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ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW

19 - 21 February 2027

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SPECIAL HORSE REGULATIONS 2027

Royal National Capital Agricultural Society

EXHIBITION PARK IN CANBERRA, FLEMINGTON ROAD, MITCHELL

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ROYAL NATIONAL CAPITAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (RNCAS)

SPECIAL HORSE REGULATIONS – ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW

1. APPLICATION OF THESE REGULATIONS

These Special Horse Regulations (the Special Regulations) are applicable to the Horse Section of the RNCAS, Royal Canberra Show, and are to be read in conjunction with the RNCAS General Regulations (the General Regulations) published on the official RNCAS website. https://canberrashow.org.au/horse

Exhibitors must comply with both Special Regulations and General Regulations (the Regulations). Strict adherence to the Regulations is a condition for entry.

Unless expressly stated in the General Regulations, if there is any inconsistency between the General Regulations and the Special Regulations, the Special Regulations will prevail specifically for the Horse section.

Misstatement or misdescription on any document, and/or the non-compliance or adherence with both the General Regulations and/or Special Regulations may result in penalties being applied.

All horse competitions at the Royal Canberra Show are governed by the Regulations in conjunction with The Agricultural Societies Council of N.S.W. Inc (Ag Shows NSW) rules, which may be viewed at https://www.agshowsnsw.org.au/. Unless expressly stated where there is any inconsistency between the Regulations and Ag Show NSW Rules, the Regulations will prevail.

The RNCAS may at its discretion consult with AgShows NSW. Should it become necessary for the AgShows NSW Disciplinary Committee to open an inquiry into any aspect of competition in this show, the RNCAS may support any penalty imposed by that Committee because of their inquiry and the RNCAS may support penalties resulting from enquiries arising from other NSW shows run under AgShows NSW rules.

Applications in the name of a deceased person are not permitted. However, upon notification of an exhibitor's or owner's death, the RNCAS may, at its discretion, approve the transfer of the entry to another eligible person.

The Special Horse Regulations, General Regulations, AgShows NSW rules and the Application for Entry constitute the complete agreement for entry.

Exhibitors certify that all exhibited horses are properly registered and under their care and control.

A Horse Health Declaration must be provided fully completed (including microchip Number). False or misleading declarations may result in immediate removal with no refunds.

Exhibitors indemnify the RNCAS, its officers, officials, and members against all claims arising from any incidents.

Dogs are prohibited except as expressly allowed.

Any breach of the Special Regulations may result in DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

These Regulations shall apply in their entirety to any person who is a competitor/exhibitor/owner/lessee/rider /handler/responsible officer/owner's agent/Judge and/or to any horse that competes under RNCAS Special Regulations. It is the responsibility of all persons to ensure they are familiar with these Special Regulations.

It is the absolute liability of those persons to participate in accordance with these Special Regulations. Ignorance of a rule or regulation shall not be accepted as a defence to an infringement of any rule or regulation listed herein.

In accordance with these Special Regulations, a horse, rider, handler must be eligible, at the time of competition, to compete in any class/event that such horse, rider, handler is/has entered. Any horse/rider/handler must not compete in any class/event if any ineligibility exists.

2. THE CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

According to these Special Regulations, where an offence/protest is investigated and the RNCAS determines that there has been a breach of these Special Regulations, it may impose such disciplinary action as it considers to be appropriate, including without limitation:

a) a reprimand and a monetary fine (payable at such time as the RNCAS may determine),
b) withdrawal and/or withholding any or all awards or prizemoney,
c) disqualification,
d) suspension and/or banning the offender from current or future competition,
e) where an exhibit (horse) engages in any incident where disciplinary action is imposed, such exhibit may incur a ban from entry for such period as determined by the RNCAS,
f) suspension and/or termination of membership and/or privilege/s for such period as determined by the RNCAS, and or
g) any other penalty provided for in other Regulations of the RNCAS. e.g. Drug Rules.

Riders, owners, and connections must not use indecent, obscene, insulting, or threatening language, or behave in an offensive or inappropriate manner at any time during the event. The Horse competition has a zero-tolerance policy regarding the use, possession, or transfer of any non-prescribed prescription medication or illegal drugs. Any breaches may be referred to the police and may result in immediate disqualification and removal from the venue/grounds.

Riding unsaddled and/or unbridled horse is strictly prohibited at all times during the show without the express permission of the horse committee.

Alcohol must not be consumed before riding. Riders found under the influence may be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from competition without refund.

The RNCAS may recognise and act upon any notified disciplinary action found proven, and/or penalty imposed by:

a) Any Royal Show Society,
b) A Breed Society,
c) A Body with which a horse is registered,
d) The Agricultural Societies Council of N.S.W. Inc., or
e) Any other similar Society, Organisation or Body, on any person or exhibit for example Show Horse Council of Australia, Equestrian Australia.

While any person or exhibit is under any RNCAS imposed and/or recognised suspension or ban and/or where any RNCAS issued fine is unpaid, the suspended person or exhibit will be ineligible to enter or compete. Any horse owned by a suspended or banned member may not be transferred during the period of suspension or ban.

Publication of results and disciplinary procedures

The RNCAS may publish to:
a) All Royal Show Societies in Australia,
b) Any relevant Breed Society,
c) The Body with which the exhibit is registered, or is eligible for registration,
d) The Agricultural Societies Council of N.S.W. Inc., and
e) Any other similar Society, Organisation or Body the result of any disputes/disciplinary action where a person has been found to have breached any RNCAS competition rule, special rule, general rule, regulation, or special regulation.

The RNCAS shall have no liability to any person in respect of any publication referred to in paragraphs above.

Non-Liability of the RNCAS

No person shall have any claim against the RNCAS, or member of Council, employee, volunteer, or agent of the RNCAS in respect of any act, matter or thing done in good faith during or in connection with the proceedings before the Disputes and Disciplinary Committee.

3. AGE OF EXHIBITORS

The age of riders will be as from the first day of the show.

4. AGE OF HORSES

Calculated from 1 August.

A filly is a female horse under 4 years of age. A colt is an ungelded male horse under 4 years of age.

5. ARRIVAL OF EXHIBITS

A horse not accepted as an exhibit in the Royal Canberra Show must not be brought onto the showground during the show. (This creates a bio security issue, and fees/fines may be charged as well as disciplinary actions)

Access is only via Gate 9 and will be from 10:00 am (first Sunday only), 6:00 am Monday, Tuesday -Sunday 5:30 am to 9:00. After hours return to grounds MUST be through gate nine only, a security guard will let you in, you must have your car pass and wrist pass.

