CHAPTER SP SHETLAND PONY DIVISION

SUBCHAPTER SP-1 SHETLAND PONY GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SP101 Soundness

SP102 Judges

SUBCHAPTER SP-2 MODERN SHETLAND - GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SP103 Eligibility

SP104 General Conformation

SP105 Appointments

SP106 Attire

SP107 Height

SP108 Pairs and Tandems

SUBCHAPTER SP-3 SHOWING PROCEDURE

SP109 Division of Classes

SP110 Ladies', Amateurs', Junior Exhibitors' Classes

SUBCHAPTER SP-4 MODERN HALTER CLASSES

SP111 General

SP112 Class Specifications

SUBCHAPTER SP-5 MODERN PERFORMANCE CLASSES

SP113 Modern Harness

SP114 Fancy Turnout

SP115 Modern Roadster

SP116 Modern Formal Pleasure

SP117 Modern Country Pleasure

SP118 Modern Shetland Draft Harness Pony

SP119 Leadline

SP120 Modern Shetland Under Saddle

SP121 Modern Formal Combination

SUBCHAPTER SP-6 CLASSIC SHETLAND – GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SP122 Eligibility

SP123 General Conformation

SP124 Height

SP125 Shoeing

SUBCHAPTER SP-7 CLASSIC SHETLAND SHOWING PROCEDURES

SP126 Showing Procedures

SUBCHAPTER SP-8 CLASSIC SHETLAND HALTER

SP127 General

SP128 Show Ring Procedures

SP129 Class Specifications

SUBCHAPTER SP-9 CLASSIC SHETLAND PERFORMANCE CLASSES

SP130 Classic Shetland Pleasure Driving SP131 Classic Formal Pleasure Driving to Viceroy SP132 Classic Country Pleasure Driving SP133 Classic Roadster SP134 Classic Draft Harness SP135 Classic Shetland Carriage Driving SP136 Halter Obstacle SP137 Pleasure Driving Obstacle SP138 Hunter SP139 Jumper SP140 Additional Mounted Classes SP141 Equitation SP142 Liberty SP143 Costume SP144 Roman Chariot Event SP145 Showmanship

CHAPTER SP SHETLAND PONY DIVISION

SUBCHAPTER SP-1 SHETLAND PONY GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SP101 Soundness

As a minimum requirement, all Shetlands must be serviceably sound for competition purposes. Any pony showing evidence of lameness, deformity in feet or broken wind shall be refused an award. Complete or partial loss of sight in either eye will not be a disqualification if the loss of sight results from traumatic injury. A licensed veterinarian must verify the deltiology of the sight loss as traumatic and such copy must accompany the horse's papers.

SP102 Judges

A Federation Connemara, Hackney/Roadster/Saddlebred, Shetland, or Welsh judge must officiate Shetland pony classes.

BOD 6/20/23 Effective 12/1/23

SUBCHAPTER SP-2 MODERN SHETLAND - GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SP103 Eligibility

All entries must be registered in American Shetland Pony Club Stud Book except foals for which registration has been applied. Registration must be evidenced by the original certificate or an official copy. Entries must be identical to the name and number shown in the official record of the ASPC.

SP104 General Conformation

Shetland conformation should be that of a strong, attractive, pony, blending the original Shetland type with refinement and quality resulting from American care and selective breeding. The barrel should be well rounded, back short and level, with flat croup. The head should be carried high and on a well arched neck and should be symmetrical and proportionate to the body, with width between prominent eyes; a fine jaw; short, sharp and erect ears; small muzzle, with flaring nostrils and a refined throat latch. The pony shall have a full mane and tail. The pony's structure should be strong with refinement; high withers; sloping shoulders; flat boned, muscular legs (not cow or sickle hocked); strong, springy pasterns and good, strong serviceable feet. Shetlands may be of any color, either solid or mixed, except appaloosa. No particular color is preferred, no discrimination should be made because of the color of eyes, such as glass, watch, hazel or blue.

SP105 Appointments

- 1. Whips, aprons, robes and similar equipment are optional unless definitely called for in the class specifications.
- 2. There shall be no penalty for use of hand helds.
- 3. No item disturbing to other entries may be used inside or outside the ring while showing a pony, except the driver is allowed one whip no longer than 6', including snapper and handle.

SP106 Attire

Unless otherwise specified the suggested attire for Performance classes is as follows:

Ladies—blouses/dresses with at least 3/4 length sleeves and slacks or dress below the knee. Lap robe, hats and gloves are optional.

Men—jacket, tie and hat. Lap robe and gloves optional. Protective headgear may be worn without penalty. See GR801.

SP107 Height

- 1. The maximum height at the withers for a Modern Shetland shall not exceed 46". There are two major show ring height divisions for Modern Shetlands.
 - a. Over Division: The height for Modern Shetlands three years and older, over 43" is not to exceed 46". The height for ponies two years old, over 42" is not to exceed 44.5". The height for yearlings over 41" is not to exceed 43".
 - b. Under Division: The height for Modern Shetlands three years old and older is 43" and under. The height for ponies two years old is 42" and under. The height for yearlings is 41" and under.
 - c. Foals may compete in the under junior champion class, but may not show in the Grand Champion class.
- 2. A pony shall not be shown in a Performance class unless the owner is in possession of a current ASPC or Federation Measurement Card or valid measurement form issued by ASPC or the Federation or Management can confirm the measurement electronically with the Federation. (See GR502.)

SP108 Pairs and Tandems

In classes for Pairs and Tandems, an entry is considered eligible if the height of one of the ponies exceeds the limit by not more than half an inch. However, no exhibitor may enter such a Pair in two different height classes. Pairs and tandems are to wear harness similar to that used on single ponies. Either breast or Kay collars may be used.

SUBCHAPTER SP-3 SHOWING PROCEDURE

SP109 Division of Classes

- 1. When entries warrant, classes below should be divided: 43 inches and under and over 43 inches and not exceeding 46 inches. Competition management has the option of dividing Junior Exhibitor classes into two age groups where entries warrant: One for Juniors age 13 and under and one for Juniors age 14 and under 18.
- 2. Headers will be permitted in all classes but only in Ladies, Amateur, Junior Exhibitor and Multiple Hitch classes will headers be permitted to stand inside the gate. This attendant must take no action that would affect the performance of any pony. Only one attendant is allowed to head a pony. Ponies may be unchecked while lined up except in Ladies, Junior Exhibitors, Amateurs and Owners classes. In Ladies, Junior Exhibitors, Amateur and Owners classes, attendant may stand an entry on its feet and thereafter he shall remain at least two paces distant from the head. Ponies shall not be lined up head to tail. All awards must be made from the lined up position and entries must not be asked to retire to the end of the ring.
- 3. Time-Out. An exhibitor is entitled to request only one time-out per class. (See GR833.)
- 4. Cross-entering between Modern and Classic is not permitted at the same competition. Cross-entering between Formal and Country Pleasure is not permitted at the same competition.

SP110 Ladies', Amateurs', Junior Exhibitors' Classes

- 1. Manners are paramount, therefore, ponies must stand quietly, remain checked while lined up and are required to back. An attendant may stand an entry on its feet and thereafter they shall remain at least two paces distant from the head. Ponies should be driven in the half cheek. Ponies should at no time be required to go beyond a park pace.
- 2. Stallions are prohibited in Ladies' and Junior Exhibitors' classes.

SP111 General

- 1. Stallions, three years old and older, to qualify in Breeding classes, must have all the fully developed physical characteristics of a stallion.
- 2. Shetlands one year of age and older should be shod when shown and ponies under one year of age must not be shod.
- 3. Ponies to be shown in a show halter or bridle. Stallion tack is prohibited in all classes except those for stallions two years old and over.
- 4. Tails on Modern in-hand ponies to be shown optionally as smooth, set up, or may appear to be set up, on all two-year-olds and older. The use of a shoestring or tie of a similar nature is permitted for the purpose of holding the tail in position. No set tails on weanlings or yearlings.
- 5. Shetlands should be neatly trimmed, well groomed, braided with one braid in the foretop and immediately back of the bridle and attractively presented in the competition ring.
- 6. Suggested attire for ladies halter classes is slacks or skirt below the knee and blouse with at least 3/4 length sleeves. No flimsy shoes. Hat and gloves are optional. Men's attire to be shirt, slacks and tie. No flimsy shoes. Hat, gloves and vests are optional.
- 7. Single Breeding classes shall be judged 60% on conformation and 40% on performance, quality and manners except foals of the current year and yearlings which are to be judged 75% on conformation and 25% on performance, quality and manners. Group classes shall be judged 75% on uniformity and are not to be moved. Show Champions and Reserve Champions shall be selected as outlined in GR810.
- 8. Modern Pleasure Halter classes to be run in the same manner as Modern Halter classes. Attendant permitted in Modern Pleasure Junior Exhibitor classes.
- 9. When Model Classes are held they shall precede Breeding classes and are to be judged on conformation only, being designed as a pattern or standard of ideal Shetlands for entries to follow in all other classes of the competition. Model ponies are not to be worked on the rail.

