**Equestrian Show Rules**

**The Society General Rules and Conditions also apply**

1. The Society operates a Health and Safety policy on the Showground. All riders must wear protective head gear which includes a retaining harness secured to the shell at more than two points. Such headgear must be worn with the chin strap properly adjusted and fastened. Correctly secured current British Standard skull caps/riding hats must be worn at all times whilst mounted (including Ride Judges) Such headgear must be worn with the chin strap correctly and securely fastened at all times whilst mounted on the Showground.

*When jumping in the Ring, the practice or collecting areas, all Riders must wear protective headgear, according to the current standards as listed below:All PAS 015; VG1****; (BS)EN1384 2017;*** *ASTM F1163 04a onwards; SNELL E2001;* SNELL E2016; *AS/NZS 3838 2003 onwards;Skullcaps must be of, or worn with, a dark coloured plain peaked cover. Refer to your Society/Association Rule Book for further clarification.*Correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats that meet **one of the following** current Safety Standards/specifications MUST be worn by all Riders between the ages of 15 to 17 inclusive. All PAS 015; VG1**; (BS) EN1384 2017;** ASTM F1163 04a onwards; SNELL E2001; SNELL E2016; AS/NZS 3838 2003 onwards.

2. The Society reserves the right to refuse an entry, to restrict the entries in a class, to change the schedule in any way.

3. Exhibitors making false statements on entry or acting in any way fraudulently will be disqualified and prize

money withheld.

4 Any exhibitor wishing to lodge a protest shall do so in writing with a deposit of £40 to the Horse Secretary within 2 hours of the end of the class.

5. All ridden or driven entries and brood mares must be 4 years old or over. Foals to be 3 weeks old or over.

Stallions to be handled by people 16 years old or over. All exhibitors must have the physical ability, relevant

experience and be competent to handle the animal in their charge at all times. In the interest of safety all

stallions and colts, 2 years old and over must be adequately bitted whilst on the showground.

6. A fall of horse or rider in any class will result in retirement from the class and must leave the ring dismounted. All persons in charge of exhibits will be subject to the orders of the stewards and will be required to parade or exhibit the animals in their charge at such times as may be directed by the stewards. It is the exhibitors' responsibility to be in attendance at least ten minutes before the start time appointed for their class. No exhibitors shall be allowed to lead more than one animal at a time in the ring.

7. The presence, in any form or quantity, in a horse entered of a substance which by it's nature could affect it's performance is banned. The presence of any substance in any form or quantity found in any animal should not be present on the showground.

8. Should any animal prove to be suffering from an infectious or contagious disease the exhibitor shall be liable

to forfeit and pay a sum of £2000 as damages in addition to any penalty incurred by the contravention of the

orders of any public authority or damages recoverable by other animal owners.

9. All cups and trophies are perpetual challenge awards. They must be signed for at the Trophy Tent next to the Secretary's Office next to the main ring.

10. It is a condition of entry at the Mid-Somerset Show that children must only handle animals where they have the necessary strength and experience to cope with foreseeable problems.

11. Competitors must at all times wear correct riding clothes complete with jackets or as specified.

12. Long hair is to be tied back in the interest of safety

13. Each exhibitor is to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner whilst on the show field.

14. No exhibitor is to ill-treat their horse or pony at the Show whether inside or outside the showing rings. It is the owner's due diligence to ensure that their horses and ponies are not left unattended whilst tied to the side of trailers or lorries.

15. No exhibitor is to excessively use a whip or spur whilst on the Showfield.

16. Verbal or physical abuse and threats towards our stewards, volunteers, contractors and staff will not be tolerated under any circumstances. If you display such behaviour, you will be asked to leave the show site immediately and reported to the police.

**Equine Flu**

We recommend all equines attending The Mid Somerset Show 2023 have vaccinated for Equine Influenza.

The requirement for the first 3 vaccinations is as follows:

primary course:

First 2 vaccinations 21 - 92 days apart / 3rd booster between 150 - 215 days / Annual booster vaccination within 365 days thereafter.

No horse should enter competitions within 7 days of a vaccination dose.

Foals should be vaccinated for Equine Influenza at 6 months to commence their primary course.

We urge all owners to adhere to strict biosecurity protocols at all times.

Vaccinations are subject to local risk assessments by the attending veterinarians.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NEITHER VACCINATION CERTIFICATES NOR PASSPORTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SHOW OFFICE PRIOR TO THE EVENT.  HOWEVER, RANDOM CHECKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON THE SHOWGROUND DURING THE SHOW

**Reasonable precautions have been taken by the Society to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers, officials and stewards.**