



INDEPENDENT MINIATURE HORSE
REGISTRY INC (AUSTRALIA)



Show Rules

Independent Miniature Horse Registry Inc.

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INTRODUCTION

The Independent Miniature Horse Registry was founded in 2005 dedicated to promoting and protecting the qualities that make the Miniature Horse a unique individual within the equine world.

This handbook is designed to ensure competitors and judges are given clear and concise rules regarding participating in, officiating and the conduct of events at IMHR Feature Shows.

These rules apply to all IMHR shows and events - compliance with these rules is a condition of entry.

Judges and those officiating at IMHR shows should be provided with a copy of this handbook.

Rules are revised Jan each year and member input is welcomed.

More information about Miniature Horses and IMHR Inc. can be found on the official website:

www.imhr.com.au

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BREED STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE—HORSE

General Impression

The general impression should be one of agility, athletic ability, intelligence, refinement and symmetry. A small, structurally sound, well balanced horse possessing the conformation characteristics permitting it to be an equine athlete. The Miniature Horse possesses the same desirable characteristic qualities and traits found in most breeds of horses.

The Miniature Horse conveys the impression of a smaller version of a full sized horse, not a pony.

A Miniature Horse mare should exhibit traits of refinement and femininity, while the stallion must reflect boldness and masculinity with an impeccable temperament.

A Miniature Horse must be able to move with proper gaits demonstrating athletic ability whether it be at the walk or trot in-hand and driving or the canter in liberty or negotiating fences while jumping.

Since the breed objective is to identify and reward the smallest possible perfect horse, preference in judging shall be given to the smallest horse for its age when other characteristics are approximately equal.

Size

Within the IMHR Studbook there shall be Miniature Horse , Small Horse and Little Horse categories:

Miniature Horse

- Weanlings must not exceed 30.5"
- Yearlings must not exceed 32.5"
- Two Year Old must not exceed 33.5"
- Mature horses must not exceed 34.5"

Small Horse

- Weanlings must not exceed 34.5"
- Yearlings must not exceed 36.5"
- Two Year Olds must not exceed 37.5"
- Mature horses must not exceed 38.5"

Little Horse

- Weanlings must not exceed 38.5"
- Yearlings must not exceed 40.5"
- Two Year Olds must not exceed 41.5"
- Mature horses must not exceed 42.5"

Head

In proportion to length of neck and body, broad forehead with large expressive eyes set well part, comparatively short distance between eyes and muzzle, profile straight or slightly concave below eyes, large nostrils, and clean refined muzzle.

Consideration of age is an important factor in evaluating the head as younger horses with developing teeth 'bumps' will give the impression of a less than desirable head during their maturation process.

Teeth

An even bite is necessary with no more than 3mm deviation. Overshot or parrot mouth is a disqualification. Teeth must be examined on all mares and stallions before final selection and placings.

BREED STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE—HORSE

Ears

Medium sized, pointed and alert, tips curving slightly inwards.

Throat-Latch

Clean and well defined allowing ample flexion at the poll.

Neck

Flexible and of a length in proportion to body blending smoothly into withers. The neck should be set high, coming up and out away from the shoulder, permitting a shift of weight to the hindquarters for more impulsion.

Shoulder

Long, sloping and well angulated allowing a free swinging stride and alert head/neck carriage, well muscled forearm.

Body

Well muscled and proportioned with ample bone and substance, without being heavy, possessing a strong short back and loins, proportion in length to the underline. The top-line from wither to tail head must be level, with slight rounding of the croup and a high set tail. The girth and barrel must be let-down and oval, providing capacity and balance similarly found in the large horse. The length of body must be in proportion to the length of leg forming a balanced appearance.

Hindquarters

Long, well muscled hip, thigh and gaskin, highest point of croup to be same height as withers, tail set neither excessively high nor low but smoothly rounding off the croup and hip.

Legs

Long and slender in proportion to the rest of the body, set straight and parallel when viewed from front and back, straight true and squarely set when viewed from the side with

hooves pointing directly ahead, pasterns sloping approximately 45 degrees and blending smoothly with no change of angle from hooves to the ground. Hooves to be round and compact, trimmed suitable but not excessively for an unshod horse. Joints must be refined and well defined.

Gait

Smooth and fluid gait in motion, naturally free moving. The walk must display a regular four beat cadence with sufficient length of stride with the size of the horse. The trot must be a regular two beat diagonal gait, demonstrating a lift of the knees and hocks with sufficient impulsion but not necessarily extreme action.

