



GENERAL RULES FOR ALL SOCIETY SHOWS

1. All owners and exhibitors of donkeys must be fully paid up members of The Donkey Breed Society.
2. The exhibitor will always be held responsible for the conduct of both themselves and their representatives, and rude or unacceptable behaviour towards any Donkey or Mule, a Steward or a Judge will be penalised in accordance with the committee's wishes.
3. No person may deliberately enter or show a donkey/mule under a judge who is known to have owned, bred, leased, sold produced prepared or shown that donkey/mule.
4. No donkey/mule should be entered or shown under a judge who currently owns or leases the sire of that animal or owned or leased the sire at the time of covering. The breeder is the mare owner.
5. No donkey/mule may be shown under a judge who has previously exhibited on behalf of the owner in the current season.

6. Every exhibit must have been resident in the UK for 3 months prior to the event and no nominated or substitute entries will be permitted except for physically handicapped drivers registered in Riding for the Disabled Association's Group.
7. In the event of a donkey being sold between the time of entry and the date of the show the entry will be deemed to be owned by the person who submitted the entry; any trophy awarded will be the responsibility of that person.
8. In the event of the death of an exhibitor between the date of entry and the date of the show the legal representative of the deceased will be deemed to be the exhibitor.
9. Leased donkeys must be entered by the lessee who must have completed a Leasing Agreement form and lodged such with the Society Stud Book Registrar, and the Passport Administrator must be informed for the National Database, in accordance with the Passport Act 1998. The lessee shall then be responsible for signing the declarations on the Statement of Entry Form.
10. All donkey foals must have their entry into the appropriate DBS Register applied for and acknowledged by the Stud Book Registrar before the close of entries.
11. Foals under six months old must be accompanied by their dams.
12. Orphan foals under three months of age are not eligible for entry.
13. No foal under 6 weeks of age is permitted to be present on the show ground.
14. All donkeys/mules must have received at least their first two vaccines. Animals with full programs are advised to have six monthly boosters, however annual boosters are acceptable. Please see the schedule for each specific Society event you are entering to see what the venue specific matters are relating to vaccinations.
15. All animals must have passports with them.
16. Any donkey/mule coughing or showing signs of an infectious disease must be isolated immediately pending a veterinary examination. The decision of a Veterinary Surgeon on this or any other referral will be binding. Fees incurred will be the sole responsibility of the owner.
17. No exhibit may enter the class late or be taken from the ring without permission of the judge through the ring steward.
18. No unauthorised person will be permitted to enter any show ring during the judging.
19. If any donkey/mule or handler behaves in a dangerous or inappropriate manner they will be asked to leave the ring immediately.
20. All entire male donkeys/mules, yearlings and over, must be dressed in a bridle and bit, with the leading rein/driving reins correctly attached to the bit, for all their classes.
21. All entire male donkeys/mules, yearlings and over must not be left tied outside a stable/lorry etc unless they are attended by a competent adult at all times.
22. Colts / stallions must not be tied in any thoroughfare or area where other animals and people not directly associated with the donkey/mule need to pass. When stabled

(or kept on a lorry/trailer) they must wear a leather or safety head collar at all times.

