose to compete as either a Welsh Hunter, Show Hunter or Show Pony/Horse.

SHOW HUNTER CLASSES

- Welsh or Part Welsh.
- Presented plaited.

A competitor must choose to compete as either a Welsh Hunter, Show Hunter or Show Pony/Horse.

SHOW PONY/HORSE CLASSES

- Welsh or Part Welsh.
- Presented plaited.

A competitor must choose to compete as either a Welsh Hunter, Show Hunter or Show Pony/Horse.

WELSH LEADING REIN, FIRST RIDDEN & CHILDREN'S

- Welsh only.
- Presented unplaited.

OPEN LEADING REIN, FIRST RIDDEN & CHILDREN'S

- Welsh or Part Welsh.
- Presented plaited.

SNAFFLE BITS



SNAFFLE BITS



Eggbutt Snaffle



Mullen Mouth Snaffle



Copper Eggbutt Snaffle



Hollow Mouth Loose Ring Snaffle



French Link Snaffle



Baucher / Hanging Snaffle



KK Snaffle Full Cheek



Fulmer Snaffle



Wilkie Snaffle



Myler Comfort Snaffle



SPURS, TRIMMING, CLIPPING

SPURS

- Only correctly fitted DUMMY SPURS are permitted in all saddle classes, excluding Leading Rein, First Ridden and Children's Ridden classes.
- In dressage - spurs are allowed as per EA regulations.
- Spurs must be correctly fitted and any misuse or abuse can result in disqualification.



TRIMMING AND CLIPPING

- Trimming is permissible only including the ears, throatlatch, lower jaw, jawline.
- Clipping of the eye area, muzzle and inside ears is discouraged.
- Welsh exhibits 3 years old and under MUST NOT be body clipped for showing purposes.
- Welsh Exhibits 4 years and over which have been clipped for performance activities can be shown. Exhibits MUST compete in performance classes at the show to be eligible for in hand classes.
- Clipping of Part Welsh is optional.
- Welsh foals must not be clipped (trimming is permissible).
- Part Welsh foals, clipping is optional.



PLAITING

- At all WPCSA run shows and events, classes specifically for Welsh Led, Ridden or Driven Section A, B, C, D and E exhibits must be exhibited unplaited.
- At all WPCSA run events and any events run under WPCSA rules, a judge should refuse to judge a Section A, B, C, D and E exhibit which is presented plaited for specific Welsh classes.

At shows where the WPCSA has no jurisdiction, this rule cannot be enforced.
At these shows plaited exhibits should not be penalised.
- In all OPEN LED & RIDDEN CLASSES (including Show Hunter & Show Pony/Horse classes) exhibits must be exhibited plaited. Part Welsh are eligible for these classes.
- In all WELSH LED & RIDDEN CLASSES exhibits are to be exhibited with manes and tails unplaited. Part Welsh are ineligible.
- Welsh foals must be exhibited with manes and tails unplaited.
- Part Welsh foals, plaiting is optional.
- At any show that states in the program they are being judged under the WPCSA Show regulations, exhibits in led, ridden and driven Welsh classes must be unplaited.



- Open to all Welsh and Part Welsh exhibits, including stallions.
- Plaiting is not required.
- Both phases to be judged individually and consecutively by each judge.
- Any exhibit disqualified or eliminated from Phase 1 - Jumping does not proceed to Phase 2 - Flat.
- No change of saddlery is allowed between phases or during phases. Boots, bandages and protective pads on exhibits' legs or feet are permissible in the jumping phase only.

SCORING

PHASE 1 JUMPING	
Style and Manners	10 pts
Jumping	50 pts less any penalties
PENALTIES	
Each knockdown	10 pts
First refusal	15 pts
Second refusal	20 pts
Third refusal	Disqualification
Fall of horse or rider	Disqualification

- No penalty is incurred if the lower pole on the same vertical plane is lowered. If an exhibit turns its quarters to a fence or has a complete turnaround, both constitute a refusal.
- If an exhibit jumps the incorrect fence it will be eliminated. Exhibits displaying continued disobedience or exhibits leaving the ring whether the rider is mounted or dismounted will be eliminated.

PHASE 1 FLAT	
Conformation and Freedom of action	30 pts
Manners	10 pts
Fall of horse or rider	Disqualification

PLACINGS

- In the event of a tie, the total from Phase 1 – Jumping will take precedence, followed by the Style and Manners score, then Conformation and Freedom of action score.
- If there is still a tie, the judge's decision is final.

HARNESS



- All Harness classes will be run under WPCSA and Australian Carriage Driving Society (ACDS) regulations.
- All drivers under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult who is in the vehicle.
- The wearing of Approved Helmets is compulsory for all junior drivers and junior passengers under 18 at any WPCSA event.

HARNESS CLASS INCIDENT

- A driver who has fallen from a vehicle in a harness class is ineligible to continue in that class.
- As a guideline, if there is no damage to the animal, vehicle or harness, the unit should be driven from the ring by an experienced person.
- If there is a possibility that the animal is injured or the gear and / or vehicle has been damaged, then, in the interests of safety, a judge may request that the horse / pony be unhitched from the vehicle and led from the ring.

RESOURCES

- The Australian Carriage Driving Society Show Driving Handbook is a valuable resource and includes examples of show workouts.
Australian Carriage Driving Society www.australiancarragedrivingsociety.org
Show Driving Handbook www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au/show-driving
- A helpful guide for judging a turnout class is the point system used by the ACDS for show turnout classes:

Horse	50
Vehicle	30
Harness	10
General Appearance	10
TOTAL	100



NATIONAL YOUNG JUDGES

THE NATIONAL YOUNG JUDGES classes are held at State All Welsh Shows, with the winners being invited to compete for the National title at the Welsh National Show.

Competitors will be 10 years and under 25 years of age at time of the competition and either a Full or Associate member of the Society or listed as a participant on a membership. Junior Club and Young People's Group subscribers are also eligible to enter.

The class requires you as the judge and the competitors to judge a group of four ponies from the same Section and preferably same gender (not stallions).

Prior to the judging, competitors will receive a score card and a notes page and complete a written section of five questions that cover conformation, Standard of Excellence and the Rules and Regulations of the Society. The written section is not open book and will be provided by the National Young Judges coordinator.

While the written sections are being marked the competitors and yourself will judge the class of four ponies, who will be wearing A, B, X and Y identity. The class is run as per any normal class, however, the competitors may need a little extra time to view the pony standing. The competitors can use their notes pages to take notes. At the end of the class they write their placings on their score card and return this to the steward, keeping their notes for the interview. You will also write your placings on your scorecard.

To complete the score for each competitor for their placings you must also complete the difference score for the four animals. Three difference scores are to be given and must total to 12. The closer the two ponies are in their placings the smaller the difference score. For example if the 1st and 2nd place are very similar you would score say 3 and if the first place is a standout compared to 2nd place you would score say 6. Then repeat for 2nd and 3rd place and 3rd and 4th place, ensuring the 3 numbers add to 12.

PLACING	1st ____	2nd ____	3rd ____	4th ____	
Difference Score (Total of 12)	---	---	---	---	TOTAL
	---	---	---	---	---



After judging the class, you interview each competitor individually to discuss their placings and observations. Score each competitor out of 35 on their ability to describe type, conformation and movement of the animals using appropriate terminology, compare animals in terms of conformation, type and movement and give constructive reasons for their decisions and communicate their judgement of the animals in a coherent manner. Also score them out of 10 for their dress and personal presentation. Include a comment if you wish on the bottom of the scorecard.

