

THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY



2012

MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND NATIVE BREED STANDARDS AND SHOWING RULES

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BRITISH CONNEMARA PONY SOCIETY

BREED DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT: Normally 128cms to 148 cms at maturity.

COLOURS: Grey, black, bay, brown, dun with occasional roan, chestnut, palomino and dark eyed cream.

TYPE: Compact, well balanced riding type with depth, substance and good heart room. Standing on short legs covering a lot of ground.

HEAD: Well-balanced pony head of medium length with good width between large kindly eyes. Pony ears, well-defined cheekbone, jaw relatively deep but not coarse.

FRONT: Head well set on to neck. Crest should not be over-developed. Neck not set on too low. Well laid-back shoulder giving a good length of rein.

BODY: Body should be deep, with strong back, some length permissible but should be well ribbed up and with strong loins.

LIMBS: Good length and strength in forearm, well-defined knees and short cannons with flat bone measuring 18-21 cms. Elbows should be free. Pasterns of medium length, feet well shaped of medium size, hard and level.

HIND QTRS: Strong and muscular with some length, well developed second thighs, (gaskin) and strong low-set hocks.

MOVEMENT: Movement free, easy and true, without undue knee action but active and covering the ground.

CHARACTERISTICS

Good temperament, hardiness and staying power, intelligence, soundness, surefootedness, jumping ability, suitable for child or adult.

BRITISH CONNEMARA PONY SOCIETY

SHOWING RULES

1. No Connemara pony may be shown after the age of six months unless it is registered in an Approved Connemara Pony Stud Book.
2. No entire male may be shown or take part in any competition restricted to Connemara or Registered Mountain and Moorland Ponies after the 1st January in the year in which he attains the age of three years unless he has been registered as a Stallion in the BCPS Stud Book or the Stud Book of a recognised Connemara Pony Society. Stallions registered after 1st March 2007 must be registered in Class 1 or Class 2. Two year old colts must either be registered in Class 1 or Class 2 or must not have been inspected in the current year.
3. No female or gelding may be shown or take part in any competition restricted to Connemara or Registered Mountain and Moorland Ponies after 1st January in the year in which it attains the age of four years unless it has been registered as an adult pony in the BCPS Stud Book or the Stud Book of a recognised Connemara Pony Society. Mares and geldings registered after the 1st March 2007 must be registered in Class 1 or Class 2, with the exception of Geldings registered as adults in the BCPS Stud Book in 2007 and 2008.
4. Unless entered in a class specifically for Over-height Connemaras, no pure bred Connemara pony exceeding 148 cms in height may be shown or take part in any competition restricted to Connemara or Registered Mountain and Moorland Ponies within the jurisdiction of the BCPS.
5. Where it is reported to the BCPS that this may have occurred, the Society may require the animal to be measured or re-measured in accordance with the rules of the Joint Measurement Board Ltd. The penalty for contravening the above rule may be cancellation of the registration of the animal concerned.

Trimming Rules

Connemara ponies should be shown in as natural a state as possible and the following rules should be observed.

1. MANES - ponies should be shown unplaited. However, very thick manes may be discreetly thinned but should look as natural as possible.
2. TAILS - should look natural and should not be pulled but may be squared off at the bottom.
3. HEAD - Ears may be trimmed flat (no trimming inside of the ears). Light trimming of long hairs in jawline is permitted. Whiskers should not be trimmed.
4. LEGS - No trimming of feather on legs or trimming into heels.
5. No false hair, artificial colouring or make-up should be used.
6. Ridden ponies ONLY may be clipped in the interest of welfare. Legs should not be clipped. Under no circumstances should foals be clipped.
7. The Society does not object to ponies being freeze-branded. This should not be detrimental to animals in the show ring and should be encouraged.

DALES PONY SOCIETY

BREED DESCRIPTION

GENERAL: A strong active pony, full of quality and spirit. True pony character, alert, high-couraged, intelligent and kind

HEAD: Neat and pony like, showing no dish. Broad between the eyes, which should be bright and alert. Pony ears slightly incurving. Long foretop of straight hair down the face.

NECK: Strong and of ample length. Stallions should display a bold outlook with a well-arched crest. Throat and jaws clean-cut. Long, flowing mane.

SHOULDERS: Well-laid, long, sloping shoulders with well-developed muscles. Withers not too fine.

BODY: Short-coupled and deep through the chest, with well-sprung ribs.

HINDQUARTERS: Hindquarters deep, lengthy and powerful. Second thighs well-developed and very muscular. Tail well set on, not high, with plenty of long, straight hair reaching the ground.

HOCKS: Broad, flat and clean. Well let down with plenty of dense flat bone below.

FOREARMS: Set square. Short and very muscular, with broad, well-developed knees.

FEET, LEGS & JOINTS: The very best of feet and legs, with flexible joints, showing quality with no coarseness. The cannons should display 8"-9" of flat flinty bone and well defined tendons. Pasterns should be nicely sloping and of good length. Ample, silky straight feather on the heels. Large, round feet, open at the heels, with well-developed frogs.

HEIGHT: The preferred height range is 14 h.h to 14.2 h.h. (Ponies above and below this range to be placed at the discretion of the judges).

COLOURS: Black, brown, a few grey and bay, and occasionally roan.

MARKINGS: A white star and/or snip on the head. White to the fetlocks of the hindlegs only. Mis-marked ponies showing more white than this are registered as section B in the stud book and placed at the discretion of the judges.

DALES PONY SOCIETY

ACTION: Clean, high, straight and true. Going forward on “all fours” with tremendous energy. The knee and hock are lifted, the hindlegs flexed well under the body for powerful drive.

Ponies registered in Section X of the stud book may not adhere to the breed standard. These ponies are not permitted in Dales Pony Classes

SHOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

A good Dales type should be capable of the carrying out the job for which it was bred, i.e. to pull a plough, trot a mile in around 3 minutes, and still give a good ride to hounds. To this end, the pony must be wide and powerful, with extremely high quality limbs and feet; alert and active, with a high-stepping trot, fore and hind limbs being lifted to the same level and driving powerfully forward.

