



# THE NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY

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## Summer Show Affiliation 2026

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# A GUIDELINES FOR AFFILIATION

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a) Please use the **Affiliation Form – Summer 2026** for your application, this will greatly increase the speed at which we can process your affiliation. The form can be downloaded from **[www.nationalponysociety.com/affiliation](http://www.nationalponysociety.com/affiliation)**
- b) Please send a **draft schedule to us for approval 6 weeks or more prior to printing**. If schedules are emailed alterations will be made directly on to your electronic copy and emailed back.
- c) **All NPS classes must be run under NPS rules**. A copy of the Rule Book will be provided in your show pack or can be downloaded from <https://www.nationalponysociety.com/rule-book/> . Please ensure that your show's rules do not conflict with the NPS General Rules for Showing. **In Horse of the Year Show qualifying classes where there is a conflict of rules, Horse of the Year Show rules will take preference over NPS rules**
- d) **NPS classes must be judged by judges from the NPS Official List of Judges and their suitability for a particular class must be approved by the NPS and their names must be published in the show schedule.**
- e) Shows must give six rosettes in all classes affiliated to the NPS
- f) **Results must be returned to the NPS Office immediately after the show. If results are not received within 7 days this may affect future affiliations.**
- g) The NPS Summer Championship show **2026** will be held from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> **August 2025**. The 25/26 Summer Season will end on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026**.
- h) If your show is to be held **after Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026** please indicate in your schedule that qualifiers are for the **2027** NPS Championship Show.
- i) The NPS tries to make its rules compatible with those of other Societies. However, it is not always possible to run NPS qualifying rounds in conjunction with other Societies' qualifying rounds.
- j) Show organisers are asked to endeavour to ensure satisfactory ground conditions.
- k) Please give our Sponsors the opportunity to display advertising material. Where this involves cost, the Sponsor should be charged, but please consider carrying their advertisements in your schedule / catalogue, and allow them space to display banners by the relevant ring etc.
- l) Shows **must** have adequate public liability insurance cover. Please sign and confirm on the affiliation form that your show has cover.
- m) There **must** be qualified first aid cover in attendance at shows.
- n) Foals must be four weeks or older on the day of the show in NPS affiliated classes.
- o) The NPS reserve the right to refuse affiliation.
- p) **The NPS reserve the right to send a special showing steward to any NPS affiliated show.**

## **2. REMINDER FOR 2026**

**Qualification Cards-** The owner's valid, current membership card must be shown in the ring to receive most qualifications. Please continue to send in results to the office so that qualification can be confirmed and verified. These can be sent in any clear format already available but must include the name of the **owner of the pony** and the **name of the pony**. Once results have been received into the Office, if the Owner of the qualifying pony cannot be verified by the office, or if a pony has already qualified, the NPS reserve the right to pass the qualification down no lower than third place.

Qualification cards for the NPS/WTJ Insurance Brokers Home Produced Ridden Finals have been amalgamated into a single card that riders will now carry in their pockets and ask the judge to sign as appropriate. Therefore no qualification cards for these finals will be sent in your show pack.

**Stallion Discs-** All In Hand Stallions **are advised** to wear a bridle disc when showing in NPS classes. As with ridden stallions, for which it remains compulsory, these may be from any UK society as long as they are easily identified or an NPS Stallion Disc may be purchased from the NPS Office.

## **3. MAJOR QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS**

**Royal International Horse Show** - Qualifying Rounds for the NPS M&M Working Hunter Pony Championship, held at The Agria Royal International Horse Show, are allocated by the NPS Competitions Committee. An additional charge per competitor is payable directly to the RIHS for these classes. The RIHS sets this charge and will provide a pro forma invoice.

**Show secretaries wishing to apply for a qualifying round for the above competition should apply to the NPS Competitions Committee via the NPS office by 30<sup>th</sup> August 2026. All applications are considered during the October meeting of the committee.**

**Assendons Area Championship** - The Assendons Area competition can only be held at NPS Area shows, and the NPS Spring Festival. In addition the Champion and Reserve from the NPS Dressage Supreme Finals will also qualify for the Assendons Final.

## 4. NPS MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

N.B. Please see section A 8 Special Conditions for Designated Breed Shows for exceptions to these rules.

- a) Qualifying rounds for most NPS competitions are open to ponies owned by NPS members and non-members, but **only ponies owned by adult Qualifying or Life NPS members are eligible to qualify for the final of the competition.**
- b) The highest placed pony owned by an NPS member in each class to go forward to the final. If the first placed pony has qualified, the second placed pony owned by an NPS member will qualify, qualification can go no lower than third place (unless specified). Owner's membership cards must be shown in the ring.
- c) Silver Medal Rosettes can only be won by ponies owned by **NPS Qualifying or Life Members. (Apart from designated Breed Shows.)**
- d) For the following competitions NPS Membership is **not** required for qualification:
  - Ottergayle Hack and Riding Horse In Hand Supreme Championship (owners do not have to be members to qualify **or** to enter the final).
  - SP/SHP Open Ridden
  - SP/SHP Novice Ridden
  - SP/SHP First Ridden & Leading Rein
  - Plaited Working Hunter Pony
  - Young Rider Championship