Exhibitors will be required to enter **Horse Health Declaration** information during the online entry process. This is mandatory for every horse. If your horse's health changes, up to five days prior to arriving at the show, you will be required to re-submit a new **Horse Health Declaration** form upon arrival. A **Horse Health Declaration** form is available to download at https://canberrashow.org.au/competitions/#horses . Please have the Horse Health Declaration form fully completed for each horse by the exhibitor, including the microchip number/brand and PIC number, ready to submit at the gate before entry.

The gate official has the right to check for unauthorised dogs. If a dog/s is found, you will be refused entry until alternate arrangements can be made for the dog/s. No refunds will be given if you arrive with an unauthorised dog and are denied entry to the show.

Additional vehicles are not permitted on the Showgrounds. Exhibitors who are not towing a float must park their vehicles outside Gate 9.

Competitors with stables allocated who wish to park a float on the showgrounds, for example to have access to their gear, are required to purchase a campsite (powered or non-powered site). This option will be available online to book and pay during your stabling and camping booking process. Alternative free parking is available outside gate 8.

Stables will be locked prior to arrival of exhibitors and will be unlocked by a RNCAS official upon request. Upon departure you are required to request a stable inspection to ensure the stable is clean. To request an inspection, please visit the Ring Secretary's Office to make arrangements. Once inspected the RNCAS official will sign the stable bond refund sheet. Stable bond refunds will be processed after the conclusion of the show and upon receipt of the completed and signed stable bond form.

Unauthorised vehicles may be removed at owner's expense.

6. CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

In Championship classes all first prize winners of the nominated classes must parade.

For Reserve Championship all first prize winners of the nominated classes, except the winner of the relevant Championship Award must parade.

The second prize winner from the class, which was won by the Champion, must also parade.

For the Supreme Championship, all Championship winners from the nominated sections must parade.

If an exhibitor has more than one exhibit eligible for Champion award, all exhibits must be presented with properly attired riders into the ring, and the exhibitor will be permitted to change onto their other exhibits for their individual workouts.

Exhibits will only be excused from the Championship class in the case of:

a) Horse exhibits – on the production of a certificate from an RNCAS Veterinary Surgeon stating the exhibit is unfit to parade/ participate.
b) Riding competitors – on the production of a doctor's certificate stating rider is unfit to parade/participate.

7. COMPETITOR/EXHIBITOR/EXHIBIT ELIGIBILITY

A horse/competitor/exhibitor/exhibit is INELIGIBLE to compete if:

a) The competitor/exhibitor/driver is an immediate family member of the Judge officiating in any class at the show where they intend to compete,
b) The horse has been owned or leased by the Judge, or a member of the Judge's family, or their employer or employee, or business partner/partners, or been paid by the competitor/exhibitor /driver or their families to exhibit/show/ride or drive any horse within the last 6 months,
c) The competitor/exhibitor/owner or their family has provided accommodation for the Judge immediately prior to or during the Show or vice versa. This regulation extends to cover a current landlord/tenant relationship,
d) Any part of the combination (horse or rider, driver) has been given tuition by the Judge, or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partners within the last 6 months,
e) The competitor/exhibitor/owner/driver or their family has given the Judge or a member of the Judge's family tuition within the last 6 months. Assistance in group activities such as Pony Club, shall not be considered as tutoring. Individual or group lesson/s given in a school situation, where schools are conducted on a regular basis (within a 6-month period) with the same instructor, will be considered tutoring,
f) The horse has been agisted/boarded with the Judge or the Judge's employer or employee or business partner/partners within the last 6 months,
g) The competitor/exhibitor/owner/driver or their family has trained/ridden a horse owned or leased by the Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partners within the last 6 months,
h) The Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partners has shown any horse in joint names with the competitor or a member of the competitor's/exhibitor's family within the last 6 months, or
i) The Judge or a member of the Judge's family or business partner/partners was paid or has ridden, led, driven or trained any horse for the competitor/exhibitor /driver or a member of the competitor's/exhibitor's family, OR the competitor/exhibitor /driver or a member of the competitor's/exhibitor's family or business partner/partners has ridden, led, driven or trained any horse for the Judge or a member of the Judge's family within the last 6 months. Or
j) The competitor/exhibitor/driver/rider is banned from another Royal Show Society or organisation e.g. SHC EA, or breed society,

The onus is on the competitor/exhibitor/owner or their family to ensure that the horse, rider, driver, handler is eligible for any class entered and/or competed in. However, where a Judge knowingly permits an ineligible person

or exhibits to compete under them, all parties (Judge, exhibitor, and competitor) will be held in breach of the regulations.

It shall be the competitor's/exhibitor's responsibility to ensure the horse, driver or rider is eligible and competes in the correct class.

A horse shall be shown at the height shown on its current measurement certificate from SHC or EA. Any horse not issued with a current measurement certificate will be required to be measured prior to competing in any RNCAS class. Any false or misleading information regarding the holding of a measuring certificate may result in disciplinary action.

A horse shall be entered and shown in its full registered name. Falsification of any information on any documentation (including entry forms) supplied to the RNCAS shall be considered a breach of regulations any may result in disciplinary action.

The competitor/exhibitor /driver must not make erroneous statements regarding an exhibit.

Stallions shall not compete in hack, riding or turnout classes unless otherwise stated.

8. COMPLIANCE AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Non-compliance may result in fines, disqualification, suspension, and or expulsion.

RNCAS decisions are final and binding.

9. CONFIRMATION ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRY ADVICE

Confirmation of entry acceptance will be emailed to exhibitors at the end of November. Exhibitors should contact horse@rncas.org.au if confirmation of acceptance has not been received by mid-December.

10. CRUELTY TO HORSES

No exhibitor or person shall engage or be knowingly involved in cruelty to an exhibit. The RNCAS shall be the sole judge of what constitutes cruelty, but it may include:

k) Whip or beat a horse excessively,
l) Subject a horse to any kind of electric shock,
m) Use spurs, or to jab the horse in the mouth with the bit, excessively or persistently,
n) Remount, or attempt to remount, an exhausted, lame, or injured horse,
o) Rap a horse,
p) Hypersensitise any part of a horse,
q) Leave a horse without adequate food, drink, or exercise,
r) Excessively exercise a horse, including lunging, or
s) Tongue ties are prohibited.

Penalties may include disqualification, expulsion, fines, and or future show bans and notification to other societies and bodies.

Any case of cruelty must be reported immediately to the Chief Horse Steward via the Ring Secretary's Office, accompanied by appropriate evidence in support. Reports more than 7 days after the occurrence will not be considered.

