

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY SHOW LIGHT HORSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS 2026

IT IS A PREREQUISITE OF ENTRY THAT ALL EXHIBITORS READ,
ACCEPT AND COMPLY WITH THESE REGULATIONS.

DATE AND PLACE OF SHOW

1. The Show will be held on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th May 2026 from 7.30 a.m. to approximately 6.30 p.m. The Showground is on the A5183 (A5), just south of the M1 junction 9. Exhibitor parking areas open at 6.00 a.m. on Show days. Public car parking is free.

PUBLIC PRICE OF ADMISSION

2. All public tickets are advised to be purchased in advance of entering the show, however a Box Office will be available for 'on the day' sales subject to any Government Covid-19 restrictions. Please see website for further guidance.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

3. Vice-President £175.00; Member £69.00; Joint Members £128.00; Family (2 adults & 3 children under 15) £150; Child (5yrs to 15yrs) £21.50; Club 26 (16yrs – 26yrs) £28.00.

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

4. All references to the term 'Horses' also include Ponies, Donkeys and Show Jumpers. The Hertfordshire Agricultural Society has been abbreviated to 'HAS'. An 'Exhibitor' may be the Owner, Lessee, Producer, Agent or person authorised to show the animal.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

5. All entries will close for Showing classes on 10th May 2026, late entries at an additional charge close on 20th May 2026.

All entries will close for Show jumping classes on 20th May 2026.

CORRECTNESS OF ENTRY

6. All entries must be submitted online and accompanied by the appropriate fees paid in full. Responsibility for the correctness of entries will rest with the Exhibitor and not with the Secretary of the Society for accepting such entry. Failure to prove correctness when requested may result in the entry in question being rejected or if already accepted and catalogued refused permission to enter the class, or the exhibit may be disqualified, and any awards made to it cancelled and any entry fees will be forfeited. All exhibits eligible for Special Prizes that require registering with the Show (as requested in the schedule) must be clearly indicated on their entry form. Incomplete or incorrect entries will be rejected.

OWNERSHIP OF EXHIBITS

7. All Horses must have been the bona fide property of the Owner by the closing day of entry except where this condition is varied by circumstances applicable to specific classes. In the event of the death of an Owner between the date of entry and the date of the Show, the executors of the deceased will be deemed the Owner.

DATA PROTECTION

8. It is a condition of entry that the HAS reserves the right to forward Exhibitor information to the press, Breed Societies and other regulatory authorities (i.e. DEFRA or Trading Standards). It is also a requirement that the Owner's name will be published in the Show catalogue. No address details will be listed in the catalogue.

HERTFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ENTRIES AND CANCEL OR AMALGAMATE CLASSES

9. There must be a minimum of three Exhibitors entered per section, otherwise classes may be cancelled or amalgamated. If there are less than three entries catalogued in any class, that class may be cancelled and the entries transferred to another class. In the event of either of these conditions Exhibitors affected will be advised before the Show and given the option to accept the changes or to withdraw, with any stabling or entry fees refunded. The HAS also reserves the right to reject or cancel the entry or entries made by any person if they shall deem it fit to do so, entry fees refunded. If there are insufficient entries forward on Show days the HAS reserves the right to amalgamate sections or classes at the discretion of the Senior Stewards to provide competition. The prize money shown for each class is the maximum. Unless otherwise stated prize money will be sent by BACS within six weeks of the Show. If there are only 4 entries, first and second prize money only will be awarded. If there are 3 entries only 1st prize will be awarded. Less than 3 entries and 1st prize will be adjusted accordingly. In the event of a class being divided, prize money will be awarded according to the number of entries in each sub-section.

10. A copy of the final timetable will be available on the website 1 week prior to show opening. Exhibitors will be responsible to provide an adequate number of competent persons to attend their animals whilst at the Show, both in the box park and at the appointed time in the judging rings. Classes will not be delayed or postponed due to staff shortages or timetable clashes. Staff must be in attendance during the Show at least half an hour before the scheduled start.

