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<p>I.P.S. IRISH PONY SOCIETY COMPANY (CLG) Registered Office: 7 Cooksland, Dunshaughlin, Co Meath.</p>
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1. OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY

The objective of the Irish Pony Society is to set standards for ponies in Ireland through the improvement and protection of pony breeding, promoting and encouraging classes and competitions and to foster the participation of our children/young people in competing and generate an interest in the riding and production of ponies.

- Show ponies
- Working hunter ponies
- Show hunter ponies
- Youngstock
- Breeding ponies

These objectives are achieved by the Society through organising a wide range of activities such as Shows, Meetings, Conferences, Seminars, Demonstrations for the Members.

2. BREED CHARACTERISTICS

Show Ponies: Correct conformation with quality. Small, elegant head set on to well-turned neck, good front with sloping shoulder, deep girth, well rounded quarters with well-set tail. Quality flat bone, short cannon bone, well let down hock with strong second thigh. Light, flowing action with good extension. Height range 123cms but not exceeding 128cms, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 138cms, exceeding 138cms but not exceeding 148cms, exceeding 148cms but not exceeding 158cms.

Show and Working Hunters: Correct conformation with quality head, neck and shoulder. Good front and length of rein, deep girth and strong rounded quarters. Flat, quality bone with substance, strong active hind leg. Straight active movement with ability to gallop. Height range not exceeding 123cms, exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 133cms, exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 143cms, exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 153cms, exceeding 153cms but not exceeding 158cms.

3. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration and passports are registered by the Horse Sport Ireland Registration Unit and follow their procedures and guidelines which can be found on www.horsesportireland.ie. Registrations can be sent to:

Horse Sport Ireland, Registration Unit, Beech House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co Kildare.

4. PASSPORTS

Under the current Department of Agriculture legislation, it is illegal for any person to travel with equines anywhere in the country or abroad without the animal's passport. Please be aware that the Department officials have authority to enter the premises, i.e. shows/centres and will randomly verify whether those present have adhered to the law. Sanctions will be imposed on any Member found to be in breach of these regulations.

5. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

The IPS office must be notified within seven (7) days of the disposal or change of ownership of any pony registered with the IPS and must be given full particulars of such change. Within 30 days the new owner must forward the passport and transfer fee to the IPS office so that the change of ownership may be stamped on the passport and recorded by the Registrations Department in Horse Sport Ireland and on the Society's database.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

To the best of his/her ability, every Member of the Society shall be bound to further the objectives and interests of the Society. Also, they shall act in the best interests of the Society.

There shall be two categories of membership, i.e. Senior and Junior.

1.a) Senior Members are those aged 18 years and over and comprise the following:

Honorary Life Member

Adult Member

Associate Member – a person who is aged 18 years or over on 1st January of current year who has paid their subscription at the appropriate rate but is ineligible to register or show ponies

Non-showing Judges and Course-Builders

Family Member (adults who hold family membership)

1.b) Junior Members must have achieved their 3rd birthday but not their 18th birthday on 1st January of current year and shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership except that they shall not be entitled to receive notice of, or vote at, Extraordinary/Annual General Meetings, Council Meetings, any Area Committee Meetings or register or exhibit ponies.

Riders must be junior or adult paid-up Members as appropriate.

It is the responsibility of a parent or guardian to have a medical certificate stating the fitness of a rider with an injury to compete in IPS classes.

2. Terms of membership are as detailed in the Articles of Association, copies of which are available on request.

A Member wishing to compete for an Area other than the one in which they reside must indicate their new Area at the time of payment of their annual membership. This declaration is for the purposes of recording points for Area Awards.

The Council shall manage the business of the Society and shall uphold the business of the Society and shall uphold the objectives of the Society and its Members. The Council reserves the right to accept or reject any application for, or renewal of, membership.

Fully registered ponies, the property of ONLY fully paid-up Members of the IPS, are eligible to qualify in Ireland (32 counties) for overseas competition (if such qualifiers are granted). Members whose ponies qualify for such overseas competition or qualify as part of a team representing the Irish Pony Society, must familiarise themselves with the Rules and Conditions of the Show at which these competitions are held. All such ponies competing overseas must be fully registered with the IPS, have a current height

measurement certificate and up-to-date vaccinations. They must also have a travel visa and comply with travel procedures as set out by the Department of Agriculture.

All persons, other than Honorary Life Members, serving on Council must have paid the highest Adult Membership Fee as determined by the Council from time to time. All persons serving on sub-Committees and Area Committees must have paid the Adult Membership Fee as determined by the Council from time to time unless they are part of a specially convened Panel of experts.

The membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December but Members, other than Judges, have until **31st January** of the following year to renew their membership after which time they will be treated as new Members. Judge's membership must be paid by 31st October of the preceding year. However, please note, all participants including owners, exhibitors, producer, competitors and judges are not covered by insurance unless their current membership is paid. All senior Members have voting rights and may be required to present their membership card in order to exercise their voting rights at General Meetings.

All Members, including temporary Members of the IPS, are bound by its Rules as amended from time to time and shall be deemed to have consented to all the provisions thereof by reason of all or any of the following:

- a) Submission of a membership application form followed by acceptance of membership;
- b) Submission of a request for annual renewal of membership followed by acceptance of such renewal;
- c) Registration of a pony;
- d) Registration of the lease/loan of a pony or its transfer;
- e) Acceptance of registration as an Authorised Representative;
- f) Any other act by a Member pursuant to the Rules of the IPS.

DAILY MEMBERSHIP

The Council reserves the right to accept or reject any application for Daily Membership.

3. To facilitate a competitor, membership is available on a day-to-day basis for a maximum of three (3) IPS affiliated shows. Such membership expires at the end of each day on which the subscription was paid. These Daily Members have no voting rights.
 - a) Daily Members must produce the passport for their pony when entering a class if requested to do so.
 - b) Daily Members may not qualify for overseas competition.
 - c) Ponies that compete on a daily basis will not be eligible for qualifying points for annual awards unless the owner and rider become Members immediately after their third show and request a showing card at that time. Points won will, however, be recorded regardless of membership status for future qualification and for the purpose of determining status.

GOOD CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

The IPS Irish Pony Society Co Ltd has adopted Horse Sport Ireland's Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Youths and Vulnerable Adults in our Sport ("HSI Code of Ethics"), as may be amended from time to time, and the HSI Code of Ethics shall have effect and be binding upon all persons required to be vetted under the National Vetting Bureau Act 2012 and all persons referred to in the HSI Code of Ethics, and all such persons shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to comply strictly with the HSI Code of Ethics.

The IPS is committed to creating and maintaining the safest environment possible for all young people that will allow participants to perform to the best of their ability. Every person should at all times show respect and understanding for participants rights, safety and welfare and conduct themselves in a way that reflects that principles of the organisation.

The section below does not allow for complaints relating to a measurement scheme certificate. Such a complaint shall be dealt with under the IPS/SJI Measurement scheme Rules.

- 4.** No IPS Member or their representative shall conduct himself in a manner or be guilty of behaviour which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the IPS and, in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing), no Member or Member's representative, shall behave in an offensive or abusive or unpleasant manner to any person at any show, training venue, meeting, or event organised by the Irish Pony Society or subsidiary committee.
- 5.** Members or their representatives shall not ill-treat ponies at any time, whether by misuse or excessive use of a whip or bit or any item of saddlery or in any other way whatsoever and shall not cause or allow a pony to jump any hand-held obstacle or to be rapped.
- 6.** Members are responsible for the actions of any non-members employed by them or assisting or representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf and any action or conduct of such non-Member which would be a breach of the Rules were he a Member, shall constitute a breach of the Rules by the Member responsible for him.
- 7.** The Chef d'Equipe, or Team Manager or his duly authorised deputy, whilst accompanying Members on a course of Training or on a Team Competition or Team Tour/Visit shall have power in his absolute discretion to regulate control or adjudicate upon the conduct of Members on such course of Training, Tour or Team Visit and shall have the power to direct that a Member shall be suspended from competing or taking part in such course of Training or in any Competition taking place on such Tour or Team Visit should the IPS Code of Conduct be breached in any way.

8. The Council may make, amend and revoke Rules and Regulations for the government, conduct and administration of the affairs of the IPS Irish Pony Society Co Ltd. The Rule Book will only be changed if deemed absolutely necessary by the Council or if Health and Safety issues arise. The Council shall uphold the objectives and interests of the Society and its Members are bound by all the Rules of the Society. A member of Council shall cease to hold office if he/she ceases to be a member or he/she has been disciplined and it is a consequence of the outcome/disciplinary decision.
9. Council Members must show respect and understanding to all Members and fellow Council Members and conduct themselves in a manner that reflects these principals. Any Council Member who fails to observe any of the Rules of the Society or who shall be deemed guilty of an act or conduct which, in the opinion of the Council is detrimental to the interests of the Society, **following full disciplinary proceedings**, maybe excluded from the Council by resolution of a majority of 75% of the Members of the Council present and voting at a Council meeting specifically summoned for this purpose at which not less than 50% of Council Members shall be present.

REGISTRATIONS

10. In competition, owners must use their ponies' registered names only. Ponies that have been previously registered in another Register or Stud Book must always retain the name as registered in such Register or Stud Book. All ponies must be micro-chipped (see Rule 23.a).
11. IPS Pony Life Registration Fees (as decided by Council) are payable to the IPS Irish Pony Society Company Ltd. Ponies may be registered by adult non-members of the IPS on payment of an additional fee.

SHOWING CARDS

12. Showing Cards, which are issued annually, may be obtained by fully paid-up adult Members from the Secretary at a fee as decided by Council.
 - a) Each Showing Card will be date-stamped when issued.
 - b) Points will be counted from 1st March to 30th September of the relevant year ONLY. No points will be awarded from 1st October to 28th/29th February of the following year. Showing Cards MUST be returned by the date printed on the front of the Showing Card. Cards received after that date will NOT be considered for Awards.
13. Only registered animals with current year's Showing Cards may qualify for National Championships and/or Points Awards. The Showing Cards should be completed on the day of the show.

LEASING PONIES

14. If a pony is leased to another party, it will be treated as the property of the Lessee by the IPS and all benefits and penalties relating to the pony shall be attributable to the Lessee. When a lease is negotiated, the pony will not be treated as the property of the Lessee until the relevant lease fee has been paid to the IPS and the arrangement completed.
15. A form for the registration of the lease of ponies can be obtained from the IPS office and must be completed by both the Lessor and Lessee. The duration of the lease is twelve months, or part thereof, to coincide with the IPS Calendar Year (1st January – 31st December).

AGE OF PONIES

16. The age of a pony shall be calculated from 1st January in the year of its birth.

MEASUREMENT OF PONIES GENERAL

17. Under IPS Rules, ponies must be measured before competing in ANY Ridden Class.
18. Specific Measuring Sessions for this purpose are organised by the SJI and/or the IPS in each region to facilitate pony owners and are run under SJI Rules. Information on these can be found at www.sji.ie/ponies/measuring-venues.
19. The pony owner or the person responsible for presenting the pony at the Measuring Session is responsible for making themselves familiar with the Rules of Measuring ponies and those of Appeal.
20. Ponies owned, wholly or partially, by Irish residents of the thirty-two (32) counties (irrespective of where such ponies are located or maintained) must compete under IPS or SJI Measurement Schemes to comply with the Rules therein.
21. In the case of ponies which are owned by non-Irish citizens and ordinarily located in a country other than the thirty two counties of Ireland, a current year's height certificate recognised and approved by the appropriate National Equestrian Authority of that country will be accepted by the IPS when that pony is temporarily located within the thirty two counties of Ireland (for specified competition) for a period not exceeding 28 days in any one year.
22. The Council, through its relevant committee, has the authority to ask for any pony to be re-measured.

23. All ponies presented for measurement at IPS/SJI measuring venues must have their vaccinations up-to-date. Those that do not must have their vaccinations carried out by attending Vets on the day, if measurement is required.

MIRCRO-CHIPPING

24. a) Micro-chipping is compulsory for all ponies prior to being measured. The owner, by presenting their pony for measuring, agrees to the micro-chipping of the pony, where this has not been done prior to attendance at the Measuring Venue.

There will be a fee for micro-chipping in addition to the measuring fee.

- b) It is advisable to have the pony protected against tetanus before being micro-chipped. Tetanus Vaccination may be available at the Measuring Centres, at an additional fee, but owners are advised to consult their own veterinary surgeon prior to attending the Measuring Centre.

MEASURING AT AN SJI MEASURING CENTRE

25. The owners of all ponies being presented at an official IPS/SJI measuring venue for their first documented measurement who don't accept the findings and who seek re-measuring can, with the agreement of the Veterinary Surgeons at the measuring, present to a Panel of independent Veterinary Surgeons for reassessment at the University Veterinary Hospital. Reassessment to be arranged by the IPS/SJI and all costs must be borne by the owner.

- a) Ponies may only be presented once for measuring in any one calendar year other than in one of the specific circumstances as listed below:
- i) through the Appeal System
 - ii) for verification of measurement if moving to a different height category
 - iii) ponies turned down at Regional Measuring Sessions as being in a physically unfit state
 - iv) if, in the opinion of the Measuring Veterinarian, an animal presented for measuring is not under the control of the handler, the measuring Vet may refuse to measure the animal
- b) The right to present a pony at a subsequent Measuring Centre is at the discretion of the IPS Council to whom a written application must be made. In the case of Rule 28 – attendance for measuring may only be at the University Veterinary Hospital.

PRESENTATION OF PONIES AT MEASURING CENTRES

- 26. a)** No allowance will be made for ponies wearing shoes at a Measuring Session and it is, therefore, recommended that ponies are presented unshod.
- b)** Ponies may not be ridden at the Measuring Centre.
- c)** All ponies must be presented in a bridle.
- d)** All ponies must be presented by a person over 16 years of age.
- e)** All rugs, bandages and other articles of horse clothing must be removed, for identification purposes, prior to presentation.
- f)** It is the owner's responsibility to present their pony at the Measuring Centre in a physically healthy condition for measuring.
- g)** Owners who have their pony rejected for measuring at a Measuring Centre, including the University Veterinary Hospital, on the grounds of a pony not being in a "healthy state" may face disciplinary action from the IPS.
- h)** The Veterinary Surgeon at any Measuring Session has the right to test any pony presented at the Centre for prohibitive substances.
- i)** Should the test be positive, the owner of the animal may face disciplinary action and the measurement of the pony and any relevant registration documents for that year will be declared null and void.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEASURING REGARDING AGE

- 27. a)** The Passport identification chart, micro-chip and the age of the pony must be verified by the Veterinary Surgeons at the Measuring Centre. Re-aging of ponies will not be permitted. Animals under 4 years of age cannot be accepted for measurement.
- b)** Ponies require an annual measurement prior to registration with the IPS until they are eight years old or over.
- c)** Ponies eight years or over being registered for the first time must have two consecutive height measurements from the age of eight years or over.
- d)** Owners should ensure, when their pony is eight years old or over and has two consecutive measurements in the same height category, that before leaving the Measuring Session, their passport is signed by two Veterinary Surgeons at the Centre, as this will be considered the final measurement. This permits the pony to be registered in future without further measuring, unless specifically requested to do so by the IPS Council.
- e)** Ponies whose Life or Final recorded measurement has been carried out under a system other than that of the IPS or SJI must be re-measured at an official IPS/SJI Measuring Centre.

HEIGHT CATEGORY - MEASURING DOWN

28. Ponies measuring down at a Regional Measuring Centre from one height category to another must have their measurement confirmed at the University Hospital **within ten days of the original measurement date before this measurement will be accepted by the IPS. N.B. Members whose pony has changed height category should inform the SJI personnel of this on the day of the measurement to ensure facilitation of the measurement at the Veterinary Hospital.**

PONIES COMING FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY

29. a) All ponies, 5 years old and over, regardless of Grade entering Ireland (thirty-two counties (32)) and wishing to compete under IPS Rules must have their placings converted to IPS status and be measured at an official IPS/SJI Measuring Centre and the Rules of the IPS/SJI measurement of ponies will apply.
- b) All ponies returning to Ireland that had fulfilled the two consecutive height measurements at eight years old or over in the same height category PRIOR to leaving Ireland, do not require further measurement with the IPS.
- c) All ponies entering Ireland that have been measured out in any other jurisdiction must present to the University Veterinary Hospital to be remeasured prior to registration with the IPS.

PONIES MEASURED AT THE UNIVERSITY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

30. a) A pony over eight years old that has been presented at the University Veterinary Hospital will not require further measurements to be registered with the IPS.
- b) Any pony that attended the University Veterinary Hospital as a result of an appeal from an IPS/SJI measuring, is obliged to re-present at an IPS/SJI measuring venue the following year and under the age-related applicable Rule.

JMB HEIGHT CERTIFICATES

JMB documents are not official passports NOR is/are the measurement(s) thereon recognised by the IPS for competition in Ireland (32 counties). In order to compete in IPS classes, these documents must be exchanged for official IPS passports and the ponies measured at an official IPS/SJI Measuring Centre.