SP112 Class Specifications

- 1. MODEL. To be judged solely on conformation and are designed to set a "standard" for the entries to follow in all other classes of the same show. Model ponies are not to be worked on the rail.
- 2. WEANLINGS, YEARLINGS. To enter the ring at the walk and line up as indicated by the ringmaster. After examination by the judge, entries are worked individually on the rail both ways, usually at a walk and trot. To be judged 75% on conformation and breed type; 25% on performance, quality and manners.
- 3. TWO YEARS OLD AND OLDER, STALLIONS, MARES, GELDINGS. To enter the ring at the walk and line up as indicated by the ringmaster. After examination by the judge, entries are worked individually on the rail both ways, usually at a walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners.
- 4. BROODMARES. To enter the ring at the walk and line up as indicated by the ringmaster. After examination by the judge, entries are worked individually on the rail both ways, usually at a walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners. Entries must be three years and older and wet (nursing a foal) and are eligible for Senior Champion but cannot cross-enter into the aged classes.
- 5. AMATEUR OWNED AND SHOWN. To enter the ring at the walk and line up as indicated by the ringmaster. After examination by the judge, entries are worked individually on the rail both ways, usually at a walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality, and manners.
- 6. MARE AND FOAL. To be judged solely on the basis of conformation. 50% on mare; 50% on foal. Entries are not to be worked on the rail.
- GET OF SIRE. Entry shall consist of three Shetlands, the get of the same stallion. Entry may consist of any combination of stallions, mares, and/or geldings, of any age. May be a combination of owners. 46" and under. To be judged 75% on conformation and 25% on uniformity. Not to be worked on the rail.
- 8. PRODUCE OF DAM. Entry shall consist of two Shetlands, the produce of the same dam. Entry may consist of any combination of stallions, mares, and/or geldings, of any age. May be a combination of owners. 46" and under. To be judged 75% on conformation and 25% on uniformity. Not to be worked on the rail.

- 9. HERD OF FOUR. Entry shall consist of one stallion and three mares of any age, all owned by one owner. 46" and under. To be judged 75% on conformation and 25% on uniformity. Not to be worked on the rail.
- 10. HERD OF SIX. Entry shall consist of six Shetlands of any age, all owned by one owner. 46" and under.

SUBCHAPTER SP-5 MODERN PERFORMANCE CLASSES

SP113 Modern Harness

- 1. To be shown at "park pace" and "show your pony," except where stated below. At the park pace, the feet should be lifted well off the ground and the stride medium in length, elastic and straight. "Show your pony" designates a smart trot should be a straight forward, diagonal movement, forelegs being raised at least to a point where the forearm is extended in a horizontal position with the elbow and the hocks flexed, with the feet well under the body and well off the ground. The body at all times should be in perfect balance, with the head carried high. Excessive speed is undesirable.
- 2. Tack: Ponies are to be shown in show type harness including round blinkers, sidecheck and choice of bit. In Ladies, Amateur and Youth classes, ponies must be driven in the half cheek. Boots, rubber bands or strings of any description on the feet or legs and martingales are prohibited, however, high tail cruppers or other tail appliances are permitted. Ponies are to be shown both ways of the ring to an appropriate four-wheeled vehicle (viceroy, side bar buggy or four-wheeled vehicle of similar type).
- 3. Class Specifications.
 - a. SINGLE SHETLAND PONY OPEN, MAIDEN, NOVICE, LIMIT, JUNIOR (Four Years old & Under), STALLIONS, MARES, GELDINGS. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on performance, quality and manners.
 - b. SINGLE SHETLAND PONY LADIES, AMATEUR, AMATEUR OWNERS, JUNIOR EXHIBITORS. To be shown at the park pace both directions of the ring. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on manners, quality and performance. When lined up, ponies are required to stand without holding and back willingly without rearing.
 - c. PAIR OF SHETLAND PONIES. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on performance, quality, manners and uniformity.
 - d. SHETLAND PONY TANDEM. To be worked both ways of the ring. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on performance, quality, manners and uniformity.
 - e. UNICORN. To have two wheel ponies and one lead pony. To be judged 40% on conformation and 60% on performance, quality, manners and uniformity.
 - f. SINGLE SHETLAND PONY STAKE. To be eligible, ponies must be entered, shown and judged in any previous harness class in this division. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on performance, presence, quality and manners. Exception: local classes do not qualify for championships.

SP114 Fancy Turnout

- 1. To be worked both ways of the ring at the Park Pace and to be driven at a safe speed at all times.
- 2. In the event of postponement of afternoon or evening classes because of rain, etc., the attire shall be judged as originally classified. Two small trophies instead of one large one should go to the winner and two ribbons to all who place.
- 3. It is recommended that committees offering Pony Fancy Turnout classes without restriction to Shetlands shall follow above specifications except (a) age limit may be 15 years as in the past and (b) entries shall not exceed 12.2 hands (50").
- 4. Entries shall be shown to an appropriate vehicle (four-wheeled viceroy, side-bar buggy or similar type). Type of harness optional.
- 5. Accepted attire:
 - a. (Afternoon) Boys: Sport coat of any color except black, trousers or jodhpurs of a harmonizing color, white shirt, bow tie, straw hat or bareheaded. Girls: Summery dress, hat and parasol; flowers optional.
 - b. (Evening, strictly formal). The boy shall wear current formal attire: a ruffled or tucked shirt of white or color, a formal dinner jacket of suitable material of any color, including but not limited to, brocade or velveteen, etc. Trousers of black or midnight blue, formal bow tie, black socks and shoes, bareheaded or dress straw hat. Formal full dress attire of top hat, tuxedo or tails, white dress shirt, wing collar, white tie

acceptable if available. Driver is not required to wear gloves. The girls shall wear formal evening dress, which may be supported by hoops fastened to the buggy and carry flowers. Protective headgear may be worn without penalty. (See GR801)

6. Class Specifications.

PONY FANCY TURNOUT. To be driven by a boy accompanied by a girl (under 14 years of age) at a park pace. Entries shall be judged 50% on attire, 40% on conformation, manners and performance; 10% on neatness and cleanliness of harness and vehicle.

SP115 Modern Roadster

- 1. General
 - a. Roadsters shall enter the ring clockwise at a jog-trot then show at the road gait, turn counterclockwise at the jog-trot, show at the road gait and then trot at speed. At all speeds they should work in form; that is their chins set and their legs working beneath them collectedly and in form.
 - b. At the trot, a pony whose action features folding of knees, flexing of hocks, with straight true action of front legs and with hocks carried close together and with motions coordinated, is executing a balanced trot. Long sprawling action in front, dragging or trailing hind legs and straddle gaited action behind make a balanced trot impossible.
 - c. Animation, brilliance and competition ring presence should characterize the Roadster Pony in working at a jog-trot or road gait.
 - d. When asked to drive on, the pony must show speed. Pacey gaited or mixey gaited ponies that pace and rack the turns or break and run on the turns shall be penalized.
 - e. Ponies should be shown on the rail at all times except when passing and should go to the far end of every corner; should be light mouthed, capable of being taken up at any time, and stand well when being judged in the center of the ring.
 - f. When ponies are lined up, no attendant is permitted and driver shall not leave their vehicle except for necessary adjustments. They may, however, uncheck and stand at pony's head when left in the center of the ring while a part of the class is on the rail for a workout.
- 2. Ponies shall be shown to a Roadster sulky, bike or two-wheeled vehicle of similar type. A low crupper, overcheck, square blinkers and straight or broken snaffle bit shall be used. Martingales and trotting boots are permitted.
- 3. Drivers shall wear stable colors, cap and jacket to match. The exhibitor's number must be worn on the back of the driver and not attached to the vehicle. Tailer colors optional in Shetland Roadster Pony In-Hand.
- 4. Class Specifications.
 - a. SHETLAND PONY ROADSTER IN-HAND. Pony must show in a Roadster performance class in the same competition. Pony shall be shown with boots and Roadster bridle. Overchecks optional. Pony shall be led with two lead shanks attached to the bit ring. Pony to be shown on the rail at a jog and at speed. To be judged 60% on conformation; 40% way of going.
 - b. SHETLAND PONY ROADSTERS OPEN, STALLIONS, MARES, GELDINGS, MAIDEN, NOVICE, LIMIT, JUNIOR (4 years old and under) LADIES, AMATEUR, AMATEUR/ OWNERS, JUNIOR EXHIBITORS. To be judged 60% on speed in form, 20% on manners and way of going, 20% on conformation.
 - c. SHETLAND PONY ROADSTER CHAMPIONSHIP STAKE. To be eligible, ponies must be entered, shown and judged in any previous Roadster class in this division. To be judged 20% on conformation and quality; 20% on manners and way of going and 60% on speed in form. Exception: Local classes do not qualify for championships.

