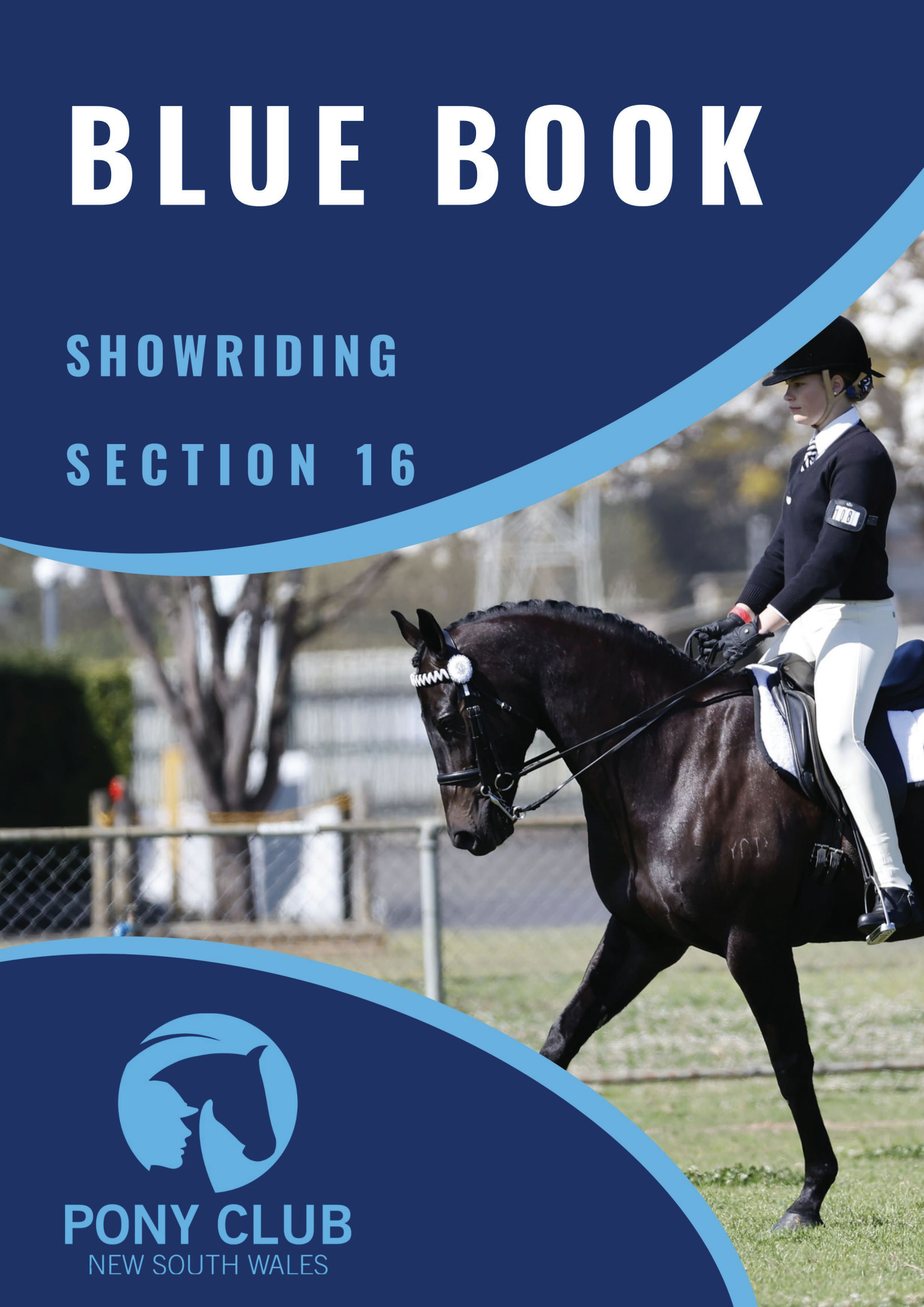
# BLUE BOOK

## SHOWRIDING

## SECTION 16



PONY CLUB
NEW SOUTH WALES

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# PONY CLUB ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.
# RULES FOR SHOW RIDING COMPETITIONS
# NOTES FOR COMPETITORS

### OVERVIEW

This Chapter has been written specifically for the State Show Riding Championships. However, it is strongly recommended that Clubs and Zones follow the same guidelines when running the same type of competition within their Club / Zone.