1. Ponies to be shown in their natural state. No trimming, clipping or pulling of mane, tails or feathers on the legs. Tails may be rough-trimmed to prevent them dragging on the ground. Manes and tails should be full and flowing, and traditionally were “a yard long”. Feathers should be full, curtaining the coronets
2. In the interests of welfare, **ridden and driven** ponies may be body-clipped in the winter, taking the above rule into account. Legs should not be clipped. Ponies which have been clipped in the winter, **may** be at a disadvantage when shown in-hand the following spring, depending on the Judge’s view.
3. No plaiting allowed except for the traditional plait at the top of the tail bearing ribbons if so wished.
4. No false hair or make-up of any kind is permitted.
5. Youngstock is usually shown in white halters, and the mares are also traditionally shown in this way, although riding or in-hand bridles are also permitted. Licensed stallions (three years and over) are traditionally shown in full stallion tack, and this is a rule at the Breed Shows.
6. Over-height and mis-marked ponies should be placed at the discretion of the Judge. These are both faults, but it must be borne in mind that a Breed Judge might well place a high quality mis-marked pony above a mediocre, correctly marked pony
7. Tweed, not black is the correct attire for riders, and medium weight tack should be used to show the pony to advantage.

DARTMOOR PONY SOCIETY

BREED DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT: Not exceeding 127cm (12.2hh)

COLOUR: Bay, Black, Brown, Chestnut, Grey and Roan. Piebalds and Skewbalds are not allowed. Excessive white markings should be discouraged.

HEAD AND NECK: The head should be small with large kindly eyes and small alert ears. It should be well set on a good neck of medium length. The throat and jaws should be fine and showing no signs of coarseness or throatiness. Stallions to have a moderate crest.

SHOULDERS: Good shoulders are most important. They should be well laid back and sloping but not too fine at the withers.

BODY: Of medium length and strong, well ribbed up and with a good depth of girth, giving plenty of heart room.

LOIN AND HINDQUARTERS: Strong and well covered with muscle. The hind quarters should be of medium length and neither level nor steeply sloping. The tail should be well set up.

LIMBS: The hocks should be well let down with plenty of length from hip to hock, clean cut and with plenty of bone below the hock. They should have a strong second thigh. They should not be 'sickled' or 'cowhocked'.

The fore legs should not be tied in at the elbows. The fore-arm should be muscular and relatively long and the knee fairly large and flat on the front.

The cannons should be short with ample good, flat, flinty bone. The pasterns should be sloping but not too long. The feet should be hard and well shaped.

MOVEMENT: Low and straight coming from the shoulder with good hock action but without exaggeration.

GENERAL: The mane and tail should be full and flowing. The Dartmoor is a very good looking riding pony, sturdily built yet with quality.

DARTMOOR PONY SOCIETY

SHOWING RULES

1. Stallions or Colts aged three years or over may not be shown unless in possession of a **Dartmoor Pony Society Stallion Licence**.
 - a) Handlers of Stallions and Colts in In-Hand Classes must have attained their 14th birthday before 1st January of the current year.
 - b) There is no age limit for riders in Mountain and Moorland Ridden and Working Pony Classes with the exception of Stallions and Colts in that riders must have attained their 11th birthday before 1st January of the current year.
2. No mare with foal at foot or due to foal in the current year may be shown in Ridden classes. No mare may be shown with a foal under the age of three weeks. Mares must be accompanied by their foals in the ring.
3. Where there are two or more classes at a show restricted to Dartmoor ponies only, no member may exhibit unless the judge is from the Dartmoor Pony Society Panel of Judges for the year in question.
4. If the owner of the Champion at a Star Show is not a member the rosette should be returned to the Society and not presented to the Reserve, or further down the line. Points do not count towards the Society's Competitions.
5. The Dartmoor Pony Society Rosettes may only be awarded to fully and supplementary registered ponies owned by members producing their current membership card at the time of the award.
6. Ponies in Mixed Mountain and Moorland or Dartmoor classes must be shown unplaited. No dye or make-up may be used and no false tails or forelocks.
7. Handlers of ponies in In-hand classes aged 14 years and under must wear correctly secured current British Standard skull caps/riding hats.

Trimming

- a) Long hairs under the jaw and those protruding from the ears may be trimmed.
- b) Whiskers must not be trimmed.
- c) The tail may be trimmed at the bottom if excessively long
- d) Ridden/Driven ponies may be clipped in the interest of welfare, but not their legs.
- e) False quarter marks are not allowed.

EXMOOR PONY SOCIETY

BREED DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT: The preferred height range is:

- Stallions & Geldings 11.3 hh (119.4 cm) to 12.3 hh (129.5cm) at maturity.
- Mares 11.2 hh (116.8 cm) to 12.2 hh (127 cm) at maturity.

GENERAL APPEARANCE OR TYPE: Definite “pony” character; hard and strong; vigorous and alert and symmetrical in appearance; mealy muzzle; prominent hooded toad eye.

HEAD AND NECK: Ears short, thick and pointed; clean cut face; wide forehead; eyes large, wide apart and prominent with well defined fleshy hood and pale colouration outlining the eyes (Toad Eyes); wide nostrils; mealy muzzle; clean throat; good length of rein.

SHOULDERS: Clean, fine at top, well laid back.

CHEST: Deep & wide between and behind forelegs; ribs long, deep, well sprung and wide apart.

BACK: Level; broad and level across loins; tail neatly set in.

LEGS: Clean and short, with neat hard feet; forelegs straight, well apart and squarely set; hind legs well apart, nearly perpendicular from hock to fetlock with point of hock in line with pelvis bone; wide curve from flank to hock joint; legs free in motion with no tendency to sweep or turn.