SP116 Modern Formal Pleasure

1. There should be light contact with the mouth, slight flexion at the poll without evidence of undue restraint. The pony should be relatively high headed and have a free way of moving. The check rein should not interfere with the relaxed and free way of going. Ponies are to enter the ring at the right and be shown both ways of the ring at the walk, pleasure trot and extended trot. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized. The walk should be a relaxed flat-footed walk, a four beat straight movement. The pleasure trot should be easy going square with elasticity and freedom of movement. The extended trot should be ground covering, open and reaching. Ponies are to line up in the center, stand quietly and must back readily. No attendant permitted.

- 2. Ponies shown in pleasure driving cannot cross enter between Shetland Harness Pony classes and Shetland Roadster Pony classes at the same competition.
- 3. The use of artificial appliances or devices such as chains, shackles and rubber bands are prohibited on the grounds before or during the competition.
- 4. Pony to be shown to a suitable two-wheeled cart with foot basket or four-wheeled vehicle, but not a viceroy, racing sulky or Fine Harness rig. Pony to be shown with a keg shoe, light pads optional with no weights, or barefoot fitted with snaffle bit and overhead check (check bit and martingale optional).
- 5. Driver to be dressed in appropriate attire (not silks or colors).
- 6. Class Specifications.
 - a. SHETLAND FORMAL PLEASURE DRIVING. STALLIONS, MARES, GELDINGS, LADIES, JUNIOR EXHIBITOR, LIMIT, AMATEUR. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on manners, quality and performance.

SP117 Modern Country Pleasure

- 1. To be shown with an evenly weighted appropriate size, light plate of uniform thickness and weight without pad. Shoe may weigh no more than 6 oz. excluding nails.
- 2. To be shown at the walk, pleasure trot and extended trot. The walk should be relaxed flatfooted walk, a four beat straight movement and not a jog-trot. The pleasure trot should be easy going, square with elasticity and freedom of movement.

The extended trot should be ground covering, open and reaching. There should be light contact with the mouth, slight flexion at the poll without evidence of undue restraint. The pony should be relatively high headed and have a free way of moving. The checkrein should not interfere with the relaxed and free way of going.

- 3. Ponies shown in pleasure driving are not eligible for any other driving division.
- 4. To be shown to a suitable two-wheeled cart with foot basket or four-wheeled vehicle, but not a viceroy racing sulky or fine harness rig. Pony to be shown fitted with snaffle bit and overhead check (check bit and martingale optional).
- 5. Class Specifications.
 - a. SHETLAND COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING OPEN, LADIES, JUNIOR EXHIBITOR, LIMIT, AMATEUR. To be judged 40% on conformation and 60% on manners, quality and performance. To stand quietly in the line up and back readily.
 - b. SHETLAND COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING STAKE. To be eligible ponies must be entered, shown and judged in a qualifying class with the same specifications. To be judged 40% on conformation and 60% on manners, quality and performance. To stand quietly in the line up and back readily.

SP118 Modern Shetland Draft Harness Pony

- 1. Utilitarian usefulness is stressed for ponies, harness and wagon.
- 2. Ponies to wear long, natural mane and long, natural tail. Braiding is optional. Clipping of fetlocks is optional.
- 3. The foot must be natural. Ponies may be shown barefoot or with a light show plate or a draft-type shoe with toe and heel caulks. Pads may be used but additional weight of any description is prohibited.
- 4. To be shown to a suitable four-wheeled vehicle except that a cart may be used for singles. Heavy draft-type harness with collars, breeching and appropriate bit required. Full harness and lead tongue is optional on lead teams.
- 5. No one may assist driver in any way (except in the event of an accident); however, passengers are permitted.
- 6. Management and/or judge may require individual maneuvers.
- 7. Class Specifications. SHETLAND DRAFT HARNESS PONIES OPEN, MAIDEN, NOVICE, LIMIT, JUNIOR (4 years and under), STALLIONS, MARES, GELDINGS, LADIES, AMATEUR, JUNIOR EXHIBITOR, ADULT, DOUBLE HITCH, 4-PONY HITCH, 6-PONY HITCH, SINGLE, TANDEM, UNICORN, CHAMPIONSHIP. Utilitarian usefulness is emphasized. To be shown both ways of the ring at a working trot and a flat-footed walk without undue restraint. To halt, stand quietly and back readily. To be judged 60% on manners (in motion and at rest) and utilitarian usability performance; 30% on breed type, suitability and conformation; 10% on appointments (draft-type equipment). Fancy equipment not to count over a neat, clean and suitable working outfit.

SP119 Leadline

LEAD LINE RIDER—Six and under. To be led at a walk both ways of the ring, to halt, stand quietly. To be judged on the rider's ability to handle and aid pony.

SP120 Modern Shetland Under Saddle

- 1. Separate classes for both English and Western under saddle are advisable but if only one class is offered and entries with both types of equipment participate, it is recommended that competition management give two sets of ribbons.
- 2. English. The rider shall wear English attire and shall use an English saddle and equipment. Rider shall use both hands on the reins. Method of holding the reins is optional. Exhibitor must be neat and clean. No tennis shoes or T-shirts allowed.
- 3. Western. The rider shall wear western attire and shall use a western saddle and equipment. Only one hand may be used on the reins and must not be changed. While pony is in motion rider's hands shall be clear of pony and saddle except when it is necessary to use them to prevent a fall. Exhibitor must be neat and clean. No tennis shoes or T-shirts allowed.
- 4. Class Specifications.

SHETLAND PONY UNDER SADDLE, ENGLISH or WESTERN EQUIPMENT. To be ridden by a Junior Exhibitor (under 14 years of age). To be shown at a walk, trot (or) jog and canter (or) lope. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on manners, quality performance, and suitability to rider. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.

SP121 Modern Formal Combination

To be ridden and driven by a Junior Exhibitor under 14 years. To be shown in harness, unhitched and saddled in the ring and then shown Under Saddle. To be judged 40% on conformation; 60% on manners, quality and performance. Each phase to count 50%.

SUBCHAPTER SP-6 CLASSIC SHETLAND – GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SP122 Eligibility

All Classic Shetlands must be registered with the American Shetland Pony Club. The registry remains closed, since 1955, to imported Shetlands. Exception: Shetland Ponies registered with the Canadian Pony Society and progeny of ponies previously registered with ASPC.

SP123 General Conformation

1. The Classic Shetland has a well proportioned body that maintains the strong Shetland constitution; a pony with substance in the chest, body and hindquarters. The short head is clean cut, with a fine muzzle, large nostrils, brilliant eyes, wide forehead and sharp, small well-set ears. The Classic Shetland possesses fineness of throat latch, length of neck in proportion to the body and a sloping shoulder. The legs are set properly under the body on the four corners, forearm well muscled, knee and cannon bone broad and well defined, with an ideally shaped pastern with proper size and angle of pastern and foot. The top line of the Classic Shetland is straight, back short, loin short and well muscled. The tail is set high on the croup. The body has plenty of depth, well-rounded buttocks, and well-muscled gaskins. The ribs should be well-sprung; pony should have a round barrel. The knees and hocks are well supported from below by strong short cannons, joints and hooves. The mane, foretop and tail are full. The coat is fine and silky. The Classic Shetland has a natural, straight and springy way of going. Extremes in length of neck, body, legs and action are undesirable. Classic Shetlands may be of any color, either solid or mixed, except appaloosa. No particular color is preferred, no discrimination shall be made because of the color of eyes, such as glass, watch, hazel or blue.

