



# RAS NZ SHOWING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026



## CONDITIONS, REGULATIONS and CRITERIA

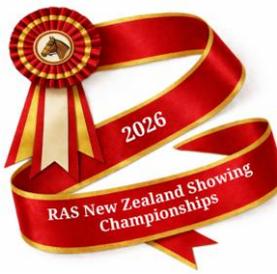
### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Fraternalisation between showing competitors, their connections and showing judges is not permitted during the Show, on or outside the show grounds. Breach of this condition may result in summary elimination/ dismissal.
2. Only Show Officials, Judges and Invited Guests are allowed in the Restricted Area surrounding the Officials' Marquee.
3. The Convenor and Members of the RAS NZ Showing Championship 2026 Committee, or Ringmaster(s) reserve the right to make any amendments.
4. Clean Sport testing for forbidden substances may be carried out at the Show under the conditions of the RAS Clean Sport rules.
5. Any enquiries to be emailed to – [enquiries@ras.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@ras.org.nz)
6. The RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 and The RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Committee reserves the right to amalgamate and/or cancel any class.
7. Whilst every reasonable safety precaution is taken, competitors, exhibitors and visitors to the grounds are hereby notified that the RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Committee, Volunteers, and the Tomoana Showgrounds venue owners, accept no responsibility for injuries or damage sustained at any time on or about the Showgrounds from any cause.

### CONDITIONS

1. The Regulations and Conditions of entry are:
  - Entries - must be received via EvoEvents by **8 March 2026**. **Any entries received after this date are subject to late fees.**
  - Horse/Pony's Height Certificate – a copy of both sides must be uploaded to EvoEvents by **8 March 2026**.
  - The Person Responsible (placing of entry) must ensure that the Height Certificate (Horse/Pony ID) is current and correct. This includes the current ownership (filed with RAS Head Office) and the classification, which must correspond with the section entered at the Show. Any anomaly must be corrected before the competition starts on 26<sup>th</sup> March.
  - **Qualification**
    - TIER 1** - must be gained by 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. RAS affiliated Shows/Events running qualified sections are listed on the RAS website – [ras.org.nz](http://ras.org.nz) / equestrian section / Showing Championships 2026 page.
    - TIER 2** - must be gained by 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. Have gained at least 2 placings, or 1 win and 1 place (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> placing only), or 1 Reserve Champion and 1 place (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> placing only), at any RAS affiliated A&P show/event. This includes any classes or "titles" run under classifications e.g. Riding Horse, Saddle Hunter Horse/Pony, but not necessarily a MSS section, or qualifying class, provided the classification and/or heights were stipulated.
  - **PLEASE NOTE:** *Where classes reach maximum capacity for the time frame allowed, Tier 1 entries will be prioritized and Tier 2 will be accepted on a FIFS basis. At close of entries, you will be notified if your entries have been declined.*
  - Any failure, omission, or incorrect information given by the person responsible for an incomplete entry, or incorrect information on a current height certificate will not be the responsibility of the RAS Showing organising committee, nor will it constitute an emergency on their part.
  - It is the responsibility of the Rider / Handler / Person Responsible to know the conditions of entry, qualification information, and rules of the class or event in which they are competing.
2. Entries will be received on a first come, first served basis. However, if class numbers exceed 24, then entries in that class according to the qualifications gained.

The period for any qualification gained for 2026 is from 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025 (previously for HOY) and concludes on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. Any qualification achieved after this date and before the end of the 2025.2026 Show season will transfer to 2027.
3. This show is run under the Rules of the Royal A&P Society New Zealand (RAS) and Equestrian Rulebook – [www.ras.org.nz /equestrian section/rulebook page](http://www.ras.org.nz/equestrian section/rulebook page).



