

General Rules and Regulations

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY PRIOR TO ENTRY

All Exhibitors and other persons admitted to the Showground shall be subject to the rules, orders, conditions and general regulations of the Council of the Devon County Agricultural Association (DCAA)

- 1. Entries** - All entries must be on the official entry form or online via www.devoncountyshow.co.uk. Animals can be exhibited in any number of classes provided rules do not prohibit, it is otherwise eligible, and all the appropriate fees are remitted with the entry form by the closing date. An entry incorrectly entered, cannot be moved after the closing date.
- 2. Closing Date of Entries** - Entries will close on 7th April 2025.
Entries received after the closing date cannot be accepted.
- 3. Entry Fees** - Are inclusive of VAT at 20%. Cheques should be made payable to the DCAA.
- 4. Refund of Entry Fees** - Entries are non-refundable except in the case of the entered animal being unable to compete due to illness, injury or accident. Any claims for entry refunds must be accompanied by a Veterinary Certificate and submitted to the Show Office within two weeks of the first day of the Show together with any Show passes issued. Broodmares that do not foal in time will be eligible for refunds.
- 5. Exhibitor Passes** - These are allocated according to the number of exhibits per day as per the table below. **All tickets and passes will be emailed this year, please either print them or have the QR code visible on your phone for scanning when you enter through the Horse (Purple) Gate.**