## 5. JUDGES

- a) At all shows affiliated to the NPS, judges must be on the appropriate NPS Judges Panel as per class rules – either the Riding Pony Breeding Panel, Mixed M&M Panel, M&M Working Hunter Pony Panel, Plaited Working Hunter Panel - or where appropriate, the BSHA or appropriate Breed Society Panel. All NPS qualifying rounds and Silver Medal Rosette Championships must be judged by NPS approved judges.
- b) For Mixed Mountain and Moorland classes the judge must be on the NPS Mixed M&M Panel, except for classes of a single breed when the rule is as follows:
  - **At shows where there are two or more In Hand classes restricted to a single breed, the judge must be on the current Judges Panel of that breed.**
  - Where there is only one In Hand class restricted to a single breed the judge may be from either the breed panel or from the NPS Mixed M&M Panel
  - Welsh A, B, C and D can be judged by any Welsh panel judge provided the show is not affiliated to the WPCS
- c) Judges of qualifiers of the NPS Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Pony Royal International Horse Show Championships **must not** have annotation after their names. **Judges who have the annotation cWHP must not judge the jumping section of ANY working hunter qualifiers but can judge the conformation section.**
- d) Judges being asked to judge a qualifying round of any NPS competition **must** be informed that it is a qualifying round as there are restrictions on the number of qualifying rounds they can judge in a year.
- e) Silver Medal Rosette Championships **must not** be judged jointly by two Judges. The name of the person judging the Silver Medal Rosette Championship must be printed in the schedule.
- f) The NPS encourages shows to allow probationer judges to accompany the official judges.

- g) Should a judge be unable to fulfill his/her judging obligations, the show should inform the NPS Office as soon as possible and submit the name(s) of the substitute judge(s). The NPS keeps a list of emergency judges, please contact the office if required.
- h) Shows are asked to supply expense claim forms for judges. **NPS recommends up to 40p per mile (up to a maximum of £135)** or 2<sup>nd</sup> class rail fare should be paid within 14 days of the show.
- i) We appreciate that finding stewards is becoming increasingly difficult. Please try to choose stewards who are familiar with NPS rules and provide them with a copy of the NPS Rule Book. It is essential the WHP mark steward is experienced and familiar with the NPS marking system and a clip-board should be supplied. **If an extra copy of the rule book is required, please ask the office.**

## 6. PONIES – HEIGHTS FOR YOUNGSTOCK

Recommended heights for young stock on the day of the show are as follows:

Adult Height	Yearling	2 Year Old	3 Year Old
122 cm	117 cm	120 cm	121 cm
128 cm	123 cm	126 cm	127 cm
133 cm	128 cm	131 cm	132 cm
138 cm	133 cm	136 cm	137 cm
143 cm	138 cm	141 cm	142 cm
148 cm	143 cm	146 cm	147 cm
153 cm	148 cm	151 cm	152 cm

## 7. CONDITIONS FOR NPS SILVER MEDAL ROSETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) Silver Medal Rosettes can only be awarded to ponies owned by **NPS Qualifying or Life members.** (**Apart from designated Breed Shows.**)
- b) Affiliated shows can select to award a Silver Medal Rosette for the championship in one or more of the following sections:
  - Mountain and Moorland In Hand Classes
  - Mountain and Moorland Ridden Classes
  - British Riding Pony (Show Pony) In Hand Classes
  - British Riding Pony (Show Hunter Pony) In Hand Classes
- c) The Silver Medal Rosette Championships must cover all the classes which are eligible for affiliation, are run under NPS Rules and are judged by NPS approved judges. Schedules must identify the classes eligible for the Silver Medal Rosette Championship. It is not always possible to combine a Silver Medal Rosette Championship with other Championships.
- d) Winners of Mountain and Moorland Working Hunter Pony, Leading Rein and First Ridden classes are **not** eligible for Mountain and Moorland Ridden Silver Medal Rosette Championships.
- e) Foals are **not** eligible for Silver Medal Rosette Championships.
- f) The Silver Medal Rosette goes to the Champion, if owned by an **NPS Qualifying or Life** member. If the Champion is not owned by an NPS member the Silver Medal Rosette goes to the Reserve if it is owned by an NPS member. Silver Medal Rosette to go no lower than first Reserve (third) provided it is owned by an NPS member.

**Please ensure the Champion, Reserve and First Reserve are recorded on your results sheet.**

The qualification goes to the Champion if owned by an NPS member and not already qualified for the final. If the Champion is not owned by an NPS Member or has already qualified then the qualification goes to the Reserve Champion, if owned by an NPS member, unless he has already qualified. Qualification to go no lower than first Reserve.

- g) Judges for Silver Medal Rosette Championships must fulfill the following criteria:
  - For Show Pony and Show Hunter Pony In Hand classes the judge must be on the NPS Show Pony Breeding Panel.
  - For Mixed Mountain and Moorland classes the judge must be on the NPS Mixed M&M Panel, except for classes of a single breed when the rule is as follows:
    - If there are two or more In Hand classes restricted to a single Mountain & Moorland breed, the judge must be on the current Judges Panel of that breed.
    - If there is only one In Hand class restricted to a single breed the judge may be from the breed panel or from the current NPS Mixed M&M Panel
    - Welsh A, B, C and D can be judged by any Welsh panel judge provided the show is not affiliated to the WPCS
    -
- i) The judge of the Championship where a Silver Medal Rosette is awarded must be on the appropriate NPS Panel. The judge's name must be stated in the show schedule. The Championship may not be judged jointly.

## 8. SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR DESIGNATED BREED SHOWS

Special conditions apply to shows designated by the Breed Societies as their Breed Shows. **For Breed Shows some of the standard schedule wording in Section B needs to be altered to ensure that the conditions described below are applied.**

### a) NPS Membership Criteria

- Qualifying rounds for most NPS competitions are open to ponies owned by NPS members and non-members and **at Breed Shows ponies can qualify for the final even if their owners are not NPS members.**
- **The owner of a pony qualifying at a Breed Show must become an NPS Qualifying member for the pony to enter the final at the NPS Summer Championship Show.**
- **At Breed Shows ponies can win Silver Medal Rosettes even if their owners are not members of the NPS but they must become NPS Qualifying members to enter the final.**

NPS Qualifying Rounds, Breed Show Rules: These classes are judged under the Rules of the NPS. Ponies must be registered in the main body of their respective Mountain & Moorland Stud Books. Part bred are not eligible for Mountain & Moorland Classes.

