



BMHS SHOW RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL AFFILIATED SHOWS

(amended March 2006 and to be exhibited at all Affiliated Shows)

These Show Rules and the BMHS Drug Testing Regulations are supplementary to the BMHS Judging Standards. All exhibitors should read them carefully

FOUNDED 1975

1. Only horses with current BMHS registrations may enter BMHS Affiliated Morgan classes.
2. Anyone seen by the Show Committee or Show Stewards to be acting, on a showground, in a way that appears cruel or unacceptably severe will be referred to the BMHS Board. This includes the use of 'Ginger' or any irritant to encourage a horse to raise its tail. Anyone seen by the Show Committee or the Show Stewards to be acting in an unacceptable way in the ring, or wilfully interfering with other competitors or horses shall be referred to the BMHS Board. In particular, no blinker hoods shall be allowed in the show ring, collecting ring or warm up ring, but may be used in the stables or exercise areas. The maximum length of whips for use in in-hand classes shall not exceed 1.8m (6 ft) overall, including lash. Carriage driving or lunge whips are not permitted. All entrants to harness classes must be accompanied from their designated stabling area to the collecting ring and back again by both a driver and a competent header at all times. It is strictly forbidden for a driver to stand up in a moving horse drawn vehicle in any area of the show ground
3. Anyone acting on the showground of a BMHS Show or event, in such a way as seems likely to damage the reputation of the breed or the Society, including the use of foul or offensive language, will be notified to the BMHS Board in a full written report which will be considered at their next meeting
4. The BMHS Board is ultimately responsible for ensuring that classes are conducted in the proper way. The BMHS Show Committee, helped by the BMHS Show Steward, is charged with enforcing the rules.
5. Complaints must be made in writing within seven days to the Show Committee, enclosing £5, and the Show Committee will refer the complaint to the Board who will consider the matter at their next meeting. The £5 will be returned if the BMHS Board upholds the complaint.
6. All competitors must declare their entries to that show's secretary on arrival at the show and at least ten minutes before the class.
7. All competitors must present themselves on time in the ring. If the Show Committee representative calls the two-minute gate rule anyone not in the ring within two minutes is excluded from the class.
8. All competitors must be properly dressed and turned out and with their horses in the right tack. Dress should be as follows:
 - a) In Hand Classes. Handlers must be suitably attired with the emphasis on neatness. Suitable attire would be neat trousers (not jeans) and shirt and tie. In more formal shows jackets may be worn.
 - b) Riding Classes. Saddle suits are required for all saddle seat classes. Gents must wear a trilby or Panama hat or similar. Ladies must wear a saddle Derby or bowler. Bow ties and top hats are only appropriate for evening wear - competitors may be marked down if worn during the day. Hunt attire should be worn for hunt seat classes.
 - c) Driving classes. Gents should wear a jacket and tie and a trilby or Panama hat, or similar. Ladies may wear a jacket and tie or a dress and hat. Gloves must be worn. In Morgan Pleasure Harness Classes a lightweight 2 wheeled vehicle (US type jog cart as manufactured by Jerald, Houghton or jog cart of similar appearance) or 4-wheeled Viceroy type, must be used. However, in certain circumstances, as determined by the Board, a very light wheeled Surrey will be permitted, but is not recommended. Competitors will be marked down for using any other type of vehicle. In Park Harness Classes a 4-wheel show buggy must be used (US type fine harness buggy or Viceroy as manufactured by Jerald, Houghton or similar in appearance). However, in certain circumstances, as determined by the Board, a very light wheeled Surrey will be permitted but is definitely not recommended. The Steward will refuse entry to those not properly dressed.
9. The name of the horses in equitation or showmanship classes may not be printed in the programme or announced with the winners.
10. All horses will be taken as having been born on 1 January. Driving horses must be at least two years old (i.e. in their third calendar year) and riding horses must be at least three years old (i.e. in their fourth calendar year).
11. Drivers must carry a whip, which may be in a whip-holder.
12. No person under the age of 18 may show a stallion of three years or over in any class, and no stallions are allowed in any youth class.
13. Judges must not be told the names or pedigrees of competing horses.

14. Freeze marks, shoe branding and other kinds of security marks will, in no way, be discriminated against in the judging of any BMHS classes.

15. The organiser of a show and/or the owner of the showground may compete at the show provided the judge is not staying with, or entertained by the said organiser/owner previous to or during the show. Also during the previous six months the judge shall not have owned, bred or trained any of the horses being shown or (also within six months) shall not have helped the organiser/owner to set up a Morgan establishment.