23. No colts or stallions may be entered for any junior class.
24. A recognised bitless bridle may be used in all ridden / driven classes unless an entire male donkey/mule is being exhibited, in which case rule 20 applies.
25. Blinkers are NOT mandatory in long rein and driven classes.
26. All driven and ridden donkeys/mules must be 4 years old or over.
27. All long-reined donkeys/mules must be 3 years or older.
28. No whips over 30" or 762mm in length overall will be permitted in any class other than long-reining and driving.
29. All riders must wear a hard hat in the correct manner which conforms to the current BSI standards and carries the BSI kite mark. The standard is reviewed every two years and from time to time some of the standards are replaced in full.
30. In all ridden classes a correctly fitted saddle and bridle must also be fitted.
31. Riders in ridden class must comply with the following criteria, with the Judge's decision in the event of any issue being taken as final:
 - a. Donkeys /Mules up to 10.2hh-not over 8stone/50.80Kg or 48in/121.90cm
 - b. Donkeys/Mules 10.2hh to 11.0hh - not over 8stone/50.80Kg or 54in/137.20cm
 - c. Donkeys/Mules 11,0hh to 12.0hh - not over 9 stone/57.15Kg or 60 in/152.40cm
 - d. Donkeys/Mules 12.0hh to 14.0hh - not over 10stone/63.50Kg or 66 in/167.50cm
Donkeys/Mules over 14.0hh - riders to be of a suitable weight.
32. No unauthorised feeding of donkeys/mules will be allowed.
33. Noise should be kept to a minimum at all times especially at night.
34. All official show signage, or signs erected by the venue, must be strictly adhered to.
35. Dogs to remain in the parking area and kept on leads at all times, please clear up their mess.
36. The stewards will take responsibility for clearing any droppings in the rings, but owner/exhibitors must clear up any droppings made by their animal in any other area of the site.
37. The committee acting on behalf of the DBS council reserves the right to accept or reject any entry, to cancel, or postpone the show, to cancel, divide or amalgamate classes, to change classes from one ring to another, to change judges from one class to another, or appoint additional or substitute judges without due warning or without explanation.
38. The Committee will adhere as closely as possible to the final published timetable and no class will commence earlier than stated, unless with the prior agreement of all exhibitors.
39. All Trophies are challenge trophies and remain the property of the DBS.

40. All trophies must be returned to any member of the show committee by the fifteenth of July each year or with permission can be handed in at the show secretary's office (for which a receipt must be obtained, if you don't obtain a receipt you remain liable for that trophy).
41. In the event that trophies are not available for presentation the previous holders are personally responsible for arranging delivery to the current year winners and the committee reserves the right to reject any future entries from winners who did not return trophies.
42. All reasonable precaution must be taken to prevent loss or damage to the trophies. Notice of loss or damage must be reported to the Show Secretary or Show Treasurer within 21 days.
43. All trophies must be engraved in the style already set.
44. Neither the Society nor the Committee shall be responsible for any injury, fatal or otherwise, loss or damage, however caused, that may occur to any exhibitor or potential exhibitor their appointed representative, any spectator, servant or any other person, or their property, donkey or other animal.
45. Every exhibitor shall on entry be deemed to indemnify and hold harmless the Society and the Committee from and against all actions and suits, expenses and claims on account thereof.
46. Any exhibitor or representative wishing to make a protest regarding a class must lodge an application in writing to the Show Secretary office together with twenty pounds within fifteen minutes of the completion of judging of the class, unless it is a driving class, in which case the protest must be made within one hour.
47. A notice of protest posted at the show office shall be deemed to be sufficient notice to all interested parties, who must attend the protest committee at such time and place notified when the objection will be investigated.
48. The Protest Committee reserves the right to refer any objection to any authority or organisation to adjudicate thereon in whole or in part, the decision of the Protest Committee will be final.
49. The Protest Committee will comprise the Chairman of the Society, the Honorary Show Secretary, the Honorary Chief Steward, and if required the appropriate Judge's ring steward.
50. If on investigation the protest is not upheld the sum deposited shall be forfeited to the funds of the Society.
51. Any infringement of these or any other prescribed rules or conditions will if so ordered by the committee subject the exhibitor, to the forfeiture of any award to which they may otherwise be entitled, or such other penalty as determined by the committee.

Additional Definitions/Information for In Hand Classes at the Supreme Championships

52. Like all equines, donkeys and mules have an official birthday on 01 January each year so that they are deemed to be a yearling on the 1st January immediate, following their birth and a 2-year-old on the following 1st January and so on. For the sake of clarity, the following definitions apply to Seniors and Juniors.