Qualifying rounds for most NPS competitions are open to ponies owned by NPS members and non-members and at breed shows ponies can qualify for finals even if their owners are not members. Owners of qualified ponies must become adult Qualifying or Life members to enter the final of the competition at the NPS Summer Championship Show at Malvern from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2026.

The highest placed pony in each class will qualify for the final. Qualification may pass down to third place if the first and second ponies are already qualified.

NPS/WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship - Riders of Home Produced ponies (see definition in the NPS Rules Book) can wear a white arm band in classes where this is indicated. These ponies are then eligible to qualify for the final at the NPS Summer Championship Show.

NPS Silver Medal Rosette Championships, Breed Show Rules: These classes are judged under the Rules of the NPS. At breed shows Silver Medals may be won by non-members. The owner of the qualified pony must become an Adult Qualifying or Life member to enter the final. If the Champion pony has previously qualified it is still entitled to the Silver Medal Rosette, but the qualification card goes to the Reserve Champion pony. The Silver Medal Rosette and the qualification card can be awarded no lower than first Reserve (third). Foals are not eligible for Silver Medal Championships.

### b) Judges

- At Breed Shows, M&M classes and M&M Silver Medal Rosette Championships can be judged by an NPS Panel Judge or by a judge from the Breed Panel concerned.

### c) Classes

- At Breed Shows competitions that are normally split into five classes will only have classes appropriate to that Breed. i.e. Four classes at Welsh Breed Shows and one class at other Breed Shows.
- Shows may run mixed breed classes alongside their breed classes, but these will be subject to “normal” qualification rules.

## B SCHEDULE WORDING

Please note that the following schedule wording can be copied and pasted directly into your schedule.

Shows affiliated to the NPS **MUST** include the following general wording somewhere in their schedule:

NPS Qualifying Rounds: These classes are judged under the Rules of the NPS. Ponies must be registered in the main body of their respective M&M Stud Book. Or for British Riding Pony Classes must be registered in the appropriate section of the British Riding Pony Studbook.

Qualifying rounds for most NPS competitions are open to ponies owned by NPS members and non-members but only ponies owned by adult NPS **Qualifying or Life** members are eligible to qualify for the final of the competition at the NPS Summer Championship Show at Malvern from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2026.

**The highest placed pony, if owned by an NPS member, in each class will qualify for the final.**

**Qualification may pass down to third place if the first and second ponies are already qualified.**

NPS/WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship - Riders of Home Produced ponies (see definition in the NPS Rules Book) can wear a white arm band in classes where this is indicated. These ponies, if owned by NPS members, are then eligible to qualify for the final at the NPS Summer Championship Show. The Owner's Membership cards **MUST** be produced in the ring when requested or the qualification will be forfeit.

### 1. WORDING FOR MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND CLASSES

Please then include in the main part of the schedule the following words specific to the actual qualifying rounds that are being held or "To be run under National Pony Society Rules 2025" under each class.

If the NPS qualifier is being run alongside an existing Horse of the Year Show qualifier, and there are two Judges officiating, at least one of those Judges must be an NPS A panel MM Judge. The second Judge may be on an external M&M panel and is subject to NPS Office approval.

#### Open Ridden Classes

The NPS/RINGSIDE STUD M&M Open Ridden National Championship

(MM-OR)

*Qualifying shows may hold 2 classes – small and large breeds or split into 5 classes*

**Either:**

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Class 1 | Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh A, Welsh B                   |
| Class 2 | Connemara, Dales, Fell, Highland, New Forest, Welsh C, Welsh D |

**Or:**

- |         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| Class 1 | Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland |
| Class 2 | Welsh A, Welsh B           |
| Class 3 | Dales, Fell, Highland      |
| Class 4 | New Forest and Connemara   |
| Class 5 | Welsh C, Welsh D           |

Open to registered pure bred M&M stallions, mares and geldings five years old or over.

*NPS/WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship Qualifier– wear white arm bands.*

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*



**The NPS/DARGAVEL-VALGARDE M&M Young Ridden Pony National Championship** (MM-4/5/6R)

Class 1	All breeds – 4 years old
Class 2	All breeds – 5 years old
Class 3	All breeds – 6 years old

Open to pure bred registered M&M stallions, mares and geldings four, five or six years old  
*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

**The NPS/PEASEDOWN STUD & JESS TALBOT M&M Intermediate Ridden National Championship** (MM-IR)

***Either:***

Class 1	Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh A, Welsh B
Class 2	Connemara, Dales, Fell, Highland, New Forest, Welsh C, Welsh D

***Or:***

Class 1	Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland
Class 2	Welsh A, Welsh B
Class 3	New Forest, Connemara
Class 4	Fell, Highland, Dales
Class 5	Welsh C, Welsh D

Open to pure bred registered M&M stallions, mares and geldings five years old or over  
A pony is not eligible to compete if it has qualified before 1st January in the current year for:  
i) The M&M Open Ridden Championship final at Horse of the Year Show or  
ii) The M&M Supreme Ridden Championship final at London International Horse Show or  
iii) The M&M Open Ridden Championship Final at Royal International Horse Show  
*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

**The NPS/PICTON STUD M&M Novice Ridden National Championship** (MM-NR)

Class 1	Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland
Class 2	Welsh A, Welsh B
Class 3	New Forest, Connemara
Class 4	Fell, Highland, Dales
Class 5	Welsh C, Welsh D

Open to pure bred registered M&M stallions, mares and geldings four years old or over.  
A pony is not eligible to compete if, before 1st January in the current year, it has done any of the following:  
i. Won an open affiliated mixed M&M Ridden class  
ii. Qualified for Horse of the Year Show, LIHS or RIHS Open M&M Ridden classes  
iii. Qualified for the M&M Novice or Intermediate Ridden final at the NPS Summer Championship show (N.B. Ponies can compete as novices in this competition for two consecutive years provided they do not submit an entry to the final in the first year).  
iv. If a pony qualifies for Horse of the Year Show, LIHS or RIHS in its second year it is immediately de-noviced and cannot compete in the Picton Final.