Scoring for each competitor is out of 100 with marks being allocated as follows:

Placing Of Animals Scored using the UK Young Farmers calculator app.	25 marks
Interview Observation of conformation and condition. Marked on the competitors ability to provide a comparative rather than a descriptive statement of reasons for placings. Judge to score.	35 marks
Written Section Knowledge of conformation, Standard Of Excellence and the Society Rules and Regulations.	30 marks
Dress and Personal Presentation Some competitors may be in riding/in hand attire due to timetabling clashes. Judge to score.	10 marks

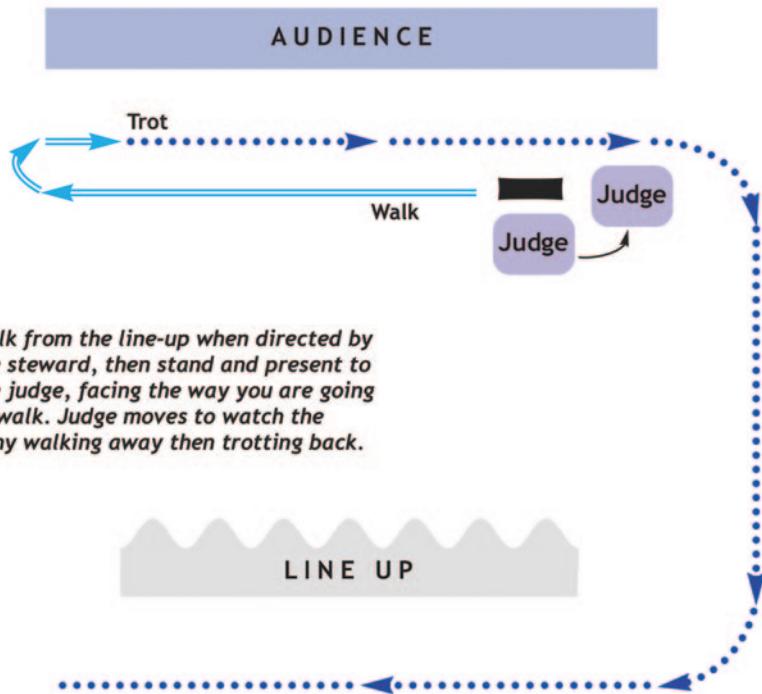


WORKOUTS

Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

LED

NB: Ponies should be judged at the walk and trot on the circle prior to completing the workout shown below.



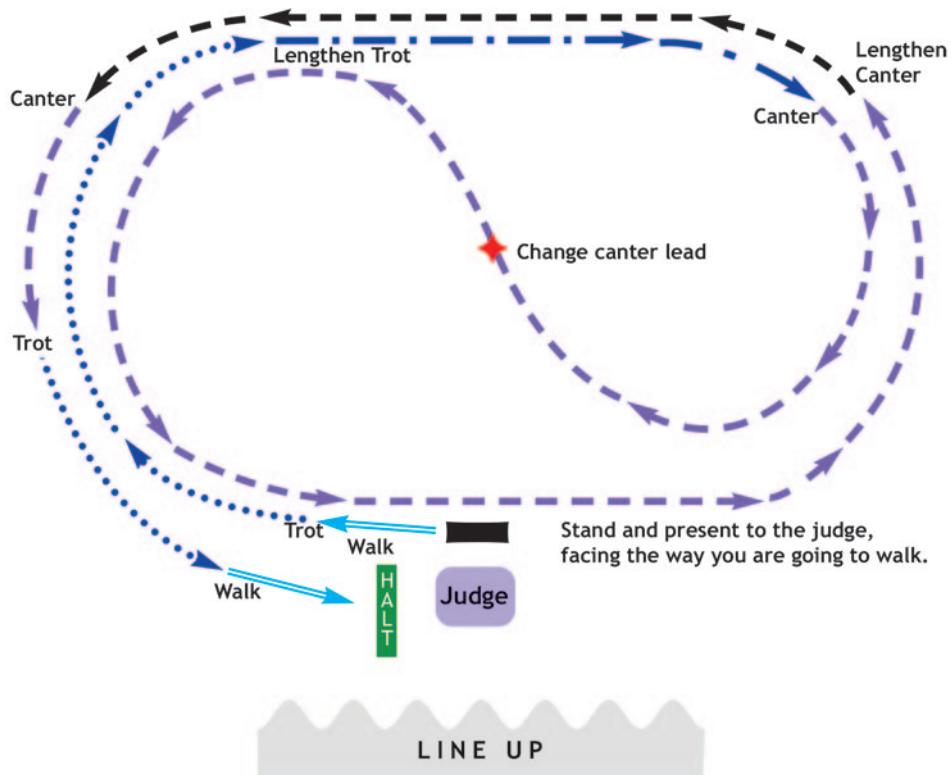
KEY	
Present to judge	■
Walk	→
Trot→
Lengthen Trot	—→
Canter	—→
Lengthen Canter	—→
Hand Gallop	—→
Change of Leg	◆

WORKOUTS



Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

RIDDEN



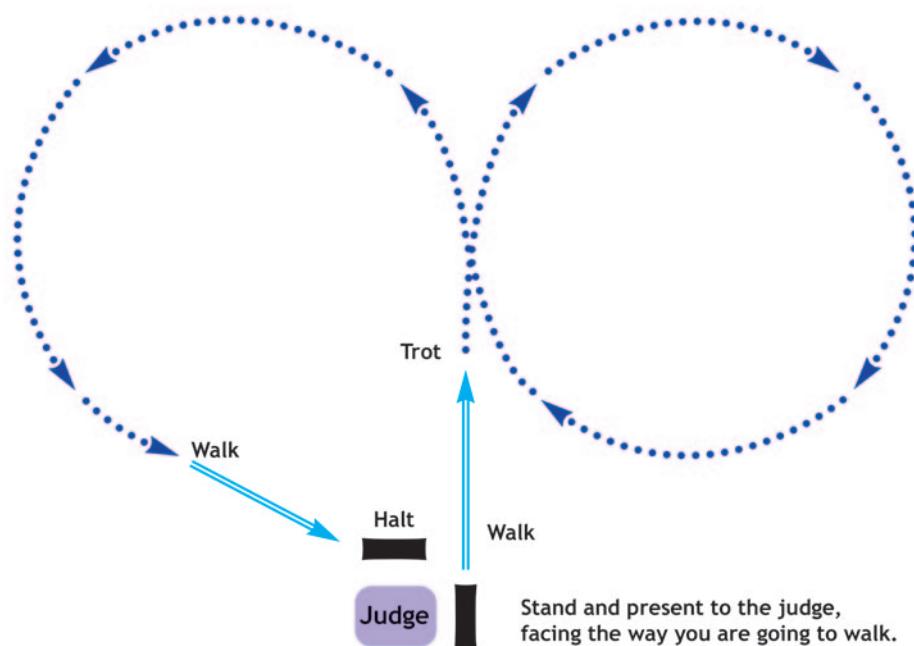
KEY
Present to judge
Walk
Trot
Lengthen Trot
Canter
Lengthen Canter
Hand Gallop
Change of Leg



WORKOUTS

Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

LEADING REIN



LINE UP

KEY
Present to judge
Walk
Trot
Lengthen Trot
Canter
Lengthen Canter
Hand Gallop
Change of Leg

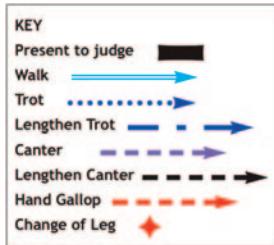
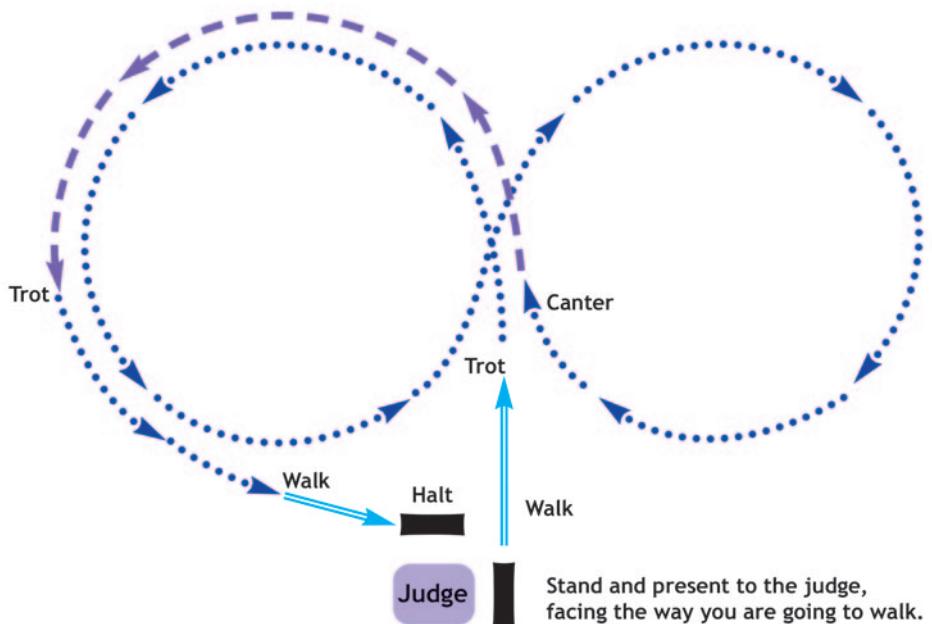
WORKOUTS



Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

FIRST RIDDEN

NB: First Ridden Ponies are not asked to canter when on the circle prior to individual workout.