No. Exhibits	Exhibitor Passes
1	2
2	3
3	4
4 +	5

- 6. Vehicle Passes** - These are allocated according to the information supplied on the entry form and do not admit the driver. Vehicle passes are for horseboxes or vehicles towing trailers, containing equines, only. All occupants in any vehicle entering the Showground will need a valid pass or ticket. **Vehicle passes will be emailed this year, these need to be printed prior to the Show and clearly displayed in your vehicle with the QR code visible for scanning. If the QR code is not visible on the permit the vehicle will not be allowed to enter through the Horse (Purple) Gate. A vehicle registration number and mobile number also needs to be clearly written on the vehicle permit.**
- 7. Correctness of Entry Forms** - Exhibitors will be held responsible for the correctness of their entry forms, and if disputed, when called upon by the Stewards/Officials, to prove the correctness of the entry. If details are found to be incorrect the entry may be disqualified, and any award made to it cancelled.
- 8. Ownership** - All exhibits shall be the bona fide property of the Exhibitor on the entry closing date unless otherwise stated on the entry form.
- 9. Substitution of Entries** - Will not be permitted after the closing date except when, after entry, an animal dies; the Exhibitor may be permitted to substitute another entry, in the same class, without payment of any further fee, upon affording evidence of death and furnishing particulars of the substituted entry in time for the alteration to be made in the published catalogue.
- 10. Entry Refusal** - The DCAA reserves the right to refuse any entry that is not registered to the appropriate society according to the classes entered. Any fees paid will be forfeited. All registration numbers must be stated on the entry form. The DCAA reserve the right to refuse any entries for whatever reason.
- 11. Stables** - Limited onsite stabling is available at additional cost and on a first come first serve basis. Please book with your entry. If boxes are oversubscribed the DCAA reserves the right to restrict the booking of stables for Exhibitors only showing on one day. The charges are £60 for one night, £95 for two nights or £115 for three nights. Bookings are from 7pm until 6pm on the following day. Fees paid for stables cannot be refunded unless a stable is not available at time of booking. An Exhibitor who enters or makes use of any stable which has not been officially reserved for their use will be liable to penalties. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that any stallion stabled on the Showground is adequately secured. Cheval Starbox temporary stables are used, made with highly resistant polypropylene plastic panels meeting FEI standards. Straw bedding is provided.
- 12. Residential Vehicles** - Permits for vehicles/caravans used as living quarters are available for a reserved area just outside the Showground perimeter in the Green Car Park at £48 each inc VAT. Permits must be purchased in advance.
- 13. Arrival** - The Horse Entrance Gate (Purple Gate) will be open between 5.30am and 8pm each Show day and from 2pm to 8pm on the day before the Show.
- 14. Cars** - Any vehicle, not carrying horses/ponies, wishing to gain entry to Purple Park can only do so under the deposit system. Any vehicle needing to enter Purple Gate to drop off passengers and/or equipment will be required to pay a £100 cash deposit. This will be returned if the vehicle exits within one hour. All occupants of the vehicle, including the driver, must have or purchase a valid ticket. If the vehicle exceeds the one hour limit, or leaves by any other exit, the deposit will be forfeit.
- 15. Amalgamation** - The DCAA reserves the right to amalgamate or cancel any classes if they consider the entries to be insufficient. The DCAA also reserve the right to divide any class if they consider the entries warrant it.
- 16. Restriction of Entries** - The DCAA reserves the right to restrict the number of entries in any class as they see fit.
- 17. Judges - The judge's decision will be final.** Judges are instructed to withhold prizes where the entry is not of sufficient merit. No prize will be awarded to any unsound animal (lameness or other unsoundness from accidental injury shall not necessarily disqualify) and in every case where the Judge has doubt as to height, soundness, or the correct age of any animal exhibited, they shall consult one of the Honorary Veterinary Surgeons of the DCAA and their decision will be final. Exhibitors are not permitted to show an animal under a Judge who has been connected with the animal in any way, at any time. The DCAA reserves the right to substitute Judges for those announced, or to make additional appointments as it may deem necessary.
- 18. Measuring of Horses** - Appropriate classes will be chosen at random for measuring. Horses entered in classes chosen for measuring shall be presented to the Honorary Veterinary Officer, in the presence of a Steward, either for measurement or for checking of their Joint Measurement Scheme Certificate. Times of measurement will be displayed at the Horse Office and must be strictly adhered to. The height of the horse or pony as measured by the Honorary Veterinary Surgeon on the day of the Show will be taken as correct unless a Life Height Certificate, issued when the pony is seven years or older, is held. Three year height certificates issued to young horses and ponies will not be accepted, except in the year of issue. Horse or ponies that exceed the height restriction for their class are permitted to upgrade to the relevant height class, but not vice versa.
- 19. Mares and Foals** - Every foal must be the offspring of the mare with which it is exhibited. In cases where the foal has died, in the year of the Show, or is prevented from competing due to illness or accident, the mare will be eligible to compete provided a certificate from a qualified Veterinary Surgeon is produced at the time of judging. This does not apply to the pony broodmare, sports horse broodmare or hunter broodmare classes where the foal must accompany the mare in the ring. Foals must be at least three or Four weeks old on the day of the Show unless otherwise stated in the schedule (Please check relevant society rules). Exhibitors wishing to show mares in foal, rather than with foal at foot, should carry a certificate certifying the mare to be in foal. The DCAA reserves the right to inspect such certificates or, in the event of non-production of such certificates, may require the mare to be examined by one of the appointed Honorary Veterinary Surgeons.
- 20. Ridden Classes** - Horses exhibited in the riding classes may be ridden during the judging. Exhibitors must provide saddles for that purpose. The right is reserved to limit the number of entries, which the judge may ride. No rider may be led except in a leading rein class or where the schedule states may be led.
- 21. Competitor Numbers** - Competitors must display, the correct, Competitor Number prior to and for duration of the class and at all times in the collecting rings and competition rings.
- 22. Challenge Trophies** - Winners of trophies offered by the DCAA may retain these until 1st March in the year following the award, when the trophies and their boxes must be returned clean and undamaged to the Devon County Show Office. Winners are responsible for the engraving of trophies.
- 23. Headgear** - A correctly secured skull cap/riding hat, of a current safety standard, must be worn by all persons when mounted, anywhere on the Showground.