Ponies must be shown in a snaffle bit.

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

## **Junior Classes**

### **The NPS/ M&M Junior Ridden National Championship**

**(MM-JR)**

- Class 1 Open to registered Dartmoor, Exmoor, Shetland, Welsh Section A & B mares and geldings four years old and over. Riders must not have attained their 14th birthday before the 1st January in the current year.
- Class 2 Open to registered Dales, Fell, Highland, New Forest, Connemara and Welsh Section C & D mares and geldings four years old and over. Riders must not have attained their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

*NPS/ WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship Qualifier – wear white arm bands.*

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

### **The NPS/PARTRIDGE & PARR M&M First Ridden National Championship**

**(MM-FR)**

Open to mares and geldings four years old or over not exceeding 128 cm registered in the main body of their respective Breed Society stud book. Riders must have attained their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday but not reached their 12th birthday before the 1st January in the current year.

*NPS/ WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship Qualifier – wear white arm bands.*

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

### **The NPS/BRYNDEFAID STUD M&M Novice First Ridden National Championship**

**(MM-NFR)**

Open mares and geldings four years old or over not exceeding 128 cm registered in the main body of their respective Breed Society stud book. Riders must have attained their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday but not reached their 12th birthday before the 1st January in the current year.

Pony never to have won a first prize of £10 or more in First Ridden classes or qualified for the NPS/Partridge & Parr M&M Open First Ridden Final before 1<sup>st</sup> January in current year.

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

### **The NPS/SHOWING CLASSICS M&M Leading Rein National Championship**

**(MM-LR)**

Open to mares and geldings four years old or over not exceeding 122 cm registered in the main body of their respective Breed Society stud book. Riders must have attained their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday but must not have attained their 9th birthday before the 1st January in the current year. To be shown in a snaffle bit.

*NPS/ WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship Qualifier – wear white arm bands.*

### **The NPS M&M Novice Leading Rein National Championship, kindly sponsored by THE KING'S HEAD**

**(MM-NLR)**

Open to mares and geldings 4 years old or over not exceeding 122 cm registered in the main body of their respective Breed Society stud book. Riders must have attained their 3rd birthday but must not have attained their 9th birthday before 1st January in the current year.

Ponies never to have won a first prize of £10 or more in Leading Rein classes or qualified for the NPS/Showing Classics M&M Open Leading Rein final before 1<sup>st</sup> January in current year. To be shown in a snaffle bit.

## **Working Hunter Pony Classes**

No rider may ride more than one pony in a class except that riders in all WHP and Arena Eventing classes that are not qualifiers for HOYS or RIHS may ride up to two ponies of the same height in a class, and both ponies can go forward for show and conformation judging. There must be no change of rider between the phases

### **The NPS/BAILEYS HORSE FEEDS M&M Working Hunter Pony Royal International Horse Show Championship**

- Class 1 Ponies not exceeding 122cm
- Class 2 Ponies exceeding 122cm but not exceeding 133cm
- Class 3 Ponies exceeding 133cm but not exceeding 143cm
- Class 4 Ponies exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 148cms (with the exception of Welsh Section D and Dales for which there is no height restriction).

Open to pure bred registered M&M stallions, mares and geldings, five years old or over. **The owner must be a Qualifying or Life member of the NPS for the pony to enter this competition.** Riders may only ride one pony in each class.

The highest placed pony from each class to qualify for the final at Hickstead. Qualification may pass down to third in the event first and second have already qualified, with the exception of Royal Windsor Horse Show where qualification may go no lower than fifth place

At the final riders must also be NPS members.

Riders must have competed in at least 2 M&M WHP Royal International Horse Show qualifying rounds before competing in the Final at the Royal International Horse Show and must send proof of this to the office as per the instructions on the allocated qualifying card.

### **The NPS/SMITHERS SHOW TEAM M&M Working Hunter Pony National Championship** (MM-WHP)

- Class 1 – Ponies not exceeding 122cms
- Class 2 – Ponies exceeding 122cms but not exceeding 133cms
- Class 3 – Ponies exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 143cms
- Class 4 – Ponies exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 148cms (with the exception of Welsh Section D and Dales for which there is no height restriction).

Open to registered pure bred M&M stallions, mares and geldings, five years old or over.

### **The NPS/AREA 5 M&M Intermediate Working Hunter Pony National Championship** (MM-IWHP)

- Class 1 – Ponies not exceeding 122cms
- Class 2 – Ponies exceeding 122cms but not exceeding 133cms
- Class 3 – Ponies exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 143cms
- Class 4 – Ponies exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 148cms (with the exception of Welsh Section D and Dales for which there is no height restriction).