ACTION: Straight and smooth, without exaggerated action.

COAT: Summer - close, hard and bright
Winter - a double-layered dense coat with an under insulating layer of fine, springy hair and an outer water-proofing layer of hard, greasy hair.

COLOUR: Bay, brown or dun, with black points; mealy colour on muzzle, round eyes and inside flanks; no white markings anywhere.

QUALITY: Alert expression and general poise indicating balance and symmetry of movement; fine clean bone.

EXMOOR PONY SOCIETY

SHOWING RULES

1. Only ponies registered in Section 1 of the Exmoor Pony Society Stud Book may be shown at Exmoor Pony Society shows, affiliated shows or any show governed by the Society's show rules and thus be eligible for Society rosettes or awards. In addition, colts over 3 years must be in possession of an Exmoor Pony Society Stallion Licence to be shown at such shows.
2. All Exmoor ponies exhibited in in-hand classes shall be shown in "natural condition". The following treatments are prohibited:
 - *Trimming of any area of coat, mane, forelock, ears, whiskers and jaw line, under-belly, tail or feathers.*
 - *Clipping*
 - *Plaiting*
 - *Application of make-up or artificial coloring*
 - *Attachment of any false hair pieces*

The following treatments are permitted:

- *Washing and brushing*
 - *Application of hoof oil*
3. Exmoor ponies exhibited in ridden and/or driving classes shall be shown as in "b" above, except that, apart from the legs, they may have been clipped. Any pony that has been clipped cannot be entered in in-hand classes until the clipped areas have fully re-grown.
 4. Exmoor ponies exhibited in driving classes shall be shown according to "b" and "c" above except that trimming of tails is permitted. Any pony that has had its tail trimmed cannot be entered in in-hand or ridden classes until the tail is fully re-grown.
 5. All ponies exhibited in "riding" and "performance" classes shall be four years old or over.
 6. Colts & Stallions, 2 years old and over, must be shown in a suitable bit.
 7. A member shall not knowingly exhibit a pony bred, previously or currently owned, leased or produced by the judge, his/her immediate family or his/her employer.

FELL PONY SOCIETY

BREED DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT: Not exceeding 14 hands (142.2 cm).

COLOUR: Black, Brown, Bay or Grey. Chestnuts, piebalds and skewbalds are debarred. A star and/or a little white on or below the hind fetlock is acceptable. An excess of white markings is discouraged, but such ponies are eligible for registration.

HEAD: Small, well chiseled in outline, well set on, forehead broad, tapering to nose.

NOSTRILS: Large and expanding.

EYES: Prominent, bright, mild and intelligent.

EARS: Neatly set, well formed and small.

THROAT AND JAWS: Fine, showing no signs of throatiness or coarseness.

NECK: Of proportionate length, giving good length of rein, strong and not too heavy, moderate crest in case of stallion.

SHOULDERS: Most important, well laid back and sloping, not too fine at withers, nor loaded at the points - a good long shoulder blade, muscles well developed.

CARCASE: Good strong back of good outline, muscular loins, deep carcass, thick through heart, round ribbed from shoulders to flank, short and well coupled, hind quarters square and strong with tail well set on.

FEET, LEGS AND JOINTS: Feet of good size, round and well formed, open at heels with the characteristic blue horn, fair sloping pasterns not too long, forelegs should be straight, well placed not tied at the elbows, big well-formed knees, short cannon bone, plenty of good flat bone below knee (eight inches at least), great muscularity of arm.

HIND LEGS: Good thighs and second thighs, very muscular, hocks well let down and clean cut, plenty of bone below joint, hocks should not be sickle nor cow-hocked.

FELL PONY SOCIETY

MANE, TAIL AND FEATHERS: Plenty of fine hair at heels (coarse hair objectionable) all the fine hair except that at the point of heel may be cast in summer. Mane and tail are left to grow long.

ACTION: Walk, smart and true. Trot well-balanced all round with good knee and hock action, going well from the shoulder and flexing the hocks, not going too wide nor near behind. Should show great pace and endurance, bringing the hind legs well under the body when going.

GENERAL CHARACTER: The Fell pony should be constitutionally as hard as iron and show good pony characteristics with the unmistakable appearance of hardiness peculiar to mountain ponies, and at the same time, have a lively and alert appearance and great bone.

SCALE OF POINTS

Height and Colour	5
Head, nostrils, eyes, ears, throat/jaw, neck	10
Shoulders	15
Carcass	20
Feet, legs and joints and hind legs	25
Action	25
General characteristics	25

SHOWING RULES

1. Ponies must be shown unplaited and untrimmed, including head, mane, feather and tail, which should not have been previously plaited as the hair should be straight and silky.
2. Eye make-up and hair dying is not allowed.
3. Clipping of winter coats on working ponies whilst not encouraged, for showing, is not debarred.
4. Ponies will not be penalised if they have been freeze-branded.
5. Brood mares with foals at foot will be eligible for entry in-hand. Foals may accompany mares into the ring but must be haltered and under control of a competent handler.
6. Foals must be a minimum of 21 days old on the day of the show.