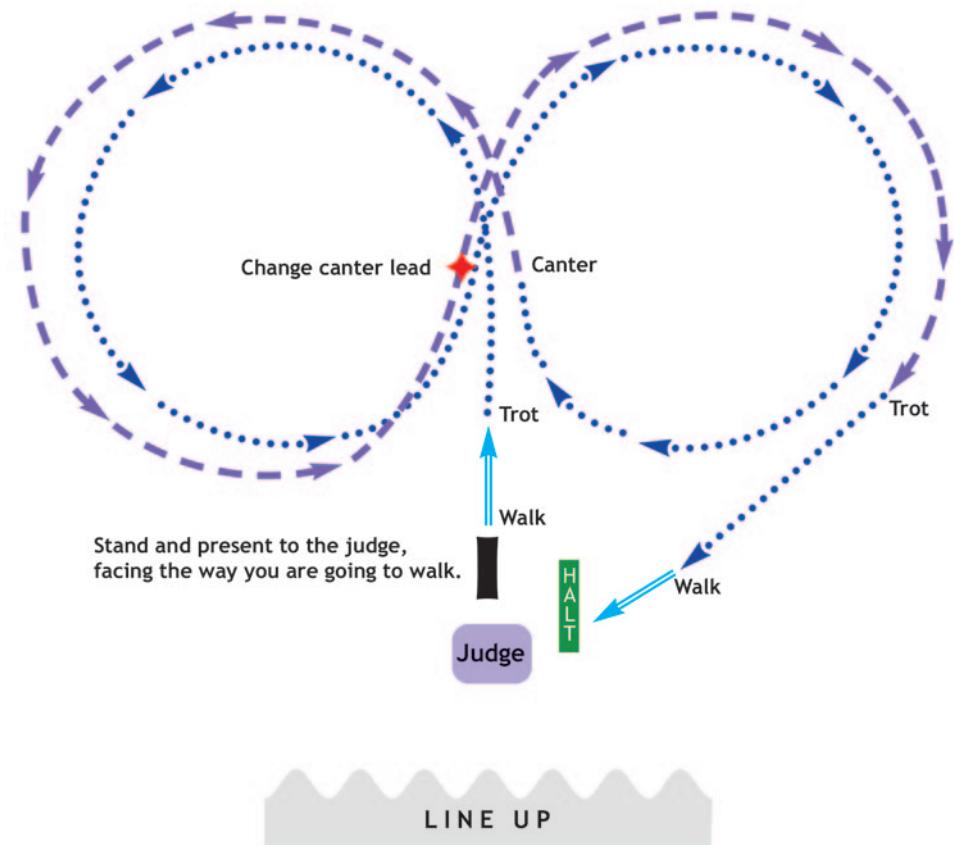




WORKOUTS

Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

CHILD'S PONY



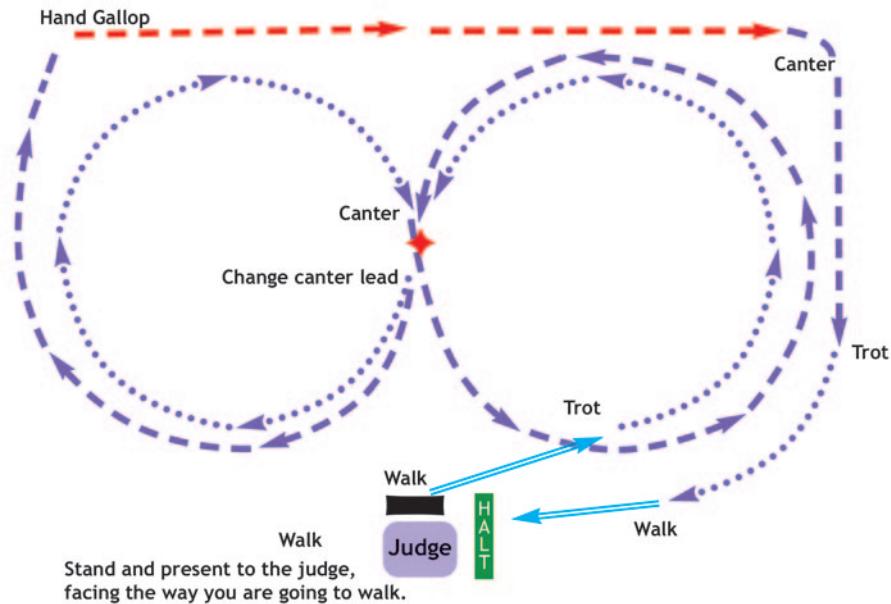
KEY
Present to judge
Walk
Trot
Lengthen Trot
Canter
Lengthen Canter
Hand Gallop
Change of Leg