THE RIGHT OF APPEAL

- 31. a)** At a Measuring Centre, if the person responsible does not agree with the measurement given by the Veterinary Surgeon, he/she has the right to be allowed a period of time (maximum of 30 minutes), whilst the Measuring Session is still operating, to re-present the pony.
- b)** The pony is not permitted to leave the measuring venue.
- c)** If, after the official measurement, the person responsible is still not satisfied with the height recorded, he/she has the right to make a formal appeal.
- d)** In order to make the formal Appeal, a prescribed form will be required to be completed and forwarded with payment to the IPS office. The passport is to be retained by the owner and brought to the University Veterinary Hospital.

TIME LIMIT OF APPEAL

- 32. a)** Appeals must be made on either the day of the measuring or within one week from the date of the Measuring Session and cannot otherwise be accepted unless with the approval of the IPS Council.
- b)** In all cases, the pony under appeal will be measured at the University Veterinary Hospital or place appointed by them at a time and date nominated by the IPS/SJI.
- c)** A fee as determined by the Council of the IPS Irish Pony Society Co Ltd will apply to all Appeals, inclusive of a blood testing fee. A refund of 50% will be made where there is a successful outcome to the appeal.
- d)** No refund will be made should an appointment be cancelled.
- e)** The time and date of the Appeal Measuring will be notified to the owner upon receipt of the measuring fee.
- f)** Shoes must be removed prior to presentation.

PROCEDURE FOR MEASURING UNDER APPEAL

- 33. a)** The pony under appeal will be measured by the University Hospital Veterinarian whose decision is final. IPS and SJI Officials will also be in attendance and will be responsible for the reporting procedures.
- b)** A disclaimer must be signed by the owner/agent before the animal is accepted for measuring. The owner/agent must agree that the University Veterinary Hospital and the IPS/SJI will not have any responsibility for any mishap at the measuring.
- c)** In all cases the owner will be entirely responsible for the presentation of the pony at the Veterinary Hospital.
- d)** There will be no facility for lunging or exercising an animal at the University Veterinary Hospital, other than walking in-hand.

- e) Ponies attending the University Veterinary Hospital under appeal will be subject to testing for prohibitive substances and, if subsequently found to be positive, the original measurement will stand for the year and the owner will be subject to disciplinary action by the IPS. Any relevant registration documents for that year will be declared null and void.
- f) Should the Veterinary Surgeon at the Appeal consider the pony unfit for presentation, through clinical grounds, which will include excessive hoof trimming, lameness, ataxia, dehydration, abnormal heart rate or other conditions which the Veterinary Surgeon deems “unfit” for presentation, this animal will not be permitted to be presented. This judgement is made at the time of the measuring by the attending Veterinarian. The owner will be subject to disciplinary action, which may lead to a criminal prosecution for cruelty.
- g) A pony, once rejected by the University Veterinary Hospital as having been assessed unfit for measurement, cannot be re-presented at a later date to the University Veterinary Hospital or an IPS/SJI Measuring Session in the same calendar year.
- h) No products, herbal or medicinal, are permitted in ponies being presented.
- i) On arrival, the animal will be given to a handler from the University Veterinary Hospital who will have total control of the animal until it is returned to the owner/agent.
- j) The owner/agent will be not present during the measuring.
- k) The owner/agent will be notified of the outcome following the procedure by the attending IPS/SJI Officials.
- l) The decision of the Veterinary Surgeon at the University Veterinary Hospital is absolutely final.

HEIGHT OBJECTIONS

- 34. a)** Any dispute or complaint in respect of the Height Certificate must be referred to the IPS office and will be dealt with in accordance with its Rules. No height objection may be made against a pony measured in the current year except by the IPS. However, if a Member wishes to make a complaint against a height certificate, said complaint must be lodged in writing with the IPS office, c/o Horse Sport Ireland, 1st Floor, Beech House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co Kildare within fourteen days of the alleged breach. This complaint must be sent by recorded delivery and be accompanied by a fee of €100 which will be returned if the complaint is upheld. However, if the pony re-measures at its current height, the complainant will forfeit the €100 fee.
- b)** If the IPS requests a re-measurement, an application for re-measuring must be made at an approved Measuring Centre within twenty-one (21) days of the notification of the complaint or request. Failure to make the application within twenty-one (21) days as requested by the IPS will result in the *subject pony* being suspended from the Society until re-measuring of the subject pony takes place.

DOPING AND DOPE TESTS

Doping in Humans

35. The IPS condemns the use of prohibited substances or methods, a practice generally known as doping, in sport. The Rules of the IPS regarding doping are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by the Irish Sports Council in 2004 and later in 2009, as amended from time to time. The Rules contained in the said Irish Anti-Doping Rules shall have effect and be construed as Rules of the IPS.

Doping of Ponies

36. a) Any pony taking part in Classes judged under IPS Rules will be liable to dope testing (as hereinafter defined) in accordance with the dope testing procedure laid down by the FEI, as administered by Horse Sport Ireland (HSI). A refusal to submit a pony for dope testing shall constitute a breach of this Rule. Any animal that has been suspended following a positive dope test by the BSPS or any other organisation is not allowed to compete in IPS classes.
- b) The presence in the tissues, body fluids, excreta, hair or skin of a pony of a Prohibited Substance (as hereinafter defined) shall constitute a breach of this Rule.
- c) “Dope Testing” means the examination of a pony by a duly qualified person appointed by the IPS and includes the taking of samples for subsequent analysis of all or any body fluid, tissue, excreta, hair or skin scrapings at the discretion of the person conducting the examination.
- d) “Prohibited Substance” means any quantity of any substance originating externally (whether or not endogenous to the pony) which could influence the pony’s performance or bearing including without limitation stimulants, depressants, tranquillisers, local anaesthetics, anti-inflammatory agents (including phenylbutazone), antihistamines, muscle relaxants, diuretics and metabolites of any such substances or masking agents.
- e) If the presence of a Prohibited Substance in the tissues, body fluids, excreta, hair or skin of a pony is confirmed by laboratory analysis carried out pursuant to this Rule, then a monetary fine and/or the following penalty shall be imposed:
- (i) The pony shall be disqualified from any class, competition or championship in which it took part on the date of the dope testing and any subsequent class, competition or championship for which it qualified on the date of the dope testing and shall forfeit its placings, awards and prize money.
- f) Any person who administered or attempts to administer or allows or causes to be administered or connives to the administration to a pony of a Prohibited Substance shall be guilty of a breach of this Rule.
- g) Whenever a positive dope test occurs, the matter shall forthwith be referred to the Referrals and Complaints Committee of the IPS, either on the expiration of the period for requesting confirmatory analysis of Sample B or on the analysis of Sample B proving positive as appropriate.
- The Referrals and Complaints Committee shall investigate the matter and decide without undue delay from the date of posting by the HSI of notification of a positive dope test to the Owner and/or Producer whether or not to institute disciplinary

proceedings for a breach and/or breaches of this Rule against the Owner and/or Producer.

- If the Referrals and Complaints Committee decides not to institute disciplinary proceedings against the Owner and/or Producer of the disqualified pony – see Appendix 2, the pony’s placings, etc, will be reinstated.
 - If, following investigation, the Referrals and Complaints Committee finds that any person has breached Rule 36.b), a penalty period and/or another penalty as determined by them may be imposed.
- h)** The Owner of a tested animal will only be notified of the outcome of a dope test in the case of an unsatisfactory result. In the majority of cases, this will be done within 2/3 weeks of the testing date.
- i)** The IPS Council or its relevant sub-committee will determine the shows at which dope-testing will take place and it will be conducted under the Rules of the FEI.
- j)** Any Member summoned by the mobile drug testing unit who fails to present him/herself, (in the case of all Members under 18 who are summonsed to such a test, they shall be accompanied by a parent or guardian or appropriate adult acting in loco parentis), the non-attendance of that Member will be referred to the Referrals and Complaints Committee and that person may be brought before a hearing of that Committee upon being given due notice of the time, date and place of the hearing and upon being provided with the grounds for this being summoned to the hearing.
- k)** Where any Member/owner or person who fall under the auspices of these Rules is instructed to present an animal belonging to them or under their control for drug testing and that person fails to do so or presents a different animal other than that which was summoned, that Member will be referred to the Referrals and Complaints Committee and that person may be brought before a hearing of that Committee upon being given due notice of the time, date and place of the hearing and upon being provided with the grounds for their being summoned to the hearing. That person and the animal in question will automatically be suspended from competing, from the time of the original summoning until such time as the Committee has completed its investigations.

37. SAMPLING PROCEDURE

- a)** Dope testing shall take place immediately after the participation of the pony in its class. If, however, the pony from whom the sample is to be taken has qualified for a Championship of that section which immediately follows the class – the taking of the sample may be delayed until completion of the Championship. The pony **MUST** remain under the supervision of the appointed steward until the test has taken place. If the pony is in the care of a minor or Junior Member, they must be accompanied by an Adult Member.
- b)** The person in charge of the pony whether it is the Owner, Producer or other person **MUST** remain with the pony from the time of notification of selection of a dope test until completion of the dope test.

- c) The Owner, Producer or other person responsible for the pony, or his representative, shall be entitled to witness the dope testing from outside the loose box, horse box or testing area without disturbing the pony but, if not present, the dope test will proceed in any event.
- (i) The Owner, Producer or other person responsible must be an Adult Member of the IPS
- d) The IPS, on receiving the result of a positive dope test, shall write to the person responsible/representative/owner as per the medical control form and shall enclose a copy of the laboratory report which gives them an analysis of the dope test, which shall be sent by registered post within a period of five days of its receipt. The IPS shall advise the person responsible/representative/owner of the positive result of the analysis and shall give such person responsible/representative/owner one of the following options:
- (i) Accept the result of the analysis on the sample furnished and agreed to be bound by the decision of the Referrals and Complaints Committee which shall be made at the next available Referrals and Complaints Committee meeting subsequent to the acceptance by the person responsible/representative/owner of the finding of the laboratory sample.

OR

- (ii) Take the option of having Sample B analysed and discharge the cost of the procedure, applicable at the time, of a further analysis. In the event of the person responsible/representative/owner availing of this option written notification shall be furnished to the IPS within fourteen (14) days of receipt by the person responsible/representative/owner of the IPS letter. In the event of this option not being exercised within the said 14-day period, then, in that event the Rules as in subparagraph (i) herein apply. In the event of Sample B confirming the findings of Sample A, then the findings of the Referrals and Complaints Committee shall be at the discretion of the Referrals and Complaints Committee in accordance with its Rules and regulations.
- e) To request a hearing by way of an appeal, such appeal shall be heard before the Referrals and Complaints Committee of the IPS. In the event of the person responsible/representative/owner requesting an appeal hearing on the finding of the analysis on Sample A or B, an application shall be made in writing to the IPS within a period of fourteen days from the date of receipt by the person responsible/representative/owner of the result of the Sample A or Sample B. The IPS shall cause an appeal hearing to be called within a responsible period of time of receipt of the notification of the appeal and the person responsible/representative/owner shall be entitled to attend personally or be represented at such appeal hearing, which will be held before an impartial sub-committee call "*dav novel*". The decision of that appeal shall be final and binding on all parties.
- f) The Owner or Producer may request that findings 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.

- g) Upon receipt of a valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B, the IPS shall inform the laboratory immediately and the laboratory shall carry out the analysis of Sample B.
- h) If the result of analysis of Sample B is positive, then the person requesting the analysis shall reimburse the IPS the cost of analysis of Sample A and Sample B forthwith on demand along with any veterinary costs incurred.
- i) If the result of analysis of Sample A is positive and no valid request for confirmatory analysis of Sample B is received, the Owner shall reimburse the IPS the cost of analysis of Sample A forthwith on demand along with any veterinary costs incurred. Reinstatement of membership and pony registration shall be dependent on such reimbursement.
- j) Failure to pay the fine will result in suspension until the fine has been paid.

VISAS

- 38. a)** As the Irish Pony Society is the governing body for Pony Showing throughout the thirty two counties of Ireland, all persons (IPS Members or otherwise) wishing to compete overseas must apply to the Irish Pony Society at least 28 days prior to date of competition for a Visa for each animal travelling. The name of the Show(s), venue(s) and date(s) on which they will compete must be stipulated together with the current height and IPS registration number. Failure to notify the IPS could lead to disciplinary action being taken. Ponies may only compete overseas in the height category as shown on the Visa.
- b)** Ponies the property of overseas visitors entering the thirty-two counties of Ireland must have their National Pony Passport/documentation. They may compete in Ireland on a visitor's Visa granted by their parent body and approved by the Irish Pony Society/Equestrian Federation of Ireland for a period not exceeding twenty-eight days in any one year.

ELIGIBLE PONIES

- 39.** No exhibitor may enter and show a pony under a Judge, who is known to have bred, owned, produced, has or has had a social/professional interest in or received financial gain from that pony (stud fees excluded). The onus is on the exhibitor not to contravene this Rule provided that the Judge's name has been made available.
- 40.** All Ridden Pony Classes shall be restricted to mares and geldings, 4 years old and over. However, stallions may compete in Working Hunter Pony, Dressage, Equitation Jumping, Performance Working Hunter Pony, Heritage and Pure Breed Classes provided written permission has been previously obtained from the Council. Mares suckling a foal shall not be shown under saddle. Eligibility of stallions for Mountain & Moorland/Pure Breeds classes – see pages 42-45.
Mares being shown in Brood Mare Classes **MUST NOT** compete under saddle at the same Show on the same day.

41. All stallions in any class must have obtained prior permission from IPS Council to compete at an IPS or IPS Affiliated Show. Riders must have attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year when riding stallions not exceeding 137.2cms. Stallions in excess of 137.2cms must be ridden by riders who have attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year.
- Only ponies that are competing at a Show and for which an entry fee has been paid, may enter the Showgrounds.

DRESS AND TACK

42. It shall be obligatory for all competitors to wear and correctly use safe and correctly secured skull caps/riding hats/riding gear for themselves and likewise suitable tack for their ponies, while attending all IPS Affiliated Shows and, furthermore, it shall be the sole and final responsibility of such competitors, their parents/guardians to ensure that all of the foregoing is both suitable and safe. However, strictly without prejudice thereto, correctly secured British Standard Skull Caps/Riding Hats that meet current Safety Standards **MUST** be worn by riders at all times when mounted. Furthermore, it shall again be the sole and final responsibility of each such competitor/guardian to ensure the safety and suitability of all animals attending all Affiliated IPS Shows; without prejudice to the foregoing, the Society or its lawfully appointed agent may at any time refuse to allow any particular animal to compete at any particular Show/s.

NB A competitor whose hat comes off, or chin-strap comes undone whilst competing, must replace it and/or fasten it before continuing. He may dismount without penalty to recover the hat, or have it passed up from the ground, or he may stop without penalty to fasten the chin strap. Failure to do above will incur a penalty of elimination. Riders are not permitted to wear hoodies when mounted.

In extreme weather conditions a Judge can use discretion with regard to the wearing of jackets during competition.

Handlers, grooms and exhibitors entering the ring at any time must all be neat and tidy.

Spurs

The wearing of spurs in any Pony Class not exceeding 158cms is forbidden in any part of the showgrounds.

Body Protectors

These are compulsory in ALL Working Hunter Pony Classes for riders under 16 years on 1st January of current year but may be removed in Phase 2.

Footwear

Appropriate footwear must be worn.

Jewellery

Only watches and/or medical bracelets are permitted. Earrings and body studs must not be worn.

Hair

In Working Hunter Classes only, long hair must be tied up/placed in a bun when competing in phase 1.

Bridles

43. Lead Rein, First Ridden and ponies competing in Novice Classes may only use snaffle bridles with suitable snaffle bits - see page 22.
 44. Balancing straps are permitted in Lead Rein Classes ONLY.
 45. In Novice Show Pony and Novice Show Hunter Pony Classes, suitable snaffle bits combined with a suitable noseband must be used - see page 22.
 46. In Open Show Pony and Open Show Hunter Pony Classes, snaffle, double or pelham bridles are permitted – the only conditions being that :-
 - a) the double bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit.
 - b) the pelham bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit or a single rein with leather “roundings”.
 47. In Novice Working Hunter Classes, a Snaffle combined with a suitable noseband must be used, otherwise 15 penalties will be deducted from the score in Phase 1 - see page 22.
 48. In Novice and Open Working Hunter Classes, running martingales and any nosebands are permitted but Judges will pay particular attention to their effectiveness.
 49. In Open Show Pony and Open Show Hunter Pony Classes, suitable nosebands may be used with a snaffle bridle.
- NB** IN ALL classes, Judges will take into consideration the severity of the bit and place accordingly. Judges may vary in their opinions on suitable bridles and the Judge’s decision is final. Bit-less bridles and Running Gags are not permitted.
50. No change of tack is permitted in any class except as provided for under Rule 51(b). Random tack inspections may take place at any show.

BANDAGES, BOOTS, SHOEING, WHIPS

51. a) A pony may be unshod at the discretion of the Owner.
- b) Boots of a plain colour may be used for Phase 1 of Working Hunter, Performance Working Hunter, Performance Jumping, Heritage Working Hunter and Derby Working

Hunter Classes. The inside of the protection must be smooth, the hind boot fixations must be non-elastic Velcro, no hooks or straps may be used. The rounded rigid part of the protection must be placed around the inside of the fetlock. No additional elements may be used in conjunction with the protection. They must be removed before Phase 2.