The RNCAS may, in its sole discretion and in the light of all information made available to it, apply penalties which may include, but are not limited to:

a) Expulsion from the grounds.
b) Disqualification and forfeiture of any prizes won.

c) The levying of a monetary fine, or
d) Disqualification from future Royal Canberra Shows, and /or
e) Notification to the RSPCA.

11. DOCUMENTS FOR PRESENTATION

All exhibitors must present upon request of the RNCAS or any authorised person,

- any registration papers,
- microchip certificates and
- personal birth certificates as required.

Exhibitors are required to have these documents (or certified copies) on hand while on the showground.

12. DOG RESTRICTION

Dogs are prohibited from entering the showground. Exceptions apply for registered assistance animals in accordance with applicable laws, and dogs entered as exhibits at the show. Unauthorised dogs will result in removal with no refund.

13. DRUG TESTING / DRUG AND TREATMENT REGULATIONS

The principal elements of RNCAS Drug Testing & Treatment regulations are:

a) The welfare of the horse.
b) A fair and level competition field.

It is the intention of these regulations that at any RNCAS event, all horses shall perform, at the time of competition, without any prohibited or banned substance/s within their system.

Each of the responsible officer, owner and the competitor/exhibitor /driver must ensure that the horse for which they are responsible is, at the time of competition in any official show, free from any prohibited or banned substance. Penalties as adopted herein shall apply to any breach of this regulation. It will not be a defence to any charge relating to the breach of this regulation that the owner, competitor/exhibitor /driver, or responsible officer may have not known that the horse was not free from a prohibited or banned substance.

The responsible officer must be over 18 years of age, where the owner of a horse is under 18 years a parent or guardian shall be the responsible officer.

Where a responsible officer is not declared, or is not present at the Show, the owner and the competitor/exhibitor /driver shall be considered responsible.

The responsible officer/owner/competitor/exhibitor /driver will ensure that, at the time the horse is drug tested, a suitable person will attend as a witness, to act for him/her, and to sign on his/her behalf any drug testing documents. In any absence the responsible officer/owner/competitor/exhibitor /driver will, in all respects, remain accountable according to these regulations.

The Society reserves the absolute right, at its sole discretion, to require the swabbing of any exhibit at any time during the Show and is under no obligation to provide justification for such a request. Refusal to submit an exhibit for drug testing shall be deemed a breach of these regulations, resulting in disqualification and/or disciplinary action and/or penalties as may be determined by the RNCAS, with the removal of all prizes gained at the show.

Positive results may be forwarded to Agricultural Shows Australia (ASA) for action and may also include sending results to other show society's, other Royal Show societies and breed societies. Any prohibited substance use will result in disqualification; all prizes and places will be removed and a fine may be included.

Swabbing levies are included in entry fees to cover testing costs.

Prohibited substances are not limited to just animals. Anyone found to be using non-prescribed or prohibited drugs will be referred to the police and removed from the grounds.

14. ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY

Horses must be registered with a recognised Breed Society recognised by the RNCAS or with Equestrian Australia Ltd, Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. or Australian National Saddlehorse Association Inc. and where required the owner/lessee must be a financial member of each organisation associated with each section in which each horse is to be entered.

Horses must meet performance requirements and microchipping obligations.

Novice class eligibility: it is the exhibitor's responsibility to officially withdraw from the novice class entered, or transfer to an open class, if not already entered, if the exhibit wins an Open/Childs/Adults/Lady's or Gents class at a state royal show prior to competing, as the exhibit is no longer considered a novice.

Horses born after 1 August 2007 with docked tails are ineligible.

15. ENTRY FEES

Entry fees must accompany applications.

Despite any other *Special Regulation*, the committee may from time to time and to its absolute discretion:

a) Determine that a fee is payable in connection with any occurrence or circumstance,
b) Waive, in whole or in part, any fee payable pursuant to those special regulations; or
c) Amend any fee payable.

RNCAS membership if paid before entries are submitted will be given 20% discount on entry fees.

Merging of classes: Please be aware that Canberra Royal reserves the right to cancel or merge classes if less than four Exhibits are entered.

Administration fees ($15 per class) are non-refundable on withdrawals.

Non-payment results in automatic disqualification/nonacceptance of entry.

16. EQUIPMENT and ATTIRE

ATTIRE

All exhibitors/competitors must be suitably attired when in the ring. A person not suitably attired is not permitted to compete in a class or appear in a grand parade.

Acceptable attire for competitors/exhibitors/attendants of led horses consists of long trousers, skirts or dresses; long sleeve shirt, blouse or dress - with a collar, tie stock or cravat; waist coat and/or coat; brimmed hat or cap (not baseball type, no fascinators); enclosed shoes or boots. Denim clothing is not to be worn.

Acceptable attire for riders consists of approved helmet, breeches, jodhpurs, or moleskins – fawn, white or cream coloured, full grained leather top boots, leather gaiters or jodhpur boots, and a suitable long sleeve riding coat.

No State Representative or Award Badge/s from any similar organisation shall be worn or attached to the riding attire of any exhibitor and/or competitor.

The decision of the Chief Steward, as to whether an exhibitor's attire is suitable, shall be final.

HELMETS

Approved helmets required for all mounted activities including harness passengers/Exhibitors under 18 years old, to current Standards.

The restraining helmet harness must be secured and always fastened.

It is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure they are wearing the correct helmet. Should the RNCAS deem the helmet worn is not of appropriate standard or condition, or the exhibitor is not wearing a helmet, the exhibitor will be asked to dismount immediately.

New Tagging System: From 1 January 2027, a new, different coloured tag (green) will be required to indicate compliance with updated standards, replacing the previous yellow-tag system used until the end of 2026.

Standards Update (2027-2028): Helmets must meet one or more of the updated approved standards (AS/NZS 3838, ASTM F1163, PAS 015, or EN1384:2023).

EXHIBIT NUMBERS

Exhibit numbers will be supplied at the Ring Secretary's Office.

Every led or ridden exhibit whilst in the ring and being exhibited for the purpose of competition or parading must have an exhibit number displayed as a breastplate number on the front of the exhibit. The breastplate number must be affixed to each horse before arrival at the Marshalling Area preparatory to entering the ring. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor/competitor to ensure the correct exhibit number is carried by the horse. Horses exhibiting with the incorrect number may be disqualified.

Every harness exhibitor's/competitor's vehicle whilst in the ring and being exhibited for the purpose of competition or parading must wear a breastplate number that is to be conspicuously located on the back of each exhibitor's/competitor's vehicle.

