



# The National Pony Society - Scotland

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12<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Dear Exhibitor,

**NPS Scotland Finals and Silver Medal Championships – Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2024**  
**Defender Blair Castle International Horse Trials**

Enclosed is information relating to the above event which is fast approaching. Can I ask you to follow the signs to your designated lorry parking area and also obey the instructions of those doing the lorry parking on the site?

I would also ask you to familiarise yourself with the '**Notes for Exhibitors**' in the schedule and also be aware that all classes are judged under the Rules of the NPS. For full details of these Rules, please visit [www.nationalponysociety.com](http://www.nationalponysociety.com)

Important points to note are:

- **TIMETABLE**

Due to large entries in the Novice Ridden Classes, we have revised the timetable and moved the NPS Blackertor & Sharptor Studs M&M In Hand Silver Medal Rosette Final to the Garry Arena at 11.00am. Judge will still be Mrs Barbara McGrath.

Please note the revised timetable and not before times. The Tummel Arena commences at 8.30am prompt, the Garry Arena at 9.00am prompt and the Tay Arena 8.30am prompt, with the WHP course available to walk at 0815hrs.

- **LORRY AND ADMISSION PASSES**

All these passes will be posted to you directly by the Horse Trials Office.

All further admission passes and vehicle passes must be booked and paid for through the Blair online box office. Details can be found on [www.blairhorsetrials.co.uk/box-office](http://www.blairhorsetrials.co.uk/box-office).

Please DO NOT contact NPS Scotland for additional admission or vehicle passes as they will not be issued and you must purchase them as detailed above.

The erection of pens or paddocks in the lorry park is forbidden. No companion animals or ponies to be stabled in lorries. Anyone found doing so will be evicted from the site and will forfeit their entry fees.

Revised FIRE REGULATIONS will be in operation in the lorry park this year so please obey the instructions of officials. This is to ensure the safety of all competitors. Anyone found to be in breach of these regulations will have names/vehicle registrations noted and it may be you will be asked to leave the site.

- **BACK and BRIDLE NUMBERS** – Your unique back/bridle number will have been posted to you by the Horse Trials Office. If you are competing on multiple days, this number will remain the same.

Bridle numbers **MUST BE WORN BY THE PONY AT ALL TIMES** whilst out of its stable/vehicle. You may remove this disc prior to entering the ring, but it must be re-attached as soon as you leave the ring.

**If you are entered in the NPS RIDDEN AND IN HAND GOLD MEDAL FINALS, please collect a different back number from the NPS Secretary's Tent on the day.**

- **PA SYSTEM** – There will be NO PA/call up system which will cover the lorry park so the onus is on the exhibitor to ensure they are forward for their classes in time. Neither NPS Scotland nor Blair Atholl Event Organisers will accept responsibility if classes are missed due to people claiming they did not know that their class had commenced. Exhibitors are also asked to ensure they note 'Closing of Class' information detailed below.
- **HATS** - Correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats that meet one of the following current Safety Standards/specifications **MUST** be worn by all Riders of all ages. **Hat Standards accepted as of 1st January 2024 are as follows: PAS015 2011, VG1, (BS) EN1384 2023, ASTM F1163 2015 & 2023, SNELL E2016 onwards, AS/NZS 3838 2006 onwards.**

**Hats meeting more than one standard: Some hats are badged with two or more standards. As long as a hat contains at least one compliant hat standard, then it is deemed suitable for use under NPS rules, even if it is additionally labelled with an older or out of date standard.**

Handlers of ponies in In Hand classes aged 14 years and under must wear a correctly secured skull caps/riding hat that meets one of the above standards.

