TOTNES & DISTRICT SHOW

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LIVESTOCK AND HORSE EXHIBITORS

General Rules and Regulations for Livestock and Horses 2027

The rules every cattle, sheep and horse exhibitor and competitor agrees to when they enter or bring an animal to the Show.

SHOW DAY	ENTRIES CLOSE	DOCUMENT
Sunday 25 July 2027	**25 June 2027**	**TDS-REG-02 · v1.1**

BEFORE YOU ENTER

About these regulations

Please read these regulations carefully. By submitting an entry and/or bringing an animal to the Show, the exhibitor and competitor agree to comply with these rules, the relevant section and class requirements, and all reasonable instructions issued by the Show Committee, Show Manager, stewards, veterinary personnel and authorised officials. Horse exhibitors must also follow the Special Rules and Regulations for the Horse Section (TDS-REG-03).

> ! YOU MUST
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> **Key times:** cattle and sheep arrive between 7.00am and 8.45am. Horses must be on the Showground by 10.00am. No stock may leave until the Grand Parade has finished.
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> **You need:** an online entry by 25 June 2027, Public Liability Insurance of at least £5 million, and the identification, passport and movement documents your animals require.

Entries

1. **Entries and closing date.** All competitors' entries must be made online. Where paper entry forms are required, they may be obtained by contacting the Show Manager. Completed paper forms must be returned by the closing date, 25 June 2027. Entries received after the published closing date will not be accepted.

2. **Entry information and data.** No entry will be accepted unless it is correctly completed online or on the prescribed form and accompanied by the appropriate entrance fee. For horses, see rule 1 of the Special Horse Section Rules.

   Information about exhibitors and their animals may be provided to DEFRA, Trading Standards, relevant council departments, the British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) and the Livestock Information Service (LIS), SAC, Breed Societies, other bodies with regulatory functions and the Society's veterinary advisers where necessary for regulatory, animal health, identification or Show administration purposes. The Show handles this information in line with UK data protection law (UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018) and its privacy notice https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/pdfs/ukpga_20180012_en.pdf

3. **Entry fees.** Entry fees are non-refundable, including in the event of the partial or total abandonment or postponement of the Show. All entry fees are published in the 2027 Show Schedule.

4. **Paper entry forms.** When applying for paper entry forms, the exhibitor must state the class or classes in which they intend to exhibit, the number of entries proposed, and the name and age of each exhibit.

5. **Incorrect class entries.** Any person entering an animal or animals in the wrong class may be disqualified.

6. **Ownership of cattle and sheep.** All cattle and sheep must be the bona fide property of the exhibitors and must have been in their possession for at least three months before the day of the exhibition. Where applicable, entries must comply with the rules of the relevant Breed Societies.

7. **Horse descriptions and passports.** A full description of every horse entered, including its name, colour and distinguishing marks, must be provided on the entry form. Every horse must be microchipped and have a valid passport, as required by the Equine Identification (England) Regulations 2018. The passport must be available for inspection on request.

Arrival, handling and the Grand Parade

8. **Placement of stock.** Exhibitors' assistants must ensure that the stock under their care is properly and safely placed in the areas allocated by the Show.

9. **Arrival and departure of animals.** The Show field will be open for the reception of cattle and sheep from 7.00am to 8.45am on the morning of the Show. No cattle or sheep will be admitted after 8.45am. Horses must be on the Showground by 10.00am.

   No stock may be removed from the Show field until after the Grand Parade has concluded. Any exhibitor who breaches this rule may, in the case of prize winners, forfeit their prize; non-prize winners may be liable to a fine of £25. This rule will be strictly enforced. Any exceptional arrangements must be agreed in advance with the Show Manager.

   Livestock vehicles must follow stewards' directions, the site speed limit and the Show's vehicle movement times and keep to designated routes.

10. **Cattle handling and control.** All cattle must be led into the Show field. All bulls over 15 months old must be led by a nose clamp or ring. It is recommended that all bulls are led by a minimum of two attendants. Exhibitors must provide chains or ropes for fastening cattle to the cattle lines, as all cattle classes will be judged in the appropriate ring. Exhibitors are expected to ensure that their animals are halter-trained and suitably behaved before the Show. Exhibitors remain responsible for the safe control of their animals at all times.

11. **Horned exhibits.** All horned exhibits must be identified as such on the entry form. Horned cattle are placed so that they do not face public walkways.

12. **Handlers and dress.** It is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure that anyone handling an animal is of suitable physical capability, experience and age to be in charge of that animal. A handler must not be in charge of more than one animal at a time. Junior exhibitors leading animals in the Grand Parade must be accompanied by a competent adult who is not handling another animal. The correct dress code for the relevant section must be followed at all times.

13. **Stallions and colts.** It is recommended that any stallion or colt aged three years or over should wear a bit or chifney at all times when being handled. Stallions must be handled only by experienced handlers, with extra space kept from other horses and the public.