- All skull caps/riding hats should have a three point harness, and this must be correctly fastened at all times. In the ring, all skull caps must be worn with a plain dark coloured peaked cover. DCAA strongly recommends that all handlers wear protective headgear whilst in the ring.
24. **Mobile Phones** - The use of mobile phones is not permitted by any person responsible for an animal i.e. holding, leading or riding, anywhere on the showground. The use of mobile phones in the judging rings is forbidden.
 25. **Accuracy of Catalogue** - The DCAA will not be responsible for any inaccuracy of any information inserted in the Show catalogue, though every care will be taken to ensure the accuracy of all particulars printed therein.
 26. **Objections** - Must be made in writing on the official complaints form, available from the Horse Office, and delivered to the Chief Horse Steward at the Horse Office, within one hour of judging. Any objection must be accompanied by a deposit of £50 in cash, which shall be forfeited if the Objection is decided to be unfounded by the DCAA Council (five of whom shall form a quorum). The DCAA reserves the right to take any necessary samples as evidence.
 27. **Penalties** - In any case where Exhibitors do not, in the opinion of the Stewards, conform to the Regulations of the DCAA, the Stewards shall report to the Show Manager, within 10 days from the close of the Show, who shall call not less than five members of the DCAA Council to act with the Stewards, and who after hearing the evidence of the Steward(s) and Exhibitor(s) concerned, shall have the power to act or report to the DCAA Council as they may decide. All persons making a false entry or claiming a prize by a false Certificate or otherwise breaking or infringing any of the rules, regulations or conditions, may be prohibited from exhibiting or competing at any further Show arranged by the DCAA.
 28. **Animals Suspected of Suffering from Disease** - After consultation with the Devon County Show Manager, the Honorary Show Director and Chief Steward of Horses, the Honorary Veterinary Inspector may require the immediate removal from the Showground of any animal which, in his opinion, is suspected of suffering from disease or is unfit or unsafe to be exhibited. Such animal shall not be allowed to compete. Any animal showing evidence of ringworm will not be admitted to the Showground. The DCAA reserves the right to recover from the Exhibitor the cost of veterinary services and of any drugs used in the treatment of an animal whilst at the Show.
 29. **Equine Influenza** - All equines (horses, ponies, donkeys) attending the Devon County Show must have been vaccinated for Equine Influenza. Equines may attend having received the primary course, and prior to the first booster, but not within 7 days of receiving a vaccine dose. The primary course is 1st vaccination and then 2nd vaccination 21 - 92 days later. This should be followed by the first booster (150 - 215 days) and all subsequent boosters. Equines must have been vaccinated within the 6 months prior to the Show. Foals - In-foal mares that have already had vaccinations of primary Equine Influenza course should be vaccinated 4-6 weeks before the foal is due to be born. Foals should be vaccinated for Equine Influenza at 6 months to commence their primary course.
 30. **Stewards** - Are empowered to act on behalf of the DCAA to give instructions which exhibitors must always comply with. The DCAA reserve the right to disqualify a competitor for any misconduct whatsoever. The DCAA shall have the power to remove from the Showground the stock and/or property belonging to any Exhibitor who shall infringe any of the regulations or conditions of the DCAA, or who shall refuse to comply with any instructions given by the Stewards.
 31. **Equine Passports** - Must accompany all equines arriving at the Showground. Random checks may be carried out.
 32. **Veterinary** - Veterinary liability is strictly limited to £1 million. In the event of an animal injury or fatality, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to arrange for removal of the animal from the Devon County Show at his/her own cost within such period as the Associations Veterinary Officer shall direct; if the exhibitor fails to do this the Association may make the arrangements and recover the cost from the exhibitor. Exhibitors are advised to examine the cover provided by their insurance policies.
 33. **Health and Safety** - Exhibitors must comply with the latest Health and Safety guidance relating to animal handling, as well as relevant legislation. The DCAA wishes to draw your attention to the Health & Safety and Fire Regulations that follow these Regulations.
 34. **Handlers** - It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to ensure that the handler of their horse/pony is of suitable stature, experience and age to be in charge of that particular animal. The DCAA recommends that any stallion/colt, three years old or over, should always wear a bit or Chifney when being handled. The DCAA strongly recommends that all handlers wear protective headgear whilst in the ring.