FELL PONY SOCIETY

7. Foals must only be shown in a halter or leather head collar. No foal to be shown in a bit of any type.
8. Ponies may be shown shod or unshod.
9. White rope or webbing halters may be used to show youngstock. Brood-mares, geld mares and geldings may also be shown in rope or webbing halters or in a bridle. Yearlings may not be shown bitted.
10. Brood mares suckling foals not to be shown under saddle or in harness.
11. Ridden ponies will be judged 50% conformation and breed characteristics and 50% ride, manners and presentation in the ring.
12. Ponies must be four years old and over in all ridden and driving classes. The age shall be calculated from 1st January in the year of its birth.
13. All stallions and 2/3 year old colts must hold a current license, and **MAY NOT BE ENTERED** in any young handler or junior ridden class.
14. Stallions and colts must be adequately bitted and under control of a handler aged 14 or over. Stallion tack is optional.
15. No ridden pony shall be shown on a leading rein except those exhibited in classes confined to leading rein ponies, or unless otherwise stated in the schedule.
16. Only mares and geldings are eligible in junior, lead rein and first ridden classes.
17. First ridden ponies must be shown in a suitable bridle.
18. In leading rein classes, the lead rein must be affixed to the noseband only. The reins must go directly from the bit to the rider's hands. Must be shown in a snaffle.
19. In first ridden classes, ponies must not be cantered except in their individual show. In Novice Ridden classes snaffle bits must be used.
20. Bit-less bridles are not permitted. Any suitable bridles may be worn in worker hunter classes.
21. Protective leg boots of a plain colour may be used for worker hunter classes only and are not permitted for any other classes. No bandages, over reach boots or protective pads on pony's legs or feet are permissible. Normal shaped plastic stick on shoes are permissible.

HIGHLAND PONY SOCIETY

HIGHLAND PONY CHARACTERISTICS

The Highland Pony is one of the two native breeds of the Scottish Highlands and Islands. As a result, it has over many centuries adapted to the variable and often severe climatic and environmental conditions of Scotland. The winter coat consists of a layer of strong badger like hair over a soft dense undercoat which enables this breed of pony to live out in all weathers. This coat is shed in the spring to reveal a smooth summer coat. This essential hardiness is combined with a kindly nature and an even temperament

HIGHLAND PONY BREED DESCRIPTION

The Breed is a strong well balanced compact pony with all its features being in proportion to its height. It is one of the largest of the British Native Breeds and should show substance and strength.

HEIGHT: The height is 13hh - 14.2 hh. (132cms - 148cms)

HEAD: Well carried and alert with kindly eye. Broad muzzled with a deep jowl.

NECK AND SHOULDERS: Reasonable length of neck from wither with a good sloping shoulder and well placed forearm.

BODY: Well balanced and compact with plenty of room for heart and lungs. Ribs well sprung.

QUARTERS AND HINDLEGS: Powerful quarters with well developed thigh, strong second thigh and clean flat hocks.

LEGS: Flat hard bone, broad knees, short cannon bones, oblique pasterns and well shaped broad dark hoofs. Feather soft and silky.

MANE AND TAIL: Hair should be natural, flowing and untrimmed with a full tail.

COLOURS: A range of duns, mouse, yellow, grey, cream. Also grey, brown, black, bay and occasionally liver chestnut with silver mane and tail. Many ponies have a dorsal stripe and some show zebra markings on legs and shoulder. A small star is acceptable but other white markings are discouraged. Foal coat often changes and many ponies change colour gradually as they grow older, especially those with grey hairs interspersed with the original colour. Others show a slight seasonal change in colour between winter and summer coats. Broken colours are not allowed.

N.B. STALLIONS with white markings other than a small star are NOT eligible for licensing.

ACTION: Straight and free moving without undue knee action.

CAPABILITIES: A ride, drive and pack animal and can adapt to many equestrian disciplines.

HIGHLAND PONY SOCIETY

SHOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

Show Preparations for In-hand and Ridden Classes

Pony: There should be no pulling, plaiting or trimming of mane and tail, nor the feather on the legs. Eye or other cosmetic make-up must not be applied under any circumstances. The pony should be shampooed, or thoroughly groomed to look and feel absolutely clean with mane and tail brushed out well with a soft brush. Excessive hair under chin etc can be discreetly laid with a damp brush before going into the ring. Hoofs should only be oiled.

For the pony's welfare, ridden ponies for winter competitions or hunting may be clipped out, always giving due regard to the above preparation recommendations. Legs should not be clipped in these cases. No trimming is permitted otherwise. It should also be accepted that these clipped ponies may be placed somewhat lower if shown in-hand in early spring show classes, depending on the in-hand judge's views.

Please note: No white markings of any description, or white legs or hoofs, with the exception of a small star, are acceptable in the show ring.

The Highland Pony Society actively discourages white markings of any description other than a small white star.

RECOMMENDED TURNOUT FOR HANDLER AND PONY- IN-HAND CLASSES

HANDLER

FEMALE: Well-cut skirt (tartan or otherwise) or trousers. Showing cane.

MALE: Trousers or kilt with jacket, shirt and tie. Showing cane.

Riding clothes with hard hat also smart, particularly on children.

PONY

STALLION: Strong stallion bridle with white lead rope, chain or leather coupling under chin. Straight bar or snaffle bit or other suitable control bit. Roller with one side rein, usually on off-side correctly fitted.

MARES AND STOCK OVER THREE YEARS: Show bridle with brass buckles or good quality brass-mounted headcollar with snaffle bit attached by bit straps. White cotton lead rope and rope halters may also be used.

YOUNGSTOCK: Show bridle with light straight bar bit (nylon or vulcanite mouth piece) or white cotton webbing halter.

FOALS: Leather foal slip with white webbing lead rope or extra-long halter.

RIDDEN CLASSES

HIGHLAND PONY SOCIETY

RIDER: Breeches and boots or jodhpurs and jodhpur boots. Tweed jackets with shirt and tie. Tweed jackets are preferable to black/navy. Current standard hats to be worn when mounted. Gloves and cane/whip. (N.B. Certain ridden classes have rules on canes and whips)

PONY: Immaculate tack. Double bridle, pelham or suitable snaffle on open ponies. Suitable snaffle on novice ponies. Well-fitting saddle.

- (2) **Mares and stock over three years.** Show bridle with brass buckles or good quality brass-mounted headcollar with snaffle bit attached by bit straps. White webbing or cotton lead rope. White cotton or webbing halters may also be used. **Youngstock.** Show bridle with light straight bar bit (nylon or vulcanite mouth piece) or white cotton halter.
- (3) **Foals.** Leather foal slip with white lead rope or extra long halter.