- c) Over-reach boots on front legs are allowed.
 - d) Boots are not permitted in any Flat Ridden Class.
 - e) Protective pads will be allowed on the sole of the pony's foot to act as a shock absorber and to prevent bruising on hard or uneven ground.
 - f) No bandages on pony's legs are permitted.
 - g) Only normal shaped shoes that do not cover the frog are permissible.
 - h) Normal shaped open heeled plastic stick-on-shoes are permissible.
 - i) No Bar Shoes are allowed.
 - j) Whips must not exceed 75cms.
- 52. a)** Ponies may be lunged in side reins in preparation for a class. Ponies may not be ridden in side reins, draw reins, grass reins and/or any other training aids whilst on the showground. Lunging may only take place in a designated area of the showground or a suitable, quiet area of the field. **PONIES MAY NOT BE RIDDEN WHILST BEING LUNGED.** Ponies may only be lunged by persons aged over 18 years. Lunging **MUST** not take place in warm-up arenas.
- Adults who are eligible to compete under class specifications may only ride or school ponies on which they are competing at shows. However, ponies 133cms and under may be ridden in by rider Members not exceeding 16 years on 1st January of the current year. All shows organised by the IPS will be permitted to charge a fine of €50 for contravention of the above. In the event of a fine not being paid within seven (7) days, automatic suspension will occur, only to be lifted when payment of said fine is received.
- b)** The tying of ponies to trailers/lorries poses a very real and serious health & safety risk to Members and the ponies themselves. The IPS strictly prohibits the *unattended* tying of any ponies to trailers or lorries, regardless of the pony's temperament.
- All shows organised by the IPS will be permitted to charge a fine of €150 for contravention of the above. In the event of a fine not being paid within seven (7) days, automatic suspension will occur, only to be lifted when payment of said fine is received.

APPROVED BITS



1. Ordinary Bit with double-jointed mouthpiece
2. D Ring Racing snaffle
3. Rubber Snaffle
4. Hanging cheek snaffle Happy Mouth.
5. Wilkie Bit
6. Eggbut Jointed Snaffle
7. Unjointed Snaffle
8. Eggbut Snaffle with Cheeks
9. Snaffle with upper Cheeks only
10. Snaffle with Cheeks.
11. Simple snaffle, single jointed loose ring.

RIDERS

- 53.** No rider may ride more than one pony in any class with the exception of the Working Hunter and Performance Working Hunter Classes only. A rider may ride two ponies in Phase 1 of the Working Hunter Class but only one of these ponies may compete in Phase 2. In the case where there are two Judges for a class and where ponies compete singly in Phase 2, both ponies may complete the competition but only one pony will be eligible for placing. Also, in Performance Working Hunter Classes, only one pony may be placed. A substitute rider is not allowed.
There shall be no change of rider in a Championship except when a competitor finds that he has more than one exhibit eligible to compete. A substitute rider may be used who must be of the correct age for the height of the pony he/she rides. This also applies when a rider may be competing in another section at the time of the Championship.
- 54.** In the Working Hunter and Performance Working Hunter Pony Classes, owners or riders must get permission from the Judge to compete Hors Concours and in the Working Hunter Pony Classes, where time permits, they will be allowed to jump at the end of Phase 1. A pony that participates Hors Concours may not take part in any other Working Hunter, Performance Working Hunter, Performance Jumping, Heritage Working Hunter and Derby Working Hunter Classes as a competitor in the same Show. A rider may participate with two ponies, one Hors Concours and the other competitively in the same class, provided he does not delay the class in so doing.

SHOW ENTRIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

- 55.** All ponies must be correctly entered with their registered names and in the name of the adult Owner as registered with the IPS. The name and age of the rider should also be stated.
- 56.** Substitution of entries is permitted at the discretion of relevant Show Committee.
- 57.** It is the responsibility of the competitor or competitor's parent or guardian to ensure that the rider enters in the correct class/classes and to ensure that they fulfil eligibility requirements to enter said class. This is not the responsibility of the Entry Secretary. **THE ABBREVIATION IS THAT WHICH IS UNDERLINED** in the Class Specifications. If this abbreviation is used on Schedules, the onus is completely on the exhibitor to enter in the correct Class/Classes, i.e., one must know what all abbreviations mean, eg, M&M is Mountain and Moorland.
- 58.** The Society's specifications for the various classes must be adhered to by all Affiliated Societies.

CUPS AND TROPHIES

59. The winner of an IPS Cup or Trophy is held responsible for its safe return not later than three (3) weeks prior to the show or function at which it is to be re-awarded. Cups and Trophies must be returned to the IPS. To ensure the safe return of the Cup or Trophy, it should be well packed. A signature for all Cups/Trophies must be obtained by the Show Secretary before leaving the Event.
Winners of Cups and Trophies must ensure that they are covered by the householder's insurance. Engraving is the responsibility of the recipient.

CLASSES

60. a) All pony classes at Shows affiliated to the IPS shall be carried out and judged in accordance with the Society's Rules and Regulations.
b) No rider under 5 years on 1st January of current year may compete in any class with the exception of the Lead Rein Classes for which the minimum age is 3 years on 1st January of current year. In the Intermediate Classes the minimum age for participation is 14 years on 1st January of the current year.
c) Shows may run Dressage Classes under Irish Dressage Society Rules. Shows may run Side-Saddle Classes under Irish Side-Saddle Association Rules.
d) In the event of a fall of a rider in any class, the combination is eliminated and must leave the arena dismounted. If a rider wishes to compete in any other class on the same day, they must be checked and approved to ride by an onsite medic.

POINTS SYSTEM

61. A Points System is in operation as set out below:-

a) Novice Classes

1st - 4 points 2nd - 3 points 3rd - 2 points 4th - 1 point

Open Classes

1st - 8 points 2nd - 5 points 3rd - 3 points 4th - 2 points

Higher Points will be awarded at selected Shows as decided by the IPS Council from time to time. All ponies not previously registered with the IPS are deemed OPEN until proven otherwise (which is the responsibility of the owner). Points will only be awarded to fully paid-up members of the IPS. Results for all Affiliated Shows are recorded. Should those ponies subsequently register with the IPS, these Points will determine Open/Novice status.

Any Novice pony that has placed 1st at a major Show – RDS, RIHS, HOYS, Balmoral and any BPS Championship Show – will automatically be de-noviced. The onus is on the Owner/Agent to maintain up-to-date records of points and to desist from entering Novice Classes when the pony has attained Open status in its age category.

Regardless of the number of Novice or Open classes a four-year-old pony may win, it retains its Novice status at the commencement of its Fifth Year.

- b) Only ONE Show per day will count towards Points Awards but ALL points will be retained for Open/Novice status.
- c) For the National Awards ONLY, the same combination of pony and rider must be declared for either:
 - (i) Show Starter Stakes OR 133cms Show Hunter
 - (ii) Working Starter Stakes OR 133cms Working Hunter
- d) All Novice Ridden Classes, including Mini Show Pony, Mini Show Hunter and Intermediate, are confined to ponies that have not gained 50 points and all ponies, 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class. *This does not apply to Working Hunter/Performance ponies that must have not attained 50 points in any Working Hunter Class.* No points will be awarded in Special or Unaffiliated Classes such as Local, Pony Club or Family Pony.
- e) Any Class specified as a Combined Class is classified as Open and only Open points will be awarded. Therefore, a Novice pony competing in a Combined Class will receive Open points.
- f) Every owner is responsible for keeping a record of the points earned by their animal for the purpose of determining its status and in order to ensure that it is not entered in, and does not compete in, any competition for which it is ineligible. A fine of €50 will be imposed on a competitor who continues to compete in Novice Classes when their pony has attained Open status. However, ponies that are Novice in a particular category at the start of the current year may enter the Novice class in that category in the Hunter Pony Championships and IPS Championship Show regardless of change of status. Novice Working Hunter Courses must ONLY be walked by competitors and trainers at the Championship Show – ponies are not allowed in the arena.
- g) Novice classes are confined to ponies that have not been placed 1st at a major show - RDS, RIHS, HOYS, Balmoral, and any BSPS Championship Show. Ponies that have competed as a 5-year-old in any country other than Ireland will be classified according to their placings in that country. A pony that changes from one height class to another keeps its Novice or Open status from the original height class.
- h) Ponies competing in ALL classes, must be properly turned out. In addition, all Classes, with the exception of Pure breed Classes, Performance Jumping and Equitation, MUST be plaited.

BREEDING AND YOUNGSTOCK SECTION

- 62. Ponies in the Breeding & Youngstock Classes must be shown without hind shoes and those, one-year-old and over, must wear a bit. The pony must be led off a leather or chain coupling attached to both sides of the bit or directly off the noseband.
- 63. To be eligible for Championships, ponies must be registered with the IPS. Points from ten (10) shows ONLY will be taken into account for the IPS National Awards for Mares with Foals at foot, in-foal Mares and 1, 2 or 3-year-old Youngstock.

Points must be recorded on the Showing Card. In the event of a tie, the pony with the most Championships will be deemed overall Champion.

64. Ponies in any of the Breeding and Youngstock Classes must be led by a competent handler over 16 years on 1st January of current year. Handlers aged 14 or 15 years on the 1st January of current year may also lead ponies in Youngstock classes once a written request has been submitted to Council and subsequently agreed for that year. Handlers aged 14 and 15 years may not lead colts or stallions with the exception of colt foals. Mares being shown in Broodmare Classes MUST NOT be shown under saddle at the same show on the same day.
65. **138cms Pony Stallion**: Pony Stallion, 3 years old and over, not exceeding 138cms and entered in a Stud Book as follows:-

- a) Weatherbys (including purebred Arabs)
- b) Arab Stud book or Anglo Arab Stud Book
- c) Part-Bred Arab Stud Register
- d) Any recognised Pony Stud Book or Register

66. **158cms Pony Stallion**: Pony Stallion, 3 years old and over, exceeding 138cms but not exceeding 158cms with Stud Book qualifications as in Number 65.

When one class is required, the wording is as follows:-

67. **Pony Stallion not exceeding 158cms**: Pony Stallion, 3 years old and over, not exceeding 158cms with Stud Book qualifications as in Number 65.

68. **Show Pony Broodmare**: Pony Broodmare, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 148cms, in foal to or with her own foal at foot by a Pony Stallion not exceeding 158cms with Stud Book qualifications as set out below. In the case of a Broodmare with a foal at foot, covering sire must be named and official Pregnancy Certificate produced. Broodmares may not be shown for more than two years in succession without a foal at foot. Mares entered in this Class must not be shown under saddle at the same Show on the same day.

Pony Stallion Qualification:

- a) Weatherbys (including purebred Arabs)
- b) Arab Stud Book or Anglo Arab Stud Book
- c) Part-Bred Arab Stud Register
- d) Any recognised Pony Stud Book or Register

Classes can be separated into height categories if there are enough entries.

69. **Foals, produce of Mares in Class 68.** Sire of foal to be named. Foal to be led.

SHOW PONY YOUNGSTOCK CLASSES

70. **Show Pony Youngstock, 1 y.o. not exceeding 140cms:** 1 y.o. Colt, Gelding or Filly, not exceeding 140cms, likely to make a child's Riding Pony.
71. **Show Pony Youngstock, 2 y.o. not exceeding 143cms:** 2 y.o. Colt, Gelding or Filly not exceeding 143cms, likely to make a child's Riding Pony.
72. **Show Pony Youngstock, 3 y.o. not exceeding 145cms:** 3 y.o. Gelding or Filly not exceeding 145cms, likely to make a child's Riding Pony.
73. **Intermediate Youngstock Show Riding Type:** 1 or 2 y.o. Colt, Gelding or Filly or 3 y.o. Gelding or Filly, not exceeding 155cms at 3 y.o., likely to make a Riding Pony.

SHOW HUNTER PONY BREEDING AND YOUNGSTOCK CLASSES

74. **Show Hunter Pony Broodmare, not exceeding 153cms:** Pony Broodmare, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cms, likely to produce a child's Hunter Pony. Qualifications as in Number 68. In the case of a Broodmare without a foal at foot, covering sire must be named and official Pregnancy Certificate produced. Broodmares may not be shown for more than two years in succession without a foal at foot. Mares entered in this Class must not be shown under saddle at the same Show on the same day.
75. **Foals, produce of Mares in Class 74:** Sire of foal to be named. Foal to be led.
76. **Show Hunter Pony Youngstock, 1 y.o. not exceeding 145cms:** 1 y.o. Colt, Gelding or Filly, not exceeding 145cms, like to make a child's Hunter Pony.
77. **Show Hunter Pony Youngstock, 2 y.o. not exceeding 148cms:** 2 y.o. Colt, Gelding or Filly, not exceeding 148cms, like to make a child's Hunter Pony.
78. **Show Hunter Pony Youngstock, 3 y.o. not exceeding 150cms:** 3 y.o. Gelding or Filly, not exceeding 150cms, likely to make a child's Hunter Pony.
79. **Intermediate Youngstock Show Hunter Type:** 1, 2 or 3 y.o. Gelding or Filly, not exceeding 155cms, at 3 y.o. likely to make a child's Hunter Pony.
80. **Breeding Championship and Youngstock Championship Classes:** Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the respective classes.

NB. Sections 73 and 79 are NOT eligible for Youngstock Championships.

MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND YOUNGSTOCK CLASSES

81. **Mountain & Moorland Youngstock, 1 y.o. Small Breeds:** Colt, Gelding or Filly. Small Breeds to include Welsh Section A & B, Shetland, Dartmoor, Kerry Bog Pony and Exmoor.

82. **Mountain & Moorland Youngstock, 2 y.o. Small Breeds:** Qualifications as per no. 81.
83. **Mountain & Moorland Youngstock, 3 y.o. Small Breeds:** Gelding or Filly. Small Breeds as per no. 81.
84. **Mountain & Moorland Youngstock, 1 y.o. Large Breeds:** Colt, Gelding or Filly. Large Breeds to include Welsh Section C & D, Connemara, Highland, New Forest, Fells and Dales.
85. **Mountain & Moorland Youngstock, 2 y.o. Large Breeds:** Qualifications as per no.84.
86. **Mountain & Moorland Youngstock, 3 y.o. Large Breeds:** Gelding or Filly. Large Breeds as per no. 84.
- If classes are amalgamated, Yearlings must stand separately.**

SHOW PONY RIDING SECTION

87. **Novice Show Pony Riding Classes** are only open to:-
- a) Ponies, 4, 5, 6 and 7-year-old that have not attained 50 points in any Ridden Class at IPS and IPS Affiliated Shows and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class.
 - b) Novice ponies may only wear a snaffle bridle with a suitable snaffle bit – see p.22.
 - c) If unlisted or unapproved bits are used, the Judge will take into consideration the severity of the bit and mark/place accordingly.
88. **Open Show Pony Classes** suitable bits and double or pelham bridles are permitted – the only conditions being that:-
- a) the double bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit
 - b) the pelham bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit or a single rein with leather “roundings”
- Riding Classes are those Show Pony Riding Classes for which both Novice and Open Classifications are currently included in the list of IPS specifications.

SHOW PONY LEAD REIN CLASSES

89. a) Ponies must be shown in snaffle bridles. They must be led by persons aged 16 years and over and should be on a loose rein and will be required to trot.
- b) The attendant must affix the lead rein to the noseband where it must remain while the pony is in the ring.
- c) The reins must go directly from the bit to the rider’s hand. A balancing strap may be attached to the front of the saddle. The ability of the rider should be taken into consideration when judging this class. Knots on individual reins are permissible. However, reins may NOT be knotted together in order to shorten them. Grass reins are not allowed.
- d) Riders will not be asked to dismount.

90. **Open Show Pony Lead Rein Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 8th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden, Working Hunter Lead Rein or Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes.
91. **Novice Show Pony Lead Rein Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points in any ridden class and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any ridden class. Ponies not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 8th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Nursery First Ridden, Working Hunter Lead Rein or Nursery First Cradles Stakes Classes.

SHOW PONY FIRST RIDDEN CLASSES

92. No cantering allowed except for individual performances. Ponies must leave the ring at a walk or a trot.
93. **Beginner Show Pony First Ridden Class.** For mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Riders not to have attained their 9th birthday on 1st January of the current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class at all IPS Area Shows (Spring, Summer and Championship Shows) with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden, Working Hunter Lead Rein or Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes. There are no restrictions to how many years a rider can compete in Beginner classes, however, age restrictions must be adhered to. The ability of the rider must be taken into consideration when judging this Class. If there is no Beginner First Ridden Class on the schedule of all other Affiliated Shows. Riders may compete in a First Ridden Class and points will be awarded. However, for National Awards the rider must declare for either Beginner First Ridden or First Ridden Class. Riders in Beginners Classes may only compete in 50cms and 60cms Performance Jumping Classes.
94. **Novice Show Pony First Ridden Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any ridden class. Ponies not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 10th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any class for ponies exceeding 123cms at the same show on the same day.
95. **Open Show Pony First Ridden Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 10th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any class for ponies exceeding 123cms at the same show on the same day.

