

GRADING GUIDELINES

Revised February 2017

COVERING CERTIFICATES

It is a condition that stallions which pass their CHAPS Grading undertake to issue CHAPS (UK) Covering Certificates (for dual registered stallions contact CHAPS Administration) and are owned by current up-to-date CHAPS Members.

Failure to abide by these Rules will result in their Graded status (and subsequently, any further Covering Certificates) being revoked.

Covering Certificates are available to stallion owners/managers from CHAPS Admin and should be used for all mares covered by CHAPS Graded and Licensed/Approved stallions. Further details can be found in the Members' Handbook or by contacting CHAPS Administration.

GRADING FEES

An up-to-date list of all Grading Fees is available upon request from CHAPS (UK) Administration & Chaps UK website.

GRADING CATEGORY

When entering any grading the stallion owner is responsible for deciding and declaring the Category which is most applicable to their stallion (or mare) – this information **MUST** be submitted on the Entry Form.

MARE ONLY GRADINGS

In an attempt to facilitate the future grading of mares, CHAPS have put in place a format specifically designed to cater for an “area-gradings” facility.

If you are able to locate a suitable venue within easy reach of your location, and are able to assure us of a minimum of 6 mares forward for grading, CHAPS will send 2 assessors to evaluate these animals. The cost for this is available upon request from CHAPS Admin.

Mare owners must have their animals 2-stage vetted and bring with them to the Grading the original vetting pass from this procedure. Mares must also be DNA tested at such time and the results supplied at the Grading. Vetting and DNA testing must have taken place no more than 3 calendar months prior to the Grading date. Anyone who wishes to arrange such a mare grading should contact the Gradings Officer to discuss the procedure and book the assessors.

PASSPORTS

CHAPS UK can issue passports to colts, geldings and fillies without pedigree no matter what their age.

NB: As from 1.1.2016, passports issued by ID only issuing offices **cannot** be over stamped: they can no longer include the over stamp page within these passports.

Effective immediately, if CHAPS UK are presented with such a passport for over stamping, we would request that it is revoked in favour of a "studbook" passport irrespective of whether pedigree is known or not - your animal will be upgraded into a studbook, and we would urge that this is taken into consideration before applying for any passport in the first instance.

This booklet is divided into four separate sections –

SECTION ONE covers the general rules for Gradings and is relevant to all participants.

SECTION TWO is Sporthorse/Pony specific.

SECTION THREE is relevant to all other types of exhibits forward for Grading.

SECTION FOUR is information relevant to “Elite” Graded status. **(UNDER REVIEW)**

The information contained within this Booklet is produced to help you through the stages of the Grading procedure – please take the time to familiarise yourself with its contents.

The Grading Day is probably the most important day of your Stallion's life – MAKE IT COUNT.

If you are uncertain about any aspect of the Grading whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact CHAPS (UK) for clarification.

Grading Contacts:

Please see CHAPS(UK) Website for current Contact details

RIDDEN ASSESSMENTS

All stallions, 4 years old or over, will be expected to be ridden at their Grading (unless they are intended for an In-Hand only career) All stallions (4 years old or over) which are not ridden are not permitted to compete in any CHAPS ridden classes until they have passed a ridden assessment at a future grading or suitable venue, and until such time will be graded as “in-hand” only.