Colour

Any colour or marking pattern is acceptable, any eye colour is allowed, the coat should be lustrous and silky. Natural hair coat or a clipped body is permitted.

Temperament

Good manners and temperament is of the utmost importance – curious, alert, intelligent and friendly, poor or vicious temperament is considered a fault.

BREED STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE—PONY

The Miniature Pony is a small well proportioned pony; possessing good temperament, free of hereditary unsoundness, exhibiting no vices, showing refinement and femininity in mares and boldness and masculinity in stallions. The pony should be robust enough to carry a small child or pull an adult in a small vehicle. The pony should also possess the characteristics recognised of a typical pony in miniature. In judging all factors being equal, preference could be given to the smaller size.

Ears

Small to medium in size.

Head

Comparatively small, head well in proportion to the rest of the body; profile straight or slightly concave (dished) below eyes; comparatively small muzzle, round expressive eyes set well apart, comparatively short distance between eye and muzzle.

Teeth

Should meet evenly, no more than 3mm variation acceptable.

Neck

Lightly crested on mares and moderately crested on stallions. The length of the neck will be proportional to the body.

Body

Should have well sprung ribs, a generous girth, a slight natural curve in the back and a strong well rounded rump; the whole body shall present a picture of balance and shall be in proportion for the height. The body should not be coarse or overlong.

Legs

Are straight, true and squarely set, straight sound flat bone, strong forearm, short cannon bone, strong sloping pasterns.

Action

Should be smooth showing free flexion of the joints without exaggeration.

Colours

All colours are acceptable.

Size

The pony must stand naturally with head held in a natural position and all four hoofs standing squarely on the ground (not stretched) .

Miniature Pony

- Weanlings must not exceed 30.5"
- Yearlings must not exceed 32.5"
- Two Year Old must not exceed 33.5"
- Mature horses must not exceed 34.5"

Small Pony

- Weanlings must not exceed 34.5"
- Yearlings must not exceed 36.5"
- Two Year Olds must not exceed 37.5"
- Mature horses must not exceed 38.5"

SHOW RULES

1. Presentation for Showing

These rules apply equally to all exhibits at IMHR events and shows.

1.1. The permissible methods of presentation for showing are:

(a) in natural condition; or
(b) clipped with the new coat established; or (c) freshly clipped.
In all cases the horse or pony must be neat, healthy and well presented.

1.2. Mane and tail are to be shown free flowing in halter and in-hand events. The mane and tail may be trimmed and thinned to improve the appearance. No artificial application of hair (including false tails) is permitted.

1.3. Hooves are to be unshod in halter and in-hand events. Standard shoes are allowed in **driven** events only.

1.4. Plaiting, braiding and suitable decorative trim is permissible in performance events (i.e. hunter/jumper).

1.5. General preparation and presentation shall be at the discretion of the owner but the Association states that the horse or pony must be shown to its best possible visual and health advantage in order to promote the miniature horse or pony as one of beauty, intelligence and gentleness.

1.6. Circus type presentation including the handler using excessive movements and actions is not relevant for any event other than costume classes.

1.7. Eyelashes may not be removed.

2. Eligibility For Showing

2.1. Generally, IMHR Feature Shows are open to horses and ponies holding current registrations with a recognised society, however, IMHR exclusive events may take place and other conditions for that event may be set at the Show Committees discretion.

2.2. All entries must be made by the owner/lessee of the horses or ponies. The owner/lessee entering the horse must be a financial member of the organisation with which the exhibit is registered and proof of such is to be supplied with entries.

2.3. Any exhibitor or handler intending to enter the show ring must be a member of IMHR. Any handler entering the ring who does not comply with this condition will be escorted from the ring and the horse or pony shall be disqualified from all further classes at that event. If that horse or pony has already competed, any awards or placings may be revoked if it is found that the handler for those classes also did not comply with this condition. It is the owner/lessee entering the horse or pony's responsibility to ensure all handlers are financial members of IMHR. Disciplinary action by the National Committee against the owner/lessee of the exhibit(s) shall also be taken after the event.

2.4. Classes or events exclusively for IMHR Inc. registered horses and ponies shall only be open to horses and ponies holding current IMHR registrations and shown by financial members of IMHR Inc.

2.5. To enter an IMHR show, the owner/lessee must use the complete name and

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registration number of the horse or pony as it is shown on the registration certificate. Failure to provide complete information at time of entry shall result in a re-processing fee set by the Show Committee and stated in the entry conditions for the event. All fees must be paid in full before the horse or pony may compete at that event.