WHIPS

Whips must not exceed 75 cm, except in showjumping and side saddle, or as permitted under breed society rules.

SPURS

Spurs: a curved or straight shank must point directly back from the centre of the spur when on the rider's boot, blunt dummy or roller ball, shank does not exceed 4 cm.

BITS

All ridden and harness horses must be shown in a bit, except where otherwise permitted in the Regulations. Snaffle bits must meet RNCAS standards.

All stallions and colts one year old and over brought into the ring for led classes must be in the charge of a competent handler, and must be properly controlled, with a suitable restraining bit in their mouth and wearing head gear of proper strength and quality which is in use.

A suitable restraining bit or a show halter (which must have a throat lash; Welsh exempted) is acceptable for mares, fillies, and geldings.

Only snaffle bits having the following features are approved for use in classes specifying the use of snaffle bits. Snaffle bits shall be composed of:

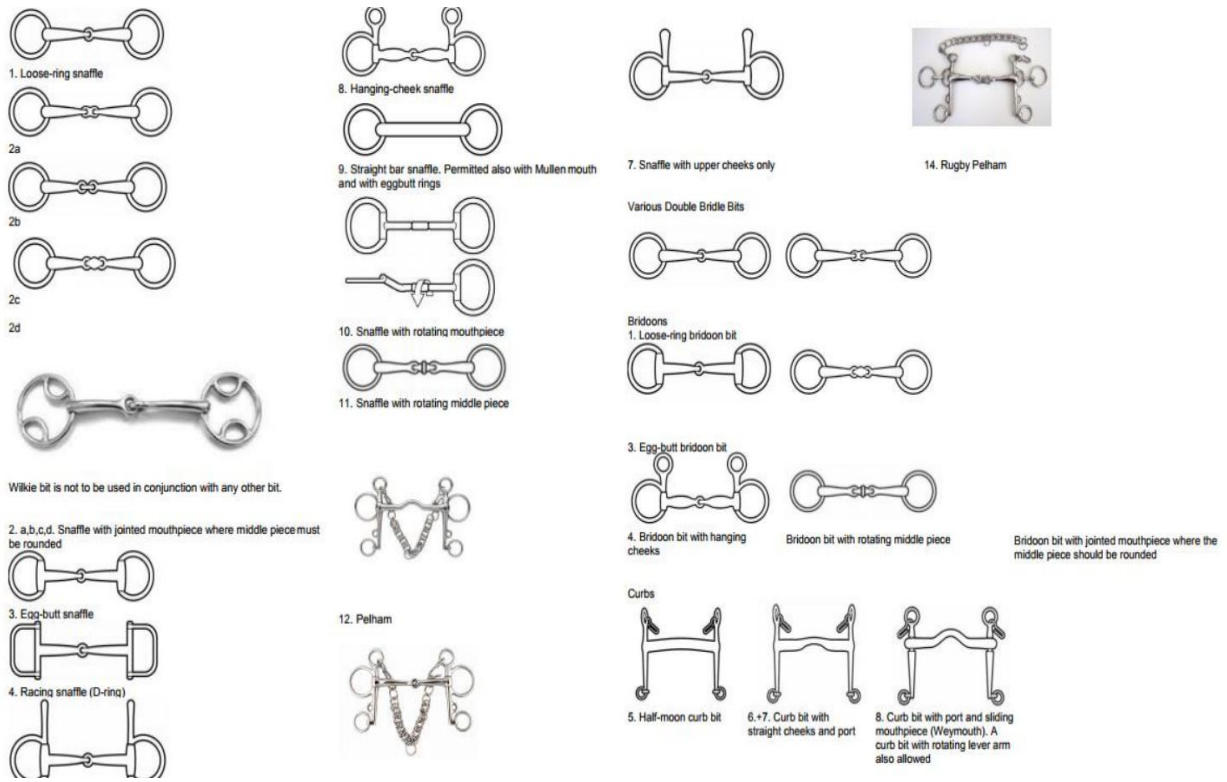
a) Metal,
b) metal and rubber (flexible rubber bits are not permitted), or
c) metal and synthetic material.

Snaffle bits made only of metal must meet the following:

a) all parts of the bit coming into the horse's mouth must be metal (not necessarily the same metal),
b) the diameter of the mouthpiece of the snaffle bit must be so as not to hurt the horse,
c) mouth pieces may be the same thickness or tapered towards the centre or central joints, and
d) all parts coming into the horse's mouth shall be rounded, smooth and not ridged, sharp or corrugated.

Keeping with the definition above, also permitted are:

a) half-moon - port-mouth – curve,
b) rubber or synthetic bit - both jointed and unjointed, or
c) sweet iron bit.



VELCRO

Velcro or similar materials are forbidden to be used as a riding aid. Any person/s found using these materials may be disqualified from the class in which it is exhibited, by the Chief Steward.

PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES

Riders and handlers must not use personal digital devices for communication or recording while in the competition ring, including AI-enabled glasses. Medical hearing devices and smart watches may be worn, provided they are not used for communication. Anyone found using an audio device to communicate will be disqualified. Coaches, exhibitors or owners coaching from outside the ring may be removed from the grounds and subject to any disciplinary action the RNCAS considers appropriate.

17. EXHIBIT HEALTH

Hendra Virus vaccination is mandatory for horses from endemic areas; proof of vaccination is required via health declaration and veterinary certificate.

The RNCAS Hendra Policy requires that a current Hendra vaccination be mandatory for any horse that resides, is stabled in, or trained at, a Hendra Virus endemic area. Post codes for endemic areas are contained in the RNCAS Hendra policy at https://canberrashow.org.au/competitions/#horses

HENDRA POSTCODE LIST FOR MANDATORY VACCINATION as of November 2024 Endemic Postcodes According to the RNCAS Hendra Policy, Hendra vaccination is mandatory for any horse that resides in any of the postcodes listed below to attend RNCAS Showground.

NSW	QLD
2286	4034
2337	4125
2440	4217
2447	4275
2470	4285
2477	4413
2478	4510
2480	4655
2482	4670
2484	4700
	4701
	4740
	4810
	4850
	4870
	4881

In the case of Hendra virus in horses from an endemic area, complete, true, and correct documentary evidence is mandatory to prove that the exhibit is covered for Hendra Virus for the duration of the RNCAS Royal Canberra Show. That evidence, through a health declaration submitted online at time of entry and, where applicable, a veterinary certificate, must prove that the exhibit has a current vaccination status against Hendra virus for the duration of the show. Please refer to the Hendra virus vaccination policy at www.rncas.org.au/horse.