Open to registered pure bred M&M stallions, mares and geldings, five years old or over. Ponies never to have qualified for the NPS M&M Working Hunter Pony (Horse of the Year Show/RIHS) finals before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year

**The NPS/ELITE COACHWORKS & HORSEBOXES LTD M&M Novice Working Hunter Pony National Championship** (MM-NWHP)

Class 1 – Ponies not exceeding 122cms

Class 2 – Ponies exceeding 122cms but not exceeding 133cms

Class 3 – Ponies exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 143cms

Class 4 – Ponies exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 148cms (with the exception of Welsh Section D and Dales for which there is no height restriction).

Open to registered pure bred M&M stallions, mares and geldings, four years old or over. Ponies must be shown in a snaffle bit.

A pony is not eligible to compete if, before 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year, it has done any of the following:

- i) Won an open affiliated WHP class
- ii) Qualified for Horse of the Year Show or RIHS Open WHP classes
- iii) Qualified for the M&M Novice or Intermediate WHP final at the NPS Summer Championship show (N.B. Ponies can compete as novices in this competition for two consecutive years provided they do not submit an entry to the final in the first year).
- iv) If a pony qualifies for Horse of the Year Show or RIHS in its second year it is immediately de-noviced and cannot compete in the Novice WHP Final.
- v) Ponies that have won more than 5 BE points or 200 BS points, at home or equivalent abroad before 1st January in the current year, are not eligible to compete in novice working classes.

**The NPS/ORLANDO STUD M&M Junior Working Hunter Pony National Championship** (MM-JWHP)

Class 1 Ponies not exceeding 128cm. Riders must not have attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

Class 2 Ponies exceeding 128 cm but not exceeding 138cm. Riders must not have attained their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

Class 3 Ponies exceeding 138cm but not exceeding 148cm (except for Dales and Welsh Section D for which there is no height restriction). Riders must not have attained their 18th birthday by the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.

Open to registered pure bred M&M stallions, mares and geldings, four years old or over. The **three** highest placed ponies, owned by an NPS member, in each class go forward to the final. Where these ponies have already qualified the pony standing next in line, which is owned by an NPS member and has not already qualified, receives the qualification. Qualification goes no lower than fifth place.

**The NPS/STEVENSON BROTHERS ROCKING HORSES M&M First Ridden Working Hunter Pony National Championship** (MM-FRWHP)

Open to registered M&M mares or geldings four years old or over not exceeding 128 cm. Riders must have attained their 5th birthday but must not have attained their 12th birthday before the 1st January in the current year.

Riders who have qualified for the (Horse of the Year Show/RIHS) M&M Working Hunter Pony Championship before the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year are not eligible.

Ponies must not be asked to gallop.

The **three** highest placed ponies, owned by an NPS member, in each class go forward to the final. Where these ponies have already qualified the pony standing next in line, which is owned by an NPS member and has not already qualified, receives the qualification. Qualification goes no lower than fifth place.

## **M&M In Hand Classes**

### **The NPS/ABSORBINE M&M In Hand Summer Championship**

(MM-IH)

These classes are open to pure bred registered M&M ponies in the main body of their studbook. Owner's membership cards must be shown in the ring to receive qualifications. Foals are not eligible.

Class split by age and/or breed at discretion of the show. Please be aware shows running sections with two or more classes for an individual breed will require a relevant breed panel judge. This judge does not also have to be on the NPS MM Panel.

### **The NPS/MOLE VALLEY FARMERS M&M Home Produced In Hand National Championship** (MM-HPIH)

Please see NPS Rule Book, Sec A, 3.6. Please enter this class in the spirit it is intended. Competitors who contravene the above will be disqualified.

*Qualifying shows may hold 2 classes or split at their discretion.*

Class 1            Small Breeds, stallions, mares and geldings any age  
Class 2            Large Breeds, stallions, mares and geldings any age

## **2.    WORDING FOR SHOW PONY AND SHOW HUNTER PONY       CLASSES AND HACK AND RIDING HORSE CLASSES**

**If you are holding NPS Show Pony or Show Hunter Pony classes, please include the following wording relating to these classes at an appropriate place in your schedule in addition to the general wording found on page 8.**

**If the NPS qualifier is being run alongside an existing class, and there are two Judges officiating, at least one of those Judges must be an NPS A panel RPB/HPB Judge. The second Judge may be on an external plaited pony panel subject to NPS Office approval.**

## **Show Pony and Show Hunter Pony Ridden Classes**

### **NPS/LEEMAN FAMILY Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Gold Medal Open Ridden National Championship**

(SP-R)

Class 1 – Show Ponies not exceeding 133cms  
Class 2 – Show Hunter Ponies not exceeding 133cms  
Class 3 – Show Ponies exceeding 133cms and not exceeding 148cms  
Class 4 – Show Hunter Ponies exceeding 133cms and not exceeding 153cms  
Class 5 – Intermediate Show Riding Type or Show Hunter Type, exceeding 148cm and not exceeding 158cm. Optional

If classes are amalgamated the highest placed pony from each height group will qualify. Riders may be any age. Rider to be suitable size for pony. Riders must be 12 years old or over when riding stallions not exceeding 128cm and 14 years old or over when riding stallions exceeding 128cms.

**The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or to qualify but the owner must be a Qualifying or Life member of the NPS to enter the final.**

*NPS/ WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship Qualifier – wear white arm bands*

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

**NPS/ROSETTES DIRECT Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Novice Ridden Championship** (SP-NR)

A pony is not eligible to compete if, before 1st January in the current year, it has done any of the following:

- i. Won an Open affiliated SP/SHP ridden class
  - ii. Qualified for Horse of the Year Show or RIHS Open SP/SHP Ridden classes
  - iii. Qualified for the SP/SHP Novice Ridden final at the NPS Summer Championship show (N.B. Ponies can compete as novices in this competition for two consecutive years provided they do not submit an entry to the final in the first year).
  - iv. If a pony qualifies for Horse of the Year Show or RIHS in its second year it is immediately de-noviced and cannot compete in the Novice SP/SHP Final.
- All ponies in this class must be shown in a snaffle bit.