## OVERALL RULES

These rules are established so that competitors and teams of competitors may compete against each other under fair and equal conditions. The rules should be read in conjunction with Section 4 and Section 7 of the Handbook which deals with By-Laws as applicable to State Championships and General Competitions and Uniform Regulations, Notes for Gear Checkers and Notes for Team Managers

In the event of conflict between the NSW Pony Club Association's rules and the rules of other equestrian bodies, the rules of Pony Club New South Wales will take precedence.

If problems arise which are not clearly covered in these rules, the Association Executive, Technical Delegate and Advisory Committee will make such decision as they consider will produce a fair result under the circumstances.

### 1. STANDARD OF ENTRY FOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

At all State Championships the standard of competition will be high. It is the responsibility of the Zone Chief Instructor to ensure that mounts are fit and meet the required standard and that riders are capable of State Championship competition. The Zone Chief Instructor is the final arbiter of entries being submitted for Zone representation at State Championships.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rider – for membership qualifications and rally attendances refer to Section 4. Horse – for ownership qualifications refer to Section 4.

### 3. PERFORMANCE CARDS

Performance cards are available from Pony Club NSW. They are required to be kept up to date and be endorsed by judges or the Chief Steward of the event (if applicable) when placings are gained.

They may be required by the Zone Chief Instructor and the Association for verification of performance when nominating for State Championships.

### 4. AGE GROUPS

State Championships are conducted in age groups. Ages of riders are as at the first day of competition. The age groups for State Show Riding are as under:-

i) Under 9 years

ii) 9 years and under 11 years

iii) 11 years and under 13 years

iv) 13 years and under 15 years

v) 15 years and under 17 years

vi) Associate (17 years and up to the end of the calendar year in which they turn 25 years of age)

## 5. AWARDS

5.1 Ribbons will be awarded to 5th place in each class.

5.2 Championship and Reserve Championship award in each age group based on a cumulative point score of 5 points for 1st place down to 1 point for 5th place from eligible classes.

5.3 All competing riders are eligible for the Championship and Reserve Championship awards.

5.4 Zone Team Championship award. - The highest scoring four riders in each Zone will be the Zone Team (Interstate riders are not eligible for Zone Team awards). The Zone with the highest points will be the Champion Zone Team.

Riders with equal points for the Zone Team will be divided in a count back of highest number of 1st awards, then 2nd awards and so on until a division is reached. If no division is reached then the highest place rider in the rider class will take precedence.

5.5 Interstate Team – Championship Award – decided on the same basis as above.

5.6 Teams are made up of a maximum or four riders and a minimum of three riders, all scores to count. All riders are eligible to be team members. Teams are selected on performance at the Championships.

5.7 Presentation and Team Work Award

## 6. SCORING

6.1 Scoring will be on the basis of 5 point for 1st place, 4 points for 2nd place, 3 points for 3rd place, 2 points for 4th place and 1 point for 5 place.

6.2 Pairs and Team of Four classes are included in the Team point score only, points for these classes will not count towards individual pointscores. Points are awarded per clause 7:1, with points divided on a pro rata basis between the team or pair.

In the event of equality for the highest overall point score or for places in the Zone Team, a count back will be conducted in the following manner. The rider with the most first places, then the rider with the most second places and so on until a division is reached. If no division is reached the following criteria will apply. The highest place rider in the:

1. Riding Class
2. Bareback Class
3. Hack Class

## 7. DRESS AND GEAR CHECK

7.1 All competitors are to wear the Association uniform of long sleeved shirt, fawn/beige/oatmeal/ white jodhpurs, tie, approved riding boots (as applicable to the rules for the age group).

7.2 Riders under 17 years may only wear approved jodhpur boots (short boots) in all classes. Associate Riders (17 and under 25) may wear approved long boots or short boots with approved gaiters.

7.3 Dress and gear check carried out prior to each class. (Note: It is the responsibility of the rider to present for a gear check allowing adequate time to make any adjustment deemed necessary by the Gear Checker).

7.4 Team managers are to be in attendance with team members at the Gear Check.

## 8. STARTING TIME

8.1 The classes in each ring will commence at the notified starting time on the Schedule (subject to alteration at the venue). If the scheduled starting time is changed for any reason, the new time will be notified to all Team Managers.

## 9. SALUTE

Competitors may not remove their helmets when acknowledging the judge or being presented with awards or for any other reason whilst mounted.