For those exhibits who have had a recent vaccination administered, it would be advisable to have a veterinary certificate from the administering Vet to support your horse health declaration.

Exhibits may be refused entry for non-compliance, with no refund of any type given.

18. EXHIBIT IDENTIFICATION

All exhibits must be microchipped, registered, and presented for identification before competing - any current SHC & EA measuring certificates must be presented/used for the exhibit.

All horses entered must be:

a) Microchipped and have that chip recorded with a recognised National Registry; and
b) Registered with a breed society recognised by the RNCAS or with Equestrian Australia Ltd; Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. or Australian National Saddlehorse Association Inc; (Harness horses in Harness Classes excluded)

Registration papers and microchip certificates must match the presented horse; discrepancies may result in disqualification and or disciplinary action. If the microchip number provided for the horse on the Application for Entry Form does not match the details of the presented exhibit when scanned, the exhibit may be ineligible to compete. The Society may require the exhibit to be removed from the Showgrounds.

Misrepresentation of identity will result in automatic disqualification.

19. EXHIBIT WELFARE

RNCAS reserves the right at its absolute discretion, to take such action as a veterinary surgeon may advise, in relation to any animal exhibit, including without limitation:

a) The vet may give the administration of any drug or form of treatment (including surgical treatment), and
b) The vet may administer treatment, transfer, or the destruction of and animal, if advised by a veterinary surgeon.

Exhibitors indemnify RNCAS for costs incurred.

Mares/fillies are not permitted to compete after day 120 of pregnancy.

20. EXHIBITOR DEFINITIONS

An exhibitor is the person/entity who has lodged an Application for Entry. An exhibitor includes a natural person, firm, partnership, company, or corporation (stud). The exhibitor details are the details shown in the horse catalogue.

A person under 18 may enter as an exhibitor but must nominate a guardian who is at least 18 years old. The guardian must remain on the showground and accompany the exhibitor whenever the exhibitor is on the grounds.

Prize/Trophy recordings will be as per the entry name recorded online at time of entry and includes representatives of an exhibitor.

Partnerships must list the lead name first; owners may differ from exhibitors but must be disclosed and recorded in the online entry system. (Owner- Name) if different to the exhibitor's name. The following is an example of three different exhibitors in one competition, with varying representatives:

a) Jones, West & Clarke
b) Jones, Taylor & Johns – Owner Mary Fairy
c) Jones & RiverPlace Stud

The owner/s may be jointly responsible for the care and control of the animal and be brought into disciplinary proceedings at the RNCAS's discretion.

21. EXHIBITOR PASSES

The following table outlines the number of passes issued relative to exhibits. All passes will be issued electronically through our ticketing provider – I Wanna Ticket. If you do not receive your exhibitor passes the week before arrival, please contact horse@rncas.org.au.

No. of Exhibits	No. of Passes
1-2	2
3-4	3
5+	4

22. FIRE REGULATIONS

No smoking in the horse stalls or pavilions. Primus stoves or naked lights are not permitted in the horse area. No fire pits allowed.

23. GRAND PARADE

All horses on the ground must be shown in the Grand Parade. WE DO REQUEST that 2027 being the centenary year, all exhibitors present for the Grand Parade on Saturday 20th February.

When in the Grand Parade exhibitors must wear the same attire or similar attire as was worn by the exhibitor in the ring when the exhibit was exhibited. Hats must be worn.

Mounted horse may be led. Junior riders can have a suitably attired handler/ supervisor walk with them.

All attendants of led horses in Grand Parades are requested to wear RNCAS dust coats in lieu of coats/waistcoats.

Stallions are exempt from parading.

Exhibitors with multiple entries are required to parade one exhibit only, or as many horses as they can safely manage with competent attendants or riders.

24. IMPROPER BEHAVIOUR/DISORDERLY CONDUCT AND UNRULY HORSES

Improper behaviour/disorderly conduct by either Judge, show official, competitor, exhibitor or other related person must be reported to the Horse Committee in writing to horse@rncas.org.au within seven days of the incident. Incidents reported to the RNCAS should be accompanied by a written signed statement from those involved and from any witnesses to the incident.

Any Competitor/exhibitor /driver or any other person who, in the opinion of the RNCAS Show officials, has caused annoyance by loud or unseemly comment upon the decision of a Judge, or upon any act or omission on the part of a Judge, or of any Official on duty in or about the Ring at the time of Competition, may be expelled from the Class and the Showground.

If the RNCAS is satisfied that a person's behaviour has been unseemly or wilfully insulting to a Judge or Official, or Competitor/exhibitor /driver the person shall be considered to be in breach of these regulations and disciplinary action shall be imposed.

Where the RNCAS is satisfied that improper behaviour has occurred, by the same person, on more than one occasion, that person shall be prohibited from attending any Official RNCAS Events for such period as the RNCAS may determine.

A Show Official, the Chief Steward and/or a Judge may request any unruly or aggressive horse be removed from the ring and/or grounds. The competition should not continue until the horse is removed as requested. Any horse found to be behaving in an aggressive or unruly manner may be disqualified, removed from the grounds, and excluded from future shows.

Incidents relating to objectionable conduct and or unseemly behaviour by:

a) a competitor towards a Judge, exhibitor, spectator, or show official,
b) an exhibitor towards a Judge, competitor, spectator or show official,
c) a Judge towards a competitor, exhibitor, spectator or show official,
d) an exhibitor towards a fellow exhibitor,
e) a Judge towards a fellow Judge, or
f) an Official towards a Judge, exhibitor, competitor, or spectator arising from a competition (either before, during or after such competition)

shall be a reportable incident and may result in disciplinary action.

The RNCAS shall only consider such incidents after it receives written statements from those involved including from witnesses to the incident and upon investigating the incident. The RNCAS reserves the right to manage the incident at its sole discretion and to refer any criminal matters to police.

25. INDEMNITY

All participation in the Royal Canberra Horse Show is at the exhibitor's own risk. Exhibitors are responsible for any damage or injury caused by their horses or themselves to other exhibits, property, or persons. Exhibitors indemnify the RNCAS, its officers, officials, and members against all claims arising from such incidents. The Horse Committee will take all care in managing the Section, but competitors taking part in this Horse Section do so at their own risk.

26. JUDGE'S BEHAVIOUR AND PROTOCOL

A Judge shall not knowingly judge an ineligible exhibit.

A Judge shall not VISIT the horse, owners or exhibitor nor INSPECT or DISCUSS any horse entered in the Show 6 months prior to completion of judging at the Show.

The Judge's decision shall be final, except where any ineligibility is determined.