WORKOUTS

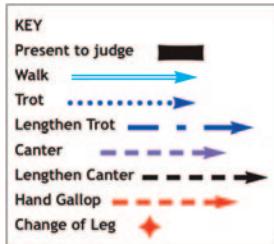


Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

RIDDEN HUNTER



LINE UP

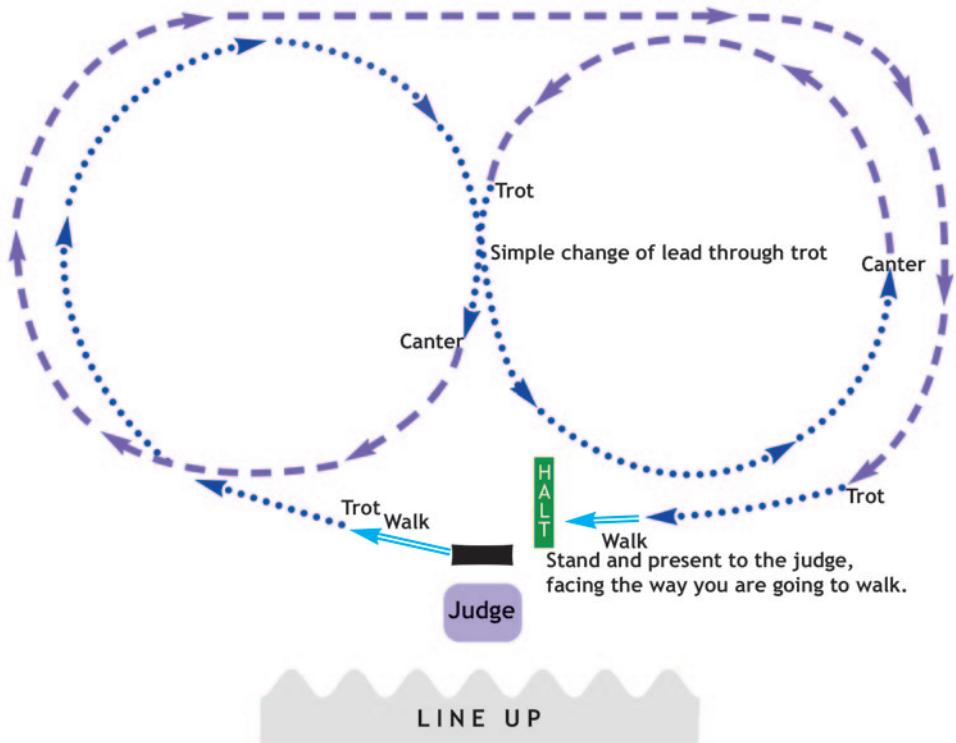




WORKOUTS

Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

NEWCOMER



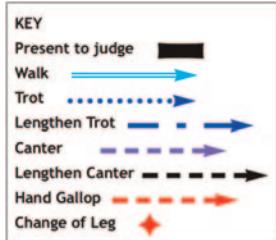
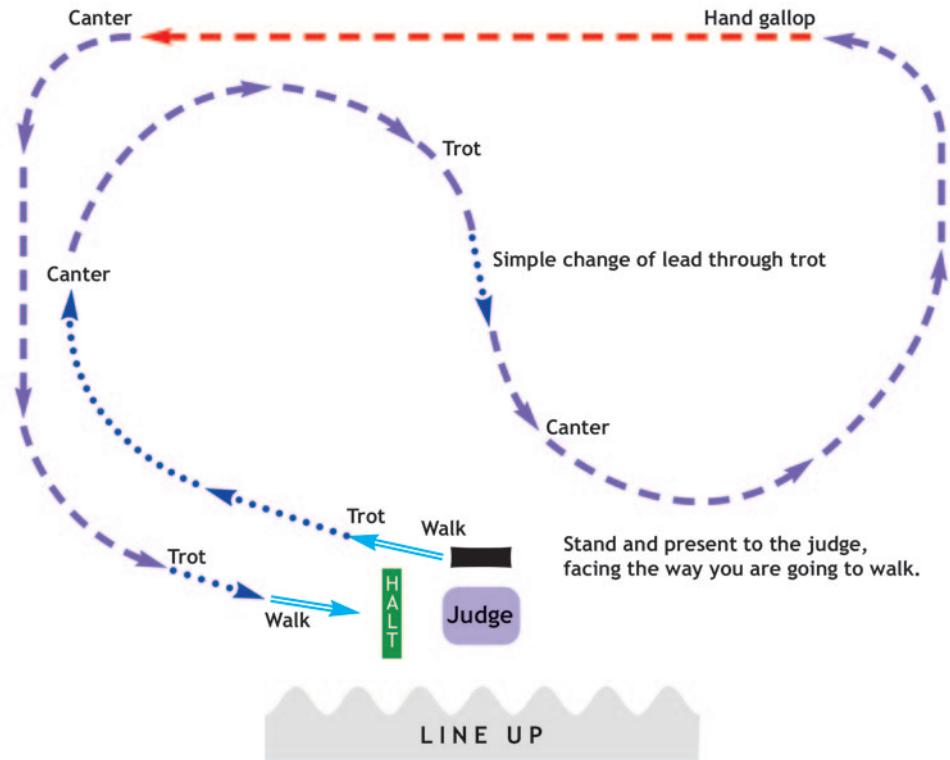
KEY
Present to judge
Walk
Trot
Lengthen Trot
Canter
Lengthen Canter
Hand Gallop
Change of Leg

WORKOUTS



Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

NOVICE WORKING HUNTER FLAT

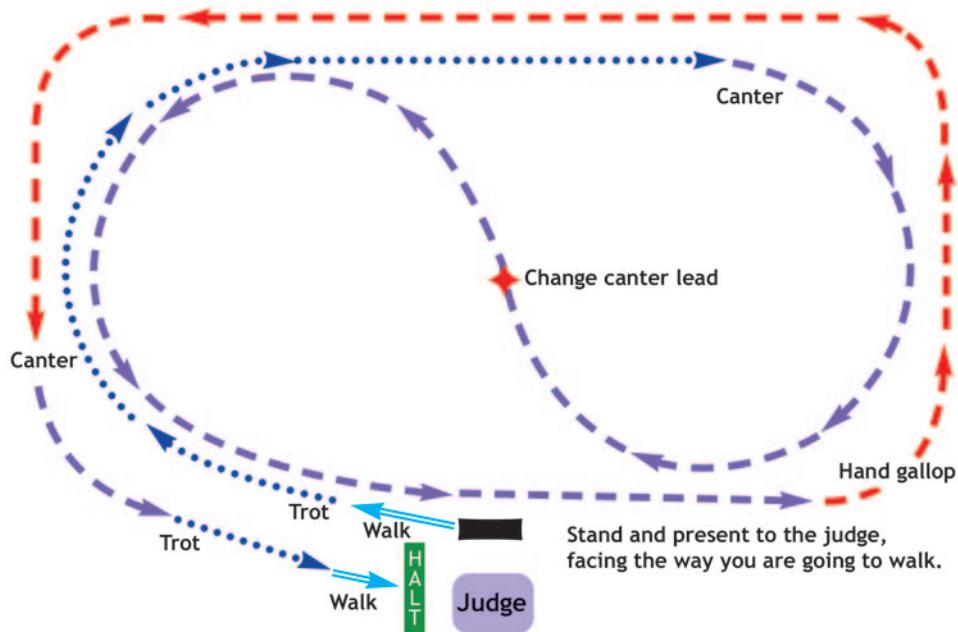




WORKOUTS

Judge discretion is required in determining if the area is suitable for the set workouts and adjustments to be made if necessary.

WORKING HUNTER FLAT



LINE UP

KEY
Present to judge
Walk
Trot
Lengthen Trot
Canter
Lengthen Canter
Hand Gallop
Change of Leg



JUDGES' REGULATIONS

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT APPROVED REGULATIONS

February 2025.

It is the exhibitors' responsibility to ensure eligibility for a class, and if ineligible, the exhibitor must withdraw.

For showing purposes, an immediate family member is defined as a parent, sibling, child (biological, adopted, or marriage/partnership); spouse; grandparent or grandchild.

A THREE-TIER STRUCTURE NOW APPLIES with judges advancing from Tier 3 to Tier 1 depending on judging experience and assessment.

THE AIM OF THE NEW SYSTEM is not to cause a competition for advancement but rather, to enable judges to receive sufficient experience and training prior to being asked to judge major shows. Judges are responsible for only accepting appointments they are eligible to judge according to their tier status.

◆ **TIER 3 JUDGES are eligible to judge:**

- Welsh & Part Welsh classes at non WPCS of A events and non medal award shows.
- Futurity events at any show with at least one Tier 1 or Tier 2 judge.
- Judges who are on another National judges panel for ridden and / or harness are eligible to judge associated medal awards.
- Judges who are on another judges panel for ridden and / or harness may be eligible to judge associated medal awards as approved by the Events Sub-Committee of COM.
- Judges may be eligible to judge non medal classes at WPCS of A events as approved by the Events Sub-Committee of COM.



◆ **TIER 2 JUDGES are eligible to judge:**

(note that the Tier level applies to the specific discipline to be judged)

- Led Welsh & Part Welsh classes at all shows in Australia and Overseas excluding Gold or Silver Medal events and classes that qualify for Gold or Silver medal awards.
- Bronze medal events.
- Young Judges competitions at all WPCS events excluding the National competition.
- All other classes that may be offered.
- Tier 2 judges are eligible to inspect animals for Foundation Stock registration or change of Section.

◆ **TIER 1 JUDGES are eligible to judge**

(note that the Tier level applies to the specific discipline to be judged):

- All events according to their Tier level.

1. The Committee of Management may at any time appoint a List of Judges comprising such persons as it sees fit, to adjudicate events at royal, district and other shows where the objects and interests of the Society are promoted and encouraged.
2. The Committee of Management may from time to time and at any time:
 - 2.1 appoint a person to the List of Judges; and
 - 2.2 remove any person from the List of Judges.
3. A person who accepts appointment to the List of Judges agrees to be bound by these Judges' regulations and by the regulations of the Society as a condition of their appointment.
4. At least once every three years, a judge must attend a Judges Seminar run under the Society's auspices. Failure to do so could lead to the judge being removed from the List of Judges.
5. The Committee of Management may at any time remove a person from the List of Judges if that person has, in the Society's opinion, not observed these regulations or the regulations of the Society or their conduct is in any respect not in the best interest of the Society.