PLEASE NOTE: CHAPS (UK)[herein after referred to as CHAPS], its Graders and Officials will not be responsible for any accident or illness from any cause whatsoever which may occur to any person (whether exhibitor, owner, observer or any person attending in any capacity), or animal; or any loss, injury or damage to any vehicle, article or property for any reason at any Society Grading. It is a Condition of Entry that each exhibitor/handler/owner/producer shall indemnify the Society against any claim(s) and cost(s) arising from such illness, accident, damage or loss. Additionally, CHAPS (UK), its Graders, Vets and Officials are not liable for any loss of value, or potential loss of value, to any animal(s), or any loss, or potential loss, of income, either hypothetical or actual, arising out of the decision of the Graders, Veterinary Surgeons or Officials appointed at any CHAPS (UK) Grading. The signing of the Entry Form by any exhibit's representative (exhibitor, owner, handler or producer) constitutes agreement that they will abide by the above conditions and all rules of CHAPS (UK) Gradings, and that they accept the decisions of any Grader(s), Veterinary Surgeon(s) and Officials as FINAL. Should any representative of an exhibit feel the need to appeal against a decision, letters of complaint will only be considered when accompanied by a fee of £150 and when **submitted within 48 hours of the Results being given to owner and/or Representative of animal.** If the complaint is upheld the fee will be refunded.

Exhibitors are reminded to read the Grading Rules & Guidelines thoroughly and that by signing the Entry Form they declare all information submitted be correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Mares and stallions which pass the Grading will be entered into the relevant Stud Book for that exhibit.

SECTION ONE – General information

The information contained within **SECTION ONE** of this Handbook is relevant to **ALL** Stallions and Mares taking part.

Subsection A – GUIDELINES and RULES for OWNERS

- 1 The exhibits forward for grading (and where appropriate, progeny, see below), will be expected to be well-behaved – ill-mannered animals will NOT be tolerated. Any behaviour which could put the handler, vet, graders or officials (or any other person) at risk will cause the animal to be **disqualified and deemed failed** and asked to leave the premises forthwith. No refund of entry fees will be given.
- 2 Animals eligible for Grading will cover the full spectrum of “types” or “categories” as associated with the Coloured Horse and Pony – however, each animal will be assessed on its own individual merits according to its “type/category”. It is the owner's/exhibitor's responsibility to ensure the animal is entered for Grading under the correct type/category as this is how the Grading Panel will assess the animal (if it has been entered as a hunter it will be assessed as a hunter and not, for example, a show or sporthorse; likewise if it has been entered as a Show Cob it will be assessed as a Show Cob and not as a native or traditional type etc). Please ensure you have correctly entered your animal as this may affect its grading results!

Exhibits will be graded on, and must pass, their conformation to “type”, and will also be assessed for their chosen “trade”.

There are now 3 new levels of Grading which will allow the Stallion/Mare progression:



All Levels will allow Stallions to compete in HOYS qualifiers

Progression through the Levels will be either through the Stallion/Mares own Performance or through that of its Progeny.

NB For Stallions/Mares to be considered for Gold Level Status, a verifiable competition and or Progeny CV MUST be submitted with the Entry Form for the Grading

- 3 All animals entered for Grading must be CHAPS (UK) Registered or eligible for registration through parentage and must have the minimum required verifiable pedigree for their type/category as highlighted elsewhere in this booklet. This includes solid/spotted progeny from CHAPS(UK) registered Stallions and/or Mares.

Animals not fulfilling the pedigree requirements may be put forward for Grading if, in the opinion of the CHAPS Grading Committee, they have demonstrated (whether by their own exceptional performance, or that of their progeny, or through attaining a First Premium in Youngstock Evaluations that they are worthy of consideration by

- Their own exceptional performance
- Progeny performance or through
- Attaining a First Premium in Youngstock Evaluations - must include a BREEDING Evaluation as a 3yr old (apply to CHAPS for more information).