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4. The RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Committee reserves the right to amalgamate and/or cancel any class.
5. By ticking the acceptance box on EVOEVENTS entry system, every entry and all information submitted, will be accepted as a true and correct record of any qualifications gained at RAS NZ affiliated Shows/Events or equivalent RAS International Shows, of the horse/pony and rider/handler as from 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025. It also implies the Competitor's and Person's Responsible acceptance of the Royal A&P Society NZ Rules and Regulations, and Conditions of Entry.
6. **Please read CLASS QUALIFICATION FOR ALL DETAILS**

## ENTRIES

1. All entries must be completed online through EVOEVENTS – [www.evoevents.co.nz](http://www.evoevents.co.nz)
2. All entries must be in the name of the owner and include a named rider/handler.
3. Entries close **8 March 2026**.
4. A horse/pony may **only** qualify and compete in the section(s) in which it has been nominated. This is the **classification** (section nominated) stated on the RAS Height Certificate - see Rule CDE 1.
5. Entries will be accepted from all competitors that
  - Have met the qualification criteria.
  - Have accepted the terms and conditions, are 18 years of age or over, and have declared that their entry is a true and correct record of the information provided.
  - Have entered and uploaded both sides of their current height certificate (Horse/Pony ID) via EvoEvents **by 8th March 2026**.

**Entry Fees:**

- Classes 306, 307, 308, 313, 319, 320, 323, and 326 - no entry fee required.
- Non-Title classes: \$20 per horse/pony entry.
- Title classes: \$30 per horse/pony entry.
- Show Levies: Admin, and General Expenses - \$30 per horse/pony;  
Ground Fee - \$15.00 per horse/pony per day;  
Non-Powered Camping Site - \$0 / Powered Camping Site - \$28 per night.
- Yards: Open Yard \$15 per night; Covered Yard/Stable \$30 per night; Premium Stable \$50 per night.

Ribbons to 4<sup>th</sup> place. Prize Money to be confirmed closer to the show.

6. **REFUND of ENTRY FEES (Horse or Pony).** The organizing Committee reserves the right to authorise the refund of entry fees only at a rate of 70% upon submission of:
  - a) a receipted entry form/confirmation, no later than seven (7) days following Show; and
  - b) a veterinary or doctor's certificate; and
  - c) a written explanation as to the reason for the request, within seven days following the Show.No refunds will be considered after this period and the organising Committee decision shall be final.

## CRITERIA

1. Age of all riders/handlers is as of 1st August 2025. See Rule CDE 12 - Rider/Handler/Leader's age and eligibility is determined as per the 1<sup>st</sup> August i.e. Riders/handlers who are of age for any division/section on the 1st August complete the show year/season in that division/section.
2. Horses/Ponies 3 years and under must not be ridden – age is as at 1 August 2025.
3. All competitors must be a New Zealand citizen or a New Zealand resident. However, RAS NZ have the right to allow entry of international riders/combinations at their discretion.
4.
  - a. One horse/pony per rider/handler/leader in all Lead Rein, First Ridden, all lead up classes and Rider classes.
  - b. In all other Champion Titles, more than one horse/pony per rider/handler can be entered under the following conditions...
    - i. If a competitor chooses to enter multiple exhibits in a title, they must organise a substitute rider for the ridden work on the circle and when stripped for led judging phase of the Thoroughbred Show Horse classes..
    - ii. Riders are permitted to swap out for the workout component (to allow the main rider to perform the workout)