96. **Mini Championship Class.** Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Show Pony Lead Rein (Novice and Open); Beginner Show Pony First Ridden, Show Pony First Ridden (Novice and Open); Show Hunter Lead Rein (Novice and Open); Beginner Show Hunter First Ridden; Show Hunter First Ridden; 123cms Show Hunter (Novice and Open); Beginner Cradle Stakes; Open Cradle Stakes; Performance Cradle Stakes and Open Working Hunter Lead Rein.

NOVICE SHOW PONY RIDING CLASSES

97. **Novice 148cms Show Pony Riding Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class, exceeding 138cms but not exceeding 148cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 17th birthday on 1st January of current year.
98. **Novice 138cms Show Pony Riding Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 138cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 15th birthday on 1st January of current year.
99. **Novice 128cms Show Pony Riding Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class, **exceeding 123cms** but not exceeding 128cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 13th birthday on 1st January of current year.

When only one class is required, the wording is as follows:-

100. **Novice Show Pony Riding Class not exceeding 148cms.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 148cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders of correct age.

When two classes are required, the wording is as follows:-

- 101.a) **Novice Show Pony Riding Class exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 148cms**
For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 148cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders of correct age.
- b) As number 99.

102. **Novice Show Pony Championship Class**. Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Novice 128cms, 138cms and 148cms Classes.

OPEN SHOW PONY RIDING CLASSES

103. **Open 148cms Show Pony Riding Class**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 138cms but not exceeding 148cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 17th birthday on 1st January of current year.
104. **Open 138cms Show Pony Riding Class**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 138cms, suitable for an to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 15th birthday on 1st January of current year.
105. **Open 128cms Show Pony Riding Class**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 128cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 13th birthday on 1st January of current year.

When only one class is required, the wording is as follows:-

106. **Open Show Pony Riding Class not exceeding 148cm**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 148cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders of correct age.

When two classes are required, the wording is as follows:-

- 107.a) **Open Show Pony Riding Class exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 148cms**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 148cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders of correct age.
- b) As Number 105.

Open Show Pony Championship Class. Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Open 128cms, 138cms and 148cms Classes.

108. **Pairs Class**. For ponies, mare and geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cms. To be ridden by riders of correct age.

SHOW HUNTER PONY RIDING SECTION

109. A Points scale, similar to that used in Show Pony Classes, is in operation for Show Hunter Pony Classes.

- 110. Novice Show Hunter Pony Classes** are open only to:-
- a) Ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points in any Ridden Class and all ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class at Shows affiliated to the Irish Pony Society including IPS Shows. Confined to ponies that have not been placed 1st at any major Show – RDS, RIHS, HOYS, Balmoral and any BSPS Championship Show.
 - b) Novice ponies may only wear a snaffle bridle with a suitable snaffle bit – see page 22.
 - c) If unlisted or unapproved bits are used, the Judge will take into consideration the severity of the bit and mark/place accordingly.
- 111. In Open Show Hunter Pony Classes**, suitable snaffle bits - see page 22 - and double or pelham bridles are permitted – the only conditions being that:-
- i) The double bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit
 - ii) The pelham bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit or a single rein with leather “roundings”

SHOW HUNTER MINI CLASSES

- 112. Open Show Hunter Pony Lead Rein**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 3rd birthday but not their 8th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden, Hunter Pony Lead Rein or Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes.
- 113. Novice Show Hunter Pony Lead Rein**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points in any ridden class and all ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any ridden class. Ponies not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 3rd birthday but have not attained their 8th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden, Hunter Pony Lead Rein or Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes.

In these classes, the Judge will be looking for a pony suitable to take its rider hunting on a lead rein.

- 114. Beginner Show Hunter First Ridden Class**. For mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Riders not to have attained their 9th birthday on 1st January of the current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class at all IPS Area Shows (Spring, Summer and Championship Shows) with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden, Working Hunter Lead Rein or Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes. There are no restrictions to how many years a rider can compete in Beginner classes, however, age restrictions must be adhered to. The ability of the rider must be taken into consideration when judging this Class. If there is no Beginner First Ridden Class on the schedule of all other Affiliated Shows. Riders may compete in a

First Ridden Class and points will be awarded. However, for National Awards the rider must declare for either Beginner First Ridden or First Ridden Class. Riders in Beginners Classes may only compete in 50cms and 60cms Performance Jumping Classes.

- 115. Novice Show Hunter Pony First Ridden.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4-7 years old who have not attained 50 points in any ridden class and ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any ridden classes. Ponies not exceeding 123cms suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 10th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any Class for ponies exceeding 123cms at the same show on the same day.
- 116. Open Show Hunter Pony First Ridden.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 10th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any class for ponies exceeding 123cms at the same show on the same day.
- 117. Open 123cms Show Hunter Pony Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 11th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any class for ponies exceeding 123cms at the same show on the same day.
- 118. Mini Championship Class.** Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Lead Rein (Novice and Open); Beginner Show Pony First Ridden; Show Pony First Ridden (Novice and Open); Show Hunter Lead Rein (Novice and Open); Beginner Show Hunter First Ridden; Show Hunter First Ridden (Novice and Open); 123cms Show Hunter (Novice and Open); Beginner Cradle Stakes; Cradle Stakes and Performance Cradle Stakes and Open Working Hunter Lead Rein.

NOVICE SHOW HUNTER PONY RIDING CLASSES

- 119.** For wording of classes, see Open Show Hunter Pony Classes and substitute 'NOVICE' in place of 'OPEN'. Ponies in the Novice Classes must be 4-7 years old and not have won 50 points in any Ridden Class at Shows affiliated to the Irish Pony Society including IPS Shows and all ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Class and confined to ponies that have not been placed 1st at any major show (RDS, RIHS, HOYS, BALMORAL, and any BSPS Championship Show.

OPEN SHOW HUNTER PONY RIDING CLASSES

- 120. Open 153cms Show Hunter Pony Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 153cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 20th birthday on 1st January of current year.

121. **Open 143cms Show Hunter Pony Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 143cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 17th birthday on 1st January of current year.
122. **Open 133cms Show Hunter Pony Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 133cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year.
123. **When only one or two classes are required,** the same heights may be used, as in numbers 158 and 159, but substitute “SHOW” in place of “WORKING”.
124. **Open Show Starter Stakes Class.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year.
125. **Starter Stakes Championship.** Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Working Starter Stakes Classes (Novice and Open) and 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Show Starter Stakes Classes (Novice and Open).
126. **Championship Classes.** Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the 133cms, 143cms and 153cms Classes.

COLOURED PONY SECTION

The definition of a “coloured” horse or pony is one whose coat colour is either white with black (piebald) or white and any other colour (skewbald), e.g. roan, chestnut; with a patch of naturally occurring white coat. This white patch must be on the body above the level of the stifle or elbow, excluding any face markings. Any white marking below this does not qualify. Manes and tails may also be white or have white in them. Appaloosa OR animals with belly markings only do not qualify.

127. **For Coloured Ponies.** 4 years old and over, mares and geldings, not exceeding 133cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year.
128. **For Coloured Ponies.** 4 years old and over, mares and geldings, exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 158cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 25th birthday on 1st January of current year.

PART-BRED SECTION

For ponies Registered in any recognised Breed Society Part-bred Register, e.g. the Welsh Part-bred Register (WP-BR), The Arab Horse Society Part-bred Register (PBAR) or the Dartmoor Pony Society Part-bred Register (DPSPBR).

129. **Registered Lead Rein Class** for ponies, 4 years old and over, mares or geldings, not exceeding 123cms.
130. **Registered Part-bred Ponies**, 4 years old and over, mares or geldings, not exceeding 128cms.
131. **Registered Part-bred Ponies**, 4 years old and over, mares or geldings, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 138cms.
132. **Registered Part-bred Ponies**, 4 years old and over, mares or geldings, exceeding 138cms but not exceeding 158cms.
- Riders in the above four classes must be of correct age for the height of the pony they are riding.**

EQUITATION RIDING CLASSES

133. a) These classes are judged on the rider's ability only
b) Riders may compete only in one Equitation Riding Class at any one show
c) No Martingales permitted
d) Snaffle bits as permitted for Novice ponies – see page 22 - may only be used
e) Riders will be tested in two phases - Collectively and Individually
f) Marks will be based on the following:-
i) Performance as above
ii) Position and seat of rider
iii) Correct use and effectiveness of aids

In the event of a tie, the riders' marks for effectiveness and position and seat will be the deciding factor.

The following will incur elimination:-

- Fall of horse or rider
- Premature departure from arena

134. Lead Rein Equitation Riding Class for ponies not exceeding 123cms. Riders who have not attained their 8th birthday on 1st January of the current year.
135. First Ridden Equitation Riding Class for ponies not exceeding 123cms. Riders who have not attained their 10th birthday on 1st January of the current year.
136. Equitation Riding Class for ponies not exceeding 133cms. Riders who have not attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of the current year.
137. Equitation Riding Class for ponies not exceeding 143cms. Riders who have not attained their 17th birthday on 1st January of the current year.

138. Equitation Riding Class for ponies not exceeding 153cms. Riders who have not attained their 20th birthday on 1st January of the current year.
139. Equitation Riding Class for ponies not exceeding 158cms. Riders who have not attained their 25th birthday on 1st January of the current year.
140. However, at the discretion of the Show, if there are insufficient entries, the following Classes may be used:
- a) For ponies not exceeding 138cms with riders not exceeding 17 years on 1st January of current year
 - b) For ponies exceeding 138cms but not exceeding 158cms with riders exceeding 17 years but not exceeding 25 years on 1st January of current year

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

141. Riders, 18 years and under, must be JUNIOR MEMBERS. Riders over 18 years and up to and including 25 years must be ADULT MEMBERS.
142. A Points scale, similar to that used in Show Pony Classes, is in operation for Intermediate Classes. Novice Intermediate Classes are open only to animals that comply with the restrictions applying to the corresponding pony categories (see no. 87, 110 and 151). The same combination cannot compete in both the Pony Section and Associated Horse Classes at the same show on the same day.
143. Where possible, the Intermediate Working Hunter competitors and 153cms Working Hunter competitors should not jump the same course.

OPEN INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

144. **Open Small Intermediate Show Riding Type**. For mares and geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 146cms and not exceeding 153cms. Riders competing in this Class must have attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year.
145. **Open Large Intermediate Show Riding Type**. For mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 153cms and not exceeding 158cm, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 14th birthday but not attained their 25th birthday on 1st January of current year.

Or Mixed Height Class

146. **Open Mixed Heights Intermediate Show Riding Type**. For mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 146cms and not exceeding 158cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 14th birthday but not attained their 25th birthday on 1st January of current year.

- 147. For Open Intermediate Show Hunter and Open Intermediate Working Hunter Classes**, please substitute either description in place of “Show Riding Type” **but using the relevant pony heights for these classes, i.e. 148cms but not exceeding 158cms in each case.**

NOVICE INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

- 148.** For wording of classes, see Open Intermediate Classes and substitute “NOVICE” in place of “OPEN” but the age of the ponies in the Novice Intermediate Show Hunter Type and Show Riding Type is 4-7 years old that have not attained 50 points and all 8 year olds and over that have not gained 30 points in any Ridden Classes. All Working Hunter ponies must not have attained 50 points in any Working Hunter Class.
- 149. Intermediate Championships.** Open to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in 158cms Intermediate Working Hunter, 158cms Intermediate Show Hunter, 158cms Intermediate Show Riding Type.

WORKING HUNTER PONY SECTION

- 150.** A Points scale, similar to that used in Show Pony Classes, is in operation for Working Hunter Pony Classes.
- a) Stallions may compete in Working Hunter, Performance Working Hunter and Performance Jumping Classes having first obtained permission from the IPS Council.
 - b) A fall of a rider in the IN-HAND phase may result in elimination. However, this is at the discretion of the Judge as a fall may be due to ground conditions and not as a result of the pony’s behaviour.
- 151. Novice Working Hunter Pony Classes** are open only to:-
- a) Ponies that have not attained 50 points in Working Hunter Pony Classes at Shows affiliated to the Irish Pony Society and confined to ponies that have not been placed 1st in any Open class at any major show (RDS, RIHS, HOYS, BALMORAL and any BSPS Championship Show).
 - b) A pony that has not achieved 140 SJI points in show-jumping.
 - c) A pony that has not competed at Eventing Ireland, 100cms level or higher. Stallions may compete in 143cms, 153cms and 158cms Working Hunter Classes provided prior permission has been sought and granted by the IPS Council.
- 152. In Novice Working Hunter Classes,** a snaffle bit combined with a suitable noseband must be used, otherwise 15 penalties will be deducted from the score in Phase 1 - see page 22.

- 153. In Open Working Hunter Pony Classes**, suitable bits including double or pelham bridles and two or three-ring snaffles are permitted – the only conditions being that:-
- a) the double bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit
 - b) the pelham bridle must have two reins leading from the hands to the bit or a single rein with leather “roundings”
 - c) the three-ring snaffle may be used, the conditions being that:-
 - (i) either the reins are attached to the 1st of 2nd ring**OR**
 - (ii) the reins are attached to the 1st and 3rd rings with leather “roundings”
 - d) for wording of classes, see Open Working Hunter Pony Classes and substitute “NOVICE” in place of “OPEN”

OPEN WORKING HUNTER PONY CLASSES

- 154. Open 153cms Working Hunter Pony Class**. For ponies, mares or gelding, 4 years old and over, exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 153cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 20th birthday on 1st January of current year.
- 155. Open 143cms Working Hunter Pony Class**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 143cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 17th birthday on 1st January of current year.
- 156. Open 133cms Working Hunter Pony Class**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 133cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year.

When only one class is required, the wording is as follows:-

- 157. Open Working Hunter Pony Class not exceeding 153cms**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 153cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders of correct age.

When two classes are required, the wording is as follows:-

- 158. Open Working Hunter Pony Class exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 153cms**. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 153cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders of correct age.

a) As Number 156.

- 159.** When only one or two classes are offered, ponies must jump in height order and fences must be altered for each height category.

- 160. Championship Classes**. Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the 133cms, 143cms and 153cms classes.

CRADLE STAKES AND WORKING STARTER STAKES CLASSES

- 161. Open Working Hunter Lead Rein.** In this Class, the Judge will be looking for a pony suitable to take its rider hunting on a lead rein.

This is NOT a Handy Pony Competition but, in their individual show, ponies will be asked to negotiate small obstacles to a maximum height of 12” (30cms) such as bending poles, ground poles, zig zags, etc.

A smooth and steady round suitable for the pace of the leader and ability of child is required. Cantering is not permitted. NO CROSS POLES allowed.

For ponies, mares or gelding, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 3rd birthday but not their 8th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this Class may not compete in any other Class with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden and Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes.

- 162. Beginner Cradle Stakes.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 9th birthday on 1st January of current year. The rider may not compete in any other class at all IPS Area Shows (Spring, Summer and Championship Shows) with the exception of any other Lead Rein or Beginner First Ridden Class. There are no restrictions to how many years a rider can compete in Beginner classes but must adhere to age restrictions. However, the ability of the rider should be taken into account when judging this class. If there is no Beginner Cradle Stakes on the schedule of all other Affiliated Shows. Riders may compete in an Open Cradle Stakes and points will be awarded. However, for National Awards the rider must declare for either Beginner Cradle Stakes or Open Cradle Stakes. Riders in Beginners Classes may only compete in 50cms and 60cms Performance Jumping Classes. **Fences in this class not to exceed 45cms.**

- 163. Open Cradle Stakes.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 11th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may only compete in First Ridden and 123cms classes at the same show on the same day.

- 164. Open Working Starter Stakes.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any class under 123cms at the same show on the same day.

- 165. Novice Working Starter Stakes.** For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 133cms that have not attained 50 points in Working Hunter Pony Classes, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have not attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider may not compete in any class under 123cms at the same show on the same day.

166. **Starter Stakes Championship**. Confined to 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Working Starter Classes (Novice and Open) and 1st and 2nd prizewinners in the Show Starter Stakes Classes (Novice and Open).

PERFORMANCE WORKING HUNTER PONY SECTION

167. For Novice and Open ponies, mares or gelding, 4 years old and over. Heights of ponies and relevant ages as per all Working Hunter Pony Classes. These classes will be judged and marked on performance only, as per Phase 1 of Working Hunter Pony Classes. Points obtained in this category will be used for Annual Awards only and will not affect status in Novice and Open Working Hunter classes.
- a) In the event of a tie, the pony with the highest way of going marks will be awarded first place in the first instance. If there is a further tie thereafter, the judge's decision will be final.
- b) The Performance Working Hunter Pony Championship will be decided on the first two ponies from all Performance Classes (excluding Performance Cradle Stakes) taking the "way of going" mark into account.
168. For wording of Class Specifications, see Rules 154-166 and substitute "WORKING HUNTER" with "PERFORMANCE WORKING HUNTER".