- **NOVICE RIDDEN CLASSES** – Snaffle bits only are permitted in these classes (1-5).
- **NOSEBANDS** – A standard cavesson noseband is the only type of noseband permitted in flat ridden classes.
- **CURB CHAINS**. Solid metal curb chains, frequently covered in leather, are not permitted.
- **STALLIONS** – ALL Ridden stallions must display a stallion bridle marker. This also includes those entered in WHP classes. Stallions not wearing such a marker will be dismissed from the class. In Hand stallions and colts 2 years old or over must be adequately bitted. In Hand stallions are advised to display a stallion bridle marker.
- **ALL CLASSES** – We will be starting promptly as per the timetable and running classes straight through as detailed in the timetable. Whilst every effort is made, the organisers cannot be held responsible if classes clash. Judges will not wait or delay the judging of classes if a competitor entered in that class is competing in another.
- **WHP CLASSES** – Ponies will jump in catalogue order and jump heights are in accordance with the Rules of the NPS/TOPSEC M&M WHP National Championships (page 53 2024 Rule Book). If exhibitors are found to not be coming forward to declare, warning will be given that the class will close.
- **BACK PROTECTORS** – The NPS strongly recommends body protectors are worn in all NPS jumping competitions especially over fixed obstacles.
- **SCORESHEETS** – Only the WHP scoresheets will be available for view by exhibitors. Those used in flat classes will not be disclosed (page 18 rule 4.6(k) 2024 Rule Book).
- **JEWELLERY** – Riders are NOT permitted to wear earrings or visible jewellery (including piercings). The Judge will ask the competitor to remove them. This rule is a recommendation for handlers in 2024 and will become mandatory in 2025.
- **GROOMS** – Grooms must, at all times present themselves in the show ring neatly and smartly dressed. Hats must be worn when in the show ring.
- **CLOSING OF CLASSES** – The Class is closed and ponies will not be allowed into the ring when:

- (a) In Hand – when the last pony has done its individual trot around the ring before being lined up.
  - (b) Ridden (including First Ridden) – when the class goes into trot.
  - (c) WHP – 2 minutes after the last pony has jumped.
  - (d) Lead Rein- when the last pony has done its individual trot around the ring before being lined up.
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- **OBJECTIONS** – Objections or protests must be made in writing giving full name and address within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the class concerned and lodged at the NPS Scotland Secretary's Office, and accompanied by a £100.00 fee which will only be refunded in the event of the objection being upheld. The Objection Committee will consist of a minimum of three NPS Scotland Committee Members or Officials.
  - **PRIZEMONEY** – Prizemoney is to be collected from the NPS Scotland Secretary's office. Prizemoney not claimed either on the day of the Show or within 30 minutes of the awarding of the rosettes in the last class of the day will be forfeited.
  - **TROPHIES** – If you are the holder of any trophies awarded at the 2023 Show, please ensure they are returned to me duly engraved and in a clean condition. Please note that any winner of a trophy is expected to leave a £25 deposit with NPS Scotland which will be reimbursed the following year on the return of said trophy.
  - **CATALOGUES** for the NPS Scotland Finals will be available to purchase from the NPS Scotland Secretary's office on the day.
  - **WITHDRAWALS** – Once again, we have a large entry for our Finals. If, for some reason you are NOT going to bring a pony, could you possibly text or email me to let me know. This is not a condition of entry, but it would be helpful to know.
  - **CURFEW** - There is a curfew on riding of 7pm throughout the event. This includes warm up arenas and hacking as well as competition arenas. Ponies may still be exercised in hand or lunged after this time. Anyone found riding after curfew may be asked to leave the venue. No refunds will be given for stabling or entry fees.
  - In ALL classes, whips/canes must not exceed an overall length of 75cms (30"). Spurs are not allowed in any ridden classes.

Should you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me and I look forward to seeing you on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

Yours sincerely

*Fiona Roebuck*

Fiona Roebuck

NPS Scotland/Blair Finals Entry Secretary

Tel: 01738 730399/07970 731633 (calls between 7pm and 9pm only please).

Email: [southstrathy@gmail.com](mailto:southstrathy@gmail.com)