CONDUCT OF EXHIBITORS AND THEIR STAFF

11. Exhibitors will be held responsible for the behaviour of their staff and for the consequences of any misconduct of such staff. Any fine imposed upon an Exhibitor or a person employed by them, for infringing the Regulations or disobedience to the orders of the Officials or Stewards shall be recoverable from the Exhibitor as a debt due to the HAS. Until such fine is paid, such Exhibitor shall be debarred from exhibiting at any future Show organised by the HAS.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

12. Exhibitors are reminded that they must conform to the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and other relevant Health and Safety legislation. The Organisers of this Show have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the Health and Safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective, all exhibitors, their staff and families must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must co-operate with the instructions of HAS Organisers, Officials, Stewards or appropriate Authorities. Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and are not permitted in any marquees containing animals or food.

EXHIBITORS' ENTRANCE TICKETS AND VEHICLE PASSES

13. Exhibitor entry packs will be sent by the 21st May, packs will be sent electronically and will include exhibitor passes and vehicle passes. Numbers will be available for collection from the Light Horse Office on the days of the show. Immediately on receipt of the packs exhibitors are requested to please check the contents as queries relating to tickets and passes will not be resolved after Thursday 21st May 2026.

Number of Horses Exhibitor pass Allocation Vehicle Passes
(each day)

1 3 Passes 1

2 4 Passes 1

3 5 Passes 1

4 6 passes 1

Exhibitors entering more than four horses may be sent additional passes and wristbands at the discretion of The Society; for further information please contact the Equine Secretary 01582 792626 or email equine@hertsshow.com.

Only vehicles carrying Horses and clearly displaying the relevant vehicle pass on the windscreen will be admitted at Gate A into the Box Park. Every person entering the site on Show days, including the drivers of Horse lorries and trailers, must have a valid box park entrance wristband or pay the full price of admission at the gate (i.e. £35.00 on the day). This regulation will be strictly enforced. The Show will not take responsibility for any passes/wristbands which have been mislaid or forgotten. Exhibitors may purchase further wristbands at a special discounted price £18.60 provided they are ordered by close of entries.

ACCOMODATION

15. There is no on site accommodation available but lived in horse boxes are permitted free of charge. Camping is permitted in the camping area **only** at a charge of £5.00 per tent, caravans or motorhomes have a charge of £10. Availability in both areas is limited and allocated on a first come first served basis as directed by the parking steward. Please park considerably and wherever possible leave space for other vehicles. A toilet block will be provided within the lorry park. Electrical connections are available in the camping areas, please book when entering, and the use of personal generators is strictly prohibited. The Farmers Bar will operate from 4.00 p.m. on Friday 22nd May with Food available for purchase.

WITHDRAWALS AND SUBSTITUTIONS – HORSES

16. Any Exhibitor wishing to withdraw an animal before the closing date of entries but after payment has been processed will incur an administration fee of £5; alternately another animal may be substituted in the same class providing the request is received in writing by the 18th May and the animal has been the bona fine property of the Owner by the closing date of entries. After entries have closed and been catalogued Exhibitors are not entitled to a refund under any circumstances and no other new nominations or changes will be accepted. (See rule 29 for online entries).

SMOKING AND FIRE PRECAUTIONS

17. The use of personal generators in caravans and trailers is strictly prohibited. Smoking is strictly prohibited in all marquees and Exhibitors and their staff are not permitted to smoke while exhibiting their animals either in the judging rings or while leading them in a parade. No open fires/flammable containers are permitted and no oil, cooking stove or barbecue of any description may be lit in the marquees or stock lines. Exhibitors or their staff, who bring cooking facilities to the Show will only be permitted to do so provided these are supervised at all times whilst in use or hot; they are contained in a properly constructed fire-resistant receptacle and placed on a suitable stand to prevent ground damage, within the designated areas. Please be aware of fire extinguisher positions and your nearest fire exit.

ANIMAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND MALPRACTICE

18. The Animal Welfare Act (2006) requires all responsible persons to provide a duty of care to the animals regardless to location. Instances of compromised animal welfare or evidence of unnecessary animal suffering should be reported immediately to show officials. The HAS and associated Show Veterinary Officers reserve the right to summon animal health officials if deemed necessary. All animals ridden anywhere on the Showground, rings or lorry parks (day or night), must only be ridden by a rider whose size and weight does not compromise the animal's welfare. We are operating under the 20% rider weight guideline where the rider in full riding attire with full tack must be less than 20% of the animal's bodyweight. This is based on a relatively fit, healthy animal, as an overweight animal is also a welfare concern.

Every Exhibitor of Horses shall be liable to pay the HAS a sum not exceeding £100 and for liquidated damages, if any animal sent for exhibition is, in the opinion of any of the Show Veterinary Officers, affected with any contagious or infectious disease including ringworm, or with any form of disease likely to prove dangerous or detrimental to other animals and for each and every such case, if more than one, the aforesaid animal(s) will be disqualified and subject to movement restrictions must be removed immediately from the Showground.

The Society will not tolerate the administration to show exhibits (entered either for competition or sale/demonstration) of tranquillisers or other drugs which may in any way affect the performance of the animal in question to have the effect of making it behave in the show ring in a manner which is not natural. The Society reserves the right to take any necessary samples. Any Person or Exhibitor (or his representative) who is found to have administered or permitted the administration of any such tranquilliser or drugs to any Show exhibit will be reported to the Organising Committee, and dealt with at their discretion. In addition the matter will be referred to the appropriate Breed Society or Organisation.

Any artificial contrivance or device of any description found on or proved to have been used on an animal at any time whilst that animal is in the Showground, either for preventing the flow of milk or for any other improper purpose, will disqualify that animal from being awarded a prize, and any prize awarded prior to discovery will be forfeited. The Instigator or the Owner of the said animal may be prohibited from again entering stock for any of the Society's Shows, for such period as the Committee may see fit. For the purpose of this Regulation, the term 'improper practice' shall be held to include setting of teats, and generally any other practice including tampering or of their own or any other animal by the exhibitor or any other person which results in the animals being shown other than in a natural state, and the Society reserves the right to have all animals inspected by the Society's Veterinary Officers, either prior to, during, or after judging.

VETERINARY CHARGES

19. Exhibitors are liable for any costs incurred should treatment be required from the Show Veterinary Officers. It is also a condition of entry that the Show Veterinary Officers may on their own authority give any emergency treatment as they consider appropriate in the event that the owner or their representative cannot be located.

SUBSTITUTION OF JUDGES

20. The HAS reserves the right to substitute other Judges for those printed in the Schedule or to make additional appointments, both without notice.

JUDGES' AWARDS

21. No person but the Stewards and authorised Officials shall enter any of the rings or have any communication with the Judges during the time judging is taking place. All Exhibitors or their staff acting in opposition to this rule shall forfeit such prizes as may be awarded to their exhibits. The Judges are instructed to withhold any prizes where the entry is not of sufficient merit. In all cases where the prizes are offered conditionally, they may be withheld until the Exhibitor has proved to the satisfaction of the HAS that the conditions have been complied with.

SHOW RADIUS

22. For the purpose of local Exhibitors competing for Special Prizes, the Show Radius will include the whole of the County of Hertfordshire and the area within five miles beyond the County Boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey Map. It is essential that the full postal address of the Exhibitor be given on the entry forms. The HAS reserves the right to decide whether an Exhibitor comes within the Show Radius or not.

ROSETTES AND PRIZE MONEY

23a. Rosettes are not to be displayed during judging. Rosettes are awarded to sixth place, though additional rosettes may be awarded at the Judges' discretion. The prize money shown for each class is the maximum. Unless otherwise stated prize money will be sent by BACS within six weeks of the Show. (British Show jumping rule exception to this time scale) In the event of a class being divided, prize money will be awarded according to the number of entries in each sub-section. The prize money shown for each class is the maximum. Unless otherwise stated prize money will be sent by BACS within six weeks of the Show. If there are only 4 entries, first and second prize money only will be awarded. If there are 3 entries only 1st prize will be awarded. Less than 3 entries and 1st prize will be adjusted accordingly. In the event of a class being divided, prize money will be awarded according to the number of entries in each sub-section.