PERFORMANCE JUMPING SECTION

169. For Novice and Open ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over. Riders must be correct age for height of pony being ridden. The pony/rider combination may compete in only two Performance Jumping Classes on the same day.
- a) **Class Specifications**: The fences are to be set at the relevant height, e.g. 50cms, 60cms, 70cms, 80cms, 90cms, 1 metre
- b) A class of 1.10m can be included in the Performance Schedule
- c) Double is not to be included

NB. This Section does not have a Championship class. Placings for Championship will be determined on marks.

DERBY WORKING HUNTER COMPETITION

170. For ponies, mares or geldings, 4 years old and over, with the same height and rider age criteria as in Working Hunter Classes. This competition is open to Starter Stakes (at the organiser's discretion). 133cms, 143cms, 153cms and 158cms categories only.

By the very name, this competition envisages a much longer course of varied fences – at least 75% of which must be knockable.

In the case of the Starter Stakes Class, a water hazard may be included at the organiser's discretion.

A Panel Course Builder must be used for safety reasons and the fences conform to the correct dimensions for the size of the Class. The permanent fences, not knockable, are judged as hazards. No plus marks given but penalties are applicable.

TOM ROBINSON GOLD CUP

171. This competition is to be run in three sections:

a) Dressage:

An approved BHS or Dressage Ireland Test as determined by relevant Show Committee

b) Working Hunter:

Jumped over a Working Hunter course of not less than (10) obstacles (which must include a double) set at appropriate heights for the class specification.

c) Show Jumping:

Jumped under guidance of SJI Rules – over two rounds with the second being against the clock.

Points awarded in each section

PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS
1 st	100	10 th	30	19 th	9
2 nd	87	11 th	26	20 th	8
3 rd	76	12 th	23	21 st	7
4 th	67	13 th	20	22 nd	6
5 th	58	14 th	17	23 rd	5
6 th	51	15 th	15	24 th	5
7 th	45	16 th	13	25 th	4
8 th	39	17 th	12		
9 th	34	18 th	10		

Highest points to be the winner.

Rosettes 1st – 4th presented in Heights 133cms, 143cms, 143cms & 158cms (16 rosettes).

Rosettes 1st – 6th presented in each height overall category discipline, Dressage, Show Jumping & Working Hunter (18 rosettes).

Rosettes 1st – 6th presented in overall Tom Robinson Gold Cup (6 rosettes).

Individual Height Category Competition

- In the event of a tie in the WHP competition, the highest jumping mark will be placed higher. If still a tie, then the highest way of going mark will be placed higher.
- In the event of a tie in the Dressage competition, the highest Collective mark will be placed higher.
- In the event of a tie in the Show Jumping competition, then the fastest time will be placed higher.
- If riders still remain on the same points, each will be allocated points for their relevant placing and more than one rider can receive the same points. However, the next placing will then be skipped.

Overall Gold Cup competition

- The Overall Gold Cup will be decided by ascertaining the highest mark in each of the three disciplines across all of the height categories. In the event of a tie in the Gold Cup placings, the highest Working Hunter jumping mark will be placed higher. If still a tie, then the highest way of going mark will be placed higher.
- Eliminated riders or riders that have fallen in any Phase will only be allowed continue with the other Phases at the discretion of the medical team. They will be eligible for placing and prizes only in the phases that were completed but will not be eligible for overall placings.

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MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND/PURE BREEDS SECTION

General Rules

- 172.** The minimum age for Lead Rein riders is 3 yrs on 1st January of current year. Mares and Geldings in the following Classes, 182-194 may be ridden by riders of any age exceeding 5 years on 1st January of current year.

Ponies must be registered with their respective Breed Society Stud Books to compete in Mountain & Moorland Classes.

- 173.** Part-breds are NOT eligible.
- 174.** Applications for registrations must be accompanied by a copy of the Breed Society Certificate/Passport.
- 175.** All IPS Mountain & Moorland Classes are open to Mares, Stallions and Geldings with the exception of Lead Rein and First Ridden classes in which Stallions may not compete.

All stallions must have obtained prior permission from IPS Council to compete at an IPS or IPS Affiliated Show. Riders must have attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year when riding stallions not exceeding 137.2cms. Stallions in excess of 137.2cms must be ridden by riders who have attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year.

176. Breed Society Numbers must be stated when entering Mountain & Moorland classes.
177. In all Mountain & Moorland classes, ponies are restricted to the height limits laid down by their appropriate Breed Societies.

Breed Standards for all Welsh ponies competing overseas: -

Section A	121.9cms
Sections B & C	137.2cms

Connemara Ponies competing in Mountain & Moorland Classes must not exceed 148cms in order to conform with Breed standards. This height restriction does not affect all Connemara Classes or any other Classes.

178. Judges MUST penalise ponies that have been excessively clipped or trimmed. Ponies MUST not be plaited.
179. **Tack:** as per usual classes.
180. Adults who are eligible to compete under class specifications may only ride or school ponies on which they are competing at Shows. However, ponies 133cms and under may be ridden in by Rider Members not exceeding 16 years on 1st January of the current year.

OPEN MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND/PURE BREEDS CLASSES

181. **Open Mountain & Moorland Lead Rein Class.** For mares and geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Riders not to have attained their 8th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class at the same show on the same day with the exception of any other Lead Rein, Beginner First Ridden, Working Hunter Lead Rein and Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes.
182. **Open Mountain & Moorland Beginner First Ridden.** For mares and geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 123cms. Riders not to have attained their 9th birthday on 1st January of current year. Riders in this class may not compete in any other class with the exception of any other Lead Rein and Beginner Cradle Stakes Classes. There are no restrictions to how many years a rider can compete in the Beginner Classes, however, must adhere to age restrictions.
183. **Open Mountain & Moorland First Ridden Class.** For mares and geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 128cms. Riders not to have attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year. The same combination of pony and rider riding 123cms pony may not compete in any other class for ponies exceeding 123cms at the same show on the same day. Ponies exceeding 123cms but not exceeding 128cms may compete in the Novice/Open 128cms Show Pony Class and M&M 128cms class.
184. **Open Mountain & Moorland Mini Championship.** Open to ponies that have been placed 1st or 2nd in Mountain & Moorland Lead Rein and Mountain & Moorland Beginner First Ridden and Mountain & Moorland First Ridden Classes.

Criteria for competing stallions in both M&M and Connemara Classes as per IPS Rules, e.g. riders must have attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year when riding stallions not exceeding 137.2cms. Stallions in excess of 137.2cms must be ridden by riders who have attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year. This applies to Classes 175-188.

185. **Open Mountain & Moorland Ridden Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 128cms. Riders any age over 5 yrs.
186. **Open Mountain & Moorland Ridden Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 128cms but not exceeding 138cms. Riders any age over 5 yrs.
187. **Open Mountain & Moorland Ridden Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 138cms. Riders any age over 5yrs.

When only one class is required, the wording is as follows:-

188. **Open Mountain & Moorland Ridden Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over. Mixed height. Riders any age over 5 yrs.
189. **Open Mountain & Moorland Ridden Championship**: Open to ponies that have been placed 1st or 2nd in the Mountain & Moorland Ridden Classes.
190. **Open Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over, not exceeding 128cms. Riders any age over 5 yrs.
191. **Open Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 128cms and not exceeding 138cms. Riders any age over 5 yrs.
192. **Open Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over, exceeding 138cms. Riders any age over 5 yrs.

When only one class is required, the wording is as follows:-

193. **Open Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Class**: For mares, stallions or geldings, 4 years old and over. Mixed height. Riders any age over 5 yrs.
194. **Open Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Pony Championship**: Open to ponies that have been placed 1st or 2nd in the Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Pony Classes.

NOVICE MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND/PURE BREEDS CLASSES

For wording of classes, see Open Mountain & Moorland/Pure Breeds Classes and substitute “NOVICE” in place of “OPEN”.

- 195.** Novice Ridden M&M Classes are confined to ponies 4-7 years old that have not gained 50 points in Ridden Connemara, Ridden M&M, Show Pony or Show Hunter Classes and all ponies 8 years and over that have not gained 30 points in any ridden class.
- 196.** Confined to ponies that have not been placed 1st at any major Show - RDS, RIHS, HOYS, Balmoral and any BSPS Championship Show.
- 197.** Novice M&M Working Hunter – confined to ponies that have not gained 50 points in Working Hunter or M&M Working Hunter Classes.

Height Dimensions of fences:

M&M ponies not exceeding 128cms:

Height & Spread - Min .470m, Max .580m.

M&M ponies not exceeding 138cms:

Height & Spread – Min .610m, Max .760m.

M&M ponies exceeding 138cms:

Height & Spread – Min .760m, Max .840m

CONNEMARA CLASSES

- 198. Novice Ridden Connemara:** Confined to ponies 4-7 years old that have not gained 50 points in Ridden Connemara, Ridden M&M, Show Pony or Show Hunter Classes and all ponies 8 years old and over that have not gained 30 points in any ridden class. Riders any age.
- 199. Open Ridden Connemara:** 4 years old and over, riders under 16 years on 1st January of current year.
- 200. Open Ridden Connemara:** 4 years old and over, riders over 16 years on 1st January of current year.
- 201. Novice Connemara Working Hunter:** Confined to ponies, 4 years old and over, that have not gained 50 points in Connemara Working Hunter, M&M Working Hunter or any Working Hunter Class excluding Performance or Performance Jumping. Riders any age.
- 202. Open Connemara Working Hunter:** 4 years old and over, riders under 16 years on 1st January of current year.
- 203. Open Connemara Working Hunter:** 4 years old and over, riders over 16 years on 1st January of current year.

Recommended height of fences:-

- Open Connemara WHP as per Open 143cms WHP
Min .840m, Max .99m. Spread: Min .840m Max 1.065m
- Novice Connemara WHP as per Novice 143cms WHP
Min .685m, Max .840m. Spread: Min .685m, Max .840m

Criteria for competing stallions in both M&M and Connemara Classes as per IPS Rules, e.g. Riders must have attained their 12th birthday on 1st January of current year when riding stallions not exceeding 137.2cms. Stallions in excess of 137.2cms must be ridden by riders who have attained their 14th birthday on 1st January of current year and permission must have been granted by the IPS Council prior to the pony competing.

YOUNG HANDLER CLASSES

The following Classes are to be judged under the following headings: -

- Control of pony
- Skill in showing animal in walk, trot and stand for confirmation
- Courtesy and Sportsmanship
- Turnout and attire of both handler and animal
- Knowledge of breeding of animal and potential

Ponies entered in these Classes may also entered in their relevant Riding Classes on the same day.

204. Young Handlers Class is for ponies, 4 years old and over, to be shown In-Hand by children from two age categories:

- a) 8 to under 13 years on 1st January of current year
- b) 13 to 17 years

Handlers must wear the correct dress, with the correct jacket for their chosen category, including the recommended hat.

The marking sheet will include the types of pony, i.e. Show Pony and Show Hunter Pony.

ASSOCIATE HORSE CLASSES

IPS Affiliated Shows may run Associate Horse Classes in the following categories:

- a) **Associate Show Hunter** and b) **Associate Working Hunter**

Competitors in IPS Associate Classes must have achieved their 18th birthday on 1st January of current year.

The same combination cannot compete in both the Pony Section and the Associate Horse Classes at the same show on the same day.

205. All competitors in these Classes must:-

- a) be IPS members and their animals registered with the Society **OR**
- b) take temporary membership and registration on the day of the Show, paying the excess amount above the entry fee as per Rule 3a, 3b and 3c.

In all Associate Horse Classes, animals may be ridden by the Judge. In the Working Hunter section, this will be in Phase 2. When this happens, marks out of 20 will be awarded.

The method of judging shall be under IPS Show Hunter/Working Hunter Rules, namely numbers **221-234**, replacing the word “PONY” with “HORSE” where relevant.

Spurs are allowed. Passports must be available for inspection and animals may be measured.

A Points System is in operation as set out below:

	<u>Open Classes</u>	<u>Novice Classes</u>
1st Prize	6	4
2nd Prize	5	3
3rd Prize	4	2
4th Prize	3	1

A horse will be deemed to be Open when it has attained 30 points.

ASSOCIATE SHOW HUNTER

- 206. Heavyweight:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying over 14 stones.
- 207. Middleweight:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old of over, capable of carrying over 12 stones 7lb but not exceeding 14 stones.
- 208. Lightweight:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, capable of carrying up to 12 stones 7lb.
- 209. Small:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, exceeding 148cms but not exceeding 158cms.
- 210. Cobs:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, exceeding 148cms but not exceeding 155cms.
- 211. Coloured:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, exceeding 148cms.

ASSOCIATE WORKING HUNTER

- 212. Novice:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, exceeding 158cms, that have not achieved 30 SJI points, 10 novice points in Horse Trials, or been a previous winner of a Performance Class at either the Balmoral Show or RDS Horse Show as at 1st January of current year.

Fences to be no higher than 1 metre with a maximum spread of 1 metre.

- 213. Open:** Mares or geldings, 4 years old or over, exceeding 158cms, that have attained 150 or over SJI points in Show Jumping or have achieved advanced level in Horse Trials as at 1st January of current year.

Fences to be no higher than 1.20 metre with a maximum spread of 1.20 metre.

JUDGING OF CLASSES

- 214.** The elements when judging are Manners, Conformation, Movement, Type and Way of Going. A Judge may ask for a pony to leave the ring if, in his opinion, the pony's manners are unacceptable. Manners are considered very important by this Society, but Judges must not be confused by a form of obedience which is not consistent with proper training, schooling, riding and correct balance. Forced movement, stiffness, poor mouthing, etc., can often go unnoticed.

Judges are reminded that no outside assistance is allowed as ponies may be disqualified.

Attendants are not allowed to enter the ring until their pony has completed its individual show, except with the express permission of the Judge.

- 215.** Judges judging IPS classes at a show may not adjudicate in a class if he/she has bred, sold leased, produced or received financial gain (stud fees excepted) from an exhibit in that class. The onus is on the exhibitor not to contravene this Rule provided that the Judge's name has been published. Judges should not judge a pony owned, produced, led or ridden by a relative. If a Judge finds that an animal has come before him which contravenes any section of this Rule, the Judge should ask the Steward to request the exhibitor to withdraw from the ring. However, to facilitate exhibitors, a substitute IPS Panel Judge may adjudicate that one class. Only where a Judge's name is not available can a substitute IPS Panel Judge be considered to adjudicate. **This Rule does not apply where the Judge has instructed a rider or pony at an approved IPS Training Clinic.**

- 216.** Once a Judge has commenced judging a class, no pony may be taken out of the ring without the permission of the Judge. Once a class has commenced, there shall be no change of rider, except in a Championship class when a competitor finds that he has more than one exhibit eligible to compete. A substitute rider may be used. However, this rider must be the correct age for the height of pony being ridden. This also applies when a rider is competing in another section at the time of the Championship.

Should there be a pony eligible to compete in a Championship/Supreme Championship in which a Judge has/had an interest, that Judge must stand down.

- 217.** If, in the opinion of a Judge or Judges, a pony is considered to be unsound, the exhibitor shall be given the option of withdrawing the exhibit from the class or asking that the official Veterinary Surgeon should examine the animal. The Veterinary Surgeon's decision shall be final and, if such a decision is to the effect that the animal is unsound, then the same shall be deemed withdrawn.

- 218.** Competitors are under the adjudication of the Judge from entry to the ring until the Class is finished. A Class is deemed to have finished when all Rosettes have been presented and the Judge has dismissed the Class.

However, riders may leave the ring for another class at the Judge's discretion, provided the individual and collective performances have been completed. The pony must remain in the ring held by an individual over 16 years of age. Riders must return to their pony in time for the final line-up without delaying the class in any way and, in Working Hunter Pony Classes, competitors must enter the ring mounted when called for the final line-up or they will forfeit their prize.

- 219.** Classes at Affiliated Shows must be judged by a Judge on a panel recognised by the Irish Pony Society. In the Working Hunter Pony Classes, the organisers of a show, if they so desire, may appoint separate Judges for Phases 1 and 2. However, in all IPS run shows (including Area Shows), Phase 2 must be judged as a class and not individually.

In all cases, the Judge's decision is final.

SHOW PONY CLASSES

- 220.a)** Lead Rein Ponies must be led on a loose rein attached to the noseband. They must be led by persons aged 16 years and over. Snaffle bridles with suitable snaffle bits MUST be used - see page 22. Balancing straps are permitted.
- b)** First Ridden Ponies should only walk and trot as a class. Canter is optional and is ONLY allowed in individual performances and Championship. Snaffle bridles with suitable snaffle bits must be used. Ponies must leave the ring at a walk or a trot.
- c)** Beginner First Ridden – on the “go round” ponies may be asked to change the rein. In their individual shows, ponies will be expected to walk up, trot back, cantering is optional and a figure of eight may be requested. In this class, the Judge will be looking for a pony suitable to take its rider safely off the lead rein at all times.
- d)** Ponies in Lead Rein, Beginner and First Ridden classes must not be stripped.
- e)** 128cms, 138cms and 148cms ponies may be galloped but only singly in their individual shows.
- f)** Novice Ponies must be shown in snaffle bridles with suitable snaffle bits. In ALL classes, if unlisted or unapproved bits are used, Judges will take into consideration the severity of the bit and mark/place ponies accordingly.