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- iii. All horses/ponies are required to be mounted and presented at each ridden phase of the judging, and at prize giving/presentations. No exhibit can be led in a ridden component of the class.
  - iv. All riders/leaders must be dressed in appropriate riding attire/dress for ALL components of judging and presentations.
  - c. Multiple entries will only be officially accepted at the close of entry, where classes have 3 or more entries. This allows time for the rider to make the change from one mount to the next, without holding up the class.
  - d. Regardless of catalogue order, a competitor riding more than one mount in the workout may be required to ride one exhibit 1st, to allow time for the rider change.
    - **Please note:** classes will not be held up for riders changing mounts. The change must be done quickly and efficiently (with the assistance from a handler over 18 years of age). If the rider and mount are not ready when called by the ring steward, they may be eliminated from the class.
5. A substitution of a horse/pony will be permitted for a rider class only, and on the condition that the horse/pony being substituted takes no further part in the show. A Veterinarian certificate will not be required. Substitutions must be made at the Show office no later than 4.30 pm on the day before the class begins.
6. Exemptions may be given if a rider has had an illness, accident or injury after that timeframe stated. If a rider/handler is changed without approval, the horse will be eliminated.
7. WINS: All ridden conformation class/title wins including Newcomer, gained at RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 by a horse/pony who has achieved less than 6 wins must be recorded on the RAS height certificate.
8. It is compulsory for all stallions and colts, except foals, to wear two (2) official 'S' identification badges, one always attached to each side of their bridle. The rider/handler must also wear two RAS official (2) armbands (one on each arm) when in the ring. Handlers and Riders of stallions/colts must wear an approved Hi Viz vest when outside the showing ring. Vests, 'S' badges and armbands can be purchased from RAS Head Office.  
E: [enquiries@ras.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@ras.org.nz) / equestrian section / form page – Product Order form.
9. **TRIMMING OF WHISKERS AND INNER EARS:** there is to be no trimming of whiskers, eye or inner ear hair/whiskers of horses/ponies competing. For further information, please click on the following link – <https://www.ras.org.nz/equestrian/whisker-trimming/>
10. **NEWCOMER HORSE/PONY CLASSES:**
- A horse/pony that was a Novice as at 1st August 2025.
  - Excludes a Lead Rein Pony or a First Ridden Pony,
  - Not to have competed more than twice in the Rising Star section at a HOY Show.
  - Not to have won a Rising Star Title at any previous HOY Show. A Newcomer may also compete in open title classes.
  - Note - Novice Pony Exhibits (except Novice Pony Stallions) may be ridden by a rider of any age, in novice pony classes only. Novice pony stallions must be ridden by a rider 14 years and over.
11. **RAS HORSE EQUITATION TURNOUT CHAMPIONSHIP**
- Competitors must be 17 years or over
  - Mount - over 148cm
  - Costume: Formal
12. **AS PONY EQUITATION TURNOUT CHAMPIONSHIP**
- Open to competitors 16 years and under
  - Mount – not exceeding 148cm
  - Riders competing in Lead Rein and First Ridden classes are NOT eligible to enter the Equitation Championship
  - Riders must be in child's attire
  - Costume: Formal



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## 13. RIDERS - Age of Rider is as of 1 August 2025.

- The rider must have competed at TWO (2) NZ RAS affiliated Shows/Events in a qualified Rider section since 24 Feb '25.
- Restricted wins (e.g. Novice Rider etc.) do NOT count. The win must be from an Open Rider (flat) class - age group wins are allowed as are wins in Open Rider classes held within a section (e.g.: Show Pony, Saddle Hunter Pony, Show Hack, Saddle Hunter Horse etc.).
- Senior Rider - 21years and over.
- Senior Rider - 17 years and under 21 years.
- Junior Rider 11 years and under.
- Junior Rider 12, 13 and 14 years.
- Junior Rider, 15 and 16 years.
- Debutante Rider, under 17 years of age, who has not competed at a HOY show in any RAS Showing Pony sections, (not including Lead Rein and First Ridden). Lead Rein and First Ridden riders cannot compete in the Debutante rider class.

## 14. OPEN SHOW PONY, SADDLE HUNTER PONY CLASSES

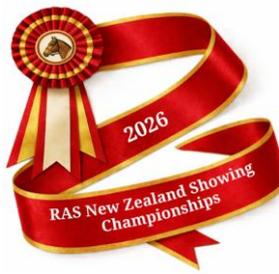
- A Pony may only be entered in the Open Show Pony Section or the Open Saddle Hunter Pony section - not both.
- Qualification can only be gained in the same section at affiliated shows/events that they are entered in - ie. competed in the Open Show Pony section - Show Pony qualification / competed in the Open Saddle Hunter Pony section - Saddle Hunter Pony qualification
- **OPEN PACED AND MANNERED HORSE / PONY CLASSES** • Paced & Mannered sections in Unity or Equitation events do not count as qualifiers.
- Restricted wins (e.g. Novice Paced & Mannered) do NOT count. The wins must be from Open Paced and Mannered, Open Paced, or Open Mannered classes.