6. A judge should reply promptly to an invitation to judge at a show and, having made the commitment, honour it. If you are, at short notice, unable to officiate, you should inform the show secretary immediately. Where possible a Judge should accept at least one Judging appointment per year.
7. Because judges are representing themselves and the Society, they should always be punctual and look their best, being correctly and neatly attired. A judge should wear a suitable hat.
8. A judge's conduct and behaviour should be beyond reproach and a judge must exhibit propriety and integrity when judging events, and be unbiased and fair.
9. While conducting a ring, the safety of the competitors, spectators, stewards / marshallers must be the judge's first consideration.
10. A judge cannot judge and exhibit in the same class *category at the same show, with the exception of Futurity, Handler and Young Judges' classes.
*Categories - refer to the standard All Welsh program
11. Judges cannot judge the same section within 100kms radius within a 90-day period unless approved by the COM.
12. A judge cannot adjudicate in any class in which immediate members of his family are competing.
13. A judge cannot judge a progeny group sired by a stallion or out of a mare owned by the judge.
14. A Judge cannot judge an exhibit in hand, under saddle or in harness;
 - which he or his immediate family has bred.
 - where the judge or his immediate family have been rewarded in cash or kind for instruction** in the previous 6 months. **excludes group instructions.
 - owned, produced or driven by a person who they or their immediate family have or had a Business / Financial Relationship / Partnership (excluding stud fees) within the previous 6 months. (Business partnerships include but are not limited to current leases, joint memberships or ownership of an animal.)
 - which they or a member of their immediate family sold to the exhibitor in the 6 months preceding the show or event.
 - which they or a member of their immediate family have had or have a financial interest in during the previous 6 months.
 - produced, ridden or driven by a person who has carried out those duties for the judge in the previous 6 months.
 - owned by an exhibitor for whom he / she has produced exhibits in the previous 6 months.



JUDGES' REGULATIONS

- Under a judge where the exhibitor has produced an exhibit for the judge for the purpose of showing, in the preceding 6 months.
- If there is a current lease of a horse in place between the judge and the exhibitor.

15. From the date of acceptance of an appointment, a judge must not accept hospitality from an exhibitor until after the conclusion of the event.

16. While in the marshalling area, and when entering and departing the ring, exhibits must be at no faster pace than the WALK. Once exhibitors are in the ring they must remain at the walk unless instructed otherwise.

17. **The maximum number of ridden combinations on the circle at any one time in a class must not exceed 12*. Classes may be judged in divisions. (*Excludes leading rein)

18. A fall of exhibit, rider or driver in any ridden or harness class will result in disqualification from that class the rider must not remount in the ring. (Refer to harness guidelines in the event of a fall in harness classes.)

19. Once a class has been judged, it should not be re-judged.

20. A judge must not refer to a show catalogue or steward's list either before or during judging, nor can a judge be in possession of a show catalogue whilst in the ring.

21. A judge should not discuss any exhibitor's animal's faults with stewards or other competitors.

22. A judge may order any person from the ring for improper conduct or any other proper cause.

23. If the judge, steward or ringmaster considers an exhibit to be dangerous or acting in a manner that is disruptive they may request that the exhibit is removed from the ring after issuing one prior warning.

24. A judge may withhold an award if, in their opinion, no animal is worthy of the award.

25. A judge may request an exhibit to be measured.

26. A judge may refuse to judge any exhibit they consider to be unsound.



27. A judge may lodge a written complaint concerning the behaviour, demeanour, dress condition and the like (in respect of the exhibitor or exhibit) to the relevant show secretary or secretary of the Society within 30 days.
28. A judge must be prepared to meet any requirements as set down from time to time by the Committee of Management.
29. Exhibits must not be subjected to unnecessary, unreasonable or unjustifiable pain, suffering or injury.
30. Where a Judge is aware the judging of an exhibit is an infringement of the rules listed above then the judge must refrain from judging that exhibit and the exhibit is to leave the ring.
31. Judges must comply with all legislative, legal requirements and Government health orders current on the day and date of the event to be eligible to judge.

JUDGING APPOINTMENTS



JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

MAINTAINING YOUR CURRENT Tier 1 or Tier 2 status REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING:

- ✓ You must remain a Full member of the Society and be the nominee of that membership.
- ✓ Tier 1 judges who have been a Society panel judge for a minimum of 10 years and who have judged at least 10 Welsh shows since their appointment will only be required to attend a WPCS of A seminar at least once every 5 years.
- ✓ Specialty performance judges who are only on the panel for a performance discipline must attend a seminar relevant to the section they are appointed to judge at least once every 3 years and confirm attendance with COM.
- ✓ You must sign the Judges Code of Conduct document.
- ✓ You must adhere to the Judges Code of Conduct and all Society Codes of Conduct and Rules & Regulations.
- ✓ Successfully complete an Open Book Test and sign Code of Conduct and Appointment Documentation as sent by COM annually and attend Zoom workshops where applicable.

UPGRADING TO Tier 1:

- ✓ Tier 2 judges can apply online to be promoted to Tier 1 prior to August 1st each year by submitting the relevant Application for Tier 1 form to the Society.

JUDGE REQUIREMENTS



- ✓ You must have been a Tier 2 judge of the WPCSA Inc for a minimum of 5 years or be a Silver/Gold medal approved judge with the WPCS (UK) in order to be appointed to the Tier 1 Welsh In-Hand panel.
- ✓ You must have been a member of the WPCS of A Inc or an approved overseas Welsh Society for a minimum of 5 consecutive years and be the nominee of that membership. Membership must be Full membership unless the applicant is associated with a Full membership in which case being the nominee of a separate Associate membership is acceptable.
- ✓ You must have bred at least 5 Pure Welsh animals in order to be appointed to the Welsh In-Hand panel. This does not apply for appointment to the Part Welsh, Ridden or Harness panels.
- ✓ You must be able to declare that you have never had any conviction relating to animal cruelty or child abuse.
- ✓ You must have attended a WPCSA judges' seminar within the previous 2 years.
- ✓ You must have judged a minimum of 5 WPCS of A shows which must include judging 3 medal shows in the discipline to be applied for with details of the events and show organiser contact details supplied on the application form with favourable reports received by COM.
- ✓ If you are a National panel judge for performance with an approved Society you will be eligible for inclusion as a Tier 1 judge for that discipline.



Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc SHOW REGULATIONS as of 2nd August 2025

- These Regulations must be followed by exhibitors, judges and stewards.
- Where the word 'exhibit' is used in these Regulations, it refers to Section A, B, C, D, E, Foundation Stock or Part Welsh. Where the word 'exhibitor' is used in these Regulations it includes competitors, handlers, owners, lessees, riders, drivers and grooms.
- Where the word 'Welsh' is used in these Regulations, it should be taken to refer to Section A, B, C, D, E & Foundation Stock.
- Age of all horses and ponies to be calculated from 1st August. Every horse foaled before 1st August in any year shall be deemed to be one year old on that date. This shall also apply to imported horses. Foal/Weanling means a horse less than 1 year of age as at 1st August in the year following its birth.
- For showing purposes, an **immediate family member** is defined as a parent, sibling, child (biological, adopted, or marriage / partnership); spouse; grandparent or grandchild.
- ** Indicates new or amended rule.

GENERAL

1. Owners, handlers and exhibitors are expected to be familiar with the Show Regulations of the WPCSA of Australia Inc. and shall at all times abide by these regulations and other rules and conditions as laid down by the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia Inc. (WPCSA). Owners, handlers, exhibitors, volunteers and spectators are expected to be familiar with the relevant state government current health orders and shall abide by all regulations. It is the exhibitors' responsibility to ensure eligibility for a class, and if ineligible, the exhibitor must withdraw.



If the judge, steward or ringmaster considers an exhibit to be dangerous or acting in a manner that is disruptive they may request that the exhibit is removed from the ring after issuing one prior warning. If the Show Sub-committee considers any person in attendance at an event is acting in an inappropriate manner they reserve the right to instruct that person to leave the facility.

ELIGIBILITY TO SHOW

2. **Proof of registration** (photocopy, original certificate, digital copy) should be available at all events and be produced when requested. *At events where swabbing may take place the original or a photocopy may be required.* Exhibits shown must correspond with the colour, markings and brands/microchip as per their WPCSA registration papers.
3. Show entries without full payment will not be accepted. Substitution/change of exhibit entered will not be accepted after close of entry.
4. All owners/lessees must be financial members of the WPCSA to exhibit at events run under WPCSA regulations, including non-WPCSA events. Upon sale/change of hands, a pony must be transferred and entered under the name of the new owner who must be a current member. Proof of current membership may be requested and must be provided upon request.
5. No exhibitor may show:
 - An exhibit bred by or leased from the judge or his immediate family in the ring in which the judge is officiating.
 - An exhibit purchased from the judge or his immediate family in the ring in which the judge is officiating, until after a period of 6 months.
 - An exhibit produced by the Judge or his immediate family until after a period of 6 months
 - An exhibit under a Judge where the Judge or immediate family have been rewarded in cash or kind for instruction of handler, rider or driver in the past 6 months.
 - Under a judge where the exhibitor has produced an exhibit for the judge for the purpose of showing, in the preceding 6 months.
 - Under a judge who is an immediate family member.
 - Under a judge where a current lease of a horse is in place between the judge and the exhibitor.