Category	Definition
Junior Foal	01 June to 07 July in the current calendar year
Senior Foal	01 January to 31 May in the current calendar year
Junior Yearling	01 June to 31 December in the previous calendar year
Senior Yearling	01 January to 31 May in the previous calendar year
Junior Gelding	Is aged 4 to 7
Junior Stallion	Is aged 4 or 5
Junior Barren Mare	Is aged 4 to 7
Junior Brood Mare	Is aged 5 to 7
Senior Gelding	Is aged 8 to 19
Senior Stallion	Is aged 6 to 19
Senior Barren Mare	Is aged 8 to 19
Senior Brood Mare	Is aged 8 to 19
Veteran - Aged 20 and over	Aged 20 and over

53. PROGENY POINTS AWARDS - Points are awarded to the sire / dam where eligible, and the highest scoring sire will win the Stallion Progeny Points Award, while the highest scoring dam will win the Mare Progeny Points Award. Points will be awarded in the In Hand classes at the Championship show and from pre-qualified donkeys who are not forward at this show. The parent of the pre-qualified progeny will be awarded 6 points for each pre-qualified donkey, but those donkeys will not be eligible for in hand class points. For non- pre-qualified donkeys who enter the In Hand Classes the following are points are awarded to the parents of the progeny as follows; 6 for 1st, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 5for 4th 2 for 5th and 1 for 6th. In addition, there will be 4 points for each parent of the Individual Champions and a further 2 points for the parents of the Reserve Champions. There are 4 points for each parent of the DBS British Supreme Champion and 2 points for the parents of the DBS British Reserve Champion. Those donkeys registered in the Stud Book as well as those entered in other appropriate DBS registers are eligible for the awards. The winning mare and stallion must be owned on the date of the show by a fully paid up member of the society. If the winning donkey(s) are deceased the award will still be made. If the owner(s) of the winning donkey(s) are deceased the Society shall retain the trophy(s) for that year. As the results cannot be ascertained until after the show the trophies will be presented at the Society Annual General Meeting. In the event of a tie all winners will hold the trophy(s) for equal periods.

Additional Rules, Procedures and Information for Driving Classes

54. Entrants may give the names of 2 drivers on their entry forms, each of whom must be a fully paid up, current member of the DBS.
55. The Judges and or Chief Steward have the authority to remove any donkey/mule deemed to be unfit from any class.
56. The same turnout must be used for all British Supreme Driving qualifying classes however an exercise vehicle may be used instead of the trade vehicle for a show drive and dressage class.
57. The private driving class will be judged in accordance with British Driving Society standards.
58. No vehicle entered in the private driving class can enter the exercise class.
59. Entries in the trade class must not be driven from the ground.
60. In the exercise vehicle class, providing the vehicle and harness are clean safe and fit correctly, they will not be taken into consideration in the judging.
61. This rule may be superceded by information in the schedule but in the absence of any other information this rule will be deemed to apply:
 - a. In the novice section of dressage, entrants are permitted a caller who must be used for the whole test.
 - b. The entrant provides the caller and ensures they are on time.
 - c. The use of a caller will result in a penalty of 15 points, which will be deducted from the test total.
62. Best Whip Class the vehicle and harness, providing they are safe, will not be taken into account in the judging. Judging will be based entirely on the whips ability to drive correctly in the traditional English manner.
63. Junior Whips must have a competent adult present with them at all times, the adult may be in the vehicle or on foot.
64. A stallion may be driven by a junior whip only when accompanied by an experienced adult whip who must be present in the vehicle at all times.
65. Multiple turnouts (e.g. pairs, tandems, teams etc.) can enter an extra animal, but the names of animals for the turnouts must be declared to the Steward before the class is entered.
66. STUBBINGS TROPHY - Points will be awarded to entrants with any disability, driving a suitable vehicle or a vehicle purpose built to carry a wheelchair. The vehicle is to be driven in the traditional English style or the driver is to use reins with any necessary adaptations. The whip may be carried by an able-bodied companion. The points will be awarded as follows for each position in each class - 6 for 1st, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 3 for 4th, 2 for 5th and 1 for 6th. The trophy will be awarded to the entrant with the highest total score. In the event of a tie the trophy will be shared on a time basis. Eligible entrants must mark their entry forms with a large "D" in the top right-hand corner.