

BRITISH BREEDERS' NETWORK

GBMFYS & FUTURITY CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

SHOW PRESENTATION GUIDANCE

HANDLER TURNOUT: A hard hat is recommended and is essential for 3-year-old loose jumping classes. Smart turnout is requested with white or stud colour tops or a showing type jacket with white, beige or cream trousers, unless your horse is grey when black or navy trousers may be preferred to contrast with the horse's legs. Sensible footwear for running i.e. trainers or jodhpur boots are ideal. Long boots may restrict your movement.

BROODMARES & MARES TURNOUT: snaffle bridle and lead rein / reins. Broodmares with foals at foot may wear boots or bandages in foal classes. Recipient mares and equine companions may accompany embryo transfer foals and orphan foals in the arena. For mare classes, where the mare is being judged and not the foal, no boots or bandages are permitted.

FOALS & YOUNGSTOCK TURNOUT: Foals should be shown in a leather foal slip/headcollar. Yearlings and 2-year-old fillies, mares and geldings can be shown in a leather headcollar or an in-hand bridle, with or without bit. Two-year-old entire colts must wear a bitted snaffle bridle. All three-year-olds are shown in a bitted snaffle bridle. Bitted Youngstock must have been properly prepared to accept a bit – not just the night before – to avoid upsetting or confusing the youngster and leading to poor performance on the day. Use a lead-rein clip that is easy and quick to undo but safe.

HORSE PRESENTATION: All horses enter the arena individually for the initial assessment. Once all horses are assessed, all entrants enter the walk-ring together and are led around the arena at walk, before the final judging. The individual assessment procedure follows:

ENTER THE ARENA: A minimum of two people should present the horse. The handler leads the horse at walk on a straight line, from its left shoulder, with the lead rein(s) in the right hand and whip in the left hand if required. The assistant encourages the horse forward from a short distance behind. For foal classes, both mare and foal handlers are needed. Stop in front of the judge at the point of the triangle, where your name and number is checked before your walk and trot presentation.

WALK: Lead your horse at walk from its left shoulder, clockwise around the triangle. Using the triangle as a guide, maintain forward motion and go wide, aiming for a fluid and rhythmical pace. Your assistant may walk slightly behind your horse, with a whip if required, to encourage it forward. Avoid blocking the judge's line of sight. Walk foals to the inside of, or behind the dam.

TROT: Lead your horse at trot from its left shoulder with the rein(s) in your right hand so it can run freely on a contact. Try not to hang on to the reins as this will bend the horse to the outside, shorten its stride and disturb its natural movement. Go wide around the triangle and ensure your horse moves forward freely and energetically to show itself to the best of its ability. Your assistant can encourage the horse forward if needed. If you cannot run to match your horse's ability, ask someone else to trot it for you. Foals can be trotted in hand or run loose to follow their dam who will be led. Practice at home or watch others present horses in hand on YouTube and BEF Futurity videos.

CONFORMATION ASSESSMENT: The handler stands in front of the horse with a rein in each hand if in a snaffle bridle, or the right hand if a single lead rein, held about 20 cm from the bit rings and the ends gathered up neatly. Present the horse with the left fore slightly in front and the left hind

slightly behind, the body weight evenly placed and the head held in a natural position. Foals should stand still next to their dam. If the judge moves to examine the horse from the front, the handler should move to the side so the front legs can be seen. The judge may ask for the horse to step forward or back up to see it standing completely square and to turn the horse around to see the other side. Practice making your horse stand still and also completely square at home.

LOOSE ASSESSMENT: The judge will let you know if and when they would like you to turn your horse loose and what they want to see in horses of each age group. They like to see some trot, canter and gallop in eventers. Your assistants should help keep your horse moving and show turns and direction changes. For foal classes one handler will be asked to hold the foal while the other trots the dam away. The foal is then released to follow its dam so that its movement can be assessed. Bring a bucket with food to assist in catching your horse again.

LOOSE JUMPING: 3-year-old jumpers and eventers will also be asked to loose-jump down a lane of three fences. Horses may wear front boots for this phase only so bring them into the arena but do not put them on until they are asked to jump. For the safety and welfare of the horse, they **MUST** have been introduced and prepared in advance for a loose-jumping lane. **Three-year-old mares with foals at foot may not loose jump.**

THE JUMPING LANE: The lane will start with a cross pole, to a vertical and then an oxer. The distance from the cross pole to the second fence (vertical) will be 6.6m. From the vertical to the third fence (oxer) will be 7.10m for ponies and 7.65m for horses. Placing poles may be inserted into the lane to help steady the horse and if the judge feels this will help the horse's presentation down the lane. The handler will need one or two assistants with lunge whips (if necessary) to help keep the horse moving with good rhythm and forward impulsion down the lane. A flick of the whip can send it on from behind if it loses momentum. Aim for a proper rounded bascule over the fences. Between 3 and 10 passes down the lane may be allowed to give your horse every opportunity to present itself to the best of its ability.

1. Fence heights will start with one pass down the lane with all the poles on the ground.
2. On the second pass, the cross pole will be approx. 60cm in the centre, the vertical will be approx. 60cm and the parallel will be approx. 60cm high and 60cm wide.
3. On the third pass, the cross pole will remain at 60cm, the upright may be raised to 80cm or may stay at 60cm, depending on how the horse progresses, and the oxer will be at approx. 80cm high and 80cm wide.
4. On the fourth pass, the cross pole will be 60cm, the vertical will be approx. 80cm and the oxer will be up to 1m high and 80cm wide. These heights may be reduced for ponies

BRIDLE NUMBERS: You will be given a bridle number on reporting to the show secretary.

STABLING: All stabling must be booked and paid for directly with the show venue.

RISK: All entrants compete at their own risk.

QUESTIONS: Email info@britishbreedersnetwork.org or call the Show Secretary on 07836 235981