SHOW REGULATIONS

- Under a judge when they are or have been in a **Financial Relationship/ Partnership** (excluding stud fees) with that Judge or a member of his immediate family in the past 6 months. (Business Partnerships ***including but not limited to** current - leases, joint memberships or ownership of an animal)
- An exhibit under a Judge who has, or had a financial interest in the exhibit (stud fees excluded) in the preceding 6 months.
- An exhibit in a class under the Judge who has produced an animal for that exhibitor in the previous 6 months.
- A progeny group sired by, or out of a stallion or mare owned by the judge.
- 6. All exhibits must be registered with the WPCSA and must be shown in the name of the recorded owner or lessee. The name of the exhibitor if not the owner may also be acknowledged at the show committee's discretion.
- 7. All Welsh exhibits born in Australia, registered with the WPCSA and born prior to the 31/07/13 must be branded, all Welsh exhibits born in Australia, registered with the WPCSA and born after the 1/08/13 must be branded and/or microchipped or will be ineligible to be shown, with the exception of foals under 3 months of age. (See reg. 9, 19, 23 & 44 also).
- 8. Exhibits entered into stallion or gelding classes must be registered as such with the WPCSA. Geldings are shown as Section E of A, B, C, or D breeding and no height limit applies.
- 9. Foals must be eligible for registration with the WPCSA , with sire and dam's registration details noted on the entry form. All foals must be registered by the required date according to the WPCSA studbook and show regulations. (See reg. 7, 19, 23 & 44 also).
- 10. Progeny Classes - all exhibits must be entered in their Welsh or Part Welsh in hand class to compete in Progeny classes.
- 11. An overseas visiting exhibit registered with a recognised Welsh Society, may be eligible to compete at Welsh run shows whilst in Australia, provided the show secretary is advised of the pending visit, and a copy of the exhibit's registration certificate, with proof of membership with that Society is produced to the show secretary. The exhibitor must be provided with a copy of the show regulations, and must abide by the WPCSA show regulations whilst attending the show.

SHOW REGULATIONS



12. Exhibitors who have a disability and use a wheel chair or other mobility aid are eligible to compete and must have a competent able-bodied person (over 16 years of age on the first day of the show) present in the ring at all times. If the assisting person requires to speak to officials for the class, they should speak to a steward and not communicate directly with the judge. Any exhibitor in a mobility vehicle must wear an approved helmet while in the ring. At the discretion of the Committee of Management and / or the Show Sub Committee or Judge, or the request of a fellow exhibitor, the exhibits may be judged independently if there are safety concerns. In saddle classes which include an in-hand component, if the rider provides evidence of being medically unfit to lead the horse, a replacement handler may be used with prior permission.

INSURANCE

13. Exhibitors entering exhibits do so entirely at their own risk; it is a condition of entry that no liability of any kind attaches itself to the WPCSA, the Show Sub-committee, or members in any respect whatsoever. All exhibitors must sign a waiver prior to entering the ring.

SHOW SUB-COMMITTEE ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

14. Every exhibitor or competitor shall be bound by and observe the decisions of the Show Sub-committee.

15. The Show Sub-committee reserves the right to adjudicate upon entry or upon any dispute and to make any determination upon any matter relevant to the show. This decision shall be final and not subject to appeal of any kind. The Show Sub-committee reserves the right to adjudicate upon entry or upon any dispute or inappropriate behaviour and to make any determination upon any matter relevant to the show. This decision shall be final and not subject to appeal of any kind.

16. The Show Sub-committee reserves the right to disqualify any exhibit that, in its opinion, appears to be in poor condition at the time of showing.

17. The Show Sub-committee reserves the right to combine classes if there are insufficient entries.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CLASSES

18. **MEASURING:** All exhibits may be subject to measuring. An official measurer may be in attendance. Current EA or SHC height certificates or State Royal



SHOW REGULATIONS

Show height stamped numbers are acceptable. All exhibits competing at the ARC Final including the Mini-Championship and Show Hunter Finals must provide a *current height certificate as per the above at the time of entry into the final. (*Current being no more than 12 months old, or a Life Certificate, **EXCEPT where an exhibit is under 5 years of age** in which case the official certificate must be no more than 6 months old.) In the event of a dispute regarding an animal's height, the WPCSA reserves the right to measure any horse including those holding a current height certificate.

19. Exhibits must have a WPCSA registration number allocated (foals refer to reg. 7, 9, 23 & 44). Exhibits must be shown in the section of the WPCSA Studbook in which they are registered and must comply with the relevant height restrictions (Sections A B C D - excludes Section E geldings). Over height animals, excluding Section E, are not eligible for exhibition at events run under WPCSA regulations.
20. **PART WELSH** are only eligible to compete in classes especially provided for them or classes marked.
21. **PART WELSH** exhibits are ineligible to compete against Welsh animals in Welsh led, Welsh ridden, Welsh harness classes, Welsh championships and Welsh Supremes at WPCSA approved events run under WPCSA rules and regulations (Excludes ARC Mini-Championships). Welsh exhibits are eligible to compete against other breeds for special awards at WPCSA approved events run under WPCSA rules and regulations and approved by the Committee of Management.
22. For showing purposes a **BROODMARE** is a mare 4 years and over which has foaled, has a foal at foot or is to foal in the current breeding season, (August 1 – July 31). A broodmare can only be shown in broodmare classes in the season they have foaled / are to foal and is not eligible for dry mare classes. The exception to this regulation is if a show does not have specific broodmare/dry mare classes and has a mare class which does not specify whether it is for broodmares or dry mares. A broodmare with a foal at foot under the age of 3 weeks cannot be shown. A broodmare may compete in ridden and harness classes after her foal has been weaned. Fillies 3 years and under cannot be shown with a foal at foot. A **DRY MARE** is a mare who has not foaled, and is not due to foal, in the current breeding season (Aug.1 – July 31).

SHOW REGULATIONS



23. FOALS: At State All Welsh and all shows run under WPCSA regulations including foal shows, foals under 3 weeks of age cannot be shown. Foals under 3 months of age that are unregistered must provide sire and dam registration details on all entry forms submitted. Date of birth or expected date of birth to be provided at time of entry. Foals 3 months and older must be registered. Foals under 5 months of age and unweaned foals of any age must be accompanied into the ring by their dam. Once registered, foals are eligible for awards, in addition to the specific foal awards, if specified in show programs. (See reg. 7, 9, 19, & 46 also).

24. FOUNDATION STOCK: Foundation Stock FS, FS1 and FS2 are eligible to be shown once they have a WPCSA Registration Number (registered FS, FS1 and FS2 are eligible for exhibition in Welsh classes).

25. ALL STALLIONS and COLTS must be entire and may be subject to a veterinary inspection at any time during the show at the discretion of the Show Sub-committee or designated officials. Stallions must have a WPCSA allocated stallion registration number once they reach four years of age to be exhibited (age calculated on August 1st).

- Are not eligible to compete in Costume, Fancy Dress, Leading Rein, First Ridden or Junior Handler/Ridden classes.
- All colts 2 years and over must be bitted in the ring and the lead affixed to the bit.

26. NOVICE EXHIBIT is not to have won first place at any WP&CS Australia event, Royal, Equestrian Australia or Show Hack Council Horse of the Year Show as at the first day of show. •• Excluding Working Hunter Classes (see reg. 60)

27. LEADING REIN - pony 12hh and under, rider 3 yrs and under 8 yrs on first day of show. Snaffle bit only, no spurs, lead rein to be attached to noseband. Handler to be 16 yrs and over, handler only may carry a whip.

28. FIRST RIDDEN - pony ne 12. 2hh, rider 5 yrs and under 12 yrs on first day of show. Snaffle bit only, no spurs.

29. CHILDRENS RIDDEN Exhibits are to be ridden by a child 5 years and under 18 years on the first day of show. Snaffle bit only, no spurs.

30. **SHOW PONY/HORSE classes open to both Welsh and and Part Welsh exhibits.