SHOW HUNTER PONY CLASSES

- 221.a)** Show Hunter Lead Rein Ponies must be led on a loose rein attached to the noseband. They must be led by persons aged 16 years and over. Snaffle bridles with approved simple snaffle bits MUST be used. Balancing straps are permitted.
- b)** Show Hunter First Ridden Ponies should only walk and trot as a class. Canter is optional and is ONLY allowed in individual performances. Snaffle bridles with approved simple snaffle bits MUST be used.

- c) Beginner First Ridden – on the “go round” ponies may be asked to change the rein. In their individual shows, ponies will be expected to walk up, trot back, cantering is optional and figure of eight may be requested. In this class, the Judge will be looking for a pony suitable to take its rider safely off the lead rein at all times.
- d) Ponies in Show Hunter Lead Rein, Beginner and First Ridden classes must not be stripped.

222. 123cms Show Hunter Ponies and Show Starter Stakes ponies may be galloped only in their individual shows.

133cms, 143cms and 153cms ponies may be galloped as a Class if conditions permit.

In a Show Hunter Pony Championship, ponies may be galloped as a Class. Novice Ponies must be shown in snaffle bridles with suitable snaffle bits. In ALL classes, if unlisted or unapproved bits are used, Judges will take into consideration the severity of the bit and mark/place accordingly.

WORKING HUNTER PONY CLASSES

223. Cradle and Working Starter Stakes ponies may be galloped only in their individual shows. 133cms, 143cms and 153cms ponies may be galloped as a class if conditions permit. In a Working Hunter Pony Championship ponies may be galloped as a class.

224. No change of saddlery is allowed during competition with the exception of overreach boots and/or tendon boots, which may be used for Phase 1 only.

BANDAGES are not allowed.

SPURS are not allowed.

Whips not to exceed 75cms.

Running martingales only are permitted but Judges should pay particular attention to their effectiveness. Any suitable noseband is acceptable.

a) In Novice Working Hunter Classes, a snaffle bit combined with a suitable noseband must be used, otherwise 15 penalty points will be deducted from the score in phase 1 – see page 22.

b) In all Classes, Judges will take into consideration the severity of the bit and mark/place accordingly.

225. Riders may walk the course accompanied by an adult. In Novice Classes, the course may be inspected mounted, except at the Championship Show where all inspections will be made on foot – ponies are not allowed in the arena. In Open Classes, only Novice ponies may inspect the course whilst mounted. No animals are allowed to practice over any part of the course before the commencement of any of the classes.

- 226.** No person other than the Judge, the Course Builder or Course Designer appointed by the Show is permitted to alter the course. It is the Judge's responsibility to check the course before the class commences to confirm that it complies with the Rules and Recommendations of the Society.

The Judge, Course Builder or Course Designer may alter the course during the competition in exceptional weather conditions.

Combination Fences – Double and Trebles

- 227.** Each element of a combination fence must be marked individually and NOT COLLECTIVELY. If a pony has a refusal at a subsequent element AFTER having jumped the 1st or 2nd element of a combination, he keeps his ORIGINAL marks for these jumps despite having to retake them to complete the whole combination. However, if he then incurs further faults at any element, he must be given the usual penalties. Bounce fences are NOT permitted.
- 228.** Any pony taking the wrong Course or jumping another fence after completing the Course will be eliminated.
- 229.** The Jumping Phase will be completed first and any pony eliminated will not be eligible to continue the competition.

Marking and Penalties

230. Phase 1

Performance and way of going over and between the fences, manners and suitability.

Scoring: 0-10 marks for each jump; 0-20 marks for way of going
Divide total by two and then subtract penalties

Fall of Rider: Elimination

Phase 2

45 marks: 0-10 marks for Manners
 0-10 marks for Performance
 0-10 marks for Conformation
 0-10 marks for Movement
 0-5 marks for Type

Manners and performance marks include "way of going" and manners in company. Conformation and movement marks include quality and soundness.

Fall of Rider: Elimination

Penalties in Phase 1

1 st Refusal, run out	-	15 penalties
2 nd Refusal, run out	-	20 penalties
3 rd Refusal, run out	-	Elimination

When a pony jumps after a refusal, he is marked in the usual way. At the judge's discretion, competitors that have been eliminated may jump one fence before leaving the arena.

Knock-down: 10 penalties

(The height or width of a fence must be altered to constitute a knock-down)

Premature departure from the arena at any time during the competition – Elimination

15 marks will be deducted in Novice Working Hunter Pony Classes if a snaffle bridle with suitable snaffle bit is not worn.

- 231.** In the event of a tie after Phase 2, the competitor with the highest jumping marks from Phase 1 is placed highest. In the case of a further tie, the Judge's decision is final.
- 232.** If a mistake in the marks is discovered, even after dismissing a class, it **MUST** be corrected and the results and any qualification amended accordingly. Also, a correct place rosette must be awarded to any rider that had been incorrectly placed. Other rosettes should not be altered.
- 233.** It is the Judge/Judges' responsibility to check that the marks are correct before ponies are placed.
- 234.** If a mistake is discovered before the Championship takes place, the correct pony should partake in the Championship.

RULES FOR JUDGES

- 235.** Judges should use their own discretion regarding the number of judging appointments undertaken each season. However, all Judges are encouraged to take up at least three appointments each year. Judging at more than one Show in the same category in the same county each year should be avoided, as should judging at more than one Qualifier for a particular Championship each year.
- 236.** Judges should judge in their correct category only, i.e. if they are on the panel for Ridden Show Ponies only, they should not judge any other category. Judges should also be fully conversant with the Rules of the category in which they are judging.
- Qualification for any major Championship **MUST** be awarded in the ring.
- 237.** Judges should not arrive late for classes.
- 238.** Judges should not judge a pony which they have bred, owned, produced or in which they have/have had a financial or social/professional interest. **This Rule does not apply where the Judge has instructed a rider or pony at an approved IPS Training Clinic.**
- 239.** When invited by a Show to judge, the Judge should advise the Show Secretary of his/her availability without delay.
- 240.** If, having accepted a judging engagement, a Judge is for some reason unable to attend, it is his/her responsibility to produce a replacement Panel Judge. However, for Championship and Area Shows, the procuring Judge must clear his/her replacement with the organising committee.
- 241.** Judges should be absolutely impartial and be seen to be so.
- 242.** Judges must attend a Judges' Seminar at least once every three years.
- 243.** Judges who fail in observance of the IPS Rules or whose conduct in any respect shall be, in the opinion of the IPS Council, derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the IPS, may be suspended or removed from the Panel of Judges at any time by the IPS Council.
- Judges should carry the IPS Rule Book at all times and be totally familiar with the Rules governing the section they are judging and comply therewith. Judges must **NOT** misinterpret the Rules.
- 244.** Judges are asked to fully concentrate on the Class they are judging and not be distracted by other influences, such as mobile phones or what is happening in another ring, etc.
- 245.** If a pony competes in two different categories, i.e. Beginner First Ridden/First Ridden, Starter Stakes and 133cms OR 153cms and Intermediate Classes at the same show on the same day, Judges must adhere to the correct type when judging the class.

246. At present, the recommended mileage allowance for Judge's travel expenses is 47c per kilometre up to a maximum of €130 PER CAR. However, this amount may alter from time-to-time as determined by Council.

ASSESSMENT OF CANDIDATES FOR ENTRY TO THE JUDGES PANEL

Applicants for Judges Assessment must have attained their 24th birthday on 1st January of relevant year and be a current Member of the Society prior to applying for assessment.

GUIDELINES AND ADVICE FOR JUDGES

Judges on the Society's Panel are appointed by the Council of the IPS Irish Pony Society Company Limited annually for a period of one year only and all Judges must be paid-up Members of the IPS Irish Pony Society Company Limited.

Judges shall familiarise themselves with and comply with the Regulations and Recommendations of the IPS. Infringements of any regulations may, at the discretion of the Council, mean removal of a Judge from the Panel.

Judges must ensure that their mobile phones are turned off while in the ring.

Judges should carry the IPS Rule Book when judging. It is essential to have a Rule Book for reference if any questions or problems on Rules arise.

The Judge, on entering the ring, should confirm with the Steward the number of awards to be given in each class.

Judges are asked to read their Schedule carefully and judge accordingly. They must, of course, NEVER see a Catalogue or allow their Steward to give information as to the ownership, previous winners, etc, from the Catalogue.

Marks must be recorded immediately after the pony's round or show. Judges decisions are final except if a mistake has been discovered, even after dismissing a Class when marks and results must be corrected and a correct placed rosette awarded and any qualifications amended. A Judge also has the right to alter marks if a pony misbehaves after its marks have been awarded. All alterations must be initialled by the Judge at the time.

Judges are reminded that, at all times, ponies MUST be judged on the day; yesterday's Champion may give a disastrous performance today!

The Society would be grateful if all Judges would bear in mind the fact that, while they are asked not to address exhibitors by name, they must at all times be courteous to ALL those in each class.

The Council reserves the right to accept or reject any person/persons to the Judges Panel. Judges should note that they are covered by IPS insurance only when judging at IPS and IPS Affiliated Shows.

JUDGES MAY NOT RIDE THE PONIES

In all Ridden Pony Classes (with the exception of Lead Rein, Beginners and First Ridden Classes) at Area and Championship Shows, prizewinning ponies should be stripped where time permits and where any doubts exist. Nevertheless, it is not necessary in all cases. Working Hunter Ponies should be inspected as in other Show Classes for type, conformation, quality and substance as applicable to Working Hunter Ponies. When time is limited, however, and ponies are not stripped, it is essential that Judges see the ponies trotted towards and away from them.

Working Hunter Pony Marking Sheets will be supplied by the IPS to all IPS Affiliated Shows. All Judges are requested to explain the correct method of filling in the sheets to the Marker/Scribe and it is advisable to have the marks checked before the final placings are made.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RUNNING OF CLASSES

Riders and owners of competing ponies and under penalty of elimination must obey any reasonable request or direction given to them by a Judge, Steward or Official and they must, in particular, be careful not to do anything liable to upset or hinder the undisturbed progress or safety of the competition.

Riders, owners or their representative must not enter the ring once a class has commenced. Judges, at their own discretion, can give feedback to the riders after a class had been dismissed and before the commencement of the next class provided it is not delayed in so doing. Feedback may be given when the relevant Judge has completed his/her duties but must not be approached in an aggressive manner – Judges must be treated with respect at all times. All other queries must be directed to the Show Secretary. Exhibitors must not approach the Judge or Scribe to view Marking Sheets. These, once signed by the Judge, can be viewed when received in the Secretary's office. Whenever possible, the carbon copy of the scores for Phase 1 should be displayed before the commencement of Phase 2.

Late Arrivals

Late arrivals may be allowed to enter a class at the Judge's discretion provided the class is still at the "walk round" stage and has NOT commenced to trot.

Breeding and Youngstock

Judges are asked to note that, when judging ponies in-hand, ALL ponies should be trotted one at a time around the ring. They should then be called into line and judged individually for straightness of movement as well as for conformation, etc.

NO HIND SHOES ARE ALLOWED IN BREEDING & YOUNGSTOCK CLASSES.

Bits MUST be worn by all ponies, one year old and over.

In the interests of safety, ponies entered in these classes must always be shown by a **competent** handler over 16 years on 1st January of current year. Handlers aged 14 or 15 years on 1st January of current year may also lead ponies in Youngstock classes when a written request has been submitted to Council and subsequently agreed for that year. Handlers aged 14 and 15 years may not lead colts or stallions with the exception of colt foals. The pony may be led off a leather or chain coupling attached to both sides of the bit or directly off the noseband.

Riding Classes for Show Ponies and Show Hunter Ponies

Collect and proceed to walk around the ring on the right rein. Ponies arriving after the “walk around” should NEVER be admitted to the class.

In classes other than Lead Rein, Beginner and First Ridden ponies, the exhibits should trot and canter on the same rein, then change rein at walk or trot and work on the other rein. The class should then be brought to a walk and ponies called in singly in an orderly fashion. At this stage, where there is a large class, Judges MUST survey their back line to confirm their opinion and this section of the class, if not required further, should then be allowed to leave the ring. Judges must not let chaos prevail in the back line nor leave ponies wandering around the ring.

Those remaining will then perform their individual shows, strip and be trotted up for conformation, type and movement, etc. They should be re-saddled, mounted and finally placed from the line or following a short walk or trot around, if this is required to make a final selection.

Working Hunter Classes

Courses for the Open Working Hunter Classes at all Area and Championship Shows will be up to height, taking into account the ground conditions on the day of the Show.

Checking the Course:

No person, other than the Judge, the Course Builder or Course Designer appointed by the Show, is permitted to alter the Course. It is the Judge's responsibility to check the course before the class commences to confirm that it complies with the Rules and Recommendations of the Society and sign check list provided.

Phase 1

Jumping Performance:

Over an INVITING course, designed to encourage good free jumping, the pony using itself in the correct style over its fences.

Manners, Suitability and Way of Going:

The pony must be suitable for the child who is riding it. It should have a steady head carriage with no resistance to the rider's hand, have sufficient impulsion and yet be balanced and rhythmical throughout the course. An even canter should be maintained where at all possible as any break in the pace will spoil the fluency of the round, but excessive speed is not desirable. A Judge may ask a pony/rider to leave the ring if, in his/her opinion, the pony's manners are unacceptable.

Faults:

The usual faults such as refusals and knock-downs, will be penalised but a pony that jumps a clear round in BAD STYLE will be unlikely to feature in Phase 2. On the other hand, a pony with very good style but which incurs a fault could reach Phase 2. Naturally, the ideal is a fluent clear round in good style.

Order of Jumping:

The Steward is to send the ponies into the ring in the order he has them on his list or in programme order and those missing their turn should be relegated to the end of the class.

Knowing the Course:

It is the responsibility of the competitor to know the course and, on entering the ring, should merely ride up to the Judge's Marker to announce his number. If practical, the Gate Steward may inform the Marker instead, in which case the procedure is quicker.

Selection of Ponies for Phase 2:

This would depend on the number of Rosettes offered but allowance will be made for possible elimination in Phase 2, e.g. unsoundness. However, where jumping performances have been very close, more ponies will be justified in Phase 2.

Exhibitors may compete two ponies with the same rider in the same height category when competing at a Show. However, only one pony will be placed in the final line-up.

OFFICIAL MARKING SHEETS MUST BE USED and are available from the Secretary.

Phase 2

Test for Manners in Company and Movement:

The ponies recalled for this Phase are worked together at the walk, trot and canter and, where conditions permit, they will be galloped in accordance with Rule 223 (Judging of Classes). For reasons of safety, galloping must be carried out with discipline and control. Excessive speed may be penalised. Animals must be capable of doing an individual show.

They must lead freely in-hand and the rider must perform this in the correct way and then stand the pony up in front of the Judges. A Judge may ask a pony/rider to leave the ring if, in his opinion, the pony's manners are unacceptable.

In all classes, it is desirable that all ponies should give an individual show but in Novice Classes, it may be necessary to dispense with this if time is restricted. Phase 2 marks will then be awarded and FINAL PLACINGS CAN BE MADE.

SUMMING UP SHEET (PHASE 2):

This is used for animals recalled to Phase 2. It is also the Results Sheet and should be sent to the IPS office IMMEDIATELY after the Show is over. The carbon copy of this sheet will be available to exhibitors.

Working Hunter Pony Courses

247. **Courses**: Must have a minimum of EIGHT fences and include changes of direction and spreads. Originally is to be encouraged in the use of fair hunting type fences.

BOUNCE FENCES ARE NOT PERMITTED

ONLY ONE OXER MAY BE USED IN A COMBINATION

NO CROSS POLES ALLOWED IN THE OPEN WORKING HUNTER LEAD REIN CLASS

a) **Open Courses**: At least one correctly spaced double is expected. Water should be included where possible and a treble may be used especially where the standard is expected to be high.

b) **Novice Courses**: May include a double and/or treble.

248. **Starter Stakes**: Must have eight fences but may include a double only.

249. **Cradle Stakes**: Must have eight fences but may include a double only.

250. **Water Tray/Jump**:

Cradle Stakes course must not include either a water tray or water jump. Courses for Starter Stakes and higher may use a water tray and/or a water jump/hazard. The water tray for Starter Stakes must not exceed 24”.

251. Practice Fences: Course-builders should ensure that practice fences are flagged with red and white flags and that practice fences do not exceed the maximum height for the competition in progress. The practice fence must be jumped in the direction in which it is flagged, i.e. red flag on the right and white flag on the left. It is forbidden to jump a practice fence in the opposite direction. Poles and other elements of fences/obstacles must be held by fence wings and supported **ONLY** by pole cups. Safety cups **MUST** be used for the back wings of all spreads. A maximum of two persons over the age of 16 are allowed in the warm-up arena with each competing rider. A Groom Safe Zone with barriers should be erected between the practice fences for grooms to remain until required to safely adjust fence heights. Riders are not permitted to wear hoodies in the warm-up arena or while mounted at competitions.

Where flags are used on a course, please note that the red one is passed to the right-hand side of the competitor and the white one to the left.