## 15. LEAD REIN

- Age of Rider is as of 1 August 2025. Riders under eight (8) years of age, with a minimum age of four (4) years.
- Ponies not exceeding 128cm.
- Lead Rein Riders may not compete in other disciplines/sections at the 2026 Championship show. Lead Rein Riders cannot enter or compete on more than one pony, and must always be accompanied by a leader/attendant 14 years and over throughout the duration of the show.
- The lead must be attached to the cavesson noseband of a simple snaffle bridle – refer to Appendix B in Rulebook.
- The attendant/leader must be 14 years or over and hold the rein with their left hand so that the right hand is free to assist the rider if necessary.
- Spurs are not allowed.
- A cane or a whip not exceeding 76cm in length, which includes a flap 2cm wide by 4cm long, may be carried by riders in the Lead Rein Section.
- Running or bearing reins or similar tackle are not allowed.
- Riders who have competed in the First Ridden, Novice and Open Pony Sections at an affiliated or designated Show/Event are no longer eligible to compete in the Lead Rein section.
- NOTE: RAS Equestrian Rulebook - CDE 2. LEAD REIN
- b) Lead rein classes are designed for children on ponies 128cm and under, who are yet unable to ride without assistance from a leader or attendant and should be judged accordingly.
- ***This rule will be closely adhered to.*** Any entered Lead Rein rider found to have (by way of visual proof, including but not limited to video recordings) proven that their competence exceeds the criteria as set out in this section, will be removed from the Lead Rein Section and offered the opportunity to compete in the correct section eg First Ridden or Open Pony.

## 16. FIRST RIDDEN

- Age of Rider is as of 1 August 2025. Riders under ten (10) years of age with a minimum age of four (4) yrs.
- Riders can only compete in First Ridden for a maximum of twenty-four (24) months from the first date competing in the First Ridden section.
- Ponies to not exceed 138cm.
- The First Ridden section is to provide a transition from the Lead Rein to the Open sections, for riders who can only walk and trot on the circle but not canter in the company of other riders. A canter will be required in the individual workout.
- First Ridden Riders cannot enter or compete on more than one pony.



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- First Ridden Riders may not compete in any other disciplines/showing classes/sections including the Equitation Championship class.
- First Ridden Riders are not eligible to compete in Lead Rein Pony classes.
- All ponies to walk and trot in company and will be asked to canter in an individual workout.
- A Rider who has moved from the First Ridden into the Open Rings cannot compete again in any First Ridden section i.e. Riders that have competed in an Open Pony section at an affiliated or designated Show/Event, may not compete again in First Ridden classes even though that show may not have provided a First Ridden section.
- No spurs to be worn.
- A cane or whip not exceeding 76cm in length, which includes a flap 2cm wide by 4cm long may be carried.
- **This rule will be closely adhered to:** Any entered First Ridden rider found to have (by way of visual proof, including but not limited to video recordings) proven that their competence exceeds the criteria as set out in this section, will be removed from the First Ridden Section and offered the opportunity to compete in the Open Pony ring.

## 17. OPEN SHOW HACK, SADDLE HUNTER, RIDING HORSE

- A Horse may only be entered in the Open - Hack, Saddle Hunter or Riding Horse Section.
- Qualification Gained can only be from the section at affiliated Shows/Events that they are entered in – i.e.
- Competed in the Show Hack/Park Hack section – Hack section qualification;
- Competed in the Saddle Hunter section – Saddle Hunter qualification;
- Competed in the Riding Horse section – Riding Horse qualification.

## 18. NZTR RIDDEN THOROUGHBRED SHOW HORSE (over 148cm) –

- These classes showcase and promote the thoroughbred – its beauty and versatility.
- Horses will be worked on the circle, then show an individual gallop. Judges will then assess each horse individually with saddles removed. Horses to show true Thoroughbred qualities and include a good walk and gallop.
- Registered thoroughbreds, regardless of country of origin, are eligible for this class.
- Placings 1st to 4th will accumulate points towards the overall 2025.2026 series final.
- Judging: 80% conformation • 20% Paces & Manners.