SHOW REGULATIONS

31. **For competition purpose, exhibits can *only* compete as either a Welsh Hunter or a Show Hunter or a Show Pony/Horse.
32. **NEWCOMER** - not to have been shown under saddle prior to the 1st January in the current year, must be shown in a snaffle.
33. **GRADUATE** - not to have been shown under saddle prior to the 1st January in the year preceding, must be shown in a snaffle.

CONDUCT OF EXHIBITORS

34. Exhibitors must abide by the Code of Conduct as set by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc.
35. While in the ring, no exhibitor should wear any item of clothing, badges, caps etc. which may identify their stud, name or any Society panels or associations they are involved in, **excluding the WPCSA Australia**.
36. Exhibitors should ensure they are wearing the correct exhibit number in the class when supplied.
37. Judges must not be approached on the day of the show or event.
38. Once a class has commenced no exhibitor /rider may purposely leave the ring without permission or instruction from the ring official.
39. There is to be no change of handler once a class has commenced without the permission of the judge.
40. The judge's decision is final and any protests must be lodged officially according to the Show Regulations.

PLAITING OF EXHIBITS

41. At all WPCSA run shows and events Led, Ridden or Driven Section A, B, C, D and E exhibits must be exhibited unplaited **and the judge should not judge a Section A, B, C, D & E exhibit which is presented plaited in these classes.**
 - Open Leading Rein, Open First Ridden, **Open Pony/Horse**, Show Hunters and Children's Open Ridden Exhibits are judged as an Open Exhibit, and must be exhibited plaited. (Part Welsh are eligible.)
 - Welsh Leading Rein, Welsh First Ridden, Welsh Hunter, Ridden Welsh, Children's Welsh Ridden and Welsh Harness are to be exhibited with manes and tails unplaited. (Part Welsh are ineligible.)



WELFARE OF EXHIBITS

The welfare of exhibits is paramount

42. No lame or sick animal should be brought into a class.
43. All exhibits must compete drug free. Random swabbing may take place in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the WPCSA.
44. Random DNA testing may take place at all WPCSA run shows, as a condition of entry selected exhibits must be DNA tested.
45. Exhibits must not be subjected to unnecessary, unreasonable or unjustifiable pain, suffering or injury.
46. FOALS are to be haltered in the ring and must not be bitted.
 - All Welsh foals must be exhibited with manes and tails unplaited and must not be clipped (trimming is permissible). Part Welsh foals, clipping and plaiting is optional.
 - Foals under the age of three weeks and their dams cannot be shown.
 - **Foals under 5 months of age and unweaned foals of any age must be accompanied into the ring by their dam (see reg. 7, 9, 19 & 23 also)**

47. CLIPPING & TRIMMING

- Trimming is permissible only including the ears, throatlatch, lower jaw, jawline. Clipping of the eye area, muzzle & inside ears is discouraged.

BODY CLIPPING

- Welsh Exhibits 3 years old and under must not be body clipped for showing purposes.
- Welsh Exhibits 4 years and over which have been clipped for performance activities can be shown. Exhibits MUST compete in performance classes at the show to be eligible for in hand classes.
- Clipping of Part Welsh is optional.

48. SPURS: Only correctly fitted Dummy spurs are permitted in all saddle classes, excluding Leading Rein, First Ridden or Children's Ridden classes (refer Reg 29, 30 & 31). In dressage - spurs are allowed as per EA regulations. Spurs must be correctly fitted and any misuse or abuse will result in disqualification.



SHOW REGULATIONS

AGE OF EXHIBITS

49. AGE OF EXHIBITS - Exhibits competing under saddle or in harness must be three years old or over. JUMPING - Exhibits must be four years or over. **
ARC (Australian Ridden Welsh & Part Welsh Championship) - Exhibits may qualify at three years but must be four years or older to compete in the ARC Final.

50. No diseased or sick animal may be brought on to event grounds. The event organiser reserves the right in its absolute discretion to take such action as a Veterinary Surgeon may advise in relation to any exhibit, without limitation. This may include removal of an exhibit to another location (in or out of the grounds). The exhibitor indemnifies the Society and / or its sub-committee in respect of all costs incurred in connection with any action taken pursuant to the above regulations. If an animal displays symptoms of disease after arrival at event grounds, the owner / exhibitor must notify the organisers immediately and follow the advice of a Veterinary Surgeon as above.

WELFARE OF EXHIBITORS

51. AGE OF RIDERS & HANDLERS Riders and handlers at Society conducted shows and events must be 3 years and over on the first day of the show. Riders must be 5 years and over on the first day of the show to compete independently. Handlers 3 – 6 years on the first day of the show must have a person 16 years and over beside them to compete. Handlers 7 years and over on the first day of the show may compete independently. Drivers must be 6 years and over. All drivers under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult who is in the vehicle.

Riders, drivers and handlers of stallions and colts are to be 16 years and over on the first day of the show.

52.** Exhibitors and grooms must wear safe footwear and look neat and smartly dressed when entering the ring. **“Denim Blue” clothing is not appropriate.**

53. HELMETS - The wearing of Approved Helmets is compulsory for riders of all ages when riding at all times, whilst mounted; and all Junior drivers and Junior passengers under 18 years of age, at any WPCSA function. **Handlers 11 years and under** must wear Approved Helmets for all in-hand classes. Any exhibitor in a mobility vehicle must wear an Approved Helmet while in the ring. Approved Helmets are current Australian, New Zealand, European or American standards.



54. While in the marshalling area, and when entering and departing the ring, exhibits must be at no faster pace than the walk. Once exhibitors are in the ring they must remain at the walk unless instructed otherwise.
55. The maximum number of ridden exhibits on the circle at any one time in a class must not exceed 12*. Classes may be judged in divisions. (*Excludes leading rein)
56. **WHIPS:** All whips, crops or hacking canes: length of the shaft must not exceed 75 centimetres excluding tails in all classes excluding dressage and harness.
57. In classes at shows run under WPCSA regulations where the pony is to be judged, ie leading rein, first ridden, children's pony, working hunter, show hunter, Section A, B, C, D, E or Part Welsh ridden classes, ridden exhibits must be presented and ridden in a saddle or paddle.
58. **FALLS AND INJURIES** - A fall of exhibit or rider / driver in any ridden or harness class will result in rider / driver disqualification from that class. The rider must not remount in the ring. (Refer to Harness guidelines in the event of a fall in harness classes) After a fall in the ring or an injury at an event, handlers, riders and drivers must consult the First Aid provider and follow their recommendations before continuing to compete in further classes.
59. No assistance to an exhibit, exhibitor / rider / driver in the ring may be provided by any person. This includes the use of shakers or other items which may cause interference with other exhibits / exhibitors. *Does not apply to persons nominated by the show committee.

WORKING HUNTER

60. Novice Working Hunter - a novice working hunter has not won more than 3 first placings in any working hunter event at any show. Novice class winners are only eligible for specified novice awards.
61. No change of saddlery is allowed between phases or during phases. Boots, bandages and protective pads on exhibits' legs or feet are permissible in the jumping phase only. Open to all Welsh and Part Welsh exhibits. Open to stallions. Plaiting is not required. Both phases to be judged individually and consecutively by each judge. Any exhibit disqualified from Phase 1 does not proceed to Phase 2.



SHOW REGULATIONS

WORKING HUNTER CLASS HEIGHTS:

Novice Maximum height (45cm)
Novice Maximum height (55cm)
Novice Maximum height (65cm)
Working Hunter ne 12hh (50cm)
Working Hunter over 12hh & ne 13hh (60cm)
Working Hunter over 13hh & ne 14hh (70cm)
Working Hunter over 14hh & ne 15hh (80cm)
Working Hunter over 15hh (85cm)

MARKING

Phase 1

Jumping to be judged on jumping style and manners

Jumping	50 pts
Style and Manners	10 pts
<i>Penalties Phase 1</i>	
Knockdown1	10 pts
First Refusal	15 pts
Second Refusal	20 pts
Third Refusal	Disqualification
Fall of horse or rider either phase	Disqualification

Phase 2 Flat:

To be judged on conformation, manners and freedom of action

Conformation and freedom of action	30 pts
Manners	10 pts
Total	100 pts

In the event of a tie, the total from Phase 1 will take precedence, followed by the Style and Manners score, then conformation score. If there is still a tie, the Judge's decision is Final. No penalty is incurred if the lower pole on the same vertical plane is lowered. If an exhibit turns its quarters to a fence or has a complete turn around, both constitute a refusal. If an exhibit jumps the incorrect fence it will be eliminated. Exhibits displaying continued disobedience or exhibits leaving the ring whether the rider is mounted or dismounted will be eliminated. The Jumping phase will be completed first; any exhibit eliminated or disqualified will be eliminated from the competition.



