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CHAPTER CO CONNEMARA DIVISION

SUBCHAPTER CO-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

CO101 Registration

Entries in the Connemara division must be registered with the American Connemara Pony Society, the Connemara Pony Breeders Society of Galway, Ireland or any other Connemara Society recognized by the International Committee of Connemara Pony Societies. Connemaras and halfbred Connemaras under two years of age must have a Temporary Foal Certificate. All Connemaras must be shown under their full registered names. Copies of registration papers must accompany all entries.

CO102 Type and Conformation

1. Connemaras are a product of their original environment: the rugged mountain coast of West Ireland. Surefooted, hardy and agile they possess qualities of great stamina, staying power and adaptability. They are renowned for their versatility and for their gentle, tractable, sensible and willing disposition.
2. Connemaras in North America range in size from 13 to over 15 hands.
3. The judge must recognize the influence of the Connemara's heritage giving balanced consideration to the effects of larger size on overall conformation. The following are standards for judging the Connemara horse or pony:
 - a. Temperament: Mannerly and manageable, kind, responsive, possessing good sense and basic intelligence.
 - b. Type: Rugged and sturdy, body compact, deep through the heart, with well-sprung rib cage and broad chest.
 - c. Movement: Straight and true both front and rear with free movement in the shoulders; Connemaras should move underneath themselves and should be sure-footed, athletic and clever, covering a lot of ground.
 - d. Head: Kind eye, head well shaped and balanced in proportion to the rest of the body; neck of good length and definition meeting the shoulder smoothly.
 - e. Shoulders: Long, with good slope, withers well laid back.
 - f. Back: Strong and muscular; some length of back is normal in Connemaras especially in mares.
 - g. Hindquarters: Well-rounded and deep with good length from the point of the hip through the haunch; should balance the shoulders.
 - h. Bone: Clean, hard, flat, measuring 7-8 inches below the knee for ponies, more for horses; forearms and gaskins long and muscular, cannons short and very dense.
 - i. Joints: Large and well defined.
 - j. Feet: Hard, strong.

CO103 Showing

1. Entries must be serviceably sound. Emphasis is placed on manners and an appropriate way of going.
2. Entries may be shown as native ponies or as appropriate to their performance section. Braiding and shoeing are optional. No Connemara may be shown with excessively long toes. Connemaras are not to stand in a stretched position.
3. If a class states it is for purebred Connemaras only, no entry registered in the halfbred division of the Registry or Stud Book may enter such class. In hand classes must be held separately for purebred and halfbred Connemaras and classes may not be combined. Performance classes must be divided into purebred and halfbred Connemara if there are four or more purebred entries and four or more halfbred entries. Performance classes for purebred and halfbred must be combined if there are three or less entries in either section.

4. Adults may show ponies in a Connemara class unless the class specifications state otherwise. (See also GR825.1).
5. Stallions may be shown in all performance classes. Stallions may be shown in Ladies and Children classes unless the prize list stipulates otherwise.

SUBCHAPTER CO-2 BREEDING AND IN-HAND CLASSES

CO104 Judging

Entries are to be judged on the breed standard as described in CO102. Emphasis is placed on breed type, conformation, substance, quality, temperament, and way of going. Transmissible weakness and/or unsoundness are to be counted strongly against breeding stock.

CO105 Showing

Entries to be shown in-hand at walk and trot on the line. Only one attendant per animal is allowed in the ring. May be shown in a halter or bridle. Whips not to exceed 48" may be carried.

CO106 Suggested In-Hand Classes

1. Points from the classes listed below will count for Connemara HOTY Awards. Organizers may choose to hold some or all of these classes. Classes for mares may not be combined with classes for stallions and geldings. Halfbred Connemaras may not be shown as stallions.
 - a. Purebred Connemara Mares: Three-years-old and older. If entries warrant, the class may be divided by age and/or divided into mares which have produced foals and those which have not.
 - b. Purebred Connemara Stallions or Geldings: Three-years-old and older. If entries warrant, the class may be divided by stallions and geldings and/or divided by age.
 - c. Halfbred Connemara Mares: Three-years-old and older. If entries warrant, the class may be divided by age and/or divided into mares which have produced foals and those which have not.
 - d. Halfbred Connemara Geldings: Three-years-old and older. If entries warrant, the class may be divided by age.
2. Additional in-hand classes may be offered, but will not count toward Connemara HOTY Awards. Possible suggested classes are listed below. Competitions are not limited to these classes. Classes may be divided as to purebred and halfbred and include:
 - a. Colts: Weanling, Yearling, Two-year-old.
 - b. Geldings: Weanling, Yearling, Two-year-old.
 - c. Fillies: Weanling, Yearling, Two-year-old.
 - d. Sire-and-Get: Stallions to be shown with from two to four of Get.
 - e. Get-of-Sire: Two to four of Get to be shown.
 - f. Broodmare and Foal.
 - g. Dam and Produce: Mares to be shown with two or more of produce.
 - h. Produce-of-Dam: Two to four of produce to be shown.

CO107 Championships

Championship and Reserve Championship will be awarded to horses that have placed first or second in their qualifying classes. The Championship will be awarded to one of the horses which has placed first in a qualifying class. After the Championship has been awarded, the horse which has placed second in the qualifying class to the horse awarded the Championship shall compete with the remaining first place winners for the reserve Championship. Should any first or second place winners in a qualifying class not compete for the Championship or be disqualified for being unsound, being unruly or not performing the class routine in the Championship class

the horse receiving the next highest ribbon in the qualifying class shall have the option of moving up for the Championship and Reserve Championship only. See GR810.

SUBCHAPTER CO-3 PERFORMANCE CLASSES

CO108 Hunter Section

1. The rules of the Open Hunter Division shall apply to all Connemara and Halfbred Connemara hunter classes except:
 - a. Breed type shall be considered in Conformation classes for Purebreds.
 - b. Stallions may be shown in all performance classes. Stallions may be shown in Ladies and Children classes unless the prize list stipulates otherwise.
 - c. Adults may show ponies in a Connemara class unless the class specifications state otherwise. (See also GR825.1.)
 - d. Braiding is optional.
 - e. Hunter Hack and Bridle Path Hack will be held as rated classes.
 - f. Connemara Green Working Hunter classes are open to any horse in its first or second year of showing which has not shown over fences 2'3" or higher.
 - g. For the purpose of Connemara Hunter Horse of the Year awards, points from the classes listed below will count. Organizers may choose to hold some, or all of these classes. Green horses may not cross enter into Regular Hunter classes. Both Green and Regular Hunters may enter Bridle Path Hack and/or Hunter Hack classes.
 1. Connemara Green Working Hunter Under Saddle - 1 class
 2. Connemara Green Working Hunter Over Fences - 2 classes
 3. Connemara Green Conformation Hunter Over Fences - 1 class
 4. Connemara Regular Working Hunter Under Saddle - 1 class
 5. Connemara Regular Working Hunter Over Fences - 2 classes
 6. Connemara Regular Conformation Hunter Over Fences - 1 class
 7. Connemara Bridle Path Hack - 1 class
 8. Connemara Hunter Hack - 1 class
 - h. Additional Connemara Hunter classes, such as Adult Amateur, Amateur Owner, Ladies Side Saddle, Pony Hunter, Children's Hunter, Junior Hunter, and Hunter Classic classes may be held, but will not count toward Connemara HOTY awards.
2. Course Heights and Distances.
 - a. 13.2 hands and under to jump a minimum of 2'. Heights may be lowered a maximum of six inches for green classes. Over 13.2 hands to jump a minimum of 2'6". Heights may be lowered a maximum of six inches for green classes.
 - b. It is recommended that in and outs be set at two strides. If a one stride in and out is used, the suggested distance for 13.2 hands and under is not to exceed 22'; for over 13.2 hands but not to exceed 14.2 hands, the distance for a one stride in and out is not to exceed 24'. The suggested distance for a one stride in and out for over 14.2 hands is 24'.

CO109 Jumper Section

1. The rules of the Jumper Division shall apply to all Connemara and Halfbred Connemara jumper classes except:
 - a. Adults may show ponies in a Connemara class unless the class specifications state otherwise. (See also GR825.1)
 - b. Stallions may be shown in all performance classes. Stallions may be shown in Ladies and Children classes unless the prize list stipulates otherwise.
2. It is recommended to avoid over emphasis of speed jump-offs, that TABLE IV (JP149.1) be followed in the Connemara jumper classes.

CO110 Connemara Trail Section

1. English or Western equipment- May be split between purebred and halfbred, junior and adult to ride, or at competition management's discretion. To be shown over and through obstacles. To be judged on performance 100%.
2. Stallions may be shown in all performance classes. Stallions may be shown in Ladies and Children classes unless the prize list stipulates otherwise.

CO111 Driving Section

The rules of the Carriage Pleasure Driving Division shall apply to all Connemara and Halfbred Connemara driving classes except that stallions may be shown in all classes unless the prize list stipulates otherwise.

CO112 Dressage Section

1. The rules of the Dressage Division shall apply to all Connemara and Halfbred Connemara Dressage classes.
2. Adults may show ponies in a Connemara class unless the class specifications state otherwise. (See also GR825.1)
3. Stallions may be shown in all performance classes. Stallions may be shown in Ladies and Children classes unless the prize list stipulates otherwise.
4. When the Dressage chapter is referenced herein, any rule or portion of a rule that is in direct reference to USEF/USDF or USEF National Championships shall be disregarded for the purpose of breed Dressage classes.
5. Horses competing in Open Dressage classes may not compete in any other divisions or classes on the same day(s) and are subject to all DR Chapter rules from the time of their arrival until the end of the competition day. *BOD 6/20/22 Effective 12/1/22*

CO113 Special Classes

A Licensed Competition is not limited to classes listed in the Rulebook. If a special class is offered which is not included in the Rulebook, the prize list must furnish detailed specifications.(See GR902.2)

1. Costume Class
2. Family Class
3. Gymkhana Classes
4. Leadline Class
5. In-hand Trail Class
6. Driven Dressage
7. Combined Driving
8. Pleasure - English or Western