“The thoroughbred breed has been around since the 17th century. Developed in England when native mares were bred to one of three imported stallions, to this day every thoroughbred can trace its ancestry to either the Darley Arabian, the Godolphin Arabian or the Byerly Turk. The first thoroughbred imported into New Zealand was Figaro in 1840 and he went on to sire the first thoroughbred born domestically. Today thoroughbreds compete around the world over various distances displaying speed and stamina and go on to successful second careers in a variety of pursuits. From the show ring to the eventing circuit and everything in between, the thoroughbred shines in its life after racing due to its intelligence, work ethic, athleticism and adaptability.”

## ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

1. **Qualification:** Horses/Ponies entering classes/championships (excluding foals) must have been gained/won at RAS NZ-affiliated Shows/Events that are running a qualifying schedule/section or equivalent RAS International Shows. The list of NZ affiliated shows and their respective qualifying sections can be found at [www.ras.org.nz](http://www.ras.org.nz)—Equestrian section—Showing Championships Page. **This is the official list. Competitors must always refer to this list, as some show catalogues may not be correct.** Qualification indemnifies the Royal A&P Society NZ, under the provisions of the Health & Safety at Work Act 2015 and any amendments.



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## CLASS QUALIFICATIONS

- **RAS NZ HORSE EQUITATION TURNOUT CHAMPIONSHIP** - No wins required.
- **RAS NZ PONY EQUITATION TURNOUT CHAMPIONSHIP** - No wins required.
- **JUNIOR SHOW RIDER - 11 years & under; 12 – 14 years; 15 & 16 years**  
**SENIOR SHOW RIDER 17yrs and UNDER 21yrs; & 21yrs & OVER**  
To have won ONE (1) Champion Open Rider; TWO (2) Reserve Champion Open Riders; TWO (2) First Places in an Open Rider class; *or* any combination of the above, in a qualifying Rider section.
- **DEBUTANTE RIDER** -For riders under 17 years of age, who have never competed at HOY in any RAS Showing Pony sections. Lead Rein and First Ridden riders cannot compete in the Debutante rider. Rider must be qualified & entered in at least one other class in the RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Show.
- **RAS LED PONY CLASSES – see Competition.** No wins required.  
Broodmares, Stallions and Youngstock entered in the Led classes require a minimum of ONE (1) show attendance to qualify.
- **RAS LED HORSE & PONY CLASSES - see Competition.** No wins required.  
Require a minimum of ONE (1) Show attendance to qualify.
- **NZ RIDING PONY SOCIETY CLASSES** No wins required.  
RIDDEN CLASSES for ponies fully registered with the NZ Riding Pony Society; require a minimum of one(1) SHOW attendance to qualify. The registration number must be stated with entry.
- **PONY BREEDERS SOCIETY NZ CLASSES** No wins required  
Eligibility – Must be fully registered with the Pony Breeders Society of New Zealand (Inc) with a permanent registration number to be stated on entry. Ponies from imported parentage are eligible provided they were born in NZ and registered with the Pony Breeders Society of NZ. – require a minimum of ONE (1) show attendance to qualify.
- **NEWCOMER HORSE or PONY CLASSES –**  
To have won ONE (1) Champion; TWO (2) Reserve Champions; TWO (2) First Places; *or* any combination of the above; in qualifying Novice or Open Conformation classes in their respective classification section.-
- **OPEN SHOW PONY, SADDLE HUNTER PONY CLASSES –**  
To have won ONE (1) Champion; TWO (2) Reserve Champions; TWO (2) First Places; *or* any combination of the above; - in qualifying Conformation classes in their respective classification section.
- **PACED AND MANNERED HORSE/PONY CLASSES -**  
To have won TWO (2) First Places in Open Paced and Mannered classes; OR Open Paced classes; OR Open Mannered classes; OR to have won ONE (1) First Place in Open Paced class and ONE (1) First Place in Open Mannered class in a qualified Paced and Mannered, Paced and/or Mannered section
- **LEAD REIN –**  
To have won ONE (1) Champion; TWO (2) Reserve Champions; TWO (2) First Places; *or* any combination of the above; - in qualifying classes in a Lead Rein section.  
**Rider** - To have won TWO (2) First Places in Lead Rein Open Rider classes.
- **FIRST RIDDEN -**  
To have won ONE (1) Champion; TWO (2) Reserve Champions; TWO (2) First Places; *or* any combination of the above; - in qualifying classes in a First Ridden Section.  
**Rider** - To have won TWO (2) First Places in First Ridden applicable Open Rider classes. In a qualified First Ridden section.