2.6. No substitutions or changes are acceptable unless explicitly permitted by the Show Committee for that event. Horses shown under false identity will be automatically and immediately disqualified by the show management. In addition, further disciplinary action by the National Committee shall be taken.

2.7. To enter an IMHR show, a legible copy of both sides of the registration certificate must be supplied for horses and ponies not registered with IMHR. A colour photocopy is required for all non-micro-chipped horses and ponies for identification purposes.

2.8. Horses under the age of 12 months may be shown registration pending providing the owner holds a standard letter from the Secretary of the registering association stating that registration has been received and all is in order. This letter is not required for horses pending IMHR registration provided the application for registration has been received by the IMHR office. Letter must be included with show entries and received by entry closing date or entries may be rejected.

2.9. At shows conducted by IMHR Inc. or

other shows run under IMHR Inc. rules, a miniature horse should not directly compete against small horses, little horses or miniature and small ponies for any prize or award in either halter or performance without the prior consent of the Committee which they are not bound to give. Miniature horses may compete against small horses, little horses or miniature ponies and small ponies only in classes where there is no obvious height advantage to one category over the other in competition.

2.10. At any event that has classes for Miniatures plus other recognised studbook breeds (this includes but is not limited to English and American

Shetlands, Donkeys, Welsh Ponies and other horse and pony breeds), participation of these breeds in the open Miniature Horse, Small Horse and Little Horse, Miniature Pony and Small Pony classes, even if dual registered, is not permitted.

2.11. For the purposes of these show rules, a Youth is defined as being aged 17 years (actual) and under at the date of the show.

2.12. Horses and ponies that hold registrations in the studbook of IMHR must be current. Horses or ponies that are overdue for IMHR upgrade or have not been transferred to the new owner with IMHR are not eligible to be shown until registration is brought up to date even if horse or pony holds current registration with another society.

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2.13. The only exception to rule 2.12 is where the horse or pony is owned by a non-financial member. In this case, the horse's status in the IMHR studbook shall be updated accordingly.

2.14. Horses registered with IMHR may not compete as a Miniature/Small Pony at any event, even if dual registered. Similarly, Ponies registered with IMHR may not compete as a Miniature/Small/Little Horse at any event, even if dual registered. IMHR category change from pony to horse or horse to pony is a permanent change.

2.15. To be eligible to show as a broodmare, the mare must be in foal, have a foal at foot or have foaled in the last season. Proof must be produced on request. Mares may be entered in either the open mare or broodmare class – not both.

2.16. Novice classes are restricted to handlers or exhibits that have never won a National Champion award in equivalent classes at a National Show.

2.17. All Senior Stallions must have a Certificate of Soundness on file with IMHR before being permitted to compete. If horse is not registered IMHR Inc. then copy of Certificate of Soundness must accompany entries.

2.18. Pending registration for other societies will NOT be accepted. Current papers must be produced before entry closing date or entries will NOT be accepted.

3. Height Verification

3.1. Height requirements for showing are as per the Breed Standard of Excellence.

3.2. Unless otherwise specified, all horses and ponies competing at IMHR Inc feature shows shall be measured by an IMHR Committee member or a person appointed by the IMHR Committee for that purpose.

3.3. The show age and measuring age of the horse or pony is determined by its age at 1st August.

3.4. Horses presenting at the measuring bay at National or State Shows may be eligible to apply for a Senior Horse Height Card.

3.5. Cards can be issued for horses that are 3 years, 4 years or 5+ years old (actual age). This card is valid for all IMHR feature shows for 12 months for 3 and 4 year olds and permanently for 5+ year old horses. Permanent Height Cards can be issued at 5+ years old (actual age).

3.6. Cards can be applied for via the process and fee paid set by the Committee .

4. Minimum Ages - Horses and Ponies

<u>Event</u>	<u>Minimum age (actual)</u>
Halter Classes	3 months*
Trail	12 months
Hunter	12 months
Liberty	12 months
Long Reining	24 months
Show Jumper	36 months
Six Bar	36 months

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Fault and Out 36 months
Harness 36 months

*Foals under 4 months old must show with dam. Orphaned/weaned foals under 4 months old must have vet certificate.

5. Minimum Ages - Handlers

5.1 Handlers under 5 years MUST have an adult to assist them in the ring. All handlers 8 years and under may have an adult to assist without penalty.