When a Judge is unable to fulfil a judging commitment, they shall notify the appropriate show official as soon as possible.

The Judge shall not appoint a substitute Judge. Only the organising body may appoint a substitute Judge.

The Judge should ensure that a Steward is present during any discussions with a competitor.

A Judge shall not discuss the sale, purchase, or lease of any horse until the completion of the Show.

A Judge shall not judge at any shows for 6 months prior unless judging different sections. Judges are strongly urged to refrain from accepting any other judging appointments leading up to the Royal Canberra Show. NOTE: Permission from the horse section is required before accepting any other judging appointments.

The Judge should notify the head steward and not judge the class where the Judge or their family has employed or has been employed by or has been a business partner/partners of the competitor/exhibitor /driver or been paid by the competitor/exhibitor /driver or their families to exhibit/show or ride any horse within the last 6 months.

The Judge should refer to section 7 - COMPETITOR/EXHIBITOR/EXHIBIT ELIGIBILITY of this Special Horse Regulations for further information regarding ineligibility clauses.

A Judge shall always be polite and act in a respectful manner to exhibitors, competitors, spectators and show officials & shall not engage in conduct that may bring the sport into disrepute.

A Judge may direct their Head Steward to remove any person or horse from the competition for bad conduct.

A Judge shall not judge at any Show where a horse owned by them or an immediate family member/business partner/partner is competing or taking part.

There will be no fraternisation between any exhibitor and Judge during the Show.

Judges officiating as a Judge at ANY Show are not permitted to use mobile phones/apple watches, AI Glasses etc or smoke whilst they are in the Ring.

27. MEASUREMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF EXHIBIT

All horses entered for exhibition at the Show must be presented on the showground to the Official Measurer appointed by the Society for the purposes of identification and/or measurement.

Official measurement is required before class entry, by way of current certificate or a measurement at the Measuring Box in the horse area. Refer to the Schedule for Measuring Box opening times.

Current SHC and EA measuring certificates may be accepted; however, if an exhibit does not hold a current SHC or EA measuring certificate, it will be required to be measured prior to competing. Furthermore, where a current SHC or EA measuring certificate is presented, but has a discrepancy, the Society and the Official Measurer retain the absolute discretion to require the exhibit to be measured prior to competition.

The Society reserves the absolute right, at its sole discretion, to require the measurement of any horse at any time during the Show and is under no obligation to provide justification for such a request, regardless of whether you hold a current certificate, or you have been previously measured at this show.

Any refusal by an exhibitor, owner, or person in charge of a horse to present the horse for identification and/or measurement when directed by the Society or its appointed Official Measurer shall constitute a breach of the Society's Rules and Regulations.

In such circumstances, the horse shall be deemed ineligible (disqualified) to compete and shall automatically forfeit all prizes, awards, placings, and ribbons previously won at the Show.

The Committee further reserves the right to impose such additional disciplinary action as it considers appropriate in accordance with the Society's Rules and Regulations.

Where a horse is not presented/refused for measurement as directed, the Society may notify ASC and other Show Societies, Royal Agricultural Societies, and relevant Breed Societies of the refusal to comply with a request for measurement or re-measurement.

On presentation each horse must be suitably bitted.

A horse presented for measuring will be allowed for a maximum of ten (10) minutes in the measuring box before being measured. Should the exhibitor request a further period before the horse is measured, one more period of ten (10) minutes maximum will be permitted (no later than one hour from first measure). At the conclusion of this second period of measure the horse's breastplate number will be stamped with the horse's height as determined by the official measurer. **IMPORTANT: This does not apply to a protest; a protest exhibit will be measured straight from the class/ring where the protest was lodged. No prior work down is allowed, with maximum of 10 min allowed in the box.**

Official measurement is required before class entry, by way of current certificate or measurement.

When measuring a horse, an allowance of up to 1 cm or three-eighths 3/8 inch may be made for shoes.

Improper presentation of an exhibit or use of any prohibited substances used while measuring may result in automatic disqualification.

Metric conversion provided for hands-to-cm.

METRIC CONVERSION TABLE

Hands	Cm
10.0	102.5
10.2	107.5
11.0	112.5
11.2	117.5
12.0	122.5
12.2	127.5
13.0	132.5

Hands	Cm
13.2	137.5
14.0	142.5
14.2	147.5
15.0	152.5
15.2	157.5
16.0	162.5
16.2	167.5

28. ENTRY APPLICATION

Entries open at the beginning of October and close at the end of October.

Applications must be submitted online via the following link - https://entries.rncas.org.au/Account/ExhibitorLogin?returnUrl=%2FEntry

All entries must be accompanied by full payment. An entry is not considered submitted unless full payment is made. You will receive a 'Confirmation of Entry' email when you have submitted your entry application. This will be your proof of payment.

Faxed, mailed, emailed, or telephone entries are not considered valid forms of entry. Please use the online system to submit an application for entry.

The Horse Committee will review all Entry Applications and confirm your acceptance into the competition via a separate email which confirms your entry has been successful. This process will take place after entries have closed at the end of October.

Misrepresentation on entries, declarations, or other documents may result in the exhibit or exhibitor being disqualified and any decision made under this provision is legally binding.

29. OWNERSHIP OF EXHIBITS

Exhibitors are responsible for the care, control, and compliance of exhibits.

If the legal owner/s of the exhibit is different to the exhibitor, the legal owners must be listed on the application for entry. (Owner- Mrs Smith)

The owner/s may be jointly responsible for the care and control of the animal and be brought into disciplinary proceedings at the RNCAS's discretion.

The person/s named on the horse's Registration Certificate is/are considered the Legal Owner/s.

Change of ownership must be notified in writing at least 28 days before the show with a $50 fee payable.

The name you enter online will reflect the way the entry will be recorded for prizes/Trophy e.g. Smith, Jones, Brown, but the horse is owned by Mary Cooper Results will show as Smith, Jones, Brown. Refer - 20. Exhibitor Definition, as above.

No falsification of information, ownership or markings are permitted. Penalty/s shall apply.

Any defaced or altered Certificate or any Certificate containing false information shall be deemed to be invalid.

Where a Certificate is found to be incorrect, the matter must be reported to the appropriate Society and the Certificate returned to the Registrar.

Any invalid Registration Certificate shall render the horse ineligible to compete at RNCAS Show

30. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT

Entry is subject to proven qualifying performances from recognised agricultural shows, breed society shows or events.

The RNCAS Horse Committee may impose additional performance requirements or alter performance requirements as it considers appropriate.