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- **OPEN SHOW HACK, SADDLE HUNTER, RIDING HORSE –**

To have won ONE (1) Champion; TWO (2) Reserve Champions; TWO (2) First Places; or any combination of the above; - in qualifying Conformation classes in their respective classification section;-

**Note:** Lady's or Gentlemen's class wins **DO NOT** count as a qualification.

- **NZTR RIDDEN THOROUGHBRED SHOW HORSE CLASSES –**

No wins required.



## COMPETITION INFORMATION -



Keep up to date <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=showing%20championships>

1. The RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Committee will endeavour to run to the start times as listed in the programme but reserve the right to amend times. A competitor must be prepared to enter the ring at the stated time for the class they are competing in. No class will start before the stated time unless advertised well in advance. Classes will not be held up waiting for competitors. Competitors will be given one call to enter the competition ring – failure to present after the first call will result in elimination. No second call will be given.
2. In line with the RAS In-Line Resolution Process Policy - <https://www.ras.org.nz/about/our-rules-regulations-and-policies/> Protests must be lodged in writing and on the Protest Form at the Showing office, within 30 minutes of the completion of the class or incident. A deposit of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) must be paid with each protest. All matters relating to protests will be referred to the RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Judicial Committee.
  - a) In line with the RAS In-Line Resolution Process Policy complaints of a behavioural nature must be lodged in writing preferably when the incident occurs. All matters relating to behavioural complaints will be referred to the RAS Showing Judicial Committee unless the matter involves an RAS Official.
  - b) If it involves an RAS Official, please follow the RAS In-Line Resolution Process Policy.

**Once a Protest / Complaint is lodged, the conditions of confidentiality apply.**
3. The Chairperson of the RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Committee or their duly appointed delegate may follow the RAS In-Line Resolution process Policy, instead of fines or other penalties to the Person Responsible for abuse of animals (see GR 6, RAS Equestrian Rule Book) or inappropriate behaviour as defined in the RAS In-Line Resolution Policy - <https://www.ras.org.nz/about/our-rulesregulations-and-policies/>
4. **Breastplate number holders** are compulsory for all classes and the competitor is responsible for making the number. **Only large black numbers on a white background** are acceptable. No other colour combinations or formats are acceptable. In all classes the number must be correct for that horse/pony or the competitor will be eliminated from the class.
5. If the Judges, a Steward, or Ringmaster(s) determines that a horse/pony and/or rider/handler is misbehaving to the extent that they unduly disturb other competitors/horses/ponies, or create a health and safety issue, they will request that the horse/pony and/or rider/handler leave the ring and retire immediately.
6. If a horse/pony leaves the ring for any reason without being asked to, they are immediately disqualified from that class.
7. **FALL OF RIDER** - If a rider has a fall or suspected head injury, at any time at a RAS affiliated Show/Event in the: competition ring/arena, practice/warmup/collecting ring/arena; or elsewhere within the grounds of where the show/event is being convened, the rider must be removed from the activity and checked by the show/event's nominated First Aid service/personnel and be given the 'all-clear' before the rider is permitted to re-mount and continue riding at the show/event.
8. All horses or ponies must be in the Collecting Ring before classes commence. Rules of the Collecting Ring – Horses/Ponies to move on the same rein, as directed by the Steward – walk and trot only. No cantering or galloping.