- 2. Classics shall show with full manes and tails. No roached manes. Thinning, pulling, shortening, etc. of the mane and tail is permissible. The mane and tail length shall be left to the discretion of the exhibitor. Docked tails are permissible only on draft pony entries.
- 3. Changing the coat color of a pony is not permitted but highlighting the mane and tail, eyes, ears, muzzle, etc. is permissible.
- 4. Ponies may be clipped or shown in full coat.
- 5. No ginger, nicked tails, false tails or set-up tails allowed. Ginger, false tails or switches and set-up tails will result in disqualification.

SP124 Height

- 1. The maximum height at the withers for a Classic Shetland shall not exceed 46". There are two major show ring height divisions for Classic Shetlands.
 - a. Over Division: The height for Classic Shetlands three years and old over 42" is not to exceed 46". The height for ponies two years old over 41" is not to exceed 44.5". The height for yearlings over 40" is not to exceed 43".
 - b. Under Division: The height for Classic Shetlands three years old and older is 42" and under. The height for ponies two years old is 41" and under. The height for yearlings is 40" and under.
 - c. Foals of current year shall be 40" and under if competition management requires them to be measured.
- 2. A pony shall not be shown in a Performance class unless the owner is in possession of a current Measurement Card or valid measurement form issued by the Federation or Management can confirm the measurement electronically with the Federation. (See GR502.) Management must announce the time and place for measuring any ponies that do not have a current Measurement Card.

SP125 Shoeing

Classics may be shown barefoot or with a light plate of uniform thickness and weight. No pads are permitted. No built up feet or heel measurements exceeding 1³/₄", allowed. No weighted shoes or shoes having toe or sideclips, grabs, caulks, or trailers. The plate shall be of equal length in the branches from the toe back and shall not extend past the bulb of the heel. No corrective shoeing will be permitted.

SUBCHAPTER SP-7 CLASSIC SHETLAND SHOWING PROCEDURES

SP126 Showing Procedures

- 1. The Classic Pleasure Shetland must exhibit Classic conformation standards, quiet manners, perform at a collected gait on a light rein, stand quietly and back readily. Extreme action or heavy on the bit will be penalized.
- 2. All performance class animals must be a minimum of two (2) years old (must have reached their actual second birthday) or older at time of competition, unless otherwise specified.
- 3. Attire
 - a. Dress for the youth and adult exhibitor should be appropriate for purpose. The Rider/Driver/Exhibitor to be dressed safe, neat and clean. Closed toe/heel foot attire is required (boots or leather athletic shoes). No T-shirts, shorts, skirts above the knee, strapless tops or canvas/cloth shoes allowed.
 - b. Drivers and their attendants should be dressed appropriately. Hats, gloves, and aprons are optional. No strapless tops or open toed shoes allowed.
 - c. Attire should be appropriate to the equipment being used, English or Western.
 - d. No silks or colors are permitted except in roadster classes.
 - e. Protective headgear (See GR801) must be worn by youth riders in all under saddle classes.
- 4. No stable, farm, individual name, animal name or business promotional apparel may be displayed on exhibitors. Exception: Draft Harness driving classes.
- 5. No item disturbing to other entries may be used inside or outside the ring while showing a pony, except the handler or attendant may use one whip no longer than four feet, including lash and handle.

- 6. Conduct designed to distract a pony or otherwise interfere with the showing of another exhibitor's animal will not be tolerated by the show management. Offenders will be asked to leave the show area. If the offender is also an exhibitor, they will be excused from the ring and barred from personally showing during that show. Their pony, however, may compete. The offense shall be reported by the Steward in the Steward's Report.
- 7. Headers (must be 16 years old or older) are required in all youth driving classes. Headers optional in all other driving classes. Headers are to enter the ring when the line-up is called, may assist in setting up the animal and then step back two paces where they are to remain, except in an emergency, until the judge's card is turned in. Note: Judges are cautioned that this rule in no way negates the requirement in youth classes that animals must display good manners, stand quietly in the line-up and back readily in Pleasure, Country Pleasure and Draft Harness classes. All drivers under the age of 16 years old, in any non-youth driving class, will require a header (must be 16 years old or older).
- 8. Riding attendants are optional in Classic Youth driving classes. Attendants must be sixteen (16) years old or older.
- 9. Stallions are not allowed in Classic Youth performance, halter, or showmanship classes. Exception: Youth may show a stallion foal of current year.
- 10. Cross entering is allowed between the Pleasure and Roadster Division.
- 11. Classic Pleasure ponies cannot cross-enter into Country Pleasure Driving classes at the same show.
- 12. Country Pleasure ponies cannot cross-enter into Classic Pleasure classes at the same show.
- 13. Driving whips are optional, but if used must be of suitable style, and the tip of the lash must not reach past the shoulder of the pony.
- 14. Stake classes will be known as Championship classes. 1st place will be Champion and 2nd place will be Reserve Champion. The stake classes will be placed thru 5th place. A pony must have entered, been shown and been judged in a qualifying class in order to participate in the corresponding stake class. Example: To show in the Roadster Stake the pony must show in another roadster class, and cannot qualify by showing in a pleasure driving class.

SUBCHAPTER SP-8 CLASSIC SHETLAND HALTER

SP127 General

- 1. Tack: Show halter or show bridle (hunter type) with snaffle bit without shanks. Stallions may be shown with a stallion bit. Bits are permitted only on animals two years old and older.
- 2. Attire: See SP126.3
- 3. One attendant, in addition to the handler, shall be permitted for each entry if needed in a halter class.
- 4. Handler or attendant may use one whip no longer than four feet, including lash and handle.
- 5. All eligible first and second place class winners (Exception: model, amateur and group winners) must compete in their respective championship classes, unless excused by show management. The Championship Class is judged as a new class and the ponies must be worked unless only one pony is competing, then at the judge's discretion, it may be judged concurrently with that class. The second place pony shall not be discriminated against in judging because of its earlier standing and therefore should not be lined up behind the first place pony.

SP128 Show Ring Procedures

- 1. Ponies will enter the ring at a walk and line-up as indicated by the ringmaster.
- 2. Entries will be examined by the judge in the line-up.
- 3. Each entry will be worked individually on a line at a walk and trot for the judge. Conditions permitting, ponies are to be worked parallel to the rail, fence or wall.
- 4. Ponies will return to the line-up for final inspection by the judge.

SP129 Class Specifications

1. STALLION, MARE, AND GELDING DIVISIONS. To be judged separately unless otherwise specified. See SP124 for Over and Under division height splits.

