

SHOWMAN INFORMATION

Showman is an “equitation” competition in which riders are judged on their all round horsemanship. The aim of Showman is to promote rider development.

Showman 3 Phase comprises of a dressage test, a ridden workout and an in-hand presentation. Riders are to perform a ridden show workout as prescribed that will include a combination of paces, including lengthened strides at the trot and canter. This phase is judged on the rider’s position and aids and the ability to present the horse. The in-hand presentation demonstrates the ability of the handler to show an unsaddled pony or horse in a prescribed led workout.

Showman 4 Phase includes a jumping test which is designed to show the rider’s ability, style, talent and capability over simple fences consisting of coloured and rustic obstacles including one double. The course is to be ridden at hunting pace.

These classes will be run in accordance with EA Showman of the Year Competition Rules.

GENERAL RULES SPECIFIC TO INTERSCHOOL SHOWMAN

1. Pony or horse must be ridden in a snaffle bridle. Hanoverian (flash), drop or cavesson nosebands are permitted. Martingales, bearing, side or running reins of any kind are **not** permitted.
2. Breast plates are permitted.
3. Spurs allowed.
4. Whips must not exceed 75cm. **If a rider chooses to carry a whip into the dressage phase it must remain with the rider throughout all phases.**
5. Boots (including over-reach boots) are permissible for the jumping phase only.
6. Safety vests may be worn in the jumping phase only.

7. Spurs may be removed for the In-Hand phase if desired.
8. Numnahs not permitted.

AT NO OTHER TIME CAN A CHANGE OF SADDLERY OR GEAR BE PERMITTED.

9. Riders may compete in short or long boots. Leather gaiters may be worn.
10. The wearing of gloves by riders is compulsory.

The same mount *must* be used by the rider in each phase.

Once the rider enters the dressage phase no verbal contact is permitted with parents or coaches. A parent or coach may assist the rider with putting on and off jumping boots, prior to the jumping phase. Similarly a parent or coach may hold the pony or horse while the rider discards the saddle and cloth before the In-hand presentation. It is expected at the National level, that a rider does this unaided in the secondary classes.

Attitude and Conduct Marks

The rider behaves with dignity in the ring and understands that they are on show at every moment. Competitors begin each phase with a maximum of 10 marks for attitude and conduct. By simply behaving in a respectful and cooperative manner, all competitors should retain their maximum marks. Parents and supporters must also support riders in a respectful way to create a positive competition environment. Marks may be deducted for:

Behaviour that is less than polite and cooperative to judges, stewards or other competitors;

Failure to obey direction instructions;

Talking in the line-up, calling out to spectators/supporters, parents or supporters interfering or behaving poorly;

Abuse of the horse; and/or

Abuse of any judge, steward or other competitor.

SCORING IN SHOWMAN

Each phase is scored equally out of 90 marks. Marks are then summed to identify the winner who will have the highest overall marks. In each phase riders are awarded marks for attitude and conduct as well as for their skill in a particular phase. These marks often will determine the final placing for riders.

Scoring for the Dressage Phase 90 Marks

The dressage arena is the same for Dressage and shall be 60m x 20m. The tests used are different to the standard dressage tests. In addition, the collective marks for Showman Dressage tests differ from those for Dressage and the total score for the Dressage phase is a mark out of 90, and **NOT** a percentage. The judge will form an opinion of the rider's attitude and conduct when the rider presents to the judge before commencing their test.

Scoring for Ridden Workout 90 Marks

Once the Dressage phase has been completed riders move straight to the second phase which is the individual ridden workout. The actual test to be performed will be provided prior to the competition for riders to practice. This phase is judged on rider's position and aids and their ability to present their horse and so the horse's performance is less important. Once again attitude and conduct form an important component of the overall mark given for this phase.

Scoring for Working Hunter (Jumping) 90 Marks

At the completion of the Ridden Workout, riders move directly to the Working Hunter Phase (if they are jumping). Parents may assist at this time with the fitting of jumping boots and back protectors. This phase, like jumping equitation, awards marks for the rider's style, the horse's obedience and the correctness of leads and changes of gait. Any pony/horse taking the wrong course or jumping another fence after completing the course will be eliminated. If a pony/horse turns its quarters to a fence or has a complete turn round, or crosses its tracks on approach to the next fence a refusal will be given. The fall of the horse and/or rider anywhere on the course will result in elimination. If eliminated, the rider may not attempt another fence but must leave the arena immediately on foot. Riders who are eliminated may complete the remaining phase of competition but they will not receive a final score.

Each jumping effort is marked out of 10 for approach, jumping style and rider's position and aids. The double is scored as one obstacle. The first fence must be a small inviting fence. There is no set penalty for a pole down or a run out (or refusal), but three refusals will result in elimination.

It is strongly advised that competitors may walk the course dismounted before their class, correctly dressed. The time for this will be announced at the event.

Scoring for In-Hand Presentation 90 Marks

The final phase in Showman is the In-Hand presentation. In this phase competitors perform an in-hand workout for the judge. Riders remove the saddle and saddlecloth from the horse (and any boots used for the jumping phase) but leave the bridle on. The required workout will be provided prior to the event. This phase is judged on the competitor's ability to present the pony/horse in a manner that shows the pony/horse in its best light. Once again attitude and conduct marks apply in the scoring for this phase.