Performances must be given on the entry for each horse or pony nominated. Nominations in stated classes for horses will not be accepted without a recognised performance. List four (4) best performances for each horse must be listed. Only one (1) performance per show, and a maximum of one (1) Hack Council/EA affiliated show performance per horse will be accepted.

A qualifying performance must be achieved at recognised shows in the 12 months prior to the closing of entries.

From the information contained in the performance list the Society will at its discretion, determine which entries are to be accepted. Additional performances will NOT be accepted.

31. PRIZE MONEY

All prize Money will be paid by the RNCAS via electronic funds transfer after the conclusion of the show and the results received from swab tests confirmed. Exhibitors must supply a valid BSB and Account number at the time of submitting your entry via the online system. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to check on their details and ensure they are current and correct at time of entry. Should the exhibitor not supply valid bank details all monies will be forfeited.

If due to unforeseen circumstances sponsorship is not forthcoming for the class in which the prize money is sponsored, prize money will be paid by the RNCAS at the amount that is printed,

Only first prize money will be paid for classes with less than five (5) or less exhibitors in the event.

If an Exhibitor is registered for GST, GST will apply and be payable.

32. PRIZE RIBBONS

Ribbons and rosettes may be awarded based on the number of competitors in the class on the day of competition in accordance with the following:

a) Up to 5 Exhibits 3 Ribbons
b) 5-10 Exhibitors 5 Ribbons
c) 11-20 Exhibitors 6 Ribbons
d) 21 Exhibitors or over 7 Ribbons

Once a class has been judged and the ribbons awarded, The Judges decision is regarded as final, and the class may not be re judged.

33. PROTESTS AND OBJECTIONS

All protests will be confidential.

All protests must be lodged in writing in accordance with the RNCAS procedures which includes the payment of $200.00 payable before the class or up to 30 minutes after the class has been awarded.

A Protest Form is available from the Ring Secretary's Office. The form provides information on the process to submit an official protest.

As per the RNCAS General Regulations 95. A protest must:

(a) be in writing,

(b) set out the circumstances relied upon,

(c) be accompanied by a fee determined by the RNCAS

(d) be lodged with the relevant Section Manager at the Section Office in line with the Special Regulations provisions of the relevant Section.

All protests will be delt with by the Horse Committee.

The horse must present and be marked off as presenting for the class before any protest can be entered.

Any protest on a horse's height will automatically require a remeasure, regardless of any height certificate held or prior measurement at this show. The exhibit once it has presented and been marked as entering the class, will be escorted directly to the measuring box where a measurement will be taken, with no provision for work down allowed. The maximum time allowed in the box will be ten minutes. Refusal to remeasure will be a breach of these regulations and will incur penalties including immediate disqualification and all prizes/ribbons being removed from all previous classes.

The class will be held while the protest measurement takes place. If the protest is dismissed, the exhibit will be eligible to rejoin the class. If the protest is upheld, the exhibit will be immediately withdrawn from that class and may be given the option to transfer to a different class.

RNCAS Officials/ Measurer handle disputes on eligibility, height, or class placement.

Refusal to be measured/swabbed shall be deemed a breach of the regulations, resulting in disqualification and/or disciplinary action and/or penalties as determined by the RNCAS, with the removal of all prizes gained at the show.

Regardless of any other rules, the RNCAS committee can decide—when extraordinary circumstances justify it—to refer a protest to a judicial committee. They may do this at any time, about any person, exhibit, or organisation, whether the protest was lodged by someone or raised by the committee itself, and they can do so without requiring a deposit.

34. PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE (PIC number)

The Property Identification Code **(PIC)** of the Canberra Royal Showgrounds is **NF 750 013**

35. REFUNDS - ENTRY FEE & STABLES/CAMPING

Full Refunds will only be considered before closing date of entries, (refer to schedule dates) minus $15 administration fee.

Stable/camping fee refunds follow respective Section Schedule cutoff and refund dates as per the schedule rules and regulations, no exceptions will be considered regardless of certificates. *(Death certificates will be the only exception)*

36. RIDING CLASS COMPETITIONS

Riding Class competitors must ride an exhibit that has been accepted and is competing in a class at the current Royal Canberra Show.

37. RIDING, HACK & SHOW HUNTER CLASSES - AGE RESTRICTIONS

A person who has not attained the age of 5 years must not exhibit or be a participant in an exhibit (i.e.: carriage) unless otherwise stipulated for a particular class.

All exhibitors in ridden pony hack classes, breed classes, show hunter or riding classes not exceeding 12.2 hands must be ridden by a rider 5 years, and under 17 years of age.

Stallions must be ridden by a rider 17 years and over unless otherwise approved. Permission may be sought from the ring master for a rider less than 17 years of age to ride a Stallion not exceeding 12.2hh. This permission must be sought 24 hrs before the class and will be granted at the discretion of the Chief Steward.

All exhibitors in ridden pony hack classes, breed classes, show hunter or riding classes over 12.2hh and not exceeding 14 hands can be ridden by adults or children.

All exhibitors in ridden Galloway classes, breed classes, show hunter or riding classes over 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands must be ridden by a rider 9 years and over, unless otherwise stated.

All Exhibitors in ridden hack classes, breed classes, show hunter or riding classes over 15 hands must be ridden by a rider 12 years and over, unless otherwise stated.

Parents or assistants will not be permitted in the ring during the judging of children's riding classes. Should any parent or assistant impart any tuition whatsoever or show encouragement to a child rider during judging, the child rider shall be immediately disqualified.

The Chief Steward may at any time require a person who does not appear to be able to ride or manage any horse to dismount, allow other persons to manage the horse, or leave the ring.

The age of a person is determined as at the first day of the show.

38. SCORE SHEETS

Distribution of score sheets to exhibitors will be at the Judge, and the RNCAS Horse Committee's discretion.

39. SET PENALTIES FOR DRUG OFFENCES

The following apply for the detection in urine, blood, or other samples of a Prohibited or Banned Substance as per racing NSW rules and regulations.

The RNCAS Committee, AgShows NSW or Agricultural Shows Australia (ASA) will determine penalties.

If an offence is proven because of a positive swab, the cost of drug testing and any associated costs to the RNCAS will be applied to the offender.

The RNCAS reserves the right to consider waiving of penalties if extraordinary circumstances warrant.

Publication of results in relation to penalties imposed arising from drug testing shall be in accordance with Competition regulations, these will be consulted with and forwarded to Agricultural Societies Council of NSW Ltd/ASA as per their rules and regulations and other Royal show societies and Breed Societies.

The non-payment of a fine and/or costs, imposed by the RNCAS shall, result in banning the person in breach of payment and may incur a review of any prior imposed penalty/s. This shall be at the Board's discretion.