Class 1 – Show Ponies not exceeding 133cms

Class 2 – Show Hunter Ponies not exceeding 133cms

Class 3 – Show Ponies exceeding 133cms and not exceeding 148cms

Class 4 – Show Hunter Ponies exceeding 133cms and not exceeding 153cms

Class 5 – Intermediate Show Riding Type or Show Hunter Type, exceeding 148cm and not exceeding 158cm. Optional

If classes are amalgamated the highest placed pony from each height group will qualify. Riders may be any age. Rider to be suitable size for pony. Riders must be 12 years old or over when riding stallions not exceeding 128cm and 14 years old or over when riding stallions exceeding 128cms.

**The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or to qualify but the owner must be a Qualifying or Life member of the NPS to enter the final.**

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

**The NPS/ Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony First Ridden National Championship** (SP-FR)

Open to registered mares and geldings 4 years old and over, not exceeding 122cm. Riders must have attained their 3rd birthday but must not have attained their 10th birthday before the 1st January in the current year.

**The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or to qualify but the owner must be a Qualifying or Life member of the NPS to enter the final.**

Ponies must be shown in any suitable bridle.

*NPS/ WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship – wear white arm bands.*

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

**NPS Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Novice First Ridden** (SP-NFR)

Rider not to have attained their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year (see rules in section A 3.2). The pony never to have won a first prize of £10 or more in any SP/SHP First Ridden classes before 1st January in the current year.

Ponies must not be cantered except in their individual show. Ponies will not be stripped. Ponies may not be ridden side saddle. This is a standalone competition with no final.

**The NPS/ Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Leading Rein National Championship** (SP-LR)

Open to registered mares and geldings 4 years old and over, not exceeding 122 cm. Riders must have attained their 3rd birthday but must not have attained their 9th birthday before the 1st January in the current year. Ponies must be shown in a snaffle bit.

**The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or to qualify but the owner must be a Qualifying or Life member of the NPS to enter the final.**

*NPS/ WTJ Insurance Brokers Ltd Home Produced Ridden Championship Qualifier – wear white arm bands.*

#### **NPS Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Novice Leading Rein**

**(SP-NLR)**

Rider not to have attained their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year (see rules in section A 3.2). The pony never to have won a first prize of £10 or more in any SP/SHP Leading rein classes before 1st January in the current year.

Ponies will not be stripped. Ponies may not be ridden side saddle. Ponies must be shown in a snaffle bit. This is a standalone competition with no final.

### **Plaited Working Hunter Classes**

**If the NPS qualifier is being run alongside an existing class, and there are two Judges officiating, at least one of those Judges must be a NPS A panel RPB/HPB Judge. The second Judge may be on an external plaited pony panel subject to NPS Office approval.**

#### **The NPS/RIVERVALLEY STUD Open Working Hunter Pony/Working Show Pony National Championship**

**(O-WHP)**

Open to mares and geldings four years old or over. There are no specific pony registration criteria. Ponies must be plaited. Ponies may be measured at the judge's discretion.

Ponies to be judged according to type, either a working hunter or working show pony.

Shows may choose classes at their discretion.

Four classes as follows:

Class 1 - Cradle Stakes, ponies not exceeding 122cms, rider not to have attained their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> Jan in the current year.

Class 2 - Nursery Stakes, ponies not exceeding 133cms, rider not to have attained their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday before 1<sup>st</sup> Jan in the current year.

Class 3 – Ponies not exceeding 143cms, rider any age.

Class 4 - Ponies exceeding 143cms but not exceeding 158cms, rider any age.

**The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or to qualify but the owner must be a Qualifying or Life members of the NPS to enter the final.**

If insufficient entries this competition will be run as a mixed height class.

Riders must jump in the correct height section.

## **Show Pony / Show Hunter Pony/Hack & Riding Horse In Hand Classes**

For in hand classes ponies must be registered in the NPS British Riding Pony Stud Book, Register, Appendix Mare Register, Supplementary Appendix, International or Sports Pony section of the BRPSB; the GSB, the AHSB, the AASB or registered in the main body of their respective Mountain & Moorland stud books. Part-Breds are not eligible unless entered in the NPS British Riding Pony Stud Book.

### **The NPS/KALUSTA STUD British Riding Pony (Show Pony) In Hand Supreme National Championship.**

(SP-IH)

*Shows should try to include a minimum of three of the following classes: -*

- Class 1 – Yearling colt, filly or gelding not to exceed 128cms at maturity
- Class 2 – 2 or 3 year old colt, filly or gelding not to exceed 128cms at maturity
- Class 3 – Yearling colt, filly or gelding to exceed 138cms at maturity.
- Class 4 – 2 or 3 year old colt, filly or gelding not to exceed 138cms at maturity
- Class 5 – Yearling colt, filly or gelding to exceed 148cms at maturity.
- Class 6 – 2 or 3 year old colt, filly or gelding to exceed 148cms at maturity
- Class 7 – Brood mare 4 years old or over, in foal for the current year or with foal at foot.
- Class 8 – Stallion 4 years old or over
- Class 9 – Barren mare or gelding 4 years old or over

Classes may be amalgamated.

The highest placed pony, if owned by an NPS member, in each class will qualify for the final. Qualification may pass down to third place if the first and second ponies are already qualified.