RIDDEN CLASSES

Rider

Breeches and boots or jodphurs and jodhpur boots. Tweed jackets with shirt and tie. Tweed jackets are preferable to black/navy. Current standard hats to be worn when mounted. Gloves and cane/whip (NB: Certain ridden classes have rules on canes and whips).

Pony

Immaculate tack. Double bridle, pelham or suitable snaffle bridle on younger/novice ponies. Well fitting saddle, no martingale.

BREED DESCRIPTION

Height

The upper height limit is 148 cms. **There is no lower limit.** All ponies should be judged equally regardless of height. They are normally shown in 2 height sections 138 cms and under (competition type A) and over 138 cms (competition height B).

Colour

New Forest ponies may be any colour *except* piebald, skewbald, spotted or blue eyed cream. Palomino or very light chestnut and cream ponies with dark eyes are not eligible as licensed stallions. Blue eyes are not permitted. White markings other than on the head and lower limbs: loss of, or absence of, pigment in hair or skin that is not known to have been associated solely with skin trauma is not acceptable. So, for the purposes of entry into the approved section of the Stud Book a pony shall not have any white markings behind the head, above a horizontal line level with the bony protuberance of the accessory carpal bone at the back of the knee in the forelimb, and the point of the hock in the hind limb, unless proven to be due to trauma/injury.

Type

New Forest ponies should be of working type with substance. They should have sloping shoulders, strong quarters, plenty of flat bone, good depth of body, straight limbs and good hard round feet. The ponies are quite capable of carrying adults, while narrow enough for small children. **The smaller ponies, though not up to so much weight, often show more quality.**

Action

This should be free, active and straight, but not exaggerated.

Temperament

The New Forest Pony has an ideal temperament and should be very easy to train.

Ponies registered in the X Section of the Stud Book may not adhere to the Breed Standard. These ponies are not permitted in Registered New Forest Pony classes.

SHOWING RULES

1. Ponies are shown unplaited, but may have lightly pulled manes and tails. The jaw line and heels may be trimmed, but the whiskers should be left untrimmed.
2. Clipping, *except* for the legs, is allowed for ponies 4 years and over, in in-hand, ridden and working pony classes.
3. No make up or false hair is allowed or any other falsification of markings
4. Yearlings should not be shown in bits. Stallions 2 years and over may be shown in bridles with bits. Chifney bits are not allowed in any circumstances.
5. Judges have been asked to take behaviour and temperament into account and not to judge ponies whose behaviour they consider to be a danger to either its handler/rider or other competitors. Such a pony will be asked to leave the ring.
6. No commercial, stud, or pony names to be displayed in the ring.
7. 2 year old colts are permitted to be shown without a licence.

BREED DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT: Registered stock must not exceed 42 inches (107cms). Ponies are measured from the withers to the ground, by measuring stick, and a level stance, preferably concrete, should be used.

COLOUR: Shetland ponies may be any colour known in horses except spotted.

COAT: The coat changes according to the seasons: a double coat in winter with guard hairs which shed the rain and keep the pony's skin completely dry in the worst of the weather and, by contrast, a short summer coat which should carry a beautiful silky sheen. At all times the mane and tail hair should be long, straight and profuse and the feathering of the fetlocks straight and silky.

HEAD: The head should be small, carried well and in proportion. Ears should be small and erect, wide set but pointing well forward. Forehead should be broad with bold, dark, intelligent eyes. Muzzle must be broad with nostrils wide and open. Teeth and jaw must be correct.

BODY: The neck should be properly set onto the shoulder, which in turn should be sloping, not upright, and end in a well defined wither. The body should be strong with plenty of heart room, well sprung ribs, the loin strong and muscular. The quarters should be broad and long with the tail set well up on them.

FORELEGS: Should be well-placed with sufficient good, flat bone. Strong forearm. Short balanced cannon bone. Springy pasterns.

HINDLEGS: The thighs should be strong and muscular with well-shaped strong hocks, neither hooky nor too straight. When viewed from behind, the hindlegs should not be set too widely apart, nor should the hocks be turned in.

FEET: Tough, round and well-shaped - not too short, narrow, contracted or thin.

ACTION: Straight, free action using every joint. Tracking up well.

GENERAL: A most salient and essential feature of the Shetland Pony is its general air of vitality (presence), stamina and robustness.

SHETLAND PONY STUD-BOOK SOCIETY

GUIDELINES FOR SHOWING SHETLAND PONIES

- 1. DRESS:** Must be neat, no training shoes or jeans. Where possible, ladies should wear a collar and tie or blouse with jacket and neat trousers or skirt. Tartan skirts/kilts or trousers look very smart and enhance the image of the pony. Sensible footwear is essential to allow a pony to be shown effectively. Gentlemen should wear a collar and tie and tweed jacket with neat trousers or a suit or kilt. Hats are not compulsory for either sex but, without doubt, improve the overall picture of pony and handler (and may be compulsory at some Shows). There must be no individual stud, person or pony names displayed **in any way** in the ring e.g. on clothing, rugs, saddle cloths. Whips or show canes carried must not exceed 30" in length. Spurs may not be worn in ridden classes.
- 2. RING ETIQUETTE:** The Judge should never be spoken to using his/her name. Listen to instructions provided by the Steward or Judge and watch exhibitors in front of you. When asked to walk/trot a pony out, ensure that the pony travels with you - do not drag it along. When turning the pony, push it away from you - do not pull it towards you. Do not ever leave the ring before the end of the class without first gaining the permission of the Judge, through the Steward.
- 3. TRIMMING/CLIPPING:** The pony's ears may be trimmed flat but there must be no trimming inside the ear. Trimming of whiskers on the jawline is acceptable. Manes and tails must not be pulled but tails may be rough trimmed to clear the ground if dragging. Leg feathers must not be trimmed. No false hair, artificial colouring or make-up should be used. Working ponies of four years old or over **only** may be clipped in the interest of welfare. Under **no** circumstances should foals be clipped. Ponies should always be shown in a clean condition.
- 4. TACK/EQUIPMENT:** Colts/entire males of two years old or over must be shown bitted. Younger animals and older females may be shown in a suitable headcollar. For In-Hand showing, only plain, English-style jointed or straight bar snaffles are permitted. Chifneys or other similar bits are not acceptable. For ridden classes suitable bridles must be used. In lead rein classes, ponies must be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle with the rein going directly from the bit to the rider's hands. The lead rein must be attached to the nose band only. In the interests of safety, handlers aged 14 years or under must wear a hard hat when exhibiting in In-Hand classes. Hard hats must be worn by all ages of exhibitors in ridden classes.