Starting and Finishing: The rider may be allowed one circle before commencing and after finishing his round. The **START** and **FINISH** should be clearly marked on the Course

WORKING HUNTER PONY COURSES

Dimensions of Fences, Spreads & Water

<u>OPEN CLASSES</u>	<u>HEIGHTS</u>	<u>SPREADS</u>
Lead Rein (no cross poles)	Min .150m (0'6") Max .300m (1'0")	N/A N/A
Beginner Cradle Stakes	Min .300m (1'0") Max .455m (1'6")	N/A N/A
Cradle Stakes	Min .455m (1'6") Max .610m (2'0")	.455m (1'6") .760m (2'3")
Starter Stakes	Min .610m (2'0") Max .760m (2'6")	.530m (1'9") .840m (2'9")
133cms WHP	Min .760m (2'6") Max .915m (3'0")	.685m (2'3") .990m (3'3")
143cms WHP	Min .840 (2'9") Max .990m (3'3")	.840m (2'9") 1.065m (3'6")
153cms WHP	Min .915m (3'0") Max 1.065m (3'6")	.990m (3'3") 1.220m (4'0")

<u>OPEN INTERMEDIATE</u>	<u>HEIGHTS</u>	<u>SPREADS</u>
	Min .990m (3'3")	1.965m (3'6")
	Max 1.140m (3'9")	1.220m (4'0")
<u>NOVICE INTERMEDIATE</u>	Min .840 (2'9")	.840m (2'9")
	Max .990m (3'3")	.990m (3'3")
<u>NOVICE CLASSES</u>		
133cms WHP	Min .610 (2'0")	.610m (2'0")
	Max .760 (2'6")	.760m (2'6")
143cms WHP	Min .685m (2'3")	.685m (2'3")
	Max .840 (2'9")	.840m (2'9")
153cms WHP	Min .760m (2'6")	.760m (2'6")
	Max .915m (3'0")	.915m (3'0")
Novice Starter Stakes	Min .455m (2'6")	.455, (1'6")
	Max .610m (2'0")	.760m (2'6")
<u>WATER WIDTH</u>		
133cms WHP	1.830m	6'0"
143cms WHP	2.440m	8'0"
153cms WHP	3.050m	10'0"
<u>INTERMEDIATE WHP</u>	3.050m	10'0"
<u>CONNEMARA CLASSES</u>		
Open Connemara Classes	Min .840m (2'9")	.840m (2'9")
	Max .990m (3'3")	1.065m (3'6")
Novice Connemara Classes	Min .685m (2'3")	.685m (2'3")
	Max .840m (2'9")	.840m (2'9")
<u>MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND CLASSES</u>		
<u>NOVICE CLASSES</u>		
Not exceeding 128cms	Min .470m	Max .580m
Not exceeding 138cms	Min .610m	Max .690m
Exceeding 138cms	Min .760m	Max .840m
<u>OPEN CLASSES</u>		
Not exceeding 128cms	Min .530m	Max .740m
Not exceeding 138cms	Min .690m	Max .840m
Exceeding 139cms	Min .840m	Max .990m

AFFILIATED SHOWS

- 252.** The Council reserves the sole right to appoint Affiliation Secretaries. Recommendations may be made to the IPS office.
- 253.** Any show wishing to affiliate to the IPS must abide by the Rules of the IPS and provide satisfactory evidence of insurance. IPS Affiliated Shows must have qualified medical personnel on site before the show commences.
- 254.** The schedules must state that the Show is affiliated to the IPS. This means that all persons entering, competing, showing or otherwise taking part in IPS Classes, whether or not members of the IPS, are subject to the Constitution and Rules of the IPS, including the disciplinary procedures and measurement of ponies and shall be deemed to have consented to the jurisdiction of the IPS.
- a)** The full text of foregoing Rule 253 will be included in the schedules of Affiliated Shows.
- 255.** A copy of the previous year's schedule together with any proposed alterations must be submitted to the IPS office at least six weeks prior to the date of the show for approval together with the completed affiliation form and appropriate fee. A copy of the final schedule should also be sent for approval.
- Points will only be counted from Shows held between 1st March and 30th September of relevant year. No points will be awarded from 1st October to last day of February.
- 256.** If Affiliated Shows have any doubts or problems regarding IPS matters, or find it difficult to obtain a Judge, the Chairman of the Judges Committee will be pleased to give every possible assistance.
- 257.** Shows must choose judges for the IPS Affiliated Classes from either the IPS Panel or a Panel recognised by the IPS. The following Panels are recognised by the IPS - BSPS, NPS, WPCS and the CPBS (for relevant classes). Individuals who are on other Panels may be considered but they must make a written application to the Judges Chairman who will present their case to Council.
- 258.** Where possible, objections, other than those relating to height, should be made to the IPS Show Secretary and dealt with on the day of the Show.

AREA COMMITTEES

Where geographically convenient, Area Committees may be formed.

The aims and objectives of these Committees are as follows: -

- i) To further the interests of the IPS at local level
- ii) To seek and enrol new members
- iii) To liaise with members on behalf of the IPS
- iv) To organise training for members in their Area
- v) To help Shows run affiliated classes
- vi) To liaise with the Affiliation Secretary for the Area to ensure the Show's cooperation regarding matters relating to affiliation
- vii) To raise money to further IPS activities in the Area including the provision of a set of Working Hunter Pony fences for hire or loan and any other equipment as may be necessary for the running of Shows
- viii) To encourage people to assist Course-builders
- ix) To organise "get-together" evenings to give members an opportunity to discuss all aspects of pony showing
- x) To help at Measuring Centres and other IPS activities

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AREA COMMITTEES

- a) Each Area Committee shall have a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and not less than six but not more than nine other members, all or whom shall be paid-up members of the IPS at a fee as determined by the Council from time to time. Membership must be paid by 28th/29th February of each year. This Rule may be altered at the discretion of the Council.
- b) The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are to be appointed annually from amongst the committee members.
- c) The Chairperson of each Area Committee shall be appointed by the IPS Council in the first instance and, thereafter, by the Area Committee but such appointment is to be approved by the Council.
- d) One-third of the elected members for the time being shall retire annually from office in rotation but shall be eligible for re-election without nomination.
- e) The Committee has the power to co-opt a maximum of three members to fill casual vacancies, such members being eligible for election at the next Annual General Meeting.
- f) The Council reserves the right to appoint a member of Council to attend Area Meetings as an additional member of the Area Committee.
- g) The Area Committee shall meet as and when required.
- h) An Area Committee cannot make decisions or pass resolutions on Policy or Rules of the IPS but may submit suggestions to the IPS Secretary for consideration by the Council. The Council may, if it so wishes, accept or reject any suggestions after due consideration.

- i) Area Committees are encouraged to organise money-raising efforts to further the objectives of the IPS. The IPS will not accept any responsibility for any debts incurred by an Area Committee.
- j) Each Area Committee must ensure that all persons entering, competing or otherwise taking part in Shows organised by that Area Committee are either paid-up members or daily members.
- k) Area Committees must be self-financing, maintain a proper financial account and have a bank account in the name of the IPS followed by the Area name. Cheques drawn on such account to be signed by any two of the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer. An audited copy of the Balance Sheet, along with a list of officers and elected members of the Committee for the ensuing year must be sent to the IPS Secretary within one month of the Area AGM. Contributions, as shall be determined by the Council, in respect of Third-Party Liability insurance for all functions organised by an Area Committee must be forwarded to the IPS Secretary or Treasurer at least one month before such function or event takes place.
- l) Any Area Committee member or officer may be removed at the discretion of the IPS Council in accordance with Article 8 in the Articles of Association of the IPS Irish Pony Society Company Ltd., and any Area Committee may be disbanded if, in the opinion of the Council, the Aims and Objectives and Terms of Reference are not adhered to or if it considers that any Area Committee is causing the IPS to be brought into disrepute.
- m) In the event of the disbandment of an Area Committee, any funds, equipment and/or property accumulated by such Committee shall be forwarded to the IPS Council.
- n) The financial year for an Area shall end on 31st October. The Annual General Meeting of each or any Area must be held within one month of the end of the financial year. The Annual General Meeting shall be called by twenty-one days' notice in writing at the least. This notice shall be exclusive of the day on which it is served or deemed to be served and of the day for which it is given and shall specify the place, the day and the hour of the meeting.
- o) Area Committees may operate their own Facebook page. However, they must adhere to all the Guidelines of the IPS Social Media and Internet Policy.

ENQUIRY STEWARDS

- 259.(i)** On the day of an IPS or IPS Affiliated Show, either the Show Secretary, the designated IPS Official of the show or the IPS Delegate shall assume the role of Enquiry Steward (the “Steward”). The decision as to who is to assume this role will be made by the IPS Area Committee prior to the date of the event in question and upon the agreement of the person chosen to fulfil the role. The name of the Steward may be published in the relevant show’s schedule. The Steward will have jurisdiction on the date of that show to regulate, control, take cognisance of and adjudicate upon the conduct of all Officials, Judges, Members, Owners and any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules attending at the show and will also have jurisdiction to hand down penalties at his/her discretion to any of the aforementioned individuals attending at the show for any breach of these Rules, or breaches of conditions contained in the Articles of Association of the IPS. The Steward will also have the power to listen to complaints from Members, Judges, Officials or Owners relating to their fellow Members or to any Judge or Official or Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules present at an IPS or IPS Affiliated event and where the Steward deems the complaint to have merit, to investigate same and deal with the matter as he sees fit within the remit of these Rules. The Enquiry Steward or Show Organiser may, at his/her discretion, appoint a Secretary for the purposes of assisting.
- (ii)** When the Steward is investigating an alleged breach of a Rule or complaint against a Member, Official, Judge, Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules, that individual in question will be called before the Steward, (and a secretary to the Steward who may be appointed by the Show Organiser or Enquiry Steward who may be present to take a note of the meeting between the Steward and the individual in question), on the date of the show in question and given an opportunity to put forward their own oral submissions regarding the alleged Rule breach or complaint made. Junior Members must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or appropriate adult in loco parentis at all times in such a situation. The Steward will give the individual in question his or her decision as to whether he or she feels that individual should be penalised within one (1) hour of hearing submissions and will send a report on the matter to the IPS office and the matter will be recorded in the IPS Disciplinary Record Book. The IPS office will, in turn, send a copy of the Steward’s written report and decision to the individual in question as soon as it is practicable.
- (iii)** The Steward will have power to impose the following penalties, where he or she feels it is necessary to do so, on the individuals listed in (ii) above on the day of a show:-
- a) admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct
 - b) disqualify such person from further participation at the show
 - c) fine such a Member up to a maximum amount of €300. If the fine is not paid within fourteen (14) days, the Member in question and any horses or ponies of which they are the registered owner will automatically be suspended from the IPS for a period of thirty (30) days unless the Council feels there is a compelling reason for the member not paying in a timely fashion. (If the penalised person intends to appeal the decision of the Steward to the Referrals and Complaints Committee under the procedure outlined

below, the fine must still be paid but will be refunded upon any Steward's decision being overturned)

- d) direct that such person being a Member shall be suspended for such a period of time, not exceeding three (3) calendar months, as the Enquiry Steward shall determine and that such a Member shall forfeit the rights and privileges of membership of the IPS for the duration of that time period including, but not limited to, disqualification from the competition for which the penalty arose on the day of penalisation and any further competitions that the Member was entered for on the day of penalisation (after the penalty of suspension has been handed down by the Enquiry Steward), or in the future and any entries made for such further or future competitions for or on behalf of or by such a person shall be cancelled and any entry fees paid and prizemoney won shall be forfeited
 - e) no show entries will be accepted from such a Member or from any of their representatives or owners on their behalf for the course of the duration of the suspension and any entries accepted in error during this period will be deemed invalid
 - f) direct that such person shall not enter any horse or pony at any Affiliated Show or otherwise take part in any Affiliated Show for such period as it may determine not exceeding three (3) calendar months
 - g) direct that any horse or pony belonging to such a person or ridden by such a person at the time of the commission of the offence shall be disqualified from the class in which it was taking part at the time of the commission of the offence
- (iv)** Any individual penalised by a Steward at a show in this manner will have seven (7) calendar days from the date of the show in question in which to lodge an appeal of the decision in question to the Referrals and Complaints Committee. This Committee will have the full and final say in all appeals made from Stewards' decisions that are made at shows. The appeal must be lodged to the IPS office and must be accompanied by a €300 lodgement fee and any submissions the appellant intends to make.
- (v)** If any appellant is unsuccessful in their appeal they may forfeit the €300 lodgement fee and may be liable for any additional costs associated with the hearing of an appeal to include legal costs and miscellaneous costs and any other costs directly associated with the hearing of such an appeal.
- (vi)** In addition to the within powers a Steward may deal with a Rule breach by a Member, Official, Judge, Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules or complaint made by a Member, Judge, Official, Owner of any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules about another Member, Judge, Official, Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules on the day of a show where a complaint is made to the Steward or that the Steward becomes aware of a possible Rule breach by such an aforementioned individual. The Steward will have the jurisdiction to penalise any of the aforementioned individuals or any individual about whom a complaint has been made, where he or she feels it is necessary to do so, by imposing any of the penalties listed at no. 259 (iii) a) - g) above that he or she feels are appropriate under the circumstances. Where the Steward did not have an opportunity to deal with such an individual as mentioned in this Rule on the day of the Rule breach or complaint in question or where the Steward feels it is otherwise

necessary to do so, he or she may refer the matter to the Referrals and Complaints Committee as a matter of the first instance.

Where the Steward elects to deal with the situations outlined above on the day of the show where there was a possible Rule breach or where a complaint was made regarding any of the aforementioned individuals, the individual in question will be called before the Steward (and a secretary to the Steward who may be nominated by the Show Organiser or Enquiry Steward prior to the date of the show who will be present to take a note of the meeting between the Steward and the individual in question), on the date of the show in question and given an opportunity to put forward their own oral submissions regarding the alleged Rule breach or complaint made.

Junior Member must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or appropriate adult in loco parentis at all times in such a situation. The Steward will give the individual in question his or her decision as to whether he or she feels that individual should be penalised within 1 hour of hearing submissions and will send a report on the matter to the IPS office and the matter will be recorded in the IPS Disciplinary Record Book. The IPS office will, in turn, send a copy of the Steward's written report and decision to the individual in question as soon as is practicable.

- (vii) Where the Steward feels that the suspected breach of the Rules is so gross as may warrant the recommended expulsion of a Member or may involve animal cruelty, he or she shall refer the matter directly to the Referrals and Complaints Committee.

REFERRALS AND COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

- 260.** The Referrals and Complaints Committee shall have power to investigate any complaints or referrals forwarded to them in a legitimate manner as well as to hear any appeals or decisions made by an Enquiry Steward at a show. They shall also have jurisdiction to call any witnesses they feel may be pertinent to the referral or complaint in question to the hearing of the matter. The Committee may call upon such witnesses to answer questions put by the Committee. It may also call upon the complainant or his or her representative and the person complained about or his or her representatives. The Committee shall also have power to regulate, control, take cognisance of and adjudicate upon, the conduct of the person complained about during the course of the hearing.
- 261.** Hearings before the Referrals and Complaints Committee shall be presided over by the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of said Committee, appointed by the IPS Council as outlined in the Articles or Association of the IPS. If, for any reason, neither the Chairperson nor Deputy Chairperson is available to sit on a hearing, the Council may appoint a Member of the Referrals and Complaints Committee, or a Member appointed in lieu, to preside over that hearing. Quorum for the Committee shall be three (3) persons including the Chairperson. If, for any reason less than three (3) persons of the Referrals and Complaints Committee are available to sit on an Enquiry, the Council may appoint a Council Member or Members in lieu. An uneven number must always act while the Committee is sitting and in the event of a disagreement, the view of the majority shall prevail. While a referral is being heard by the

Committee, the Chairperson shall order that a written note be carefully taken of the hearing by a member of the IPS administration office or if such a person is, for any reason, not available, by one of the members of the Referrals and Complaints Committee who is sitting at the hearing. Such note shall be certified by the Chairperson as soon as practical that it represents a true and valid account of the evidence given before the Committee. This note of what occurred at the hearing shall be considered by the Appeals Committee at the hearing of any appeal.