16. All handlers, riders and drivers at Affiliated BMHS shows must be current members of either the BMHS or the BMHSY. However, should a Show Organiser wish to open their show to non BMHS members then this will be allowed, at the discretion of the BMHS Board, but non members will be subject to additional entry charges for each affiliated class. This does not apply to tailers or headers, but only to the person in charge of the horse.

17. BMHS accredited classes

Classes accredited by the BMHS are given in the Judging Standards. In addition, the BMHS accredits the following classes:

Performance classes

a) Classic English Pleasure and Classic Pleasure Harness

Cross entering is not allowed between Classic Pleasure and English Pleasure or Pleasure Harness Classes. Exhibitors must be amateurs. Attendants must be amateurs. Professionals must not enter the ring while the class is in order except in emergencies, cast shoes and for award presentations.

It is imperative that the horse gives the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride with emphasis on the walk and smooth transitions. Horses must stand quietly and back readily. To be shown at a walk, pleasure trot, road trot and canter. To be judged on manners, performance and gaits 60%; type and conformation 40%. Championships to be judged 50% and 50%.

b) Pairs Riding Class. Judged on ability to work as a pair. Style, conformation and way of going are also taken into account. Competitors will be asked to salute, ride a figure of eight at the trot and salute the judge.

c) Carriage and Escorts. For a carriage and two to four ridden escorts, the class is judged on overall style, way of going and the escort's ability to work as a pair within the tracks of the carriage throughout.

d) Quadrille class. Groups of four competitors to do a display of up to five minutes, to music if possible. Costumes are encouraged but props are not allowed.

e) Versatility

This class consists of up to seven sections, at least 5 of which must be included:

Section	Details	Morgan characteristic
i. Riding	Accredited Morgan Open Saddle class	Elegance
ii. Driving	Park or Pleasure	Elegance
iii. Trotting race	Under Saddle or Harness	Speed
iv. Trail	Minimum of 5 hazards chosen by Show Sec or Judge	Intelligence Tractability
v. Weight pulling	Log or stone boat	Strength
vi. Jumping		Agility
vii. Dressage		Obedience

Any of the above sections may be classes in their own right. Points to be accumulated from classes as follows. First place 10 points, second place 9 points etc. A horse not entering a section forfeits 10 points for each section not entered. Only one riding or driving class may be included to gain points for the relevant sections.

f) In the following classes, the exhibitor and not the horse will be judged:

i. Youth Lead line equitation - walk trot. Saddle seat, Hunt seat or Western. No cross entering with any other equitation class. Riders in this class should not have cantered in any Morgan or open class

- ii. Youth equitation - walk trot canter. Saddle seat. May be subdivided by age and young exhibitors will not be asked to canter. No cross entering with leadline
- iii. Open equitation, Saddle seat.
- iv. Open equitation, Hunt seat.
- v. Whip. Normally walk trot and road trot
- vi. Western equitation
- vii. In hand Showmanship.

The judge may ask competitors in all equitation classes to change horses and/or perform an individual pattern. In open classes when the judge asks for an individual pattern, this must be performed on the same horse as the rail work

g) Grooms class. A class intended for the people who do the hard work in the background. Competitors are dressed up in fancy dress, and it is a humorous class, where the turnout and costume are being judged, not the horse.

h) Bareback dollar class. Competitors ride bareback with a dollar under their thigh. The judge calls walk trot or canter and the winner is the last person to lose their dollar

i) PERFORMANCE RIDE/DRIVE CHAMPION

For horses who have won a 1st or 2nd rosette in any performance class at that show, and who have also ridden and driven at that show. Horses must be shown in the tack in which they qualified, and if they qualified in more than one way, the competitor may choose.

j) Ridden championship. Can be included when there is more than one ridden class, i.e. split ages or horses and Western classes.

k) Performance championship – is for horses who have come first or second in a performance class. The horse must enter the ring in the tack and turnout in which they qualified. All championship trophies may be awarded at the end of the show. Trophies won by competitors who leave early may be withheld at the discretion of the show committee.

l) High points If show organisers wish to award a High Points trophy, this is permissible.

m) AOTS (Amateur Owned, Trained and Shown) Classes Can be offered in any Morgan Section. Exhibitors, attendants and headers must meet the specifications for Amateur status. Horses are not to have been professionally trained during the current competition year (riding and driving instruction excluded). In addition, horses are not to be presented, prepared, groomed or schooled with the aid of a professional before or during the competition. Horses may be stabled with a professional during the competition. Professional help for situations relevant to safety is permitted.