SHETLAND PONY STUD-BOOK SOCIETY

- 5. REGISTRATION/ELIGIBILITY:** In Affiliated Shows - stallions aged four years or over must hold either a Shetland Pony Stud-Book Society Licence or a Ministry of Agriculture Licence. At affiliated shows, classes must be confined to registered ponies. Ponies must be named on the entry form and in the catalogue if one is produced. Society rosettes must only be given to ponies registered with the Society or eligible for registration (i.e foals) Three year old fillies with foals at foot may not be shown. Foals must be a minimum of three weeks old on the day of the Show. Colts and entire males are not permitted in Young Handlers classes. Children aged under 14 years may not show colts (excluding foals) or entire males in In-Hand classes. Children aged under 11 years may not show entire males in ridden classes. Please ensure your pony is correctly registered in your name.
- 6. CHAMPIONSHIPS:** Where a Shetland is eligible to go forward to a Supreme Championship involving other breeds, every effort should be made to attend. This should be considered an honour and a chance to promote and bring the Shetland breed to the attention of others. If you cannot attend a Championship for which you are eligible, please ensure you advise the Show Secretary and/or Steward as soon as possible.
- 7. GENERAL:** Exhibitors should be aware that a Judge may not place in a class a pony, which to his/her knowledge has been bred, sold, leased or produced by the Judge or his/her immediate family or employer, nor may he/she place a pony in which he/she has a financial interest, nor may he/she place an entire male by whom he/she has had a mare stunted in that season. Should a situation arise when such a pony appears, a referee, preferably on the appropriate panel of Judges, should be appointed by the Show Secretary to place the pony in question in its position in the class. If you intend to show a pony under a Judge falling into any of the above categories, therefore, please ensure you advise the Show Secretary well in advance of the Show. Always check Show Schedules to see if a current flu vaccination certificate is required.

BREED DESCRIPTION

SECTION A

HEIGHT: Not exceeding 12 hands high (121.9 cms).

GENERAL CHARACTER: Hardy, spirited and pony-like.

COLOUR: Any colour, except piebald and skewbald.

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

EYES: Bold.

EARS: Well-placed, small and pointed, well up on the head, proportionately close.

NOSTRILS: Prominent and open.

JAWS AND THROAT: Clean and finely-cut, with ample room at the angle of the jaw.

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

SHOULDERS: Long and sloping well back. Withers moderately fine, but not “knifey”. The humerus upright so that the foreleg is not set in under the body.

FORELEGS: Set square and true, and not tied in at the elbows. Long, strong forearm, well developed knee, short flat bone below knee, pasterns of proportionate slope and length, feet well-shaped and round, hoofs dense.

BACK AND LOINS: Muscular, strong and well coupled.

GIRTH: Deep.

RIBS: Well sprung.

HIND QUARTERS: Hocks to be large, flat and clean with points prominent, to turn neither inwards nor outwards. The hind leg not to be too bent. The hock not to be set behind a line from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped, hoofs dense.

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

WELSH PONY AND COB SOCIETY

SECTION B

HEIGHT: Not exceeding 13.2 hands high (137.2 cms).

GENERAL CHARACTER: The general description of ponies in Section A of the Stud Book (given above) is applicable to those in Section B, but more particularly the Section B pony shall be described as a riding pony, with quality, riding action, adequate bone and substance, hardiness and constitution and with pony character.

SECTIONS C & D

HEIGHT: Section C - not exceeding 13.2hh (137.2 cms)

Section D - should exceed 13.2hh (137.2 cms) but no upper limit

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

COLOUR: Any colour, except piebald and skewbald.

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

EYES: Bold, prominent and set widely apart.

EARS: Neat and well set.

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

SHOULDERS: Strong but well laid back.

FORELEGS: Set square and not tied in at the elbows. Long, strong forearms. Knees well developed with an abundance of bone below them. Pasterns of proportionate slope and length. Feet well-shaped. Hoofs dense. When in the rough, a moderate quantity of silky feather is not objected to but coarse wiry hair is a definite objection.

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

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

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

ACTION: Free, true and forcible. The knee should be bent and the whole foreleg should be extended straight from the shoulder and as far forward as possible in the trot. Hocks flexed under the body with straight and powerful leverage.

WELSH PONY AND COB SOCIETY

SHOWING RULES

1. Stallions and Colts

1.1 A stallion is accepted as such when 4 years of age. All stallions, 4 years old and over exhibited in stallion classes must be in possession of a Welsh Pony & Cob Society Licence of Correctness (or acknowledged alternative).

Colts may be licensed from 1st January of their 2 year old year and all colts presented for stallion premiums must be licensed. Progeny of unlicensed colts or stallions are not eligible for registration.

1.2 In the interest of safety all stallions and colts, two years old or over must be suitably bitted and led by a handler that has attained their 14th birthday before January 1st of the current year.

1.3 Please note that colts out of F.S.1. (first generation foundation stock) mares are not eligible to compete at shows and can only be entered for competition after castration and entry in Section E of the Stud Book.

2. Mares

2.1 For showing purposes, females are acknowledged as being Brood Mares when four years old or over with foal at foot or has produced a foal in the current year.