### **The NPS/ TEAM CHARLESWORTH British Riding Pony (Show Hunter Pony) In Hand National Championship**

(HP-IH)

*Shows should try to include a minimum of two of the following classes: -*

- Class 1 Yearling colt, filly or gelding not to exceed 133cms at maturity.
- Class 2 Yearling colt, filly or gelding to exceed 133cms at maturity.
- Class 3 2 or 3 year old filly or gelding not to exceed 133cms at maturity (*include 2 or 3 year old colts if Class 5 not held*)
- Class 4 2 or 3 year old filly or gelding to exceed 133cms at maturity (*include 2 or 3 year old colts if Class 5 not held*)
- Class 5 2 or 3 year old colt any height
- Class 6 Brood mare 4 years old or over, in foal for the current year or with foal at foot not to exceed 153cms
- Class 7 Stallion, 4 years old or over not to exceed 153cms
- Class 8 Barren mare or gelding 4yrs old or over not to exceed 153cms

Classes may be amalgamated.

The highest placed pony, if owned by an NPS member, in each class will qualify for the final. Qualification may pass down to third place if the first and second ponies are already qualified.

### **The NPS Home Produced British Riding Pony In Hand National Championship**

(SP-HPIH)

Open to registered Show Ponies not to exceed 148cm at maturity or Show Hunter Ponies not to exceed 153cms at maturity.

Please see NPS Rule Book, Sec A, 3.6. Please enter this class in the spirit it is intended. Competitors who contravene the above will be disqualified.



Five classes as follows (classes may be amalgamated or run on the back of the British Riding Pony (Show Pony) and British Riding Pony (Show Hunter Pony) open in hand qualifiers. :

- Class 1 Show Pony Yearling colt, filly or gelding
- Class 2 Show Pony 2 or 3 year old colt, filly or gelding
- Class 3 Show Pony 4 years old or over stallion, mare or gelding
- Class 4 Show Hunter Pony Youngstock (not to exceed 153cm at maturity)
- Class 5 Show Hunter Pony 4 years & over stallion, mare or gelding (not to exceed 153cm)

The highest placed pony, if owned by an NPS member, in each class will qualify for the final. Qualification may pass down to third place if the first and second ponies are already qualified.

**NPS/MR & MRS ROBERTS OTTERGAYLE Hack & Riding Horse In Hand Supreme Championship** (H-IH)

*Classes (to be defined by the affiliating show) including the following:*

- Class 1 Hacks four years old and over, stallions, mares and geldings.
- Class 2 Hacks three years old and under, colts fillies and geldings
- Class 3 Riding Horses four years old and over, stallions, mares and geldings.
- Class 4 Riding Horses three years and under, colts, fillies and geldings.

The owner does not have to be an NPS member to enter the competition, to qualify, or to enter the Final.

The first placed horse in each class will qualify for the final at NPS Summer Championship show. Qualification may go no lower than third place. Foals are excluded from qualifying.

### **3. WORDING FOR SILVER MEDAL ROSETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**If you are holding any Silver Medal Rosette Championships please include the following general wording relating to Silver Medal Rosette Championships, at an appropriate place in your schedule:**

NPS Silver Medal Rosette Championships: These classes are judged under the Rules of the NPS. NPS Silver Medal Rosettes are only awarded when the owner of the champion pony is a **Qualifying or Life** member of the NPS. A valid membership card must be in the rider's/handler's possession on entering the ring and be produced immediately on request by either the judge or the steward. If the owner of the Champion pony is not a member, or the owner's membership card is not immediately produced, the rosette may be awarded to the Reserve Champion provided they have the required membership card. If the Champion pony has previously qualified it is still entitled to the Silver Medal Rosette, but the qualification card goes to the Reserve Champion pony, provided the owner of that pony is a member of the NPS. The Silver Medal Rosette and the qualification card can be awarded no lower than first Reserve (third). Foals are not eligible for Silver Medal Championships.

**If your Show is on or before Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026 please include the following:**

Qualifiers are entitled to compete in the final of the Silver Medal Rosette Championship to be held at the NPS Summer Championship Show 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2026.

**If your Show is after the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026 please include the following:**

Qualifiers are entitled to compete in the final of the Silver Medal Rosette Championship to be held at the NPS Summer Championship Show in August 2027

**Please then include the following words specific to the Silver Medal Rosette Championships being held, at the point in the schedule where each championship is listed.**

**NPS/BLACKERTOR & SHARPTOR STUDS M&M In Hand Silver Medal Rosette Championship**  
**(SM-MMIH)**

A Silver Medal Rosette is offered by the National Pony Society for the best registered pony owned by an **NPS Qualifying or Life** member in the M&M In Hand section. Membership cards must be presented in the ring to receive the medal and/or the qualification.

A pony can only attend one M&M In Hand Silver Medal Rosette Championship final in a season either at NPS Summer Championships at Malvern or at NPS Scotland Championships at Scone Palace. A pony may only take the qualification for the Silver Medal Final once in a season.

**NPS/NIPNA DALES PONY STUD M&M Ridden Silver Medal Rosette Championship** (SM-MMR)

A Silver Medal Rosette is offered by the National Pony Society for the best registered pony owned by an **NPS Qualifying or Life** member in the M&M Ridden section (excluding Leading Rein, First Ridden & WHP). Membership cards must be presented in the ring to receive the medal and/or the qualification.

A pony can only attend one M&M Ridden Silver Medal Rosette Championship final in a season either at NPS Summer Championships at Malvern or at NPS Scotland Championships at Scone Palace. A pony may only take the qualification for the Silver Medal Final once in a season.

**NPS/AREA 20 British Riding Pony (Show Pony) In Hand Silver Medal Rosette Championship**  
**(SM-SPIH)**

A Silver Medal Rosette is offered by the National Pony Society for the best registered pony owned by an **NPS Qualifying or Life** member in the Show Pony In Hand section. Membership cards must be presented in the ring to receive the medal and/or the qualification.