5.2 Except where stipulated (ie leadline) there shall not be more than one lead attached to the horse or pony. For safety purposes, assistants may walk with youth handlers, however, the youth must have control of the horse or pony.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Minimum age (actual)</u>
Halter Classes	Three years
Youth Trail	Five years
Youth Hunter	Five years
Open Trail	Nine years
Open Hunter	Nine years
Long Reining	Nine years
Show Jumper	Nine years
Six Bar	Nine years
Fault and Out	Nine years

5.3. Harness Event Drivers
The following conditions apply based on drivers age:
- 16 years and over unaccompanied
- 11-15 years with adult (single reins)
- 6-10 years with adult (double reins)
All harness competitors must have an adult header.

6. Special Consideration for Handling

Colts and Stallions

6.1. NO youth may drive a colt or stallion in harness or long-reining events.

6.2. NO youth may exhibit a colt or stallion (regardless of age) in Youth events, novelty events or Fancy Dress.

6.3. NO youth may ride a colt or stallion in Youth events.

6.4. Parents or guardians of youth exhibitors may request special permission of the Show Committee for a youth aged 12 years and over to show a 2 year old colt. Applications to show stallions 3 years and over will not be considered. The application must be made at least 7 days prior to the show and must include details of experience and justification for the dispensation must be outlined. The Committee will assess each application on its merit and if approved, it shall be valid for the one specified event only for one horse or pony ONLY.

6.5. Youth exhibitors may handle a current seasons foal or weanling colt in halter classes (not permitted in any Youth events).

6.6. Youth aged 12 years and over may handle a yearling colt in halter classes.

6.7. In all cases, Show Management/ Judges may revoke permission if the safety of the horse or pony, handler or other exhibitors is deemed to be compromised.

7. Judges

7.1. Where possible, events must be judged by officially licensed IMHR judges

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or currently licensed panel judges accredited by other recognized horse organizations.

7.2. Only if a horse judge is unavailable will a pony judge be utilised for horse events.

7.3. Approved judges will be invited to actively learn about miniature horses and ponies as distinct and identifiable breeds. Any judges hired to judge a miniature show or class are required to acquaint themselves with the breed standards and the official show rules and must comply with those rules.

7.4. An officiating judge shall not attend a show, exhibitor's party, or any other activity connected with a show on the day previous to the show at which he/she is officiating where that party or activity may cause the said judge to have contact with a breeder, owner or exhibitor entered in the following days show.

7.5. A judge shall not visit the stall area nor speak with owners, trainers, exhibitors or owners representatives nor inspect or discuss any horse or pony entered in the show before judging nor shall he/she review the show catalogue until after judging has been completed. The judge is expected to be professional in their conduct and respectful of the competitors and greet all with minimum discussion.

7.6. Judges may be asked to give fair and reasonable public commentary on placings and decisions after each class.

7.7. No horse or pony may be shown

before a judge that has been sold by said judge or by his/her employer within a period of one year prior to the show.

7.8. No horse or pony may be shown before a judge that has been trained by said judge within a one year period prior to the show.

7.9. No horse or pony owned by the immediate family members of the judge may be shown and immediate family members of the judge are ineligible to be exhibitors at a show where the judge is officiating.

7.10. No horse or pony may be shown before a judge that is owned or exhibited by a current or ex-employee of the judge within a period of one year prior to the show. This includes but is not limited to utilisation of training services.

7.11. Conversation with an exhibitor about a horse may be done so at the completion of a class preferably in the presence of Show Management.

7.12. Names of horses being exhibited will not be made known to the judge prior to the show.

8. Licensed IMHR Judges

8.1. To become a licensed IMHR judge, the judge must make official application to the IMHR, successfully participate in an IMHR approved seminar, receive sufficient scores on written and practical examinations and demonstrate ongoing professional conduct and behaviour. Once every three years, the licensed judge should attend an IMHR approved judges seminar to maintain their status as

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a licensed judge.

8.2. All IMHR licensed judges must remain familiar with the current rules and regulations as from time to time amended by the IMHR.

8.3. All IMHR licensed judges shall remember they are serving the interests of the breed and the competition in their decisions.

8.4. The actions of a licensed IMHR judge at all shows (including non-IMHR events) are subject to review by the IMHR Committee.

9. Stewards and Officials

9.1. Any reputable person may act in the capacity of ring steward. The ring stewards must help the judge, not advise or suggest to him/her on placings. The steward shall carefully refrain from discussing or seeming to discuss the horses, ponies or exhibitors with the judge.