2.2 Three year old fillies with foals at foot should be discouraged from competing.

2.3 A Novice Brood Mare is a pony or cob that has not won a first prize in any Brood Mare Classes up to and including the published closing date of entry.

2.4 A Barren Mare, for the purpose of showing, is a mare that has not produced a foal and will not produce a foal in the current year.

3. Foals

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

3.2 No foal to be shown in a bit of any type. Halter or leather head collar permissible.

4. Trimming

4.1 Animals registered in Sections A, B, C, D & E must be shown in as natural a state as possible, manes and tails must not be plaited with the exception of a single long plait behind the ear.

4.2 Welsh Part-Breds should preferably be plaited but this is optional.

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4.3 Animals, 3 years old and under must not be body clipped for showing purposes. Animals 4 years old or over, which have been clipped for winter activities can be shown. Fresh clipping for spring shows is not permissible. Judges must take special notes of this. Legs must not be clipped.

5. Dress

5.1 Handlers must, at all times, present themselves in the show ring neatly and smartly dressed.

6. Markings

6.1 Deliberate changes to the original markings of an animal as recorded on the registration certificate will not be allowed.

7. Height

7.1 All ponies, 4 years old and over, come under the jurisdiction of the Joint Measurement Board. The following heights apply to the four Sections of the Welsh Stud Book. Measurements are not to be rounded up to nearest cms.

Section A	Welsh Mountain Ponies	Not exceeding 12.0 hands (121.9cms)
Section B	Welsh Ponies	Not exceeding 13.2 hands (137.2cms)
Section C	Welsh Ponies (Cob Type)	Not exceeding 13.2 hands (137.2cms)
Section D	Welsh Cobs	No height limit

Half an inch will be allowed in height for shoeing.

Heights recommended for “on the day of the show” for sections A, B & C

<u>Height at Maturity</u>	<u>Yearling</u>	<u>2 year old</u>	<u>3 year old</u>
12.0 hh (121.9cms)	11.1hh (114.3 cms)	11.2 hh (116.8 cms)	11.3hh(119.4 cms)
13.2 hh (137.2 cms)	12.3hh (129.5 cms)	13.0 hh (132.1 cms)	13.1hh (134.6 cms)

7.2 Where possible the Society would encourage exhibitors not to shoe youngstock but where they have to be shod, would ask that the shoes be light in weight.

8. Freeze Branding

8.1 The Society does not object to ponies and cobs being branded and this should not be detrimental to animals in the show or sale ring and is encouraged by the Society.

9. Age

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

WELSH PONY AND COB SOCIETY

10. Soundness

10.1 If a pony/cob entered in a class is, in the opinion of the Judge, unsound, the Judge shall, at his/her discretion, require the exhibitor to withdraw the animal from that class or place it at the end of the line. The Judge's decision in this matter is FINAL.

11. Conduct

11.1 Where an unruly animal is likely to cause an accident, the judge has the power to ask that the animal to leave the ring.

11.2 Exhibitors must not remove their ponies from the Ring during judging, without the Judge's permission. The class ends when the judge requests the class to be dismissed.

11.3 Exhibitors of the Welsh Breeds must not enter an animal in any Show when that animal will be judged by a person who has or has had a financial interest in that particular exhibit, stud work exempt, (the exhibitor being the owner, lessee or person producing and/or showing the animal):

(a) A judge may not adjudicate a class in which, to the Judge's knowledge, a pony bred, sold, leased or produced by the Judge or his immediate family or employer is exhibited.

(b) If a judge has reasonable grounds for belief that any part of Rule 11.3 (a) is being contravened he must ask the exhibitor to leave the ring and the exhibitor must withdraw. The Judge's decision is final in all cases.

(c) A rider, whip or handler must not compete in a class judged by a person for whom he/she has ridden, driven or produced in hand during the previous 12 months.

(d) A judge may not judge an exhibitor for whom they have produced an animal within the previous 12 months.

11.4 Substitutions and nomination of entries are not allowed.

12. Whips and Canes (Riding)

12.1 No riding whips/canes shall exceed 75cms (30 inches).

13. Performance Classes

- 13.1 There is no age restriction for riders in open pure bred Welsh Pony or Cob ridden classes with the exception of stallions in that riders must have attained their 12th birthday before the 1st of January of the current year when riding a Section A, B or Part-bred under 137.2cms (13.2hh) and their 14th before the first of January of the current year for Section C, D or Part-bred over 137.2cms (13.2hh). Riders of Welsh Part-Bred animals may be governed by specific age groups within their classification.
- 13.2 In driven competition the driver, groom(s) and passenger(s) must have attained their 15th birthday on the first day of the show at which they are to compete. In the event that the driver is under the age of 18 he/she must be accompanied in the vehicle by a person aged 18 or over. Proof of age will be required in the event of a query.
- 13.3 No spurs to be used in any class.
- 13.4 A Judge has the power to ask any animal, which constitutes a danger, to leave the ring. The Judge's decision is final.
- 13.5 Where a rider has been unseated or fallen from his/her animal, the rider cannot re-mount in the ring. The animal must be led out of the ring and cannot re-join the Class.
- 13.6 Correctly secured British standard skull caps/riding hats up to current British Standard must be worn at all times when mounted.
N.B. A competitor whose hat comes off, or chin strap comes undone whilst competing must, on penalty of elimination replace it or fasten it before continuing. He may dismount without penalty to recover the hat or have it passed up from the ground, or may stop without penalty to fasten the chin strap.
- 13.7 No change of rider will be allowed during a class without the Judge's permission. Where an exhibitor qualifies two animals for a championship, they must elect a substitute rider who conforms to the regulations of the class.
- 13.8 In all ridden and driven classes ponies/cobs/part-breds must be 4 years old or over.
- 13.9 Mares with a suckling foal born during the current season are not eligible to compete in ridden or driven classes.
- 13.10 No animal will be shown on a leading rein except those entered in Leading Rein classes.