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9. No electronic devices are to be worn in the warm-up, collecting ring or competition arena. No verbal instruction to, or discussion with competitors during competition is allowed except from a Showing Official.
10. No tongue-ties, tongue press bits or artificial transparent head restraints are to be used in any ridden or led classes.
11. No bandages or boots are to be worn in the ring.
12. All horses/ponies except for foals and yearlings must be presented in a bitted bridle. The bit must be in its original manufactured condition.
13. No Horse/Pony 3 years of age or under is to be ridden.
14. All Led horses/ponies must have a suitable halter or bridle with a fastened throat lash. Entire males over 6 months of age must be controlled by a bit, and all colts or stallions regardless of age must always display two "S" stallion badges on either side of their halter or bridle.
15. Any Lapels/Badges or similar that identify names, stud, showing team, or previous awards won, are banned from being worn on the rider/handler or horse/pony when in the Collecting Ring, Warm Up Ring, or Showing Ring.
16. Competitors riding a Pony must be in child's attire – no long boots, chaps or gaiters.
17. All riders must wear protective headgear, which includes a retaining harness secured to the shell at more than two points. Such headgear must be worn with the chinstrap properly adjusted and fastened when in the arena or ring, the practice area, collecting rings or anywhere else on the Showgrounds. Hats/helmets must conform with one of the current approved safety standards and must be identified by the current 'YELLOW' tag system implemented by NZPCA, ESNZ and RAS. These standards may be subject to change, but the latest list can be found at <http://www.ras.org.nz> – equestrian. RAS will advise any changes via their website and Facebook.
18. Classes that have set workouts will be noted in the Schedule with an (#).
19. Only competitors in the NZ Thoroughbred Show Horse classes will be asked to present their horse In Hand, stripped of all saddlery, after the work on the ring is completed.
20. Workouts will be available online on or around 1 March 2026 – [www.ras.org.nz](http://www.ras.org.nz): and from the Showing Office at Arena 1. There will be no alteration to the starting order because of not obtaining a workout.
21. Results for all classes will be published. ANY abuse or bad behaviour regarding scores will not be tolerated. Be aware of the RAS Social Media Policy and In-Line Resolution Process Policy – <https://www.ras.org.nz/about/our-rules-regulations-and-policies/>
22. For health and safety reasons, the following ring format rules will apply. Please familiarise yourself with the layout prior to your classes.
  - a. Any disputes or arguments with ring stewards/officials will result in a yellow/red card and/or elimination.
  - b. Absolutely no public foot traffic or spectators will be permitted to enter competition, warm up or collecting rings.
  - c. All rings are for competitors only. The only exceptions will be for riders 16yrs and under who require an attendant, and for the "stripping phase" of the Thoroughbred classes.
  - d. The groom is to be identified by the corresponding number of the competitor they will be assisting. Armband numbers must be worn by the groom. All competitors must provide their own corresponding groom number.
  - e. Grooms must enter via the collecting ring gate. The ring official will check their number before access is permitted.
  - f. Once the Stripping phase is complete, grooms are to immediately exit the ring via the same gate they entered.
  - g. Ring familiarisation is open to all competitors competing that day including led/young stock **from 7am-7.45am each morning subject to ground conditions and start times**. Numbers must be worn, and RAS height cards carried for identification if requested. Times may be limited depending on "traffic". All riders MUST be considerate to other competitors in the ring. It is the chance to get your horse/pony familiar with the surroundings. It is not to be used as a warm- up area. - NO cantering or galloping during ring familiarisation. Riders to be all on the same rein.
  - h. Appropriate riding attire must be worn at all times during ring familiarisation. Any rider abusing or breaking these conditions, will be asked to leave and may be eliminated.  
Competition and/or collecting rings are closed for grazing or working your horse/pony at any time outside of showing hours.



# RAS NZ SHOWING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026



23. Whilst every reasonable safety precaution is taken, competitors, exhibitors and visitors to the grounds are hereby notified that the RAS NZ Showing Championships 2026 Committee, Volunteers, and the Tomoana Showgrounds venue owners, accept no responsibility for injuries or damage sustained at any time on or about the Showgrounds from any cause.

24. **Termination or Cancellation of Show**

The RAS NZ Showing Championships Committee and Hastings District Council reserves the right in its sole discretion to cancel or to postpone the Show (and the operation of these Terms) by notice in writing. The RAS NZ Showing Championships Committee and Hastings District Council shall not be liable to the Exhibitor, Competitor or General Public for any loss, damage, or compensation whatsoever arising out of the cancellation or postponement of the Show.

If the Show is abandoned or postponed due to any reason beyond the control of The RAS NZ Showing Championships Committee and Hastings District Council, they are under no obligation to refund in whole or in part any payments made by the Exhibitors, Competitors and General Public. Any refund will be at the sole discretion of the RAS NZ Showing Championships Committee.