## 10. DISQUALIFICATION

10.1 Competitors /Team Managers / parents are not permitted to approach Judges at any time during the Championship. Any protests / complaints regarding judging are to be directed to the Technical Delegate. Protests must be in writing from the Team Manager to the Secretary at the event and must be accompanied by a fee of $50 which will only be refunded if the protest is upheld or is not deemed to be frivolous.

10.2 Continuing to ride after losing a helmet will mean elimination from that class.

10.3 Fall of horse and/or rider during a class will mean elimination from that class. The rider must be cleared by the Official First Aid Officer at the event before taking part in any further classes at the Championships.

10.4 A competitor who refuses to comply with the directions of any officiating steward during the event will be disqualified from the competition (see Section 4 for full details).

10.5 The Advisory Committee reserves the right to disqualify a competitor for any breach of the rules or if the horse appears lame, exhausted or unfit for competition or for unacceptable behaviour of the rider.

## 11. TEAM MANAGERS DUTIES

11.1 Team Managers are responsible for their team for the duration of the Championship.

11.2 Team Mangers duties are set out in Section 7 of the Handbook.

## 12. PRESENTATION PARADE

All competitors are required to attend presentation correctly attired with their Zone at the conclusion of the competition at a time which will be announced at the venue. Any request for dispensation must be made to the Technical Delegate and must be in writing from the Team Manager.

## 13. PROTESTS

13.1 All protests must be lodged in writing with the appropriate fee no later than 1 hour after the happening which gave rise to the protest.

13.2 Any protest against the eligibility of a rider or horse must be made no later than one hour prior to the commencement of the competition.

For more details regarding protests see Section 4 (20).

## RULES OF THE COMPETITON

### 14. CLASSES

14.1 **Riders:** The following classes in all age groups (see above) will be conducted at the State Championships. Other classes may be introduced from time to time.

Riding classes Bareback riding classes

Pairs of Riders (may combine two age groups – see Schedule) Teams of Four Riders (age groups specified in Schedule) Handler class

14.2 **Horses:** (i.e. Classes specifically for the judging of the horse) are conducted in the following height groups:-

*Ponies:*
Not exceeding 12.2 hands.
Over 12.2 hands and not exceeding 13 hands
Over 13 hands and not exceeding 13.2 hands
Over 13.2 hands and not exceeding 14 hands

*Galloways:*
Over 14 hands and not exceeding 14.2 hands
Over 14.2 hands and not exceeding 15 hands.

*Hacks:*
Over 15 hands and not exceeding 15.2 hand
Over 15.2 hands and not exceeding 16 hands
Over 16 hands

14.3 **Classes for horses:**

Hack Class (either Show Hack of Show Hunter) Horses may only compete in one division.

Educated Hack (open to all horses)

Pleasure Hack (open to all horses)*** to be ridden with reins in one hand

Pair of Hacks (heights as stipulated in the Schedule)

Teams of Four Hacks (heights as stipulated in the Schedule)

Pony Club Mount

Working Hunter (open to all horses) **
** Heights for obstacles in the Working Hunter classes are as under:-

| Classification | Ponies, not exceeding 14 hands | Galloways (over 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands) | Hacks (over 15 hands) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Height | 30 cms | 45 cms | 60 cms |
| Width | 55 cms | 70 cms | 85 cms |

*ZCIs are required to verify that entrants in Working Hunter classes are of correct grade for the height entered.*

### 15. GEAR RESTRICTIONS

15.1 Working Hunter classes – Horses may only be ridden in a snaffle bit with a noseband.

15.2 Pleasure Hack – May only be ridden in a snaffle bit with or without a cavesson noseband. No whips or spurs permitted.

15.3 Pony Club Mount – Horses may only be ridden in a snaffle bit.

Tail weights are not permitted at any competition at Pony Club Association NSW including but not limited to Club, Zone or State Competitions, RAS and Agricultural Shows

## 16. EXAMPLE

16.1 Work out for Pony Club Teams of Four

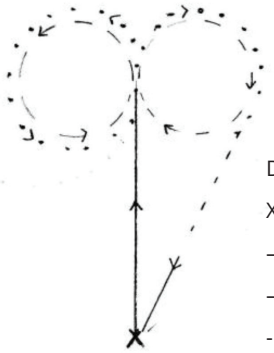


DIAGRAM KEY
X Judge
– Walk
– – Trot
- - - Canter

For teams Under 13 years

1. Form line-up in section, then-
2. Walk out in single file (approximately 40m)
3. Trot a circle to the right in single file
4. Change direction, form half section and trot circle left
5. Form section and canter a circle (left rein)
6. Change direction canter half circle right
7. Canter back to judge and halt through trot and walk
8. Sustain halt 5 seconds while saluting