- 262.i)** Where a Member, Judge, Official, Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules has been penalised by the Enquiry Steward at a show, that penalised person shall have a final right of appeal to the Referrals and Complaints Committee as per Rule 259(iv).
- ii) The appeal must be lodged within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the show to the IPS office and must be accompanied by a €300 lodgement fee and any submissions the appellant intends to make. This shall be known as a “valid referral”.
- iii) Upon receipt of a “valid referral” lodgement, the IPS Council will, upon consultation with the Referrals and Complaints Committee, arrange a hearing date for the appeal and alert the penalised Member and all relevant parties involved to this date by post, no later than fourteen (14) working days before the date set for the appeal. The penalised person may be accompanied if they so wish and will have an opportunity to state their case. The Referrals and Complaints Committee has the power to question the Member in question throughout the course of the appeal and may call witnesses where they feel this is necessary. All Junior Members are to be accompanied by a parent or guardian or appropriate adult in loco parentis in such a situation at all times.
- iv) In the event of such an appeal of the decision of the Enquiry Steward as outlined above, the Referrals and Complaints Committee will have the power to:-
- a) uphold the decision of the Enquiry Steward
 - b) overturn the decision of the Enquiry Steward
 - c) increase a fine handed down by the Enquiry Steward up to a limit of €1,000, (once again the penalised Member will have fourteen (14) days to pay this fine or else face thirty (30) days suspension from the IPS and its activities)
 - d) increase a suspension handed down by the Enquiry Steward up to a limit of two years.
- v) As mentioned at number 259(v) above, where an appellant is unsuccessful in their appeal they may forfeit the €300 lodgement fee and may be liable for any additional costs associated with the hearing of an appeal to the Referrals and Complaints Committee to include legal costs and miscellaneous costs and any other costs directly associated with the hearing of such an appeal.
- 263.** Where a Member who is not a Judge or Official wishes to make a complaint about another Member or any Judge or Official or any Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules or any matter involving the Society where:

- i) the matter occurred at a show, but the complainant did not have an opportunity to approach the Enquiry Steward on the date of the show in question
- ii) the matter or matters occurred otherwise than at a show, that Member may refer the matter to the Referrals and Complaints Committee upon lodging brief written submissions outlining the matters they wish to complain about and a fee of €300. Complaints about matters that occurred at a show must be lodged at the IPS office within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the show. Where the Member's complaint is not upheld, that Member shall forfeit their €300 fee and may be liable to such additional costs as may arise as a result of the hearing of the matter to include legal, scrivenary and miscellaneous costs and any other costs associated with the hearing. The Committee shall, however, have discretion to return the fee, or part thereof, to an unsuccessful Member where they feel that the complaint made was lodged for compassionate or compelling reasons or otherwise as the Committee shall see fit
- iii) costs and/or expenses incurred by the IPS Irish Pony Society Company Limited in connection with any Appeal, Referral, Enquiry or any other matter in accordance with these Rules or by the Referrals and Complaints Committee, Licensing Committee or under any other Appeal provision in relation to determining any matter, shall be paid by such person or persons and in such portions as the IPS Irish Pony Society Company Limited, the Referrals and Complaints Committee, the Licensing Committee or any Appeal Chairman may direct

264. Where a Judge or Official wishes to make a complaint about a Member of another Judge or Official or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules or any matter involving the Society where;

- i) the matter occurred at a show, but the complaint did not have an opportunity to approach the Enquiry Steward on the date of the show in question;
- ii) the matter or matters occurred otherwise than at the show;
- iii) that the individual may take the matter to the Referrals and Complaints Committee upon lodging brief written submissions outlining the matters they wish to complain about with the IPS office. There shall be no lodgement fee in this instance, however, should the Committee feel that the complaint referred to them was vexatious or unwarranted or frivolous they shall have discretion to fix costs of the hearing of the matter upon the complainant up to the amount of €500. Complaints about matters that occurred at the show must be lodged at the IPS office within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the show.

265. As per Rule 259(vi) above, where a Steward did not have an opportunity at a particular show at which they were officiating to investigate and deal with a Rule breach by a Member or a complaint made by a Member, Judge or Official on the day to that Steward, or where the Steward feels that it is otherwise necessary to refer to a particular matter, the Steward may refer the matter to the Referrals and Complaints Committee as a matter of the first instance. No fee shall be payable for such a referral.

- 266.** The Council of the IPS has jurisdiction to make a referral or complaint to the Referrals and Complaints Committee about any Member, Official, Judge, Owner or any other person who falls under auspices of these Rules where they feel it necessary to do so. The complaint or referral shall be lodged with the IPS office together with a written submission outlining the nature of the matter. No fee shall be payable for such a referral. The Council of the IPS also has jurisdiction to impose suspension on any member and/or pony at any time for a period of no greater than three months. Also, for any person in breach of IPS Rules, the fine for the first offence is €150 with any repeat offence €300 – to be imposed by Council.
- 267.** Where the IPS office receives a referral or complaint as outlined above, the IPS office will notify the Referrals and Complaints Committee of same. A date, time and place will be assigned for a hearing by the Referral and Complaints Committee through the IPS office which will alert the individual whom it is alleged has breached a Rule or about whom a complaint has been made of this date, time and place and will provide him/her with a copy of the written submissions of the complainant regarding their alleged behaviour by post no later than fourteen (14) working days before the date set for the hearing. All relevant parties involved (to be determined by the Referrals and Complaints Committee) will also be alerted to this date, time and place by post no later than fourteen (14) working days before the date set for the hearing. The individual whom it is alleged to have committed a Rule breach or about whom a complaint has been made may be accompanied at the hearing if they so wish and will be given an opportunity to state their case. All Junior Members are to be accompanied by a parent or guardian, or appropriate adult in loco parentis, in such a situation at all times.
- 268.** Where the Committee is hearing a matter at first instance it has the power to penalise any Member, Judge, Official, Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules in the following manner:-
- a) admonish such person and caution him as to his future conduct
 - b) fine such person up to a maximum amount of €400. The Member in question will have fourteen (14) calendar days in which to pay the fine. If the fine is not paid within fourteen (14) days, the Member and any horses or ponies of whom they are the registered owner, will be automatically suspended from the IPS for a period of thirty (30) days unless the Council feels there is a compelling reason for the Member not paying in a timely fashion. (If the penalised person intends to appeal the decision of the Referrals and Complaints Committee to the Appeals Committee, the fine must still be paid but will be refunded upon the Referrals and Complaints Committee's decision being overturned)
 - c) direct that such person being a Member shall be suspended from all or any of the rights and privileges of membership of the IPS for such period as he or she shall determine not exceeding two (2) years. No show entries will be accepted from such a Member or from any of their representatives or owners on their behalf for the course of the duration of the suspension and any entries accepted in error during this period will be deemed invalid

- d) direct that such person shall not enter any horse or pony at any Affiliated Show for such period as it may determine not exceeding three (3) calendar months
- e) direct that any horse or pony belonging to such a person or ridden by such person at the time of the commission of the offence shall be disqualified from the class in which it was taking part at the time of the commission of the offence and/or
- f) direct that any horse or pony belonging to such person at the time of the commission of the offence or at any time thereafter, during any period of suspension shall (whether or not still belonging to such person) be suspended from being entered or shown or otherwise taking part in any Affiliated Show for such period as it may determine not exceeding two (2) years and such suspension shall be operative even if the Owner ceases to be a Member of the IPS or the horse or pony to be a registered horse or pony at any time prior to the termination of the period of such suspension
- g) where the Rule breach or wrongdoing is to such an extent or so blatant, recommend the expulsion of the Member entirely from the Society to the IPS Council. Expulsion of a member can only be carried out as per the procedure laid out in the Articles of Association of the Society

Where any individual who has been referred to the Referrals and Complaints Committee and has subsequently been found to have been in breach of the Rules or Articles of Association of this Society or has had a complaint upheld against them, that individual may be liable for any costs associated with the hearing of the matter to include legal costs and miscellaneous costs and any other costs directly associated with the hearing of the matter.

- 269.** If any party to a complaint or referral or appeal should not attend the hearing of the matter by the Referrals and Complaints Committee and no reason sufficient in the opinion of the Referrals and Complaints Committee for such non-attendance is received consideration of the matter shall proceed and be adjudicated upon in the absence of such party.
- 270.** The Committee shall not give its decision on the day of any of the hearings described above but will forward its decision in writing within one (1) month to the IPS office and the parties involved stating the reasons for its decision and any penalty it wishes to hand down and the matter will be recorded in the IPS Disciplinary Record Book.
- 271.** Any Member, Official, Judge, Owner or any other person who falls under the auspices of these Rules who receives a penalty from the Referrals and Complaints Committee or disagrees with the decision made, (whether they are the person to whom the decision refers or the original complainant), where there was a hearing of first instance as per no. 263-266 as above, shall have a right of appeal to the Appeals Committee. The Appeal will be deemed to have been validly lodged when it is lodged in the IPS office within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the hearing with a brief outline of the grounds of appeal and a fee of €300, this is known as a “valid appeal”. Where the Appellant’s complaint is not upheld, that Member shall forfeit their €300 fee plus they may be liable for any additional costs as may arise to include legal, scrivener and miscellaneous costs and any other costs that may arise that are directly associated with the hearing. The Committee shall, however, have discretion to return the fee, or part thereof, to an unsuccessful appellant where

they feel that the complaint was made for compassionate or compelling reason or otherwise as the Committee shall see fit.

Where an individual who did not have a complaint upheld against them or were not found guilty of a Rule breach at first instance before a hearing of the Referrals and Complaints Committee but the decision of that Committee was subsequently overturned by the Appeals Committee, the individual, who is the subject of the overturned decision, may be liable for any costs associated with the hearing of the matter to include legal costs and miscellaneous costs and any other costs directly associated with the hearing of the matter.

- 272.** In the event that a Member of the Referrals and Complaints Committee should find themselves a party to any referral, complaint or dispute or otherwise that is being investigated or adjudicated upon by that Committee, that Committee Member will, for the duration that the matter is being dealt with, step down from that Committee and have no part in the investigation, adjudication or otherwise of that matter.

APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 273.** Hearings before the Appeals Committee shall be presided over by the Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson of said Committee, appointed by the IPS Council as outlined in the Articles of Association of the IPS. If for any reason neither the Chairperson nor the Deputy Chairperson is available to sit at a hearing, the Council may appoint a Member of the Appeals Committee, or a Member appointed in lieu, to preside over that hearing. Quorum for business of the Committee shall be three persons including the Chairperson. If, for any reason, less than three persons of the Appeals Committee are available to sit on an Enquiry, the Council may appoint a Member or Members in lieu. An uneven number must always act while the Committee is sitting and, in the event of a disagreement, the view of the majority shall prevail.

While an Appeal is being heard by the Committee, the Chairperson shall order that a written note be carefully taken of the hearing by a member of the IPS administration office or if such a person is, for any reason, not available, by one of the Members of the Appeal Committee who is sitting at the hearing. Such note shall be certified by the Chairperson as soon as practical that it represents a true and valid account of the evidence given before the Committee.

- 274.** As per Rule 271 above, a right of appeal to the Appeals Committee exists for those individuals who were adjudicated upon or who referred or complained about a matter at first instance to the Referrals and Complaints Committee. When the IPS office receives a “valid appeal”, they will notify the Appeals Committee of same. A date, time and place will be assigned for the appeal hearing by the Appeals Committee through the IPS office which will alert the penalised individual and all relevant parties involved, (to be determined by the Appeals Committee), to this date, time and place by post no later than fourteen (14) working days before the date set for the appeal. All parties will receive a copy of the Appellant’s grounds for appeal with the details of the Appeal. The Appellant may be accompanied if they so wish and will have an opportunity to put forward their grounds for Appeal. All Junior Members

are to be accompanied by a parent or guardian or appropriate adult in loco parentis in such a situation at all time.

- 275.** It will be the responsibility of the Appeals Committee to review the decision of the Referrals and Complaints Committee and to listen to the grounds of appeal of the appellant. The Appeals Committee will not call new witnesses to the case or hear evidence again from the original witnesses or hear new evidence unless there are very compelling reasons for them to do so and they will only do so at their own discretion.
- 276.** The Appeals Committee will have the power to:-
- a) uphold the decision of the Referrals and Complaints Committee
 - b) overturn the decision of the Referrals and Complaints Committee
 - c) increase a fine handed down by the Referrals and Complaints Committee up to a limit of €3,000 (the member in question will have fourteen (14) calendar days in which to pay the fine. If the fine is not paid within fourteen (14) days, the Member and any horses or ponies of whom they are the registered owner will be suspended from the IPS for a period of thirty (30) days, unless the Council feels there is a compelling reason for the member not paying in a timely fashion)
 - d) increase a suspension handed down by the Referrals and Complaints Committee up to a limit of three (3) years
- 277.** The Committee shall not give its decision on the day of any of the hearings described above but will forward its decision in writing within fourteen (14) calendar days to the IPS office and the Appellant involved stating the reasons for its decision and any penalty it wishes to hand down and the matter will be recorded in the IPS Disciplinary Record Book. This decision will be forwarded by the IPS office to the person to whom it refers and any other parties to the original hearing.
- 278.** If any party to an Appeal should not attend the hearing of the matter by the Appeals Committee and no reason sufficient in the opinion of the Appeals Committee for such non-attendance is received, consideration of the matter shall proceed and be adjudicated upon in the absence of such party.
- 279.** In the event that a Member of the Appeals Committee should find themselves a party to any appeal that is being investigated or adjudicated upon by that Committee, that Committee Member will, for the duration that the matter is being dealt with, step down from that Committee and have no part in the investigation, adjudication or otherwise of that matter.
- 280.** Rules 260-279 above exist in order to provide an effective Appeals and grievance procedure. Whilst any matter which falls under these Rules is being considered, the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising the matter shall continue to comply with the Rules of the Society during the course of the examination of the matter in question. By so doing, he/she will not create any precedent, nor will his/her membership of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed. **The decision of the Referrals and Complaints Committee and the Appeals Committee may be published.**

SUMMARY OF APPEALS PROCEDURES

The object of this procedure is to provide a member who has a grievance with the Society an opportunity to have the grievance examined and resolved at the earliest practical moment at the most local level possible.

While the matter is being considered under the Appeals Procedure, the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising the matter shall continue to comply with the Rules of the Society during the course of the examination of the matter in question. By so doing, he/she will not create any precedent, nor will his/her membership of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

The procedure to apply shall be as follows:-

Stage 1

A member who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Society business should, in the first instance, write to the Council of the Society, making it clear that Stage 1 of the Appeals Procedure is being invoked. After consultation, the Council will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable but, in any case, within thirty (30) days from receipt of the letter from the appellant.

Stage 2

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, the complaint/grievance may then be submitted to the Referrals and Complaints Committee for investigation. Decisions at Stage 2 should be reached within six (6) months.

Stage 3

An individual who did not have a complaint upheld against him/her or who was found guilty of a Rule breach before a hearing of the Referrals and Complaints Committee has a right to appeal to the Appeals Committee. Decisions at Stage 3 should be reached within three (3) months.

Stage 4

If the issue remains unresolved, the member(s) may request an independent hearing. The Council shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at this stage will be heard by an individual or group of individuals under the auspices of the Horse Sport Ireland and, with appropriate expertise, agreed by both parties to the dispute. From the date of the appointment of the person(s) hearing, the appeal case will be heard and the decision taken will be communicated to both parties within three (3) months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the apportionment of costs as appropriate.

The Society expects all its members to abide by the Rules, regulations and standards established by the Society.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

The IPS acknowledges the importance of the internet and social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Snapchat, home web-pages, chat rooms, BBM and all other forms of electronic communication and the role which “social media” plays in the day-to-day lives of its members.

This policy note is to remind members that the Rules of the IPS apply to members when using social media and the internet. Failure to adhere to this policy note could lead to disciplinary action being taken against a member.

2. USING SOCIAL MEDIA

- a) You should be aware that the IPS may from time-to-time carry out internet searches to identify postings which include references to the IPS and its members.
- b) IPS produced images are the subject of copyright and should not be copied or used in social media.
- c) You should ensure that any material that you transmit or post to social media is clearly stated to be your personal view and is not held out to be, or could be mistaken as, the view of the IPS.
- d) You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of the IPS, its members or former members, or which is derogatory to the character of or prejudicial to the interests of the IPS.
- e) You must not post or transmit any material relating to the IPS members or former members or their horses or ponies, or which could otherwise be associated with or which may reasonably be attributed as coming from the IPS:-
 - i) that is threatening, defamatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, liable to incite racial hatred, discriminatory, menacing, scandalous, inflammatory, blasphemous, in breach of confidence, in breach of privacy or which may cause annoyance, distress or inconvenience, or
 - ii) which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of the IPS Rules, or constitutes a criminal offence, or which could give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the laws of, or infringe the rights of any third party in Ireland or any other country in the world
- f) Any breach of this policy may constitute a breach of the IPS Rules and could also lead to civil and/or criminal proceedings being brought against you.

3. DISCLOSURE UNDER LAW OR REGULATION

You should be aware the IPS will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing the IPS to disclose the identity or locate anyone posting any material in breach of this policy. If requested by the police or any other regulatory or government authority, the IPS is entitled to do so.

COMMUNICATION NOTICES

A notice may be given by the Society to any Member, either personally or by sending it by post and/or email to his/her registered address and/or email address. Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice and to have been effected in the case of a notice of a meeting at the expiration of twenty-four (24) hours after the letter containing the same is posted and in any other case at the time at which the letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post. Where a notice is sent by email, service of the notice shall be deemed effected from the time the email is sent.

NOTIFICATION OF RULE CHANGES

The Rule Book will only be changed if deemed absolutely necessary by the Council or if Health & Safety issues arise.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS RULE BOOK, ANY REFERENCE TO PONIES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO MEAN HORSES AND/OR PONIES, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

These Rules and special Regulations are effective from 1st January 2020 and supersede all existing Rules and Regulations.