18. NOTES

- i. Any class may be subdivided by age or sex.
- ii. IN ALL YOUTH CLASSES, COMPETITORS MUST WEAR A BHS APPROVED HARD HAT, INCLUDING IN-HAND CLASSES AND HARNESS CLASSES.
- iii. THE BMHS STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT ALL RIDERS WEAR PAS 015 RIDING HATS, CORRECTLY FITTED AND FASTENED, AT ALL TIMES WHEN MOUNTED. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY INVALIDATE INSURANCE COVER AND IS ENTIRELY AT THE RIDER'S RISK.
- iv. IN ALL CLASSES, BUT ESPECIALLY YOUTH AND NOVICE HARNESS CLASSES, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE RIDER/WHIP IS COMPETANT TO ENTER THE RING. THE TERM "NOVICE" RELATES TO PLACINGS IN PREVIOUS CLASSES IT DOES NOT MEAN "NOT YET COMPETANT". IF, IN THE OPINION OF THE JUDGE ANY RIDER/WHIP IS NOT COMPETANT THEN THEY WILL BE EXCUSED FROM THE CLASS.
- v. A TWO MINUTE GATE RULE WILL BE ENFORCED. COMPETITORS ARE TO BE GIVEN NOTICE OF IT OVER THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM. IF THEY ARE NOT IN THE RING IN TIME, ABSOLUTELY NO ALLOWANCES WILL BE MADE.
- vi. NOVICE CLASSES: Any appropriate class may be held for novice horses or novice riders. A novice is a horse or rider who has not come first in that division. Default wins will not be counted. A novice ceases to be a novice once it has had two wins in that division. If you qualify for a championship, this does not prejudice your novice status
- vi. MAIDEN CLASSES: Any appropriate class may be held for maiden horses. A Maiden is a horse who has never won in the type of class in which it is entered and it loses its maiden status as soon as it wins. A win in a maiden class does not affect your novice status
- vii. AMATEUR: Any appropriate class may be held for Amateurs. An Amateur is generally defined as anyone under 18 years or, if over 18 years, anyone who does not receive remuneration for training horses. The following activities do not affect the amateur status of a person who is otherwise qualified:

- a. The writing of books or articles pertaining to horses.
- b. Accepting remuneration for officiating as a judge, steward, technical delegate, course designer, announcer or participating as a TV commentator, or accepting bona fide remuneration for services as a veterinarian, groom, farrier, tack shop operator, or breeder, or for accepting bona fide remuneration for livery services.

- c. Accepting reimbursement for expenses without profit.
- d. Accepting a token of appreciation, other than money, for riding, driving or showing in halter/in hand is acceptable (Note: A token of appreciation valued over £200 would be considered remuneration).

19. NOTES FOR ORGANISERS OF BMHS ACCREDITED SHOWS.

- a) All schedules, proposals, etc. are to be submitted to the BMHS Show Committee before being sent out to members, allowing time for any corrections or changes required by the Show Committee
- b) Shows organised directly by the BMHS Show Committee must have approved judges who are approached only via the Show Committee. For other affiliated shows, the judges must be acceptable to the BMHS Board and matters concerning judges, expenses, lodging, etc. must be discussed with the BMHS Show Committee for guidance.
- c) Accredited classes or others approved by the BMHS Board may take place.
- d) The Show Committee may permit part-breds to be used in BMHS accredited classes where the person (handler/rider/driver) is to be judged and not the horse. Shows where this is permitted will state this in their schedule.
- e) Except in special circumstances, shows must be totally self financing, by means of entry fees, sponsorship, fund raising, etc., and should be able to cover such costs as judges' expenses, (and air fare where necessary), rosettes, trophies, and prize money and all other incidental expenses. It will be expected that most shows will also offer lunch to at least the Judge, Show Committee and Ring Steward, and in the case of American judges, also to their partner. The BMHS may on occasions, be prepared to donate funds to cover part or all of these costs.
- f) At least 15 minutes should be allowed for each class, plus time for getting horses into and out of the ring, and time for the judge to have an occasional rest.
- g) The BMHS would like to see both ridden and driven classes included in the schedule (and would certainly favour shows including both, if being considered for sponsorship) in order to encourage and promote the Morgan versatility. This will mean, however, that the ring size must be able to accommodate 5/6 vehicles in the ring together and preferably be clear of hazards such as show jumps, and must not be bumpy.
- h) For affiliated shows, the BMHS will publicise the event to all members by means of the Newsletter, Magazine, circulars and the show office, etc., and it will also be included in the Show Calendar of Events, if notification is made in time.
- i) The BMHS will do everything possible to help with the organisation, and must approve the:

i. JUDGES

The BMHS board must approve the Judge, who must either hold a current AMHA judges card in the Morgan division, or have special approval from the Board. The Board may also approve British judges who have shown a consistent study of the breed and who have fulfilled the criteria set by the Board. Persons wishing to gain accreditation as a BMHS approved judge should, in the first instance, apply in writing to the BMHS Board, giving a brief resume of their relevant background and experience. Should the Board consider that the applicant has the appropriate experience, the applicant will be accepted as an apprentice judge and will be sent an information pack giving details of the process for attaining approval as a BMHS Judge.

ii. RING STEWARD

Particularly necessary as the organisation of a Morgan class is considerably different from English events.

iii. ANNOUNCER

Most ring commands are relayed to competitors via the announcer and many Morgan classes are also accompanied by music.

iv. COLLECTING RING STEWARD

Necessary for getting exhibitors in the ring at the correct time.

v. PRIZE STEWARD

In charge of ribbons and trophies to be taken to the judge.

j) Where no BMHS rule is in force, the judge's decision is final

k) Championship Show qualifiers. As of now, members will have to qualify to enter open classes at the Championship Show. This will be achieved by entering at least one class at a previous show in that division in that year. Members may enter open classes without having qualified but they will be required to pay an additional entry fee

l) For shoeing regulations see current USEF rules

m) The signatory of the entry form for any show shall be responsible for ensuring that all costs contained therein shall be paid to BMHS

20. VETERINARY CERTIFICATES

No entry fees will be refunded at any BMHS Affiliated Shows without a Veterinary Certificate.

SHOEING REGULATIONS

GENERAL

1. Except for weanlings and yearlings which must be shown barefoot, horses may be shod or barefoot. If shod, shoes must be without turnbuckles, or bands, rocker bars or Memphis bars. Bars must not extend below the bottom plane of the shoe. Weight attached to the exterior of the hoof is prohibited. Borium or standard screw-in-caulks are allowed.
2. There are different length and/or weight restrictions according to the section or class within the Morgan Division.
3. In Classic Pleasure classes, horses may be shown with or without rim pads. A rim pad must follow the inner and outer edge of the shoe and the connection at the heel must not be wider than any aspect of the shoe. The weight of the shoe, including rim pad must not exceed 16ozs, and the length of toe including shoe and pad must not exceed 4 1/2".
4. In English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure, Pleasure Driving and Natural Park classes, there are no specific shoe weight limits but length of toe must not exceed 5" including pad and shoe (see Classic Pleasure shoeing specifications)
5. In all In Hand classes, Parade, Park Saddle, Park Harness, Hunter, Jumper, Eventing, Cutting, Reining, Carriage, Equitation and all other Morgan Classes (exception: English Pleasure, Pleasure Driving, Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure and Classic Pleasure Sections) there are no specific shoe weight limits but the length of toe must not exceed 5 3/4" including pads and shoe.
6. At an all Morgan competition all Champions and Reserve Champions must have one foot measured immediately upon leaving the ring except in classes where points are accumulated to determine Championships (ie Dressage and Hunter).

IN HAND

In all In Hand classes the length of toe must not exceed 5 3/4" including pads and shoe. Weanlings and yearlings must be barefoot.

PARK HORSES

In Park Classes the length of toe must not exceed 5 3/4" including pads and shoe.

ENGLISH PLEASURE HORSES

In English Pleasure classes the length of toe must not exceed 5" including pads and shoe.

CLASSIC PLEASURE HORSES

In Classic Pleasure classes, horses may be shown with or without rim pads. A rim pad must follow the inner and outer edge of the shoe and the connection at the heel must not be wider than any aspect of the shoe. The weight of the shoe, including rim pad, must not exceed 16 ozs, and the length of toe including shoe and pad must not exceed 4 1/2".

WESTERN PLEASURE HORSES

In Western Pleasure classes the length of toe must not exceed 5" including pad and shoe.

HUNTER PLEASURE HORSES

In Hunter Pleasure classes the length of toe must not exceed 5" including pad and shoe. (Working Hunter not exceeding 5 3/4" including pad and shoe)|Z

ROADSTER HORSES

In Roadster classes the length of toe must not exceed 5 3/4 " including pads and shoe.



These Show Rules should be read and interpreted in conjunction with the BMHS Judging Standards. Copies of the Judging Standards are available from the Administration Office at a cost of £3.00.

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