- a. MODEL. If offered, the model class must be the first halter class held in the respective stallion, mare and gelding halter division. Entries must be two years old or older. Model ponies are not to be worked on the rail. To be judged 100% on conformation.
- b. AGED FIVE YEARS OLD AND OLDER. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- c. AGED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- d. BROODMARES. Entries must be three years or older and wet (nursing a foal). Cannot cross-enter in the Aged Mare class. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type and 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- e. TWO YEAR OLDS. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- f. YEARLING Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 75% on conformation and breed type; 25% on performance, quality and manners.
- g. FOAL OF CURRENT YEAR. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 75% on conformation and breed type; 25% on performance, quality and manners.
- h. SENIOR CHAMPION AND RESERVE. First and second place winners from AGED FIVE YEARS OLD AND OLDER, AGED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS, and BROODMARES. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- i. JUNIOR CHAMPION AND RESERVE. First and second place winners from TWO YEAR OLDS and YEARLING AND FOAL OF CURRENT YEAR. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- j. GRAND CHAMPION. The Senior and Junior Champion and Reserve winners. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- k. MULTI-COLOR. Any age, any sex of any pinto color pattern: Tobiano, Overo, Tovero or Sabino. Shown on a line in a circle both ways of the ring at a walk. Halt and stand for judging. To be judged 100% on color.
- I. SOLID COLOR. Any age, any sex of any solid color recognized by ASPC other than Pinto. Shown on a line in a circle both ways of the ring at a walk. Halt and stand for judging. To be judged 100% on color.
- m. YOUTH HALTER. Classic mare or gelding, any age, shown by a Youth. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. The exhibitor is to have complete control of the pony throughout the class. To be judged 60% on breed character and conformation; 40% on performance, quality and manners.
- n. ANY AGE, BRED, OWNED AND SHOWN BY EXHIBITOR. Breeder is defined as owning dam at time of service. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. Each individual entry to be judged on basis of the animal's age group.
- o. ANY AGE, AMATEUR OWNED AND SHOWN. Shown on a line at the walk and trot. Each individual entry to be judged on basis of the animal's age group.
- 2. GROUP CLASSES
 - a. MARE AND FOAL. Entry shall consist of mare and her current year foal. Will not be asked to work on a line. To be judged 50% on mare's conformation; 50% on foal's conformation.
 - b. GET OF SIRE. Entry shall consist of three Classic Shetlands; stallions, mares and/or geldings of any age, the get of the same sire. Combined ownership is permitted. Entry to be made in the name of the sire. Will not be asked to work on a line. To be judged 75% on conformation; 25% on uniformity.
 - c. PRODUCE OF DAM. Entry shall consist of two Classic Shetlands; stallions, mares and/or geldings of any age, the produce of the same dam. Combined ownership is permitted. Entry to be made in the name of the dam. Will not be asked to work on a line. To be judged 75% on conformation; 25% on uniformity.
 - d. HERD OF FOUR. Entry shall consist of one Classic Shetland stallion and three Classic Shetland mares or any age. One owner and entry will be made in the name of the owner. Will not be asked to work on a line. To be judged 75% on conformation; 25% on uniformity.
 - e. HERD OF SIX. Entry shall consist of six Classic Shetlands of any age or sex. One owner and entry will be made in the name of the owner. Will not be asked to work on a line. To be judged 75% on conformation; 25% on uniformity.
- 3. FOUNDATION. The Foundation class entry is an animal on which the foundation of the breed has been founded. The entry should be more conservative in type than an entry in Open Classic classes and should

exhibit slightly more bone and substance. The Foundation entry will be required to provide show management with proof of pedigree verification from ASPC (Registration certificate must include Foundation certification). Entry will be asked to work on a line at a walk and trot. To be judged 60% on conformation and breed type; 40% on performance, quality and manners. Cross entry into Open Classic Halter classes is not permitted. Exception: Classic performance, youth, color, and group halter classes if no foundation classes are offered.

SUBCHAPTER SP-9 CLASSIC SHETLAND PERFORMANCE CLASSES

SP130 Classic Shetland Pleasure Driving

- 1. See SP126.3 for attire.
- 2. To be shown with unweighted keg shoes or barefoot, at a relaxed, fourbeat flatfooted walk, a pleasure trot, easy going with elasticity and freedom of movement and an extended trot, ground covering, open and reaching.
- 3. Headers are permitted. Exception: A header is required in Youth Pleasure Driving classes. Headers must be 16 years of age or older.
- 4. Ponies shown in Classic Pleasure Driving classes are not eligible to compete in Shetland Pony Modern classes.
- 5. The use of artificial appliances or devices such as chains, shackles and rubber bands are prohibited on the grounds before or during the competition.
- 6. Equipment
 - a. The Classic pleasure driving pony must wear a show-type harness, including side or overcheck, square
 or round blinkers with straight or broken snaffle bit. A properly fitted cavesson or nose band is required.
 Check bit and martingales are optional. No liverpool bits, curb chains or curb straps are allowed.
 Exception: Classic Draft Harness classes may use liverpool bits or other appropriate bits acceptable for
 heavy draft-type harness.
 - b. To be shown to a suitable two-wheeled cart with foot basket or four-wheeled vehicle but not a viceroy, Fine Harness rig or racing sulky.
- 7. Competition management may not as part of local rules, require entries in Ladies and/or Junior Exhibitors classes to compete in the Championship class. These two classes will, however, be considered as qualifying classes for the Championship.
- 8. Class Specifications
 - a. CLASSIC SHETLAND PLEASURE DRIVING OPEN, GENTLEMEN, LIMIT, PAIR. Open to stallions, mares and geldings and all drivers. Shown at a walk, pleasure trot, and extended trot. To stand quietly and back readily in the lineup. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.
 - b. CLASSIC SHETLAND PLEASURE DRIVING, LADIES, JUNIOR EXHIBITOR. Open to mares and geldings only. Shown at a walk, pleasure trot, and extended trot. To stand quietly and back readily in the lineup. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized. Exception: Local junior exhibitor classes do not qualify for championships.
 - c. AMATEUR OWNED AND DRIVEN PLEASURE DRIVING. Shown at a walk, pleasure trot, and extended trot. To stand quietly and back readily in the lineup. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.
 - d. CLASSIC SHETLAND PLEASURE DRIVING STAKE. Eligible ponies must have been shown and judged in at least one other class in this division. Shown at a walk, trot, and extended trot. To stand quietly and back readily. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.

SP131 Classic Formal Pleasure Driving to Viceroy

- 1. See SP126.3 for attire.
- 2. Entry may be a stallion, mare or gelding.
- 3. The walk should be a relaxed flat-footed walk, a four-beat straight movement. The trot should be easy going, square with elasticity and freedom of movement.
- © USEF 2024

- 4. Pony to be shown in fine harness with round blinkers, sidecheck and snaffle bit. Check bit optional.
- 5. Class Specifications
 - a. CLASSIC FORMAL PLEASURE DRIVING TO VICEROY. Shown both ways of the ring at a walk and trot. To be lined up in the center of the ring, stand quietly and back readily. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation.

SP132 Classic Country Pleasure Driving

- 1. Pony to be shown to a two-wheeled pleasure cart with a foot basket.
- 2. Gaits.
 - a. Walk A free, regular and forward moving four beat gait. The pony should walk energetically, but calmly, with an even and determined pace.
 - b. Country Pleasure Trot A balanced, easy moving, relaxed two beat gait demonstrating forward movement.
 - c. Extended Trot A clear increase in gait and length of stride. The pony should move freely on a taut, but light rein, while maintaining a balanced pace and forward movement. Excessive action and speed shall be penalized.
- 3. Cross-entering is not allowed between the Country Pleasure and Pleasure Driving Division at the same show.
- 4. Class Specifications.
 - a. Ponies to enter the ring counterclockwise at a country pleasure trot. To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, country pleasure trot and a extended trot. Ponies to be lined up in the center of the ring, stand quietly and rein back. Judged 60% on performance, manners and way of going, 30% on condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle and 10% on neatness, appropriateness of attire and overall impression. High head sets and excessive knee action to be severely penalized.
 - COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING OPEN, GENTLEMEN, AMATEUR. Open to stallions, mares, and geldings.
 - c. COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING LADIES, YOUTH. Open to mares and geldings.
 - d. COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING STAKE. To be eligible ponies must be entered, shown and judged in a qualifying class with the same specifications.

SP133 Classic Roadster

- 1. Tack and equipment
- 2. Classic roadster ponies are to wear harness with a low crupper, overcheck, square blinkers with a straight or broken snaffle bit. Martingales and trotting boots are permitted.
 - a. Classic roadster ponies are to be driven to road bikes with tire guards.
 - b. Attire. Drivers must wear colors (cap and jacket). Entry number is to be worn on the driver's back and not attached to the vehicle.
- 3. In Classic Youth Roadster, all drivers must have headers. All youth must wear protective headgear (See GR801) in Roadster classes.
- 4. Class specifications
 - a. OPEN CLASSIC ROADSTER. Enter the ring clockwise at a jog-trot and then road gait. Ponies to reverse at a jog-trot, trot at speed, and drive on. To be judged 60% on manners and suitability of pony to driver; 40% on conformation and easy way of going. Extreme action to be penalized. Headers not permitted.
 - b. YOUTH CLASSIC ROADSTER. Enter the ring clockwise at a jog-trot and then road gait. Ponies to reverse at a jog-trot, trot at speed, and drive on. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation. Header is required and must be 16 years old or older. No stallions permitted. All youth must wear protective headgear.
 - c. LIMIT CLASSIC ROADSTER. Enter the ring clockwise at a jog-trot and then road gait. Ponies to reverse at a jog-trot, trot at speed, and drive on. To be judged 60% on manners and suitability of pony to driver; 40% on conformation and easy way of going. Extreme action to be penalized. Headers are optional.
 - d. CLASSIC ROADSTER STAKE. To be eligible, a pony must have been shown and judged in a qualifying class. Enter the ring clockwise at a jog-trot and then road gait. Ponies to reverse at a jog-trot, trot at speed, and drive on. To be judged 60% on manners and suitability of pony to driver; 40% on conformation and easy way of going. Extreme action to be penalized.