PROTESTS

62. An exhibitor may lodge a protest against a competitor/judge. Protests must be lodged in writing with the Show Secretary within 3 hours of the disputed action, accompanied by a fee of \$100, which will be forfeited if not upheld. In the first instance protests must be dealt with by the Show Sub-committee which may refer the matter to the Committee of Management. Any person who has a protest lodged against him or her has the right of reply. Any expenses incurred by any party to the said protests shall be borne by that party.

DRESSAGE and HARNESS

63. All Dressage will be run under EA regulations.

64. All Harness classes will be run under ACDS show regulations.

GUIDELINES TO JUDGES & EXHIBITORS

HOT WEATHER GUIDELINES

In accordance with the Society Risk Management Policy, when the temperature reaches 35 degrees, children 12 years and under must remove their jackets while competing. Judges, officials and other exhibitors are strongly encouraged to also do so.

HARNESS CLASS INCIDENT GUIDELINES

HARNESS - GEAR, VEHICLE FITNESS In line with the safety rules for riders, a driver who has fallen from a vehicle in a harness class is ineligible to continue in that class. As a guideline, if there is no damage to the animal, vehicle or harness, the unit should be driven from the ring by an experienced person. If there is a possibility that the animal is injured or the gear and/or vehicle have been damaged, then, in the interests of safety, a judge may request that the horse/pony be unhitched from the vehicle and led from the arena.

MEASURING GUIDELINES:

A horse shall only be measured twice and may spend up to a maximum of ten minutes in the measuring box / area on each occasion. Where a second measurement is required, the horse shall be returned to the Official Measuring Stewards no later than one (1) hour after the time of the first measurement and may be given priority over others waiting on first measurement.



SHOW REGULATIONS

CANCELLATION POLICY

In accordance with the WPCS of Aust. Inc 'Extreme Weather and Cancellation Policy' if cancellation is required due to existing or predicted severe and dangerous conditions such as Code Red Fire Warnings/Flood or travel warnings/disease outbreaks/Government or public health directives, a recorded message will be available as printed on the relevant show program.

REFUND POLICY

- If an event has commenced there will be no refunds.
- If an event is cancelled prior to commencement of the event - costs incurred by the show committee prior to the show will be paid and remaining funds will be reimbursed to the member if the amount per exhibitor is \$2 or more.
- If an event is postponed entry fees will not be refunded without a written request from the exhibitor within 7 days of the notification of postponement.
- If an event has to be moved to another venue due to extreme weather events, entry fees minus any administration fees and costs incurred by the show committee prior to the show, will only be refunded with a written request from the exhibitor within 7 days of notification of change of venue.
- There will be no refund based on elimination due to non-compliance with any WPCSA Show regulations or Government health orders current on the day and date of the event.

PLAITING NOTICE CLARIFICATION

TO JUDGES & EXHIBITORS.

- At shows conducted by the WPCSA, all exhibits shown in led, ridden and driven Welsh classes must be shown unplaited. This does not include Part Welsh.
- At any show that states in the program they are being judged under the WPCSA Show regulations, exhibits in led, ridden and driven Welsh classes must be unplaited.
- At shows where the WPCSA has no jurisdiction, this rule cannot be enforced. At these shows plaited exhibits should not be penalised.

JUDGE'S CODE of CONDUCT



Members of the Judges Panel of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc (WPCSA) represent the Society and shall conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times.

It is a privilege to be invited to Judge at an event and Judges should reply promptly to any invitation. They should honor the commitment to judge and if unable to attend, inform the Show Secretary as soon as possible.

Judges should refrain from accepting multiple judging assignments in the same area in a twelve month period and cannot judge the same section within 100kms radius within a 90 day period unless approved by the Committee of Management.

The opinions of Judges set the standard for Welsh ponies and cobs and Part Welsh, as does their behaviour provide an example for officials, exhibitors and others in attendance.

Judges conduct from the time of their arrival at an event, or at venues prior to the event should be beyond reproach. Judges are acting in an official capacity and they should uphold the reputation and integrity of the Society which they represent.

During an event, except for necessary contact with Show Officials, Judges need to remain reserved with the general public and exhibitors and be only concerned with the animals that come before them in the showring.

Judges must act to ensure the safety of all people and animals in the ring and its surrounds.

Judges must exhibit propriety and integrity when judging events and be fair and unbiased. The role of a judge is to make informed evaluation and decisions based on an animal's merits. Breeding and ownership and handler of the animal play no part in decision making. The standard of excellence, type, conformation and soundness must be utmost in a Judges' mind when making decisions.

Judges shall not be a house guest of a person who is competing at the said event immediately prior or during the event.

Judges' dress should be neat and practical, including the wearing of a hat outdoors, considering the weather conditions and health and safety at all times.

Judges should speak to the Steward before events commence to ensure the Steward is aware of their requirements and to allow the Steward to update or discuss with the Judge any regulation, rule or program requirement. Judges must be clear, concise and courteous with competitors.



JUDGE'S CODE of CONDUCT

Judges must not smoke or vape, use mobile telephones or be under the influence of any drugs and / or alcohol whilst judging.

Judges must use the official WPCSA workouts for in-hand classes.

For performance classes the official WPCSA Workouts should be used unless space or conditions require adaption for risk management.

Judges should never address a competitor by their first name and must not discuss any details including breeding details, or the merits of any animal shown except as required in their official duty.

Judges should always be aware that the fall of a horse or rider / driver in a class is immediate disqualification and the rider / driver must not remount or get back into a vehicle in the ring. (Refer to the WPCSA Harness Class Incident Guidelines.)

If a competitor makes a request through the Ring Steward or other show officials for the Judge's opinion concerning their exhibit, the Judge shall give their opinion courteously and with sincerity, in the presence of the Ring Steward or official. The Judge is advised not to enter into a lengthy discussion and only converse with competitors at the conclusion of the event.

Judges must be current financial members of the WPCSA and be the nominee of that membership to remain on the Judges' Panel of the WPCSA.

It is the responsibility of a Judge to ensure they comply with the requirements to remain on the panel, including attendance at Society approved seminars.

It is the responsibility of a Judge to ensure they are compliant with the relevant State requirements for 'Working with Children' checks, and to supply the WPCSA National Office with proof of compliance.

It is the responsibility of the Judge to inform the Society of their inability to comply with the criteria to remain on the panel, prior to possible removal when requirements are not met.

It is a Judge's responsibility to be totally conversant with and comply with the current rules and regulations of the Society and to uphold them. Any breach of the rules and regulations by exhibitors / exhibits in the show ring must be dealt with in a discreet and reasonable manner as directed by the Society (see notes below).



SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER COMMUNICATION

Judges should be familiar with the WPCSA 'Social Media Policy' and avoid making any comments via social media or other means which may be perceived as inappropriate, biased or offensive to any person.

Once a judge has accepted a judging appointment, they are encouraged to minimise their social media interaction and must not:

- Comment on animals which may be shown under them, from the time they accept an appointment
- Make derogatory comments about exhibits, exhibitors or shows.

Judges must comply with this code and all WPCSA regulations.

Failure to comply with this code and other WPCSA codes, policies, rules and regulations will be addressed by the Committee of Management.

DEALING WITH A BREACH OF SHOW REGULATIONS

If a judge considers there has been a breach of WPCSA Show Regulations or WPCSA Judges Rules at a WPCSA approved event they have the option of:

- Asking the exhibit to leave the ring
- Explaining to the exhibitor about the breach of regulations and give them the opportunity to retire from the ring or remain with the understanding that they will not be considered for an award.
- If the breach is plaiting or something such as length of whip the exhibitor could be permitted to move to the side of the ring to remove the plaits (if time is available) or give the steward their whip.

These instructions can be given to the exhibitor by you as the judge or via your steward.