9.2 It is recommended that ring stewards or any paid employees of that show and their immediate family or entities refrain from showing or having horses or ponies shown that are registered in the above persons names where they are officiating or employed. In the event that this situation occurs, ie. no alternate stewards are available, the steward must not disclose that they (or a family member) may be competing in events at that show. Where possible, an alternate steward should be used during the event that the steward or family member of the steward are showing.

10. Drugs and Artificial Appliances, Aids and Irritants

10.1. The use of stimulants or depressants or any drug affecting the showing of a horse in a halter or performance event is strictly forbidden. Penalties for positive evidence of such drugging will include barring of the exhibitor, owner or trainer from showing. All points received at said show will be forfeited for any horses shown, owned or trained by them. In all cases it shall be reviewed by IMHR Committee for further review and possible action.

10.2 It is a condition of entry to all IMHR events that swabbing may take place. Exhibitors must present horses or ponies for testing within 30 minutes of the request from the Show Committee. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of all awards and cancellation of any other entries for all horses entered by that exhibitor at the same show. Further disciplinary action including expulsion may be taken for a positive swab result.

10.3. Any horse showing evidence of the use of ginger or other irritants to produce a higher tail carriage than normal shall be disqualified.

10.4. Switches, artificial tails or manes and high spoon cruppers are prohibited.

10.5. No horse having had surgery for purely cosmetic purposes will be permitted to show. Similarly, no horse having had surgery to correct faults will

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be permitted to show.

10.6. Ribbons, braids, all decorative appurtenances and stallion tack (excluding bits) are not allowed in halter and conformation classes.

10.7. No pads, wedges, chains, nor weighted ankle boots are allowed.

10.8. Whips or canes (of any size) are **strictly prohibited** in any classes at IMHR events, unless specifically included in the rules such as harness and lunge-line.

11. Ring Procedure

11.1. All handlers and drivers shall be correctly attired for the classes. Management may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably attired to appear before an audience.

11.2. Exhibitors must ensure that outfits convey a professional image at all times. The outfit must cover shoulders and also from chest to knees. **Handlers not suitably attired will be asked to leave the arena.**

11.3. No farm, stud, individual, or horse/pony names may be displayed on an exhibitor, on the horse/pony or vehicle, in the ring except where the class demands (e.g. harness – authentic turnout).

11.4. English and Western style turnout is allowed, as are quality dress slacks or trousers, when worn in combination with the following – short or long sleeved blouse/shirt .

11.3 Alternate dress would allow for

smart trousers or skirts. Skirts must be to the knee or longer. No mini skirts are permitted.

11.4. All shirts must have sleeves or jackets must be worn in the ring. Singlet tops, tank tops or similar will not be permitted without a jacket. Plunging necklines are not permitted.

11.5. Suitable footwear is mandatory – only boots or closed in shoes will be allowed in both the ring and marshalling area. Crocs, thongs or open toed shoes are not permitted. This rule applies to exhibitors, owners, spectators and handlers. Anyone not suitably attired will be asked to leave the area.

11.6. At all times the exhibitor must be aware that both horse/pony and handler are on display and hence present themselves in a neat, appropriate manner in order to promote the breed and the Association in an appealing and proper way.

11.7. All horses shall be handled and shown through an entire class by the same person. Should additional handlers be required due to multiple horses or ponies in a Grand Championship class (or similar), physical limitations or emergencies, approval must be obtained from the Judge or ring steward. At no time will the handler let the horse or pony stand unattended except when class calls for it.

11.8. Exhibitors will be issued a number for each exhibit to be displayed on the back (or arm) of the handler whenever the exhibit is in the ring. This number will

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stand for the entire show. Exhibitors attempting to enter the ring without an exhibit number, incorrect exhibit number or reproduced (hand drawn) exhibit number will be excluded from the class without refund. Lost or damaged exhibit numbers will incur a replacement fee. Only exhibit numbers issued by the office will be permitted.

11.9. Conduct inside or outside the ring designed to distract or otherwise interfere with the showing of an exhibit will not be tolerated. Offenders will be asked to leave the show area. If the offender is an exhibitor he/she will be excused from the ring and barred from the show area for the duration of the show. His/her horses however, may compete with an alternate eligible handler.