SP134 Classic Draft Harness

- 1. Utilitarian usefulness is stressed for ponies, harness and wagon.
- 2. Clipping of fetlocks is optional.
- 3. The foot must be natural. Ponies may be shown barefoot or with a light plate shoe or a draft type shoe with toe and heel caulks. Pads may be used but any additional weight of any description is prohibited.
- 4. To be shown to a suitable four-wheeled vehicle, except that a cart may be used for singles. Heavy draft-type harness with collars, and full hames, breeching and appropriate bit suitable for heavy draft-type harness is required. Full harness with lead tongue is optional on lead teams. Utilitarian usefulness is emphasized.
- 5. No one may assist driver in any way (except in the event of any accident), but, passengers are permitted.
- 6. Draft vehicles and tack may have names on them.
- 7. Riding attendants are optional in Youth Draft classes but be sixteen years old or older.
- 8. All Draft Harness Classes are considered single pony cart classes and all are qualifying classes for the Single Draft Harness Stake class.
- 9. Class Specifications. CLASSIC DRAFT HARNESS SINGLE HITCH, TWO PONY HITCH. To be shown both ways of the ring at a working trot and a flatfooted walk without undue restraint. To halt, stand quietly, and back readily. To be judged 60% on manners and utilitarian useful performance, 30% on breed type, suitability and conformation, and 10% on appointments. Fancy equipment not to count over a neat, clean and suitable working outfit. Two pony hitch shall be worked in a figure eight, gee and haw, back and stand quietly.

SP135 Classic Shetland Carriage Driving

- 1. Tack and equipment
 - a. To be shown in a light harness of breast or collar type.
 - b. Martingales and overchecks are prohibited.
 - c. Sidechecks, breeching or thimbles are optional.
 - d. Snaffle, Liverpool or acceptable driving bit and blinkers appropriate to type of harness.
 - e. Whip is required to be carried in-hand.
 - f. Wood wheeled vehicle either two or four-wheeled of antique or reproduction type required in all carriage driving classes.
- 2. Attire: Hat, gloves, and apron required to be worn.
- 3. Headers are allowed but must come from within the vehicle.
- 4. Class specifications
 - a. CLASSIC CARRIAGE DRIVING TO WOODEN WHEELED VEHICLE. To be shown at a walk, trot and extended trot both ways of the ring. To line up and stand quietly. Entry may be stallion, mare or gelding. To be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance; 40% on conformation.
 - b. CLASSIC CARRIAGE REINSMANSHIP. Designed to test the knowledge and ability of the driver. To be shown on the rail at a walk, pleasure trot, and extended trot. Additional testing at the judge's discretion. To be judged 75% on the handling of the reins and whip, control, posture and overall appearance of the driver; 25% on the condition of the harness and vehicle and the neatness of attire. Suggested tests include:
 - 1. Back
 - 2. Drive a circle of designated size
 - 3. Drive a figure eight
 - 4. Extended trot-intermediate gait
 - 5. Negotiate simple obstacles
 - 6. Stop and stand
 - 7. Drive with one hand
 - c. CLASSIC CARRIAGE PRECISION DRIVING. Designed to test the skill of the driver and the obedience and handiness of the animal. Entries are required to drive a course of 6-8 obstacles. To be judged 80% on the fault system; 20% on manners and performance
 - 1. Faults:
 - a. Displacing Markers 1 fault
 - b. Each hoof outside marker 1 fault
 - c. Wheel outside marker 1 fault
 - d. Canter, each time 1 fault

- e. Not completing an obstacle 8 faults
- 2. Refusals: (cumulative throughout the course)
 - a. 1st refusal 3 faults
 - b. 2nd refusal 3 faults
 - c. 3rd refusal Elimination
- 3. Elimination:
 - a. Failing to pass through the Start and Finish markers
 - b. Receiving outside assistance
 - c. Taking any obstacle out of order (off course)
 - d. Showing an obstacle to the horse
- d. CLASSIC CARRIAGE WORKING. To be shown both ways of the arena at a walk, slow trot, working trot and strong trot. To stand quietly, both on the rail and while lined up, and to rein back. All entries chosen for a workout may be worked both ways of the arena at any gait requested by the judge and may be asked to execute a figure of eight. To be judged 70% on performance, manners and way of going; 20% on condition and fit of harness and vehicle; 10% on neatness of attire.
- e. CLASSIC CARRIAGE OBSTACLE DRIVING TIMED. To be driven over a prescribed course of not more than 20 obstacles. Obstacles consist of traffic cones with balls or similar objects placed on top. After passing the starting line, the driver shall proceed through each obstacle in order to the designated finish line. Course faults are assessed as penalty seconds and are added to the driver's elapsed time. Placings are determined on a low total time basis. Ties for first will be decided by a drive-off. The decision to allow cantering for this class is left to the discretion of show management. Cantering is not allowed unless clearly stated in the prize list. If cantering is not allowed, breaks in gait on course will be penalized.
 - 1. Penalties

a.	Knocking over start or finish marker	5 seconds
b.	Knocking down or dislodging obstacle	5 seconds
C.	Break to canter	
	1. 1st break to canter	5 seconds
	2. 2nd break to canter	5 seconds
	3. 3rd break to canter	5 seconds
	4. 4th break to canter	Elimination
	5. Prolonged canter	Elimination
d.	Disobedience or groom(s) dismounting (cumulative over course)	
	1. 1st incident	5 seconds
	2. 2nd incident	10 seconds
	3. 3rd incident	Elimination
e.	Starting before signal	Elimination
f.	Failure to cross starting line within one minute of signal	Elimination
g.	Off course	Elimination
h.	Outside assistance	Elimination
i.	Failure to carry whip	Elimination
j.	Use of martingale or overcheck	Elimination
k.	Breakage of harness or vehicle	Elimination

SP136 Halter Obstacle

- 1. Pony to be shown in halter or bridle with appropriate lead. Chain on lead permitted under the chin of the pony.
- 2. A pony can only be shown by one exhibitor per class. A handler may show more than one entry in a class.
- 3. Ponies must be two years of age and older.
- 4. All obstacles must be numbered in order of sequence. The obstacle course must be posted at the show office not less than two hours prior to the class.
- 5. Pony to be penalized for any unnecessary delay or excessive time at an object. Judge(s) can advance an exhibitor to the next obstacle if a pony is taking excessive time at an obstacle. Recommended time of sixty seconds per obstacle. Refusals do not constitute class disqualification.
- 6. In shows where open, amateur and youth obstacle classes are offered, at least three of the obstacles must be different or the manner of performance through the obstacles must be varied for the class.
- 7. Obstacles: At least three different categories of obstacles must be used.

© USEF 2024

- a. Over: bridge, tarp, water, jump.
- b. Pattern: serpentine, figure eight, or cloverleaf at requested gaits.
- c. Daily chores: gate, put on and remove equipment (blanket, raincoat, saddle, etc.), mailbox open and close, pick up an object (letter, bucket, umbrella, flag, etc.) and place it at a designated location, side pass over pole, back through poles.
- d. Ground tie: stand pony inside a circle and walk around the pony.
- 8. Jumps, if used, must be at least five feet wide and include a ground pole. Jump standards may not be taller than 40" in height and no wings or additions are allowed outside the jump standard. All jumps used in performance classes must be collapsible for safety reasons. Maximum jump height is sixteen inches. An In and Out jump is considered one obstacle and scored as such. Refusal of one element of an In and Out jump requires the retaking of both elements.
- 9. Tires and stair steps are prohibited.
- 10. Causes for elimination:
 - a. Carrying a whip or crop.
 - b. Handler physically moving or coercing the pony by touching. Handler must maneuver the pony using the lead, halter or bridle only.
 - c. Off course:
 - 1. Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
 - 2. Negotiating an obstacle from the wrong side.
 - 3. Skipping an obstacle unless directed by the judge.
 - 4. Negotiating obstacles in the wrong sequence.
- 11. Class Specifications: HALTER OBSTACLE OPEN, YOUTH, AND AMATEUR. Shown in-hand over a course of 6-10 obstacles. Class to be judged on performance and way of going with emphasis on manners throughout the course. Responsiveness and willingness to be considered.

SP137 Pleasure Driving Obstacle

- 1. Pony or team is hitched to a suitable two or four-wheeled vehicle. The harness and vehicle must be safe and in serviceable condition.
- 2. The judge will dismiss any unsafe entry whether due to equipment or behavior of the animal.
- 3. All obstacles must be numbered in order of sequence. The obstacle course must be posted at the show office not less than two hours prior to the class.
- 4. The show committee and/or judge may impose a time limit or number of refusals before the driver must pass to the next obstacle.
- 5. Course shall consist of at least four obstacles from the following list. Obstacles:
 - a. Back through an obstacle.
 - b. Walk through a water obstacle or simulated water obstacle.
 - c. Cross a simulated wooden bridge.
 - d. Pick up and move coat or slicker or put on and take off.
 - e. Drive between poles, bales of hay or other obstacles making a narrow passage.
 - f. Mail box (stop, open mail box, remove mail, return mail to box, and close box).
 - g. Serpentine, cloverleaf or figure eight.
 - h. Back up a minimum of four steps.
 - i. Put one wheel of vehicle in circle, turn partial or complete circle with wheel pivoting in and not leaving the circle.
- 6. Class Specifications: PLEASURE DRIVING OBSTACLE. Each entry to work individually through a course of at least four obstacles designed to test the performance and manners of a good working animal. To be judged on the basis of performance and manners. Each entry will be given a numerical score based on performance at each obstacle and overall manners and gaits. It is emphasized that this is an obstacle driving class and that a good entry is one that will provide a pleasant, responsive drive for the driver. Ties shall be broken by judging the animal on rail work at a walk or trot and/or by requiring tied entries to repeat any part of the course.

SP138 Hunter

- 1. Course: Ponies to be shown over a minimum of four fences consisting of at least six jumps, at least 12" in height but not more than 20" in height; jumps must be at least six feet wide. All jumps must have a ground pole. Jump Standards may not be taller than 40" in height. The course must be posted two (2) hours before the class. Obstacles must simulate those found in hunting, such as natural post and rail, brush, stone wall, white board gate, hedge, oxer, etc. All jumps in hunter and jumper courses must be numbered on the course in order of sequence. An In and Out Jump is considered one obstacle and scored as such. The distance of an In and Out Jump must be 20 feet. Refusal of one element of an In and Out Jump requires the retaking of both elements.
- 2. Faults: The following faults are scored by the judge depending on severity and may be considered minor or major faults: circling while on course, backing, light touches against an obstacle, kicking, spooking or shying, knockdown of any part of an obstacle, pulling up concourse, dangerous jumping.
- 3. Accumulated Refusals:
 - a. 1st refusal 3 faults
 - b. 2nd refusal 6 faults
 - c. 3rd refusal Elimination
- 4. Class Specifications:
 - a. YOUTH HUNTER OVER FENCES. Rider to be 14 years of age or younger. Pony must be two years old or older. To be judged on manners and way of going, keeping an even hunting pace over the course. Judge must penalize unsafe jumping and bad form over fences. Ponies must be serviceably sound and are to be jogged back for soundness check past the judge(s) before final placings are awarded. No Stallions permitted.
 - b. HUNTER IN-HAND ADULT, YOUTH, AMATEUR. To be shown in-hand in a halter or bridle with appropriate lead over a minimum of four fences consisting of at least six jumps, 24" in height. Whip may be carried. To be judged on manners and way of going, keeping an even hunting pace over the course. Judge must penalize unsafe jumping and bad form over fences. Ponies must be serviceable sound and are to be jogged back to the judge for a soundness check before final placings are awarded. Youth may not exhibit stallions.

SP139 Jumper

- 1. Course: Ponies to be shown over a minimum of four fences consisting of at least six jumps that are at least 16" in height, but no more than 26" in height; jumps must be at least six feet wide. All jumps must have a ground pole. Jump Standards may not be taller than 40" in height. The course must be posted two (2) hours before the class. Obstacles must simulate those found in hunting, such as natural post and rail, brush, stone wall, white board gate, hedge, oxer, etc. All jumps in hunter and jumper courses must be numbered on the course in order of sequence. An In and Out Jump is considered one obstacle and scored as such. The distance between an In and Out Jump must be 20 feet. Refusal of one element of an In and Out Jump requires the retaking of both elements.
- 2. Jump-off: A jump-off is to occur for those ponies with clean rounds. All other ties will be jumped-off for concurrent place. The jump-off will be held over the original course. The height of the jumps shall be increased not less than one inch and not more than six inches in height. The jump-off will be timed by a stopwatch and the pony that has the fastest time and the fewest faults in the jump-off round will be declared the winner. An elimination jump-off does not eliminate the pony from the final placing. Only two jumps in the jump-off will be raised.
- 3. Faults:
 - a. Circling while on course counts as a refusal anywhere on course.
 - b. Touching of obstacle with any portion of pony's body behind stifle
 - c. Touching of obstacle with any portion of pony's body in front of stifle
 - d. Touching of obstacle with any portion of handler's body
 - e. Knockdown of obstacle or standard while jumping
 - f. 1st refusal anywhere on course
 - g. 2nd refusal anywhere on course
 - h. 3rd refusal
 - i. Off course

1 fault 1 fault 4 faults 3 faults 3 faults Elimination

1/2 fault

- 4. Class Specifications:
 - a. YOUTH JUMPER OVER FENCES. Rider to be 14 years of age or younger. Pony must be two years old or older. To be shown over a minimum of four fences consisting of at least six jumps that are at least 16" in height, but no more than 26" in height. Jumpers are scored mathematically on accumulated faults only. No stallions permitted.
 - b. JUMPER IN-HAND ADULT, YOUTH, AMATEUR. To be shown in-hand in a halter or bridle with appropriate lead. Chain on lead permitted under chin of pony. Whip may be carried. Jumpers are scored mathematically on accumulated faults only. Youth may not exhibit stallions.

SP140 Additional Mounted Classes

- 1. General.
 - a. Rider's attire should be appropriate to the equipment being used.
 - b. No stallions permitted.
 - c. Headers are required.
 - d. Protective headgear (See GR801) must be worn by youth riders in all under saddle classes.
 - e. The ring parameters may be determined by judge(s) or competition management.
- 2. Class Specifications.
 - a. LEAD LINE. Rider to be six years of age or younger. Leader must be 16 years of age or older. The leading rein should be attached to the cavesson, noseband or halter while leaving the control of the pony to the child. Rider's feet must be in the stirrups. Pony to be led both ways of the ring, to line up and stand quietly. To be judged on the rider's ability to handle and aid the pony.
 - b. LEADING REIN. Rider to be eight years of age or younger. Leader must be 16 years of age or older. The leading rein should be attached to the cavesson, noseband or halter while leaving the control of the pony to the child. Rider's feet must be in the stirrups. To be shown on light contact at the walk both ways of the ring, then to line up and stand quietly. Ponies will be called out individually to stand, walk out and trot back past the judge. Riders to be in suitable dress in hunt, saddle or western attire. Ponies to be judged on conformation, way of going, manners, suitability and turnout.
 - c. WALK AGES 10 YEARS AND YOUNGER, WALK AGES 11-17 YEARS. To be judged on the rail at a walk both ways of the ring. To halt and stand quietly. To be judged on the rider's ability to handle and aid the pony. Riders are not eligible for lead line or pleasure saddle classes. Riders may cross-enter into the walk-trot only.
 - d. WALK-TROT AGES 10 YEARS AND YOUNGER, WALK-TROT AGES 11-17 YEARS. To be judged on the rail at the walk and trot both ways of the ring. To halt and stand quietly. To be judged on the rider's ability to handle and aid the pony. Not eligible for lead line.
 - e. ENGLISH PLEASURE UNDER SADDLE AGES 10 YEARS AND YOUNGER, ENGLIGH PLEASURE UNDER SADDLE AGES 11-17 YEARS. English saddle, equipment and dress are to be used in this class. Ponies are to enter to the right, shall be worked both ways of the ring at a walk, trot and canter and line up in the center of the ring. Judged 60% on manners, quality, suitability to the rider, performance and 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.
 - f. WESTERN PLEASURE UNDER SADDLE AGES 10 YEARS AND YOUNGER, WESTERN PLEASURE UNDER SADDLE AGES 11-17 YEARS. Western saddle, equipment and dress are to be used in this class. Only one hand may be used on the reins and hands must not be changed. Rider's hands must be clear of pony and saddle. Ponies are to enter to the right, shall be worked both ways of the ring at a walk, jog and lope and line up in the center of the ring. Judged 60% on manners, quality, suitability to the rider, performance and 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.
 - g. OPEN PLEASURE UNDER SADDLE. Rider to be 14 years of age or younger. Entry may be shown either English or Western. Ponies to be worked both ways of the ring at a walk, trot/jog and canter/lope. To lineup in the center of the ring, stand quietly and back readily. Judged 60% on manners, quality, suitability to the rider, performance and 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.
 - h. COMBINATION PLEASURE. Rider/driver to be 14 years of age or younger.
 - 1. Ponies to be shown first driven to a suitable two-wheeled cart with foot basket or four-wheeled vehicle. To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, pleasure trot and extended trot. Must stand quietly and back readily. Excessive speed and action will be penalized. Judged 60% on manners, quality and performance and 40% on conformation.