For teams 13 – Under 25 years

Starting from the line-up, in section



DIAGRAM KEY
X Judge
– Walk
– – Trot
- - - Canter

1. Walk in section
2. Trot a figure of eight in section
3. Canter a figure of eight in section
4. At the completion of the right (2nd) circle of the figure of eight, change rein
5. Go on to a larger circle at the canter (left rein)
6. At the canter on the left rein form half section
7. Trot
8. Form single file at the trot
9. Walk and at the same time form a section
10. Come back to the halt in front of the judge
11. Sustain halt five seconds while saluting

Note: From 7 – 9 is done on one large circle

Witches hats will be put in place to indicate where the team is to change from walk to trot to canter and canter to trot to walk

16.2 Work out for Working Hunter Classes

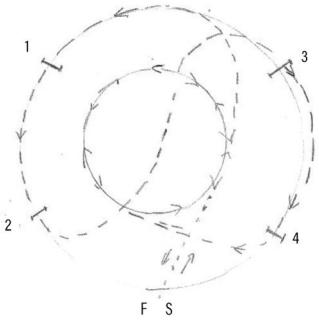
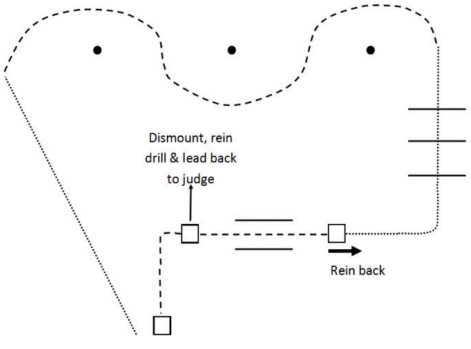



DIAGRAM KEY
..... Trot
- - - Canter

1. Trot out
2. Canter a circle inside the jumps on the left rein
3. Jump No.1 and No. 2 on the left rein
4. Change rein through the centre of the circle
5. Jump No.3 and No. 4 on the right rein.
6. Canter a circle inside the jumps on the right rein
7. Trot back to the judge
7. Halt. Salute

16.3 Pony Club Mount Example



16:3. Handler Classes

Pony Club Handler classes are judged strictly on the Handler's ability to show a horse in a led class. No consideration is given to the horse other than grooming and presentation. The ability of the handler to show the horse is the only criteria being judged.

The procedure for judging is as follows:-

- The horse and handler enter the ring at a brisk walk as directed by the Steward.
- The horse is led from the near side and must walk at the same pace as the Handler moving in a brisk, alert manner.
- When instructed to line up, the Handler stands the horse squarely on all four feet and presents the horse in a position which does not obstruct the Judge's view of the horse at any time, whilst remaining on the near side of the horse. The Handler must not stand in front of the horse.
- The Judge will then call upon individual Handlers to present and parade their horse.
- When turning the horse, it must be to the right to give the Judge a full view of the horse.
- The Handler should know where the Judge is at all times so as not to obstruct the Judge's view of the horse.
- Handlers must always keep their position in the line and allow reasonable space between the horses on either side. If asked to change position in the line, the Handler will lead the horse forward and circle the line and approach the new position from behind.
- The Handler must be alert and courteous and respond quickly to instructions from the Judge or Steward.

Guidelines for Judging:

- The horse is to be clean and well presented.
- No consideration will be given to the horse's confirmation or type.
- The horse must be shown in a bridle with a snaffle bit which is well fitted, neat and clean.
- A show whip, which may not exceed 1 metre in length, may be carried. The Handler is to be well presented and wearing Pony Club uniform.
- The class is judged solely on the Handler's ability to show the horse.

In order to gain maximum points Handers should avoid the following:

- Failure to recognise and correct faults of the horse's position.
- Kicking, hitting or having leg contact with the horse.
- Talking with other contestants.
- Failure of the horse to lead properly.
- Failure to stop the horse before turning when at a walk or trot.
- Loud voice commands to the horse.
- Turning the horse in the wrong direction.
- Blocking the Judge's view of the horse.
- Causing the judge to move to avoid being bumped or stepped on.
- Unsportsmanlike behaviour which may cause elimination.

## 17. RULES

Pony Club rules must be followed at all times when at any Pony Club class or event.