CUPS AND TROPHIES

23b. All Cups and Trophies are the property of or in the safe keeping of The HAS. Most trophy winners may hold their respective Cup or Trophy and, subject to a refundable deposit payment of £40.00, this can be collected from the Light Horse Office on the understanding that they must be returned by 31st March 2027. Winners will be required to engrave the trophies won at their own cost.

PROTESTS AND OBJECTIONS

24. Any Exhibitor at the Show feeling aggrieved with reference to Horses exhibited at this Show must lodge any protest or objection in writing to the Secretary within 24 hours of the end of Judging of the class or the alleged incident and pay a deposit of £50. Joint protests will only be accepted if accompanied by a deposit from each individual who is lodging a complaint. The protest will be considered and investigated by a panel appointed by The HAS, whose decision shall be final and from which there shall be no appeal. If the protest is not substantiated, the deposit will be forfeited.

ALTERATION OF AWARDS

25. In case of any protest or otherwise, whereby any prize animal becomes disqualified, the winner of the next succeeding prize in that class shall take the prize that has been awarded to such disqualified animal. All other prize winners will then move up the order.

PENALTIES

26. An infringement of any of these or any other prescribed Regulations or Conditions will subject the Exhibitor to the forfeiture of any prize to which they may be entitled (in addition to all other consequences attaching to such infringement). The HAS reserves to itself the right to inform other organisations of any decision it may come to concerning an Exhibitor.

LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

27. Save for the death or personal injury caused by the proven negligence of The HAS, its Officers, Staff or Agents, the HAS will not be responsible for death, injury, disease, damage, theft or loss caused to any Exhibitor or to his or her staff or agent or to any animal, article, plant, vehicle, machinery or thing of whatever nature brought onto the HAS's premises by the said Exhibitor from whatever cause the death, injury, disease, damage, theft or loss arises. Save as aforesaid the Exhibitor shall indemnify the HAS against all claims, damages and expenses whatsoever in any way arising out of the presence of the Exhibitor, his staff, agents, exhibits, vehicles or equipment on the HAS's premises and shall assume full responsibility therefore. The owner of any animal which shall cause or occasion any damage or injury whatever shall indemnify and hold harmless HAS from and against all legal proceedings, actions, expenses, costs, claims, demands or damages. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to affect adequate and appropriate insurance cover to include fire, risk to property together with a recommended minimum of £5,000,000 Public Liability Insurance. Acceptance of the foregoing conditions shall be a condition of entry.

CANCELLATION STATEMENT

28. In the event of the Show being postponed, cancelled, abandoned or curtailed due to circumstances beyond the control of the HAS (ie extreme weather, security alerts) no entry, stable or stall fees will be repaid and the HAS will have no liability for expenses, consequential loss or damage suffered by Exhibitors or their representatives as a result of this action.

STABLING

30. On site stabling will be available from 5.00pm Friday 22nd May to 10.00am Monday 25th May 2026, on a first come first served basis. This will be restricted to the first 30 booking on each day and a waiting list will be held.

INTERPRETATION OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

31. The HAS reserves to itself the sole and absolute right to interpret these or any other prescribed Terms, Conditions and Regulations and to settle finally and determine all or any matters, questions, or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with or incident to the Show.

RIGHT TO AMEND CONDITIONS

32. The HAS reserves the right to amend these Terms, Conditions and Regulations at its discretion.

T'S & C'S SPECIFIC TO EQUINE COMPETITIONS

SHOWING ENTRIES CLOSE MAY 10TH 2026 (LATE ENTRIES TAKEN AT £5.00 PER CLASS EXTRA UNTIL 20TH MAY 2026)

CLASSES WILL BE RUN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE RESPECTIVE BREED SOCIETIES AND UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

IT IS A PREREQUISITE OF ENTRY THAT ALL EXHIBITORS, READ, ACCEPT AND COMPLY WITH THESE REGULATIONS.