 35. **Responsibility** - Neither the DCAA, or its Officers or Employees, shall be in any way responsible or accountable for anything that may happen from any infectious or contagious disease, or any other cause, or circumstance whatever, to Exhibitors or their Employees, or to any animal or article exhibited or property brought into the Showground; or otherwise for anything else in connection with, or arising out of or attributable to, the DCAA, or these or any other conditions or regulations prescribed by the in relation thereto. Each exhibitor shall be solely responsible for any consequential other loss, injury or damage done to, or occasioned by, or arising from, any animal or article exhibited by him, including any infectious or contagious disease, and shall indemnify the DCAA against all legal or other proceedings in regard hereto.
 36. **Interpretation of Regulations** - The DCAA reserves to itself the sole and absolute right to interpret these or any other prescribed regulations, conditions and schedules, and to settle finally and determine all or any matter, question, difference, in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, or in connection with, any incident in connection with the Show.
 37. **Temporary Structures** - The DCAA reserves the right to prohibit the use of all tents, gazebos, temporary stabling attached to vehicles etc as they see fit.
 38. **Data Storage** - Information from entry forms will be stored on a secure server and the name, address and details of entries will be published in the Catalogue; information will also be passed to our printers solely for the purpose of formulating the Catalogue. Information about results may be published and/or provided to the Press and Breed Societies for publication. Information about exhibitors and their animals may also be provided to DEFRA, Trading Standards, APHA, Departments of County Councils, BCMS, SAC, Breed Societies and others having regulatory functions as well as the DCAA's Veterinary Advisers. The making of an entry is irrevocable consent for the storage and disclosure of information in this way.
 39. **Dress Code** - Grooms/attendants appearing with animals in judging rings must be of smart appearance and in proper dress with appropriate headwear.
 40. **Public Liability Insurance** - All exhibitors should ensure they have adequate public liability insurance cover.
 41. **Force majeure** - If an event defined hereafter as Force Majeure occurs the DCAA will not be responsible for the financial consequences or any losses or any actions claims or demands caused to or made by an exhibitor or their servants or agents caused by the failure of the Devon County Show to be held on one or more of the days but for the event of Force Majeure on which it would otherwise to be held. Force Majeure means for the purposes of this clause exceptionally inclement weather; flooding of the whole or any part of the Devon County Showground or the whole or any part of the car parks associated with it; an act of God including but not limited to fire, flood, earthquake, windstorm or other natural disaster; act of any sovereign including but not limited to war, invasion, act of foreign enemies, hostilities (whether war be declared or not), civil war, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, military or usurped power or confiscation, nationalisation, requisition, destruction or damage to property by or under the order of any government or public or local authority or imposition of government sanction embargo or similar action; law, judgment, order, decree, embargo, blockade, labour dispute including but not limited to strike, lockout or boycott; interruption or failure of utility service including but not limited to electric power, gas, water or telephone service; failure of the transportation of any personnel equipment, machinery supply or material required by DCAA to run the Devon County Show; breach of contract by any essential personnel; any other matter or cause beyond the control of DCAA.
 42. **Hydraulic Ramps** - Exhibitor vehicles with hydraulic ramps must display a secure notice on the vehicle (not on the ramp), giving warning, that under no circumstances should the ramp be raised manually.
 43. **Pushchairs/Wheelchairs/Mobility Scooters** - These are not permitted in the horse walks, should only pass through Collecting Rings to park in the viewing area at ringside and should not loiter in areas of animal movement, always avoid exercise areas and stay vigilant.
 44. **Smoking or Vaping** - Is not permitted in the stable areas or Horse Office.
 45. **Risk** - All exhibitors acknowledge by entering their chosen event that they are taking part in a risk sport and confirm they are a competent rider for that level of competition.
 46. **Sensory Hairs** - The sensory hairs (whiskers) around the mouth, nose and eyes must not be clipped or shaved. Removal of these hairs may reduce a horses sensory ability. If these hairs must be clipped or shaved to allow a veterinary procedure, the animal shall be allowed to compete provided a veterinary certificate is provided to the Horse Office. Hair on the inner aspect of the ear should not be excessively trimmed as these hair perform a protective function against sun, insects and foreign bodies.
 47. **Equine Welfare** - To uphold the highest standards of equine health, welfare and wellbeing, it is recommended that the total load carried by any animal (to include weight of rider, tack and equipment) does not exceed 20% of the animals body weight. This ratio is based on the bodyweight of a given animal at a healthy Body Condition Score, as overweight animals are also a welfare concern.