14. **Grand Parade.** Cattle prize winners, the Supreme Champion and Breed Champions in the Horse Sections must take part in the Grand Parade. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of prize money. Prize winners taking part must not be decorated with rosettes or other awards, except those won at the current Totnes & District Show. The public are cleared from livestock routes before the Grand Parade, and animals move only along the stewarded route.

15. **Mobile phones.** Mobile phones must not be used while handling livestock or equines in the Grand Parade or in any other area of the Showground where doing so could distract the handler or compromise safety.

16. **Quad bikes and mini motorbikes.** Quad bikes and mini motorbikes are not permitted in any area of the Showground, car park or lorry park, except where specifically authorised and used by Show Officials.

Judging and prizes

17. **Presentation for judging.** All animals must be presented for judging at the scheduled time and without rosettes, except where the schedule expressly provides otherwise.

18. **Classes.** The Committee reserves the right to amalgamate or cancel any class which, in its opinion, has insufficient entries.

19. **Judging areas.** No person may enter a judging area or communicate with a judge or examining veterinary surgeon without the permission of the relevant steward.

20. **Awards.** Judges may withhold any ordinary or special prize where there is an evident want of merit. Where only one animal or pen of animals is shown in a class, the judges may award first, second or third prize according to the merit of the animal or animals exhibited.

21. **Conditional prizes.** Where prizes are awarded conditionally, they will be withheld until the exhibitor has proved to the satisfaction of the Committee that the relevant conditions have been met.

22. **Veterinary examination of horses.** If at any time during the Show the judges have cause to doubt the soundness of a horse, notwithstanding that it may be provided with a certificate, they may order the horse to be examined by the Society's veterinary surgeon. The veterinary surgeon's decision on the examination will be final for the purposes of the Show.

23. **Prize money.** Prize winners should collect their prize money before 4.00pm on Show day from the ticket booth at the pedestrian entrance gate in the main show field. Unclaimed prize money may be retained by the Show and will not be posted after the Show.

24. **Rosettes.** Rosettes will be awarded as follows. Cattle and sheep: to third place. Horses: to sixth place. Fourth place in sheep classes will be awarded only where 10 or more entries are forward in the class on Show day.

25. **Cups and trophies.** Any exhibitor who does not return cups and/or trophies by the date requested may be refused permission to take away cups or trophies won at future Shows.

26. **Protests and objections.** The Committee will not consider a protest unless it is made in writing and delivered to the Show Office within one hour of publication of the judges' decision. Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit of £25 and signed by the exhibitor making it. The deposit will be forfeited if the Committee considers the objection to be frivolous.

    Objections relating to livestock, including alleged tampering or prohibited substances (rule 27), must be lodged on the day on which the alleged incident occurred. If an objection is not upheld to the Committee's satisfaction, the deposit may be forfeited to the Society at the Committee's discretion. No later objection will be accepted unless the Committee considers the reason for delay satisfactory.

Animal health, welfare and biosecurity

27. **Tampering with animals and prohibited substances.** Any artificial contrivance or device found on, or proved to have been used on, an animal while it is on the Showground, for preventing the flow of milk or for any other improper purpose, may result in disqualification. Any prize awarded before discovery may be forfeited. The instigator or owner may be prohibited from entering stock at future Shows for such period as the Committee considers appropriate. Improper practice includes setting of teats and any practice which results in an animal being shown other than in its natural state. The Committee reserves the right to have animals inspected by its Veterinary Officers before, during or after judging.

    The Committee will not tolerate the administration to any show exhibit (whether entered for competition, sale or demonstration) of tranquillisers or other drugs which may affect the animal's performance or behaviour in the show ring. The Committee reserves the right to take any necessary samples. Any person or exhibitor, or their representative, found to have administered or permitted the administration of such substances may be dealt with at the Committee's discretion. The matter may also be referred to the relevant Breed Society or organisation.

28. **Biosecurity, identification and movements.** All biosecurity measures in place at the Show must be strictly followed. Livestock vehicles must have been cleaned and disinfected before leaving the holding. The Show reserves the right, in consultation with its veterinary advisers, to refuse entry to any vehicle considered not to be in a sufficiently clean condition or to present a risk of spreading infection. Exhibitors may be required to comply with additional biosecurity measures on the day, including the cleaning and disinfection of footwear and equipment. Exhibitors must follow all current government, veterinary and relevant animal-health requirements.

    Exhibitors must comply with animal identification, passport and movement reporting rules (for cattle, BCMS or LIS; for sheep and goats, LIS), and with any standstill or disease control restrictions in force on Show day. Animals showing signs of disease must not be brought to the Show. In a notifiable disease outbreak, the Show follows government restrictions and its Disease Contingency Plan, which may mean sections or classes are cancelled.

29. **Animal welfare and extreme weather.** Exhibitors are responsible for the welfare of their animals at all times, in line with the Animal Welfare Act 2006. Animals must have access to water and, in hot weather, shade. Animals must not be left in vehicles or trailers where they could overheat.