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13.11 Grooms and handlers, when entering the ring, must at all times look neat and smartly dressed.

14. Novices

14.1 A pony/cob/Welsh Part-Bred shall be deemed not to be a Novice if, by 1st January of the current year, it has won an Open class within the discipline in which it is currently competing.

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

15. Lead Rein and First Ridden

15.1 Classification should be as follows:

Mountain and Moorland Lead Rein, open to registered Welsh Sections A or B, mare or geldings not exceeding 122cms (12hh). Riders must have attained their 3rd birthday but must not have attained their 9th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

Ponies to be shown in a suitable snaffle bridle - the reins to go directly from the bit to the rider's hands. The lead rein must be attached to the noseband only; no extra attachment to or on the saddle.

Mountain and Moorland First Ridden, open to registered Welsh Sections A or B, mares or geldings, not exceeding 128cms (12.2 hh). Riders must not have attained their 12th birthday before 1st January in the current year. Ponies are to be shown in a suitable bridle. Ponies must not be cantered except in their individual show.

16. Pure Bred Ridden Classes

16.1 It is required by the Society that Welsh Mountain Ponies and Welsh Ponies, Sections A and B, shown under saddle (stallions, mares and geldings) must be judged at the Walk, Trot and Canter. Riders will be asked to gallop during their individual show. The only exception to this rule is where, at the discretion of the Judge/Show it is deemed too dangerous to gallop. Judges must also take into consideration manners, way of going, conformation and breed type. The animals may be ridden at the discretion of the Judge.

17. Working Hunter Classes

17.1 Working Hunter Pony classes, open to stallions, mares and geldings.

17.2 No pony may be shown on a lead-rein.

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17.3 No change of rider or saddlery is allowed between phases or during a phase. Protective boots may be used for the jumping phases only. Bandages and protective pads on animals feet are not allowed.

17.4 Once judging has commenced, if a pony leaves the ring, it will be eliminated from the class.

17.5 Five classes are recommended:

Height Section 1	Not exceeding 122cm (12hh)
Height Section 2	Exceeding 122cm (12hh) and not exceeding 133cm (13hh)
Height Section 3	Exceeding 134cm (13hh) and not exceeding 143cm (14hh)
Height Section 4	Exceeding 143cm (14 hh)

If Welsh Part-Breds are competing within the same section, end class 4 at 153cms (15hh) and add:

Height Section 5 Exceeding 153cm (15 hh)

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

- (a) The maximum spread must be at the base of the fence.
- (b) Not more than two fences may be of maximum spread.
- (c) Round poles to have round cups, gates to have flat cups.
- (d) The jumping phase will be taken first and any pony eliminated will not be required again.
- (e) The course must consist of a minimum of seven fences, maximum of nine, one of which must be a spread, with no more than two double elements. A change of direction must be included.
- (f) It is recommended that competitors be allowed to walk the course on foot before their class.

17.7 Height of Fences

	<u>Height</u>		<u>Spread</u>
	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Max</u>
Height Section 1	1'9" (53 cms)	2'0" (61 cms)	1'9" (53 cms)
Height Section 2	2'3" (69 cms)	2'6" (76 cms)	2'3" (69 cms)
Height Section 3	2'6" (76 cms)	3'0" (90 cms)	2'6" (76 cms)
Height Section 4	2'9" (84 cms)	3'3" (99 cms)	2'9" (84 cms)
Height Section 5	3'0" (90 cms)	3'6" (106 cms)	3'0" (90 cms)

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For novices -

Height Section 1	1'6" (47 cms)	1'9" (53 cms)	1'6" (47 cms)
Height Section 2	2'0" (61 cms)	2'3" (69 cms)	2'0" (61 cms)
Height Section 3	2'3" (96 cms)	2'6" (76 cms)	2'3" (69 cms)
Height Section 4	2'6" (76 cms)	2'9" (84 cms)	2'6" (76 cms)
Height Section 5	2'9" (84 cms)	3'3" (99 cms)	2'9" (84 cms)

18. Penalties

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

Marking

Jumping	50
Style while jumping	20
Conformation, freedom of action & Breed type	20
Manners	10
Half marks in the event of a tie	

19. Guidance for Showing

19.1 Trimming Hints:

The Welsh breeds are a Native breed and too much trimming and pulling detracts from their native characteristics.

Long hair under the jawline and those protruding from the ears may be trimmed off leaving as natural a line as possible. The whiskers around the muzzle may be trimmed.

If the mane and tail is very thick, they can be discreetly thinned to show off the topline and the hindquarters. The tail should look natural and **should not** be "banged" (leveled off square).

20. In-Hand Tack

- 20.1 Youngstock May be shown in a white webbing or rope show halter, leather head collar or show bridle.
- 20.2 Mares/Geldings Four years old or over may be shown in a white webbing or rope show halter, leather head collar, show bridle or riding bridle.
- 20.3 Colts/Stallions Two years old or over, should be suitably bitted.
The use of stallion Show Tack is optional.

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21. Ridden Tack

- 21.1 Saddle Close fitting and comfortable. The use of a plain coloured numnah is optional.
- 21.2 Bridle A snaffle or double bridle or pelham. Cavesson noseband, plain brow band, not brass as with in-hand bridles.
- 21.3 No extra tack to be worn in flat classes. Martingales and brushing boots are permissible in WHP classes (See rule 17.3) Style of boots optional.

22. Dress

- 22.1 Jodhpurs Cream or fawn breeches or jodhpurs. Style of boots optional.
- 22.2 Jacket Tweed riding jacket, with or without a plain coloured waistcoat.
- 22.3 Shirt Light shirt with collar and tie.
- 22.4 Gloves Should be worn.
- 22.5 Jewellery Should not be worn.

The impression to aim for is smart, workmanlike, safe and comfortable.