**NPS/AREA 4 British Riding Pony (Show Hunter Pony) In Hand Silver Medal Rosette Championship**  
**(SM-HPIH)**

A Silver Medal Rosette is offered by the National Pony Society for the best registered pony owned by an **NPS Qualifying or Life** member in the Show Hunter Pony In Hand section. Membership cards must be presented in the ring to receive the medal and/or the qualification.

## 4. WORDING FOR PERFORMANCE AND OTHER CLASSES

### **NPS M&M and Plaited Amateur Ridden National Championship**

**(O-AM)**

Stallions, mares and geldings four years old and over registered in any of the NPS British Riding Pony studbook sections or the Ridden Register; the GSB; the AHSB; the AASB, or registered in the main body of their respective M&M Stud Book. Part bred are not eligible unless entered into one of the NPS British Riding Pony studbook sections or the Ridden Register. Rider any age, except stallions.

Please see Section L on the NPS rule book for the definition of Amateur Status.

Class 1- M&M Small Breeds

Class 2 – M&M Large Breeds

Class 3 – Plaited Ponies not exceeding 133cms

Class 4 – Plaited ponies exceeding 133cms but not exceeding 153cms

Classes may be amalgamated.

*NPS/Fiona Cork Saddles Young Rider Championship Qualifier – for rider up to 25 years*

### **The NPS/FAULCONBRIDGE Part Bred Ridden National Championship**

**(O-PBR)**

Stallions, mares and geldings, four years old and over.

Classes as follows:

Class 1- Part Bred Arab. Horse/pony to be registered in the partbred or anglo arab section of the Arab Horse Society with a minimum of 12.5% Arab blood.

Class 2- Part Bred M&M. Horse/pony to be registered in the partbred section of one of the M&M studbooks with a minimum of 12.5% of that breed blood.

Horses/ponies may be shown plaited or unplaited to suit type. Rider any age, except stallions (see rules in section A 3.2).

### **The NPS/FAULCONBRIDGE In Hand Part Bred National Championship**

**(O-PBIH)**

Horse or Pony of any age, excluding foals.

Classes as follows:

Class 1- Part Bred Arab. Horse/pony to be registered in the partbred or anglo arab section of the Arab Horse Society with a minimum of 12.5% Arab blood.

Class 2- Part Bred M&M. Horse/pony to be registered in the partbred section of one of the M&M studbooks with a minimum of 12.5% of that breed blood.

Horses/ponies may be shown plaited or unplaited to suit type. Handler any age except stallions (see rules in section A 3.2)

### **The NPS/ Working Hunter Pony Training Stakes National Championship (Open to M&M and Plaited)**

**(O-TSWHP)**

Class 1 – Height of fences 45cms to 55cms

Class 2 – Height of fences 55cms to 70cms

Class 3 – Height of fences 70cms to 85cms

Class 4 – Height of fences 85cms to 100cms

Open to mares, geldings and stallions four year old and over, in possession of an equine passport but no specific registration or breed society criteria. Plaited ponies to a maximum of 158cms. Riders may only ride one pony in each class. Rider any age except stallions (see NPS rules.)

### **The NPS PUBS (Ponies of Unregistered Breeding) National Championship**

**(URP)**

Open to mares and geldings 148cm or under, 4 years old and over (for ridden classes) with no verified parentage. Must possess a basic ID passport. Rider any age. The owner does not have to be a NPS member for the pony to enter this competition, to qualify or to enter the final.

Ponies to be judged as a practical family all round pony displaying good manners, correct way of going and functional conformation

Classes as follows:

Class 1- In Hand

Class 2 - Ridden

## **5. WORDING FOR AREA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **The NPS/ASSENDONS Area Final Freestyle to Music**

**(O-AF)**

Each Area will nominate a show where the NPS/Ringside M&M Open Ridden Champion and the NPS/Leeman Family Open Ridden Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony Champion & Reserve will qualify for the Final, held at the NPS Summer Championships.

The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or to qualify but the owner must be a Qualifying or Life member of the NPS to enter the final.

If the Champion and/or Reserve Champion have already qualified then the qualification may go to the third place, but no lower.

## 6. WORDING FOR ARENA EVENTING CHALLENGE QUALIFIERS

### NPS/ANTHONY EVANS Arena Eventing Challenge

(AE)

Open to mares, geldings and stallions four year old and over, maximum height 158cm, in possession of an equine passport but no specific registration or breed society criteria. Ponies' manes may be plaited at competitor discretion.

The NPS strongly recommends body protectors are worn in all NPS jumping competitions especially over fixed obstacles.

In the interests of safety, long hair should be plaited or secured appropriately in a hairnet. It is strongly recommended that a jockey skull cap is worn with no fixed peak or peak type extensions. A removable hat cover with a light flexible peak may be used if required.

Qualifying rounds must be run over a course that contains both show jumping style fences and arena eventing style fences.

Qualification will be awarded to ponies achieving a top ten placing.

Classes at the Final will be split into two sections:

- A. Ponies who have qualified in 60cm to 70cm qualifying rounds. Maximum height of fences at the final 65cm. Rider not to have attained their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday by 1<sup>st</sup> January in the current year.
- B. Ponies who have qualified in 60cm to 70cm qualifying rounds. Maximum height of fences at the final 70cm.
- C. Ponies who have qualified in 75cm to 90cm qualifying rounds. Maximum height of fences at the final 90cm.

The owner does not have to be an NPS member for the pony to enter this competition or qualify but the owner must be a Life, Qualifying or Performance member of the NPS to enter the final.