    In extreme heat or severe weather, the Show, advised by its veterinary surgeon, may delay, change or cancel classes or the Grand Parade, or ask exhibitors to take animals home. The veterinary surgeon may require an animal that is unwell or distressed to be withdrawn.

30. **Duty of care and animal control.** Exhibitors have a duty of care to ensure that animals are managed, handled, transported and displayed in a manner that does not present a foreseeable risk to members of the public, Show Officials, stewards or other exhibitors. Animals must not be left unattended where this could create a risk. Exhibitors must promptly report any animal escape, injury, dangerous behaviour or other incident to a steward or Show Official.

Safety, security and emergencies

31. **Riding and protective headgear.** All riders must wear protective headgear meeting a current recognised safety standard listed in the Schedule, and any applicable competition requirements, with the chinstrap fastened, whenever mounted. The Totnes Show Society recommends protective headgear when leading any horse or pony on the Showground.

32. **Gazebos and temporary structures.** Exhibitors erecting their own gazebos or other temporary structures must ensure that they are properly erected, securely anchored and maintained in a safe condition, taking account of foreseeable weather conditions. Structures, ropes, pegs and equipment must not create hazards for animals, handlers, officials or members of the public. The Show may require an unsafe structure to be made safe or removed.

33. **Ground and trip hazards.** Exhibitors must take suitable precautions to manage risks arising from uneven ground, wet grass, mud, animal waste, ropes, stakes, cables and equipment, particularly in areas accessible to the public. Any hazard that cannot be made safe immediately must be reported to a steward or Show Official.

34. **Emergencies involving animals.** In an emergency, animals must be managed in accordance with instructions from Show Officials, stewards and the attending Veterinary Surgeon. Exhibitors must familiarise themselves with the relevant livestock and horse evacuation or emergency arrangements and must not move animals through public areas or emergency routes unless instructed or it is necessary to protect life from immediate danger. People come first: secure animals only if it is safe to do so, then follow stewards' instructions.

35. **Security and Martyn's Law.** The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (Martyn's Law) is expected to come into force in 2027. The Show is putting security arrangements in place in line with the Act and its event security plan, and these will apply on Show day whether or not the Act is in force by then. For security purposes, exhibitors, competitors and their helpers are treated as part of the Show's team on the day. Exhibitors and competitors must cooperate with all reasonable security instructions and procedures communicated by the Show, including:

- following steward, security and Show Official instructions and attending any relevant exhibitor briefing;
- using only authorised entrances and access routes, and displaying or carrying any passes or identification required by the Show;
- ensuring that vehicles, trailers, equipment and deliveries enter only at authorised times and locations and comply with vehicle checks or access controls;
- accepting that persons, vehicles, horseboxes and trailers may be checked or searched by security staff as a condition of entry;
- keeping gates, access points, emergency routes and evacuation routes clear at all times;
- locking livestock vehicles, horseboxes and trailers and removing the keys whenever they are left unattended, and not moving them while the public are on the Showground unless a steward is directing the movement;
- not leaving bags, boxes or equipment unattended outside the stalls, pens or lorry park, as they may be treated as suspicious;
- remaining alert to unusual or suspicious behaviour, vehicles or items and reporting concerns promptly to a steward, security officer or Show Official (tell the nearest steward or go to the Show Office; in an emergency, call 999);
- not touching, moving or attempting to investigate a suspicious item. Move away, warn others if safe to do so and follow instructions from security personnel or the emergency services;
- following instructions in the event of an incident, including directions to evacuate, move to a place of safety, remain in a designated area or take other protective action. Security instructions may differ from fire arrangements;
- keeping knives and tools used for preparing animals secure, and using them only for that purpose;

- not sharing security-sensitive information, access arrangements or incident details publicly or on social media where doing so could compromise safety; and
- not flying drones over or from the Showground without the Show's written permission.

Exhibitors must ensure that all persons working with them, including assistants and contractors, are made aware of the relevant instructions, and are encouraged to complete the free ACT Awareness e-learning on the ProtectUK website. These requirements do not transfer or replace any statutory responsibility held by the Show as the responsible person. The Show reserves the right to restrict access, suspend activity or require an exhibitor or competitor to leave the Showground where this is considered necessary for public safety or security.

36. **Insurance and liability.** While officials will take reasonable care, the Society will not be responsible for any accident, loss, damage or injury to competitors, exhibitors, members of the public, stock or produce, or for damage caused to or by any exhibit, except where arising from the Society's negligence or where liability cannot lawfully be excluded. All exhibitors and competitors must hold public liability insurance of at least £5 million, valid on the day of the Show, and must provide evidence of cover if requested.

37. **Compliance and directions.** All exhibitors and competitors must comply with these regulations and with reasonable instructions given by the Show Committee, Show Manager, stewards, veterinary personnel, security personnel and other authorised officials. The Show reserves the right to refuse admission, require an activity to stop, remove an animal or exhibitor from the Showground, or take other proportionate action where a breach creates a safety, animal-welfare, biosecurity or security concern. Any such action will be taken in accordance with the Show's procedures and applicable law.