Health & Safety and Fire Regulations

- 1. Health and Safety** - The Devon County Show (Devon County Agricultural Association or DCAA) operates to a high Health and Safety standard. Exhibitors (the use of the word Exhibitor in the remainder of these rules includes those persons acting on behalf of an exhibitor e.g. grooms, etc.) are reminded of their responsibility not to act in such a way that may endanger the health, safety or welfare of others at the Show. It is a condition of the Show that exhibitors ensure that any third parties operating on their behalf are competent to do so and have relevant risk assessment, method statements and insurance. Exhibitors are responsible for liaising with and supervising their third party representatives and contractors on the Showground. If you see something you think is unsafe, please report it to one of our Stewards.
- 2. Quad Bikes, Mini Motorbikes, Drones** - Exhibitors are not permitted to use either quad bikes or mini motorbikes or fly drones on, or in, any area of the Showground, car or lorry parks. Only authorised vehicles displaying a suitable vehicle pass will be allowed to operate during the show.
- 3. Electrical Equipment** - Please ensure that all electrical equipment brought onto site for use with Showground electrical installations is in good condition and is PAT Tested within the last twelve months. Our onsite electrical contractors can provide a PAT testing service for which there is a small charge. Under no circumstances must phone/devices be left on charge when unattended. Domestic grooming equipment should not be used when washing/drying horses.
- 4. Generators** - The use of other unauthorized generators is not permitted. The use of generators of any type is not permitted on the showground or in the caravan parks unless they are installed into a purpose built vehicle units or are used with permission of the Show Manager. Built in vehicle generators must be silent running and not cause nuisance. Please ensure that fuel is kept to a minimum and is stored in a secure location away from combustible materials. A suitable fire extinguisher must be provided in vehicles with built in generators and be positioned so that it is available for use.
- 5. Heating & Cooking Appliances** - Exhibitors are not permitted to cook on an "open fire". Barbecues are not permitted on the Showground without permission of the Show Manager. All tented structures, caravans/vehicles with living accommodation using bottled gas (5kg or over) are required to have the installation inspected and certified by a qualified Gas Safe Engineer to ensure the apparatus is safely installed. Smaller portable installations must only be set up by competent person. Exhibitors bringing portable stoves onto the showground for cooking will only be permitted to do so providing such stoves are carried and used in a properly constructed fire resisting box.
- 6. Inspections** - The DCAA reserves the right of inspection by its appointed Officials or representatives of the Fire Service of all structures and any vehicle. The Officials/representatives shall have full authority to order the use of appliances or equipment to be discontinued immediately if, in their opinion, they constitute a danger. The decision of the DCAA on this matter must be accepted as final.
- 7. Smoking or Vaping** - Is not permitted in temporary or permanent structures or in the stables area. Please dispose of cigarette ends responsibly.
- 8. FIRE** - If Fire breaks out shout "Fire" to alert others. Fire extinguishers are provided in the stable areas and at the end of the heavy horse stabling - only use if safe to do so. Ensure that the Horse Office is informed immediately of the fire even if action is being taken to try and extinguish it.
- 9. Vehicles** - When parking please ensure that you do not obstruct vehicular access routes as these are required in emergency situations. You must ensure that an onsite contact number is clearly displayed on your vehicle pass. This is used to contact you in an emergency if we need to move your vehicle. All vehicles should proceed very slowly and with great care once on the showground and obey the directions of stewards and parking personnel.
- 10. Evacuation** - In the unlikely event of an evacuation of the Showground please follow any instructions given to you by Stewards, Officials or Police Officers or over one of the public address systems. If your horse transport is on site, please be prepared to load your animal but do not commence doing so until further instruction is given.

Failure by Exhibitors and/or their representatives and/or contractors to maintain satisfactory standards will result in immediate removal from the Showground and loss of all monies paid.