- 4 All exhibits must be owned by CHAPS fully paid-up current members at the time of Grading application.
To retain Graded status with this Society, and also continuity of supply of CHAPS Covering Certificates, it is stipulated that the stallion owner's membership with this Society MUST be maintained on an annual basis due 1st November each year.
- 5 Stallions graded with any Member of WBFSH will be considered on their own individual merits.
- 6 It is a condition of Grading that a minimum of TWO people are present with each exhibit when presented before the Graders. **Both the animal and exhibitors should be well prepared for the day ahead and have practised at home for in-hand, loose schooling, loose jumping (where appropriate) and ridden work to its particular type/category and age.**
- 7 **All stallions, 4 years old or over, will be expected to be ridden at their Grading.**
Stallions (4yo+) which are not ridden are not permitted to compete in CHAPS ridden classes until they have passed a ridden assessment. (or remain as an In Hand only).
- 8 All exhibits must initially pass the Vetting Stage before they can be assessed by the Grading Panel. The decision of the Society's appointed Veterinary Surgeon(s) on the day will be Final. Any horse or pony which does not complete, or fails its vetting stage, will NOT go forward for Grading.
- 9 All animals forward must be sound and be capable of being lunged on both reins.
- 10 All colts and stallions must go through the Grading Scheme, and be DNA'd.
- 11 Grading is optional as a 3 year old at the discretion of the owner if he/she feels their colt/filly is sufficiently mature. (It should be borne in mind however, that no exhibit may be presented for Grading more than twice. If an exhibit fails on the second attempt it will not be permitted to re-present and the **passport will be stamped "FAILED"**.
Age is taken as at 1st January in the current year. No upper age limit exists for mares or stallions.
- 12 Animals returning for re-assessment may request consideration of their offspring to be taken into account and used in their favour in this re-assessment to back-up their suitability as a breeding animal. Under such circumstances, said progeny must be presented at the reassessment for grading of that animal, and will be expected to parade in front of the Grading Panel on the day.
- 13 Graded stallions are permitted to advertise themselves as "CHAPS Graded".
Graded stallions MUST advertise their full Graded Status i.e. Bronze, Silver, Gold.
Stallions misrepresenting their level or category or omitting information of Grading may be fined and/or have their Grading status revoked.
Where a stallion has not completed a Ridden Assessment, he will only be permitted to compete in In-Hand Classes.
- 14 The results of the Grading will be published within the next available issue of the Society journal, a World of Colour, the CHAPS(UK) website and the CHAPS(UK) Facebook page.
- 15 No "prohibited substances" should have been administered to any colt, stallion, filly or mare which could, by their nature, affect the performance or condition of the animal during the grading process. (Please refer to the current CHAPS Members' Handbook for additional information on prohibited substances). Owners/exhibitors of animals found with any such prohibited substance as defined by the Jockey Club will be subject to disciplinary procedures; such animals will be excluded from that Grading.
- 16 Random Dope Testing (as defined in the current CHAPS Members' Handbook) may be taken at Veterinary or Society discretion. Such samples may only be requested by a Grader, Vet or Grading Officer. Refusal to give such a sample will result in disqualification of the animal involved and the owner will be liable for any costs incurred.

- 17 No entry will be accepted without the correct fee.
- 18 If you are in any doubts as to what to do, where to go or what is expected - please ASK.
- 19 From time to time, amendments may be issued to this Grading Rules and Guidelines Handbook, these will be posted on the CHAPS website whenever relevant (www.chapsuk.com) or printed within the society journal, a World of Colour, and as such will form part of this revised edition of the Rules/Guidelines until such time as a complete new edition is printed.
- 20 Entry of any exhibits into a CHAPS Grading will be deemed acceptance of all pertaining rules – whether contained within this Handbook or issued at a subsequent date.
- 21 If, after a Grading Entry has been made, the Stallion/Mare Owner determines an association to one of the Grading Panel for that particular Grading, then they MUST contact the Grading Officer immediately to declare this information.
If the declaration is not made prior to the Grading and is subsequently brought to the attention of the Grading Officer and/or Committee, then this may result in disqualification of the animal.
22. **To promote healthy Breeding practises, ALL animals entering the Gradings MUST be fully vaccinated for Equine Influenza. CHAPS UK currently use venues that may hold FEI events or are a Racecourse – strict rules are adhered to regarding animals being fully vaccinated before being allowed to be stabled. Please ensure a copy of the relevant Vaccination page in passport is submitted with entries.**

Subsