

OFFICIAL RULE BOOK SHOW RULES

Breed Standards for the Purebred Gypsy cob	
HEIGHT:	13hh-15.2hh Heights outside this range, above or below, are acceptable.
COLOUR & MARKINGS:	All colours, markings and patterns are acceptable.
HEAD:	The Gypsy Cob should have a noble, expressive sweet head by Gypsy definition, without coarseness and in proportion to overall size of pony. Forehead is broad. The ideal head presents a fairly straight profile. Roman nosed is allowed but not desirable. Dished is frowned upon. Bite should be even but allowances to be made in youngstock.
EYES:	Prominent, bright, mild and intelligent. All eye colour acceptable.
NOSTRILS:	Large and expanding with a good width between each nostril.
EARS:	Neatly set, well formed short to medium in size and shapely.
THROAT & JAW:	Throat latch slightly deeper than lighter breeds. Should be refined enough to allow proper flexion of the poll.
NECK:	Of proportionate length, giving good length of rein, strong and not too heavy. Should be in proportion to overall size of pony. Stallions should display a well arched crest.
SHOULDERS:	The shoulders should be deep, well laid back and sloping, powerful with good length, muscles well developed. Not too fine at the withers, nor loaded at the points.
CARCASS:	Good strong back with a strong topline, muscular loins, deep carcass, thick through heart, broad across the chest, round well sprung ribs from shoulders to flank, short and well coupled, hind quarters square and strong with tail well set on. Ribs should not be visible. Barrel should tie in strongly to the loin, appearing compact and powerful.
FEET, LEGS AND JOINTS:	Feet of good size, should be hard and strong, round and well formed, open at the heels. Pastern angle should be well matched with shoulder angle and not too long. Forelegs should be straight, well placed not tied at elbows, flat well formed knees. Short cannon bone carrying flinty flat bone below the knee (eight inches at least – 20.3cms), great muscularity of arm.
HIND LEGS:	Good thighs and second thighs, very muscular, hocks well let down, large and well developed and clean cut, plenty of bone below joint, hocks should not be sickle nor cow-hocked.
HINDQUARTERS:	Hindquarters are muscular, powerful, and well-rounded giving the appearance of an 'apple shape'. Good length from the point of the hip through the haunch; should balance the shoulders.
MANE, TAIL, FEATHER:	Mane, forelock, and tail should be ample to profusely abundant. Double manes are common, but not required. Feather on the legs should be from the knees and hock joints down and covering the entire hoof. Hair and feather may vary from straight and silky to coarser and sometimes wavy. Tail well set on, carried naturally while at rest and in action.
ACTION:	Walk, smart and true, active and powerful showing great pace and endurance. Trot well balanced all round. Showing great strength and impulsion from the hocks and hindquarters, not going too wide nor near behind. Some have higher knee action than others.
GENERAL CHARACTER:	The Gypsy should be constitutionally as hard as iron showing great bone and have a calm but alert demeanour appearance but above all else should be strong and kind. They are mannerly and manageable, eager to please, confident, courageous, alert, and loyal with a genuine sociable outlook. The Gypsy is renowned for its gentle, tractable nature and sensible disposition, it is a very intelligent partner that works willingly and harmoniously with its handler.

Breed Standards for Partbred Gypsy Cob

HEIGHT:	Any Height is acceptable.
COLOUR & MARKINGS:	All colours, markings and patterns are acceptable.
HEAD:	Neat, and is in proportion to overall size of horse or pony. The ideal head presents a fairly straight profile. Bite should be even but allowances to be made in youngstock.
EYES:	Prominent, bright, mild and intelligent. All eye colour acceptable.
NOSTRILS:	Large and expanding with a good width between each nostril.
EARS:	Neatly set and well formed.
THROAT & JAW:	Throat latch should be refined enough to allow proper flexion of the poll.
NECK:	Of proportionate length, giving good length of rein, strong and not too heavy. Should be in proportion to overall size of horse or pony.
SHOULDERS:	The shoulders well laid back and sloping, with good length, muscles well developed.
CARCASS:	. Ribs should not be visible. Barrel should tie in strongly to the loin, appearing compact and powerful.
FEET, LEGS AND JOINTS:	Pastern angle should be well matched with shoulder angle and not too long. Forelegs should be straight, well placed not tied at elbows with flat well formed knees.
HIND LEGS:	Good thighs muscular, hocks well let down, well developed and clean cut, good bone below joint, hocks should not be sickle nor cow-hocked.
HINDQUARTERS:	Hindquarters should be well-rounded giving the appearance of an 'apple shape'. Good length from the point of the hip through the haunch; should balance the shoulders.
MANE, TAIL, FEATHER:	Mane, forelock, and tail should be ample when showing in breed classes. Double manes are common, but not required. Some feathering on the legs should be visible unless clipped. Tail well set on, carried naturally while at rest and in action. In showing classes it is permissible for part bred to be hogged, clipped and/or plaited.
ACTION:	Walk, true and straight showing good pace and endurance. Trot well balanced all round. Showing good strength and impulsion from the hocks and hindquarters, not going too wide nor near behind. Some have higher knee action than others.
GENERAL CHARACTER:	The part bred Gypsy should be alert appearance with good bone. The part bred Gypsy, above all else should be kind, mannerly and manageable, eager to please, confident, courageous, alert, and loyal with a genuine sociable outlook. Should show some characteristics of the Gypsy Cob.

A- PRESENTATION FOR SHOWING

1. The permissible methods of presentation for showing the registered Gypsy Cob are in a natural condition as long as the Cob is neat, healthy and well presented. Mane and tail to be natural and free flowing in Halter events.
2. Manes and tails may be plaited in jumping, obstacle, and driving events and in the case of partbreds may be hogged or plaited in breed classes and feather may be clipped.
3. It is permissible to remove the mane hair from behind the poll but this must be no more than an ears length. The bottom edge of the tail may be trimmed clear of the ground.
4. Alteration of the natural colour of the coat is not permitted., however the use of dye to return a sun bleached mane and/or tail to its natural colour, is allowed.

B-ELIGIBILITY FOR SHOWING

1. Shows will be open to any horse registered with NZGCA, whose exhibitor is able to prove valid current registration.
2. To enter a show the exhibitor must use the complete name and number of the animal as it is shown on the horse's registration certificate. Substitutions or changes are acceptable where the Show Management deems this appropriate.
3. Horses may be shown if the exhibitor furnishes proof that the registration application and DNA has been received at the office of the Registrar with all requirements met prior to the show. Show Management shall accept as proof a "show approval letter" from the registrar. The Registrar can also give verbal verification to the Show Manager, that the horse can be shown.
4. Where a horse is leased, notice of lease must have been received at the office of the Registrar with all requirements having been met at the time of entry to the show.
5. The NZGCA may hold a North Island and South Island Championship show. These shows are open to registered horses both pure and part bred and only current financial members.
6. The show age of all horses is determined from the 1st of August preceding its birthday. On the 1st of August following its birth the horse is deemed to be a yearling with the following exception:
7. If the horse is less than 31 days old on August 1st AND provided that the NZGCA Registrar is satisfied that the foal was born to a mare whose first breeding date was on or after 1st September, the horse will be deemed to have been born on August 1st for registration and all other purposes and will record a birth date of 1st August.

C-HANDLERS

Note: The age of handlers for all purposes including stallion-handling shall be taken as at 1 August of the current show season.

1. Handlers 8yrs and under may have an adult supervisor in the arena without penalty. The adult supervisor must have an additional (separate) lead rein attached to the halter at all times.
2. Special Considerations for Stallions:
 - No Youth may show at halter, ride or drive, or be left in charge of a stallion on the show grounds.
 - NO Youth 12 years and under may show or handle on the show grounds a stallion other than a current season colt foal.
 - NO Youth 13 years and over but less than 16 years may show a stallion other than a weanling or yearling colt.

Note: All ages for youth is at the 1st August of the current show season.

D-JUDGES

1. Where possible, all Gypsy Cob events will be judged by a recognised or accredited Cob judge.
2. Prospective judges may be nominated by any member, whereby the judge will be invited to actively learn about the Gypsy Cob as a distinct and identifiable breed. Any judges hired to judge a show or class are required to acquaint themselves with the breed standards and official show rules, and are expected to comply with those rules.
3. It is considered inappropriate for a judge to attend a show, exhibitor's party, or any other activity connected with a show on the day previous to the show at which he/she is officiating, where that party or activity may cause the said judge to have contact with a breeder, owner, or exhibitor of a horse entered in the following days show.

4. It is considered inappropriate for a judge to visit any stall area, or speak with owners, trainers, exhibitors or owners, representatives, or inspect or discuss any horses entered in the show before judging has been completed.
5. Some explanation as to the placement of the horse may be sought of the judge through the steward by making an appointment for AFTER the conclusion of the show.
6. No horse may be shown before a judge that has been sold by the said judge or by his/her employer, within a period of one year prior to the show. No horse may be shown before a judge that has been trained by the said judge within 90 days prior to the show. No horse owned by the family members of the judge may be shown, and family members of the judge are ineligible to be exhibitors at that show. For the purpose of this rule "training" shall be deemed to include any form of continuous, repeated or regular activity designed to bring the animal to a desired condition.
7. Judges are to be named on Show Schedules and Catalogues of Entries where possible.
8. Judges are not permitted to touch any horse at any time other than when fixing the ribbon.

E-STEWARDS AND OFFICIALS

1. Any reputable person may act in the capacity of ring steward. The ring steward(s) must help the judge, not advise him/her. The steward must carefully refrain from discussing, or seeming to discuss, any horses or exhibitors with the judge.
2. Safety Officer – Each show should have Safety Officers appointed and listed on the Schedule / Catalogue.
3. Catalogues and Entry Forms. The Entry Forms must include a declaration for the owner, trainer, handler and/or exhibitor to sign agreeing to these rules
4. The owner, trainer, handler and exhibitor are responsible for a horses condition and must be familiar with the regulations concerning prohibited substances including the Prohibited Substance List as per RAS rules.

F-MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1. Any horse showing evidence of the use of ginger or other irritants to produce higher tail carriage shall be disqualified.
2. Switches, artificial tails or manes, and high spoon cruppers are prohibited.
3. No horse having surgery for purely cosmetic purposes will be permitted to show. Similarly, no horse having had surgery to correct faults will be permitted to show.

G-RING PROCEDURE

1. Dress - It is a tradition of the show ring that all handlers be correctly attired for the class. Management may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably attired to appear before an audience. Hacking, english or western style turnout is allowed, as are quality dress-blue jeans when worn in combinations with the following: plain short or long-sleeved blouse (with collar) or a plain short or long sleeved shirt. Alternative dress would allow for smart trousers, or skirts that finish below the knee. Ties, hats and jackets are to be worn at the discretion of the exhibitor. Suitable footwear is a necessity for all classes - only boots or closed in flat shoes are allowed
2. At all times the exhibitor must be aware that both horse and handler are on display, and hence present themselves in a neat, appropriate manner in order to promote the breed and Association in an appealing and proper way.
3. All exhibits including foals, should be led and shown throughout an entire class by the same person. Should additional handlers be required due to physical limitations or emergencies, the ring steward must be notified. At no time will handlers let any horse stand unattended except when the

class calls for it.

4. Exhibitors will be issued a number for each horse to be displayed on the back, the arm of the handler, or on the horse if required. The number will stand for the entire show.
5. Conduct designed to distract any horse, or otherwise interfere with the showing of another exhibitor's horse, will not be tolerated. Exhibitors must take care to ensure that actions intended to make their horses show can not be deemed to be distracting to other exhibitors/exhibits. Offenders will be asked to leave the show area. If the offender is an exhibitor, he/she may be excused from the ring and barred from the show area for the duration of the show. His/her horses however, may still compete.
6. An unruly horse may be excused from the ring by the judge or ring steward for safety reasons.
7. Cruelty, abuse, or inhumane treatment of any horse in the show ring, stable area or elsewhere on the show grounds, whether the horse is entered or not, will not be tolerated by show management, and the offender and their exhibits may be barred from the show area for the duration of the show.
8. Conduct by an exhibitor, trainer, owner, or immediate family member, of an unsportsmanlike, abusive, or detrimental nature will not be tolerated by the Show Management; including, but not limited to, threatening, abusive, or intimidating conduct (physical, verbal, or written) toward any show official or fellow exhibitor. Any person(s) guilty of such conduct should be reported immediately to Show Management. The Show Management must suspend the offender for the duration of that show. The Show Management must notify the Council of the Association in writing within seven (7) days of the offence. Any person accused of such unseemly behaviour may appeal his/her case to the Council of the Association, which shall render a decision. If found guilty such a person may be banned from further participation in NZGCA activities for such time as NZGCA Committee may decide. The decision will be published in the official publication of the Association.
9. Exhibitors and/or owners and/or trainers may not protest to the judge directly, or by interference, the placing of any horse. Any person(s) guilty of such conduct will be excused from the ring and forfeit any awards received at that show and the right to show in any additional classes at that show. No entry fees will be refunded.
10. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to present the horse to the gate in time for judging. If the gate is required to be held for any foreseeable reason (e.g. changing equipment), the Gate Steward must be notified at least two classes in advance that a Halter Break is required. The length of time given for the "Halter Break" will be limited at the discretion of the Gate Steward. If a horse is to be scratched from a class the Gate Steward must be notified prior to the start of the class.
11. Show Management may reserve the right to combine or cancel classes, as required, where lack of entries warrants it. Show Management may reserve the right to subdivide classes where large entries warrant it.
12. At all times the competition arena and collecting area shall be kept clear of ALL miscellaneous equipment not required for the judging of the class in progress.
13. Horse's names may be called out when receiving ribbons/prizes.

H-BREED HALTER SPECIFIC RULES

1. Classes may not enter arena until all awards from previous class have been presented.
2. The horse may be presented with the head and neck slightly raised, but not to be shown stretched.
3. All four feet must be flat on the ground, with at least one front leg and one rear cannon bone remaining perpendicular to the ground.

4. Whips and canes may be used in all halter classes. Any halter is permissible as long as it is strong, clean and well fitting.
5. The announcer/gate steward shall announce when the gate is OPEN for each class to enter the arena. It is the responsibility of the EXHIBITOR to be on time for their classes. It is the responsibility of the EXHIBITOR to check their number in with the gate steward. Halter Breaks must be requested in the appropriate manner.

I-CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

1. Must include first and second place winners from the appropriate classes. All first and second place winners must show in their respective Championship classes. The second place winner from the class providing the Champion and other first place horses will then be eligible for Reserve Champion.
2. Championship classes must line up for judging with the first place winner of the appropriate classes in front and the second place winners behind.
3. Judge(s) are to mark score sheets before results are announced for Supreme Halter Champion Classes
4. Supreme Halter Champion shall be judged from ALL age-group Halter Championship winners

J-RIBBONS

1. Ribbon colours will be as follows:
2. 1st Place = RED, 2nd Place = BLUE, 3rd Place = YELLOW, 4th Place = GREEN
3. Additional places (5th-10th) if required, any colours are acceptable.
4. Champion and Reserve Champion ribbon colours are at the discretion of the ribbon maker/show organiser.
5. Supreme and Reserve Supreme Champion ribbon colours are at the discretion of the ribbon maker/show organiser.

K-BASIS OF JUDGING

All horses are to be shown in hand at the walk and trot in breed classes. Horses are judged on the following equally:

- Conformation
 - Type
 - Quality
 - Presence and temperament,
1. Horses must be viewed in motion from the side, and moving directly towards and directly away from the Judge(s).
 2. Judges should not be prejudiced to the horse type of his/her background.
 3. There shall be no equal placings in breed classes.

L-BREED HALTER WORKOUT

1. All horses are required to work out. Workout must be posted on the day and/or included with the list of classes sent to the owners/exhibitors. No workout is required for Best Presented and Head classes.
2. Horses are judged from the time they enter the ring.

3. The next exhibit is not to enter the arena until acknowledged by the Judge(s).
4. The Ring Steward is to line horses head to tail.
5. Once all horses in the class have entered the arena and are lined up, the Judge will walk the line and be shown (on request) the horses teeth (including foals). The Judge(s) may check senior stallions (4 years and over) for the visible presence of two testicles. At no time must the judge touch horses mouths.

M-SPECIALITY HALTER CLASSES

1. Best Presented

Handlers should strive to present their horses and themselves in a neat and tidy manner. Handlers should present themselves in the appropriate attire. All tack should be clean, tidy, in good repair and appropriate to the type horse and the handlers attire. The combination of horse and handler should give an overall pleasing appearance. Coloured brow bands are permissible.

This class does not workout -horses are to enter the arena at a walk for judging of overall appearance, and be lined up in order to be judged.

2. Colour classes

Colour Classes are not bound by any other Colour Breed Definition.

Broken Coloured Classes - Open to all horses with a multi permanent pattern-factor (appaloosa or pinto) in the coat of the neck, body and belly.

Excluded as eligible colour for Multi colour classes are white markings on the lower legs below the knee/hock, including a diminishing spear that is part of a sock and white on the face in front of a line drawn from the base of the ear to the corner of the mouth and under the chin. Heavy ticking and roan is not considered multi-colour.

3. Solid-Colour

Open to horses possessing one colour (including dapples) on the neck, body and belly. The skin may be pink or lightly freckled as in cremello/perlino, champagne or dark. Ordinary white markings with underlying pink skin on the lower legs and front of the face are permitted.

4. Champion Coloured Horse

May be offered, to be judged from the first and second place winners of the appropriate classes in the standard fashion. Basis of Judging -Cobs are to be judged 80% on the NATURAL colour of the horse and 20% on the conformation.

5. Workout

Horses are to be circled both ways or a figure of eight in the arena at a walk in order to judge the 80% colour. horses must be lined up in profile (nose to tail) in order to judge the 20% conformation.

6. Best head

Where Best Head classes are included in the schedule separate classes shall be offered for Male and Female, Judged on the head and the breed standard for pure bred and part bred with allowances for sex of the exhibit. No workout is required. Horses are lined up facing the judge in a line across the arena in order to be judged.

7. Movement

Where Movement classes are included in the schedule separate classes may be offered for male and female, pure and part bred movement. All horses shall be viewed at walk and trot, from the side in motion, and coming towards/going away from the judge. Horses should exhibit naturally free flowing movement with consistent rhythm and straightness of stride. Any sign of lameness disqualifies the horse. Horses may be plaited.

8. Mannered

The Gypsy should have a calm but alert demeanour and should be mannerly and manageable, eager to please, confident, alert, and loyal with a genuine sociable outlook. The Gypsy should work willingly and harmoniously with its handler.

N-PROGENY CLASSES

PROGENY OF DAM

- Two progeny of the dam per entry.
- Either sex of progeny may be shown.
- Limited to one entry per nominated dam. One number is issued to each group. The entry number is to be placed on the lead exhibitor in the group.

Basis of Judging - Judged with emphasis on the reproductive likeness, uniformity, quality of breed characteristics and conformation **excluding** colour. This class does not workout. Each group is lined up in profile (nose to tail) in order to be judged.

O - PROGENY OF SIRE

- Two or more progeny of the sire per entry.
- Either sex of progeny may be shown and can include part or pure bred.
- Limited to one entry per nominated sire. One number is issued to each group. The entry number is to be placed on the lead exhibitor in the group.

Basis of Judging - Judged with emphasis on the reproductive likeness, uniformity, quality of breed characteristics and conformation **excluding** colour. This class does not workout. Each group is lined up in profile (nose to tail) in order to be judged.

P-OWNER/BREEDER CLASSES

Breeders Award of Merit

1. The horse shall be exhibited by its breeder, who shall be the registered breeder as appears on registration certificate.
2. Entry is made by the breeder and is limited to one entry per breeder. Horses need not be nominated at the time of entry and horse need not be owned by the breeder.
3. All ages and genders are eligible for entry.
4. Can be divided into pure and part bred.
5. **Basis of Judging** – As per Breed Halter Classes.
6. **Workout** – Same as Breed Halter Classes

Three by One Owner

A group of three horses with exactly the same ownership/lease details as recorded on their Registration Certificates. May be pure and part bred or a combination of both. All ages and genders are eligible for entry.