2. Ponies then shown under saddle in English or Western attire. Ponies to be worked both ways of the ring at a walk, trot/jog and canter/lope. To lineup in the center of the ring, stand quietly and back readily. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized. Judged 60% on manners, quality, suitability to rider, performance and 40% on conformation. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized.

SP141 Equitation

- 1. All classes will be judged equally on hands, seat, control of mount and suitability of purpose.
- 2. Appropriate English or western attire and equipment may be used.
- 3. Classes offered:
 - a. CLASSIC EQUITATION WALK 46" & UNDER
 - b. CLASSIC EQUITATION WALK/TROT 46" & UNDER
 - c. CLASSIC EQUITATION WALK/TROT/CANTER 46" & UNDER
 - d. CLASSIC EQUITATION OVER FENCES 46" & UNDER (English only)
 - e. CLASSIC EQUITATION OBSTACLE 46" & UNDER

SP142 Liberty

- 1. Liberty is demonstrating the natural beauty of the Classic Shetland Pony. Ponies are to be judged on style, grace, animation, gaits, presence, and ease of catching. The liberty pony is expected to perform at both a canter and a trot.
- 2. Timing will begin when the halter is dropped and the show announcer will announce TIME when the 1 ½ minutes performance time has ended to signal the exhibitor that they can begin the catch. If the catch is not completed in the 2 minute allotted time frame, the exhibitor is disqualified.
- 3. Only the exhibitor and one assistant will be allowed in the arena with the pony. Whips and shaker bottles are allowed but touching the horse with aids or hands will result in disqualification.
- 4. Only the exhibitor can touch the pony during the catch. The pony must be caught and haltered by the exhibitor within 2 minutes or be disqualified. The assistant may not touch the pony at any time. There will be "No Baiting" (no use of hay, grain, clickers, etc.) of Liberty horses during the catch or pony will be disqualified.
- 5. Music is required.
- 6. No deliberate interference with the pony from outside the ring. Announcement is to be made prior to the class to specify that no outside assistance is allowed.
- 7. All ponies entered in the Liberty class must be at least one year old.
- 8. Exhibitor and attendant should wear appropriate, tasteful attire. A safe costume or theme outfit is allowed for exhibitor and attendant only. Glitter, ribbons or costumes are not allowed on the pony.
- 9. Entry will be disqualified if the pony should fall during its performance.
- 10. Entry will be disqualified if pony leaves the ring during competition or catch time.

SP143 Costume

- 1. Pony may be shown mounted, led or driven and may be of any age.
- 2. Judged on originality, cleverness, attractiveness and manner presented.
- 3. Protective headgear (See GR801) must be worn by youth riders if mounted.

SP144 Roman Chariot Event

- 1. This class is intended as a display of horsemanship with a team of ponies hitched to a Roman style chariot. Emphasis on the authenticity of the chariot, harness and driver apparel. Theme era vehicles used for fighting, racing, parades and transportation for royalty are acceptable.
- 2. At the discretion of show management and allotment of time, entries may be permitted to parade their ponies and rigs in the arena before beginning of the class.
- 3. Drivers must be 16 years old or older.
- 4. Driver may talk to pony as long as it does not interfere with other ponies.

- 5. Manners and safety are of utmost importance in this class. Judge may disqualify any entry that is deemed unsafe or unruly.
- 6. Ponies in the team should show at the same gait.
- 7. Ponies may be light shod.
- 8. Whips of appropriate size are permissible. No bullwhips, etc.
- 9. Open bridles are permissible. Side or overchecks are permitted.
- 10. Headers are encouraged.
- 11. No weapons are allowed on the chariots, drivers or horses.
- 12. Only four chariots may be in the ring at one time and must stay well spaced and on the rail.
- 13. Class Specifications:
 - a. ROMAN CHARIOT 46" & Under. Class may be divided to 42" & UNDER and 42" to 46" if at least four entries of each division are entered. Ponies are to enter the ring counter clockwise at a collected trot. To be shown both ways of the arena at a collected trot, slow canter, hand gallop and walk. Ponies to reverse at a walk on the diagonal. Must stand quietly and are not required to back. To be judged 50% on manners and performance and 50% on fit and appropriateness of vehicle and harness, overall appearance.
 - b. SINGLE ROMAN CHARIOT RACE. Chariot to be pulled by a single horse with class specifications to be the same as the Roman Chariot hitch team specifications. Drivers to be 13 years old and older.

SP145 Showmanship

- 1. Class Specifications: OPEN SHOWMANSHIP, YOUTH, AMATEUR. Exhibitor is to show pony to the presiding call judge to a set pattern and handler is judged on the below point scale. Please visit the Shetland webpage on usef.org for possible patterns.
- 2. Point Scale:
 - a. Appearance of exhibitor: 10 points clothes and person neat and clean. Suitable clothes: hats, boots, long sleeve shirts and gloves are required.
 - b. Appearance of pony: 40 points conformation not to be a factor.
 - 1. 15 points conditioning
 - 2. 15 points grooming of pony
 - 3. 5 points trimming
 - 4. 5 points tack
 - c. Showing of pony in ring: 50 points Judge will discuss the selected pattern with contestants prior to class. The selected pattern must be posted two hours before the start of the class.
 - d. Leading: 15 points Enter ring leading animal at an alert walk in a counter-clockwise direction. Walk on animal's left side, holding lead shank in right hand near halter. The remaining portion of the lead is held neatly and safely in left hand. Animal should lead readily at a walk. After judge has lined up the class in front of spectators, they will call on each exhibitor individually to move their pony individually. When moving pony, be sure that the judge gets a clear, unobstructed view of the pony's action. Allow the pony sufficient lead to move freely the required distance, stop, and turn to the right around the horse. Exhibitor should perform the showmanship pattern as directed by the judge or ring Steward.
 - e. Posing: 15 points When posing your pony, stand toward the front facing the pony, but always in a position where you can keep your eye on the judge. Pose your pony with its feet squarely under it. Do most of your showing with the lead strap. Never touch or kick the pony's leg into position. Do not crowd the exhibitor next to you when in a side-by-side position. Do not crowd exhibitor in front when lined up head to tail. When judge is observing other animals, let yours stand if posed reasonably well. Be natural. Over showing, undue fussing, and maneuvering are objectionable.
 - f. Poise, alertness and merits: 20 points Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times. Do not be distracted by persons or things outside the ring. Show the animal at all times. Be courteous and sportsmanlike at all times. Recognize and respond quickly to correct faults of your pony. Respond quickly to requests from judges and officials. Keep showing until the entire class has been placed and excused from the ring. A judge may ask an exhibitor questions (Example: exhibitor number, pony's age, body parts of pony, etc.) At their discretion a Judge may ask an exhibitor for an additional test after completion of one of the three set patterns.