11.10. An unruly horse may be excused from the ring by the judge or ring steward for safety reasons.

11.11. Conduct by an exhibitor, trainer, owner or immediate family member of an unsportsmanlike, abusive or detrimental nature will not be tolerated by the show management including but not limited to threatening, abusive or intimidating behaviour, physical, verbal or written, toward any show official or fellow exhibitor. Such conduct shall be reported immediately to management by the exhibitor, judge, steward or show committee member.

11.12. Any person(s) found to be guilty of such conduct will be excused from the show and forfeit any awards received at

that show and forfeit the right to show in further classes at the show. No entry fees will be refunded.

11.13. The conduct shall also be reported to the National Committee for review after the event and may result in further action.

11.14. Exhibitors and/or owners may not protest to the judge directly or by inference, the placing of any horse. Any person(s) guilty of such conduct will be excused from the show and forfeit any awards received at that show and the right to show in any additional classes at the show. No entry fees will be refunded.

11.15. Exhibitors and/or owners using social media or similar to convey their displeasure with the opinion of the judges or the conduct of the event shall be subject to disciplinary action by the National committee.

11.16. Horses eligible and entered must show unless excused by the manager or judge. Notification of scratching must be made to the show office at least 30 minutes prior to commencement of the class.

12. Protests

12.1. In the case of RAS shows, all protests should be handled according to the procedure laid down by the Royal Agricultural Society in the state concerned.

12.2. The Association recognizes the position, rulings and directives of the Royal Agricultural Society Inc. in all matters relating to Society shows and will

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follow their guidelines in situations where no rule has been provided from in the above Rules of the Association.

12.3. At an IMHR event, unless otherwise specified, any exhibitor wishing to protest eligibility of another exhibitor or exhibit, must pay the specified protest fee to the Protest Committee up front. This is refunded if protest is upheld.

12.4. Protests regarding eligibility for an exhibit in a class must be lodged with the Protest Committee within a maximum of 20 minutes from class completion or it will not be accepted. Protests can only be made during or on completion of a class. Once the exhibits have entered the ring for judging of Grand Championship, the protest will not be heard.

12.5. For protests relating to height measurements, the exhibit will re-measured once only and this measurement shall be deemed final.

12.6. All protests must be made via the Show Office. Do not approach any committee members or exhibitors directly.

12.7. At no time will IMHR Inc. tolerate exhibitors approaching the Judge with regard to any decision or rule.

13. Special Classes

13.1. Coloured Classes

Horses may only enter ONE colour class. Judging is based on PHENOTYPE (the way the horse looks) and not GENOTYPE (the genetic colour of the horse). Judging is 80% colour and 20% conformation.

Non-pinto silvers and taffies enter the Silver class. Pintaloosa's and horses with multiple patterns and/or colours (i.e. dilute pinto, taffy appaloosa etc..) should enter the Any Other Colour class.

Exhibits may only enter one coloured class even if multi-patterned.

13.2. Youth Leadline (Ridden) Classes

The following guidelines apply:

- This class is for youth exhibitors three to eight years of age as of date of show and the rider must show some knowledge of equitation.
- Riders must be led or accompanied by a competent handler aged 16 years and over.
- Horses must be at least 3 years actual age.
- Horses must be 33" and over, preferably a stocky type.
- For horses - 33" - 35" riders must be under 18 kg.
- For horses over 35" riders must be under 28 kg.
- All riders must wear a helmet.
- Horses must be bitted.
- Horse may be plaited.
- English or western attire is acceptable but must correspond with equipment.
- Equipment on the horse must correspond with exhibitor attire, including a saddle adjusted so that the riders feet are placed properly in stirrups.
- Equipment must be of appropriate size for horse and rider.
- This class will not count towards Youth Hi Points.
- A lead shank at least six feet long must

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be attached to the shank of the bit or to a halter that is under the bridle so that while the rider is in the ring, the horse is able to be controlled by the adult.

RING PROCEDURE: The exhibitors will enter the ring with feet properly placed in stirrups at a flat-footed walk turning to the right and proceeding in a counter clockwise direction on the rail. The class will be worked at a walk or trot both directions of the ring.

In the lineup, the judge may ask riders to back their horses to help him judge the extent of the rider's horsemanship. If the judge asks the rider to back the horse in the lineup, the adult should not aid the rider. The adult should only keep the horse under control.

JUDGING THE RIDER: The rider will be judged on their basic position in the saddle, hand, leg, feet in stirrups, seat and back position.

13.3 Special Needs Classes

The Committee may choose to add Special Needs classes. These classes are open to any exhibitor with a disability. On a case by case basis, slight modification to the show rules may be permitted to promote an inclusive and safe environment.

13.4 Fancy Dress Events

13.4.1 Fancy Dress events are open to Youth and Adult competitors and are free to enter.

13.4.2 Where numbers warrant, Fancy Dress classes may be split into separate

classes for Adult, Youth and/or Group.

13.4.3 Fancy Dress Youth event is only open to Youth competitors and entry is for one (1) youth and one (1) horse or pony. Fancy Dress Adult event is only open to Adult (18 years and over) competitors and is restricted to one (1) adult and one (1) horse or pony. Fancy Dress Group is for multiple handlers (any age) and/or multiple horses or ponies that form one exhibit.

13.4.4 If assistance is required for the Fancy Dress Youth class, the assistant must not form part of the Fancy Dress exhibit.

14. Amateur Showcase

14.1. Entry to the Amateur Showcase is subject to the following criteria:

- * Exhibitor to be financial member of IMHR,
- * Exhibitor to be the registered owner of the horse exhibited,
- * Horse exhibited must be registered IMHR, and
- * Exhibitor must meet eligibility requirements for amateur (See 14.2 below):

14.2. For IMHR event purposes, a person is considered an amateur when he or she is no longer eligible to compete in youth classes and has not engaged in any activities, except as a youth, during the past five (5) calendar years which are listed below:

14.2.1. Having accepted remuneration in

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the last five (5) years for showing any horse at halter or in performance competition, training, schooling either horses or other persons.

14.2.2. Having accepted remuneration in the last five (5) years for having conducted seminars, clinics, given instruction in showing, training or judging.

14.2.3. Having accepted remuneration in the last five (5) years for judging a horse show.

14.2.4. Having earned \$30,000 or more in one financial year for the sale of horses either directly or on consignment.

14.3. An individual who has had entry fees paid or has received prize money would still be considered an amateur provided all other conditions are met.

14.4. Any person who does not qualify under these rules and shall knowingly and falsely represent to be an amateur in order to show in any classes for amateurs and/or any person who violates any of the provisions of this rule shall be subject to disciplinary action.

14.5. Protests regarding amateur eligibility must be made to the Protest Committee at least one hour prior to commencement of the amateur classes for pre-entered catalogued events.

14.6. There is no requirement for the owner / exhibitor to have trained or prepared the exhibit prior to or during the show. If you have any questions regarding eligibility for these classes please confirm before entries close.

14.7. Amateur classes will be held at the National Show and may also be held at other events at the Show Committee's discretion.

14.8 An individual who has received payment for show management duties including measuring and stewarding would be still considered an amateur providing all other conditions are met.

15. Show & Event Entry Payments

15.1. There shall be no refunds or credits under any circumstances after entry closing date. The Show Committee may consider a credit towards future IMHR transactions if exhibits are scratched prior to entry closing date.

15.2. Payments returned as unpaid for any reason are regarded as a serious offence. A 10% processing fee (minimum \$50) may be assessed for every returned cheque, declined credit card or invalid direct deposit.

15.3. All outstanding monies must be paid or exhibits will not be permitted to show unless prior Show Committee approval has been obtained.

16. Release of Liability

16.1. The Independent Miniature Horse Registry Inc., venue management and Show Management team will not be responsible for any accident that may occur to or by caused by any horse or pony exhibited at the show or event or for any article of any kind or nature that may be lost, destroyed, stolen or damaged.

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16.2. Each exhibitor will be liable for injury that may be occasioned to any person or animal or damage to property while on the grounds by any horse or pony owned, exhibited by, or in his/her custody/control and shall indemnify and hold harmless the Independent Miniature Horse Registry Inc.

17. Force Majeure

17.1. IMHR Inc shall not be liable for any delay or failure to perform its operations, activities, shows and events to the extent such delay or failure results from a force majeure occurrence.

17.2. A force majeure occurrence is defined as any occurrence arising from causes beyond the reasonable control of IMHR Inc. and which delays or prevents performance by IMHR Inc. otherwise required by this agreement, including but not limited to any (i) breakage or accident to equipment, machinery or facilities; (ii) any strikes, lock-outs or other labor difficulties; (iii) statutes, ordinances, regulations, orders, or rules issued by governmental authorities; (iv) judicial decrees or orders; (v) acts of God; (vi) animal diseases and/or quarantines; (vii) wars, riots or insurrections; (viii) civil disobediences, public demonstrations or sabotage; (ix) fires, floods, explosions or inclement weather; (x) inability to obtain necessary labor, materials, supplies, utilities or transportation; (xi) depressions, recessions or other economic downturns; (xii) embargoes or energy shortages; or (xiii) other causes beyond the IMHR's reasonable control.

