



RAS NZ SHOWING CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 2026

*26-28 MARCH 2026, Tomoana Showgrounds, Hawkes Bay -
(Gate 7 off Elwood Road)*

Equitation Turnout Championship Classes – Non-Formal Guide for Competitors

Competing in Non-Formal Equitation Turnout Classes does require some extra effort as there are many fine points to be considered, but it does not need to incur large extra expense.

While the smallest of details count, the challenge of presenting a polished and correct horse and rider, combined with an accurate, well-executed workout makes this a fun but challenging class that can be enjoyed by all.

Below is a guide to what is acceptable or preferred. Ultimately, it is about accepting the challenge, having fun and enjoying a prestigious class with stunning horses and riders. The attire and saddlery should be appropriate to the classification of the horse or pony.

Costume (riding attire)

– Non-Formal Adult’s Dress Guide

- All clothing should be clean (no dust or loose hair), colour coordinated, well fitting, and of good quality fabrics
- An approved safety helmet with current coloured tag must be worn
- Coats/jackets may be in different colours such as grey and brown and of different fabrics, and brass or silver buttons are allowed.
- Collared shirt, preferably white or cream, with cuffs and plain tie of a colour to blend with the coat; plain tie pin, and cufflinks are preferred but not essential.
- Alternatively, a white or coloured stock may be worn.
- Waistcoat is desirable but again not essential. It should be a discreet check or plain colours, although not too dark and not black.
- Stretch fabric machine-finished breeches will not be penalised.
- String-backed leather gloves to match the breeches, or alternatively plain, preferably leather gloves of a dark colour to blend with the coat.
- Spurs should be stainless steel dummy types with straps matching the colour of the boots.
- Tall black boots, preferably leather.
- Jewellery should not be worn, and make up minimal.
- Loud colours and bling should be avoided.
- Hair is to be worn in a neat bun or hair net.



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– Non-Formal Junior Riders' Dress Guide

- Helmet, coat, shirt, tie, tie pin. Cufflinks are preferred but not essential, waistcoat is optional and for juniors, jacket should not be black.
- Gloves preferably fine leather, either matching the jodhpurs or a dark colour to blend with the coat.
- Beige, cream or maize jodhpurs should be worn, of a good quality fabric - stretch acceptable, and may be machine finished.
- Short jodhpur boots (either brown or black).
- Hair is to be worn in a neat bun or hair net, but for children, plaits with decorative ribbons are also acceptable.
- Spurs (as above) are not essential for riders under fourteen years of age; straps must match the jodhpur boots.

General

- The soles of the boots must be clean, preferably leather, stitched to the uppers.
- The 'buttonhole' flower should be small & neat, on the correct side: right for a female rider, left for a male rider. Flowers should not be white. A White flower is only for a Memorial class.

Saddlery

- Saddlery should be functional & well fitted, clean, supple and of good quality leather, with no broken stitching or keepers
- Bridle and saddle colour should match.
- Browbands should be plain coloured, fabric or leather, flat or raised, with discreet patterning acceptable - no loud bling, large flags/rosettes or bright colours.
- Number holder and leather covered canes should match the saddlery.
- A numnah, if used, should colour blend with or match the saddlery, and be discreet in size and shape.
- Snaffle bits or a double bridle bit & Brad ion are acceptable; polished and properly fitting the horse/pony
- Stirrup irons must be clean & polished, preferably stainless steel, and of the right size for the rider's boot. Rubber treads are acceptable but must be clean.
- All bridle connections to bit(s) should be stud billets; cheek piece buckles should align with the horses eye
- Brow band, noseband and throat latch should be the correct size and well fitted.
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The Horse/Pony

- Should be thoroughly clean, well-conditioned, & well groomed; with minimal makeup
- Whiskers and inner ears must not be trimmed (Rule GR 6 vii – RAS Equestrian Rule Book)
- Fetlock ‘feathering’ removed
- Hooves oiled or blackened; the chestnuts & walls, frogs and soles of feet oiled
- Mane and forelock neatly plaited & stitched, with uneven number of mane plaits
- The tail neatly pulled or plaited, with end ‘banged’ (cut) just below the hocks
- Quarter markers are acceptable but should be even and clean
- Above all else, the horse must be sound

Legend of Marks for Equitation Turnout Championship

- Judge 1 Costume = 20
- Saddlery = 20
- Judge 2 Conformation & Soundness = 40
- Judge 3 Paces & Manners = 40
- Judge 4 Riding Ability = 40
- Overall Unity & Appeal = 20
- Total = 180