40. STABLING AND CAMPING

Exhibitors will be responsible for booking and paying for stables and camping.

Stabling and camping bookings will open after you receive your entry acceptance letter.

Allocation is based on travelling distance, number/composition of exhibits, size of exhibit. Exhibits residing within a 100 km radius of the showground are unlikely to be provided with stables in the initial allocation round, but every endeavour will be made to accommodate these nominations should withdrawals permit.

The RNCAS has the right to move horses depending on size, permanent stables are for larger horses where possible.

23-hour stabling period from 6:00 am day of arrival to 5:00 am day after departure day. (Example - arriving Monday from 6.00 am leaving Thursday your departure will be before 5.00 am Friday Morning, you can use your stable all day Thursday and leave any time Thursday up until 5.00 am Friday morning.

It is the exhibitor's responsibility to ensure the stables/s are fully cleaned out upon departure and a stable cleaning bond form is to be submitted to our stabling staff for approval before departure, once submitted the exhibitor may apply for a refund. No refund will be paid without the form being submitted.

If the stable is left unclean the exhibitor will forfeit the stable cleaning bond ($100.00 per stable)

Sponsorship Benefits for stabling – **Stables must be in the name of the sponsor only.**

$1,000	Capped up to 8 stables
$500-$999	Capped up to 5 stables
$250- $499	Capped up to 3 stables

Sponsors of $1,000 or more will be given first preference at selecting stables, the quantity of stables included is capped at 8 stables and the entries must be entered under the sponsor's name.

Sponsors of between $500.00 and $999.00 will be given second preference to select stables, capped at 5 stables per sponsorship,

Sponsorship of between $250.00 -$499.00 capped at 3 stalls before being opened for people to select their own stables, the RNCAS will advise when the stabling is available to book.

RNCAS reserves the right to move exhibits according to size. Larger horses will be given priority in blocks W1- W2- W3, however every effort will be made to keep teams together.

Stables are strictly for horses entered in the RNCAS show, no sub-letting, or selling of stables, no advertising stables on media platforms, no gifting of stables. Penalties may apply.

Withdrawals automatically forfeit exhibits stabling, according to refund cut off dates in the schedule, regardless of any certificates presented. (Death certificates will be refunded)

The use of any stable for accommodation, feed or gear storage will incur fines or disqualification. Any violation may incur a $200/day fine and or disqualification.

Only shavings may be used for bedding. Shavings can be pre-purchased during the stable/camping booking process online.

An outside provider is available to prebook your stable cleaning. You must fill out a form provided by the Ring Secretary's office. Payment for cleaning is made directly to the provider and does not in any way involve the RNCAS.

41. STABLING AND CAMPING FEES

Stabling and camping fees must be paid as per Section Schedule requirements.

42. STAINING OR COLOURING

Exhibits must not be stained, coloured or covered with excessive makeup. The Chief Steward or Horse Committee may disqualify an exhibit and remove it from the class for any breach of this rule.

43. STALLIONS AND COLTS

Stallions and colts may only compete in classes where specially permitted.

Stallions must be clearly identified with green disks and managed/Ridden by experienced persons 18 years and over.

Aggressive or uncontrollable horses may be removed without refund.

Stallions are not permitted in Grand Parades.

44. SWABBING LEVY

A $50 swabbing levy is included in administration fees to cover prohibited substance testing costs.

45. TRANSFER AND RECLASSIFICATION

Official Measurer may reclassify horses over/under class height.

Transfers required at the show will be by a written transfer form submitted to the ring secretary's office by the official measurer/s and signed by measurer/measuring steward.

Requests for transfer/reclassification prior to show must be submitted by 30 January.

46. TREATMENT FORM & MEDICATION REGULATIONS

At an RNCAS Show where drug testing is carried out, an RNCAS Treatment Form is required to be lodged (In accordance with the RNCAS General and Special Horse Regulations for any horse that has been administered any treatment, foreign substance, medication, drug, prohibited or banned substance within 30 days prior to, and/or, on the day of competition.

The onus is on the responsible person/owner/competitor/exhibitor /driver to lodge a Treatment Form for any horse they have entered/ competed in any Official Show and/or RNCAS event where Drug Testing is to be conducted.

The Treatment Form must be fully completed and lodged as per the requirements of the Treatment Form and where the regulations of the RNCAS show specify, no later than 24 hours prior to competing. Any supporting Veterinary information required by the RNCAS and/or the Regulations, must be submitted along with the Treatment Form within the time prescribed.

An incomplete or incorrect Treatment Form may be rejected, and the Exhibit will be ineligible to compete.

Where a Treatment Form is lodged, the Committee will advise the Exhibitor/Responsible person of the Committee's decision, in consultation with the swab vet, as to whether the horse will be permitted to compete.

Lodging of a Treatment Form does not release an Exhibit from being drug tested, nor from disciplinary action by the RNCAS should a positive result to a prohibited or banned substance occur.

Important: Failure to submit a Treatment Form in accordance with these regulations, the General Regulations, and the Treatment Form, shall be considered a breach of these regulations and penalty(s) will apply.

It is the obligation of the Owner and/or Responsible Person and/or Exhibitor of the horse, and not the RNCAS, to ensure that the horse is eligible to compete.

The RNCAS may carry out random testing for drugs at any official show and/or RNCAS show at any time and may cause to be made any test of any exhibit to determine whether any prohibited or banned substance has been administered to the exhibit and may detain such exhibit for such period as deemed reasonable from the time of selection to procurement of the samples. The method of selection will be consistent and transparent.

The collection of samples may involve the collection of urine and/or the taking of blood.

Compliance with this regulation is mandatory for all exhibits when competing at any official show and/or RNCAS event.

Refusal to submit an exhibit for drug testing shall be deemed a breach of these regulations, resulting in disqualification and/or disciplinary action and/or penalties as determined by the RNCAS, all prizes awarded at the show will be confiscated. Refer to drug testing regulations and guidelines.

Drug testing shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant Laboratory Sample Collection Procedure Regulations.

47. WITHDRAWALS AND NON-ATTENDANCE

A withdrawal or nonattendance must be submitted via the official online form, or at the ring secretary's office once the show starts.

Withdrawn horse stables cannot be sold, resold, advertised or occupied by anyone other than the person/horse assigned by the RNCAS; violations may incur fines and/or suspension.

A withdrawn horse forfeits the stable automatically. There will be no stable refunds after the cutoff date - refer to schedule for dates. The RNCAS may move horses around the ground into your withdrawn stable or use it for the wait list at its discretion.