18. Biosecurity

18.1. Vaccination for the Hendra virus is not compulsory. Options should be discussed with the veterinarian.

18.2. Biosecurity measures WILL be enforced. Anyone found to be breaching these measures will be asked to leave the venue.

18.3. These measures include but are not limited to: routine use of safe systems of work for all contact with horses, horse blood and body fluids, and associated equipment. This includes washing hands regularly, maintaining standards of cleanliness and stable hygiene, cleaning and disinfecting equipment that has been in contact with horses' body fluids.

18.4. If you have a sick horse, it must be isolated from other horses, people and animals (e.g. remove companion animals to another area) until veterinary advice received.

18.5. Clean and disinfect all gear exposed to any body fluids from horses before using it on another horse. This includes halters, lead ropes and twitches.

18.6. When cleaning contaminated equipment from a sick horse, wear gloves, cover any cuts or grazes and wash your hands thoroughly afterwards.

18.7. Practise good biosecurity and do not travel with, work on or take sick horses to other properties or equestrian events.

18.8. Do not allow visiting horse

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practitioners (e.g. farriers) to work on sick horses.

18.9. Seek veterinary advice before bringing any sick horse onto your property.

18.10. IMHR Officials reserve the right to exclude from competition any horse showing any symptoms of illness (i.e nasal discharge etc.)

18.11. Judges, stewards and officials will NOT be permitted to touch any horse for any reason. Ribbons will be handed to exhibitors by the Ring Steward. Exhibitors may place the ribbon, garland on the horse for photographs etc.

18.12. Judges and Stewards will enforce bio-security in the ring including the use of hand sanitisers before each class.

19. Animal Welfare

19.1. Cruelty, abuse or inhumane treatment of any horse or pony at an IMHR event will not be tolerated by show management and the offender will be barred from the show area for the duration of the show without refund. The behaviour shall also be reported to National Committee for action.

19.1.1. This includes but is not limited to:

- tethering horses to floats overnight,
- stabling horses overnight in horse float single bays designed/suitable for transport only,
- failure to provide sufficient bedding in stables,
- failure to provide sufficient water and/ or feed for the duration of the stay,

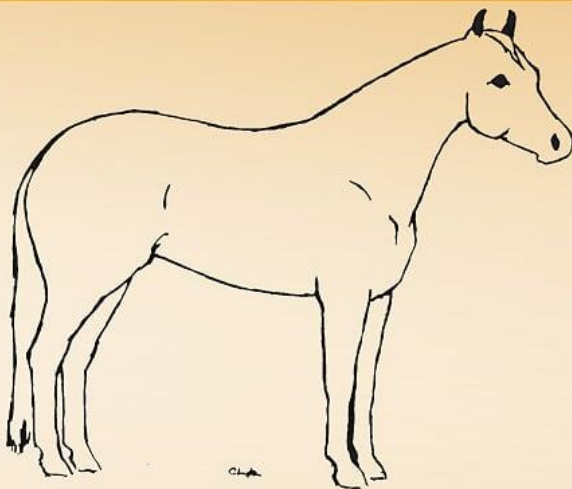
- excessive disciplining of a horse or pony using a whip or other means,
- failing to sufficiently rug a clipped horse.

19.2. Any person or person(s) found guilty of animal abuse or neglect charges in a court of law is not permitted to participate in IMHR events.

20. Stock Type Miniature Horses



Stock Type Division



Standards and Style

1. Horses showing in Stock Type classes are to be shown in a stock horse manner with the horse standing still, calm and square without over-stretching the neck.
2. Stock type/western show halters are encouraged.
3. Leads may have chains, but chains may only go under chin and not over the nose or in the mouth.
4. Shaving/razoring of heads is discouraged. Clipping is permitted.
5. Pulled, overcut or undercut manes are acceptable.
6. Manes should be natural looking and of moderate length.
7. Tails should be off the ground.

Requirements

1. With the exception of Performance events, horses showing in the Stock Type classes are not permitted to enter the open classes. Similarly, horses entering the open classes may not compete in the Stock Type classes.
2. Current rules for handler's dress will apply.



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