35A RECEPTION AND SHOWING RULES – EQUINE

Conduct: Under no circumstances will threatening words or abusive behaviour be tolerated. The Show reserves the right to have any person demonstrating this type of behaviour disqualified and removed from the Showground, at the discretion of the Senior Steward.

Access to the Showground: Horse boxes and trailers are required to enter the Showground via Gate A, from the A5183 use Redding Lane next to 'The Hertfordshire Garden Centre'. Please ensure you use Gate A only. Please have your tickets ready.

Reception of Horses: Gate A will be open for the reception of Horses from 6.00 a.m. on Show days, unless they have booked stabling for the Friday night. Please contact the Equine Secretary 01582 792626 or email equine@hertsshow.com for further information.

Passports: Exhibitors are required by DEFRA to carry with them Official Identity Documents for all horses/ponies when competing or travelling. Competitors are reminded that it is a DEFRA requirement that the Official Identity Documents must be in the name of the legal owner within 30 days of ownership. This must be registered with the breed society, relevant studbook or ID issuing agency, dependant on breed/type of animal. Spot checks may be carried out at qualifying shows and by breed societies.

Grooms Dress: Grooms should wear a hat (riding hat, flat cap, trilby or other smart hat) smart jacket, waistcoat, trousers (cords, jodhpurs) and suitable sturdy footwear - no flip flops, sandals, trainers or open toe shoes. Jeans, shorts and baseball caps are not permitted. It is compulsory to wear a suitable hat: riding hat, flat cap, trilby or other smart hat (Baseball caps are not permitted). HAS recommends the wearing of protective headgear whilst leading any horse or pony. These standards will be strictly enforced and grooms failing to comply will be asked to leave the ring.

Safety: The onus is on every rider who suffers a fall or any person who suffers an injury whilst on the Showground to report the fall/injury to the Show Secretary. HATS: It is the sole responsibility of riders to ensure that whilst on horseback, they wear correctly fitting, 3-point protective headgear which complies with the latest British Standard. The Society accepts no responsibility for any injury arising from a failure to comply with this regulation **Please note all riders in BSPS classes will be required to have their hats checked before numbers are handed out.**

Horse Walks: Fenced horse walks will be provided and Exhibitors are required to use these designated routes to access the showing rings and must obey directions from the Officials and Stewards at the crossing points etc. Exhibitors are not permitted to use the horse walks for any purpose other than prior to the start of their class and horses must be kept at a walk. Trotting, cantering or exercising of horses within the horse walks is not allowed under any circumstances and may result in disqualification. Practice Arena & Warm-up Area: The designated warm up arena for ridden horses is for 'flat work' only; lunging is not permitted. The practice arena is designated solely for the use of warming up, riders and connections are encouraged to act in a courteous manner at all times and use these facilities in a safe and respectful manner.

Show Jumping warm up area will also be provided.

Equine Influenza: Equine Influenza and Tetanus vaccinations are a compulsory requirement. The requirement for the first 3 vaccinations is as follows: the first 2 vaccinations 21 – 92 days apart, a third booster between 150-215 days, and an annual booster vaccination within 365 days thereafter. No horse should enter competitions within 7

days of an EI vaccination. Foals should commence vaccinations at 6 months old. This Rule may be subject to change from guidance from the FEI/BEF and any changes will be notified via the Showing Council and ASAO websites. The Society's Veterinary Officer will carry out regular checks of the Horse Lines and the Stewards, at their direction, are empowered to require any horse or pony showing clinical signs of equine flu to be immediately removed from the Showground. In the event of a serious outbreak the Society reserves the right to require Vaccination Certificates to be produced.

Equine Health: By entering the Show you are declaring your horse is fit to compete and not currently suffering from any health issues that could be passed on to another animal. Any animal suspected to be infected by stewards will be inspected by the vet, potentially excluded and asked to leave the Showground. No refund of entry fees will be given.

Doping: The presence in any form or quantity, in a horse being shown, of a substance, which could by its nature affect its performance, is forbidden. Breed Societies may cause tests to be carried out at any affiliated show, or otherwise, to determine whether this condition has been breached; the findings whereof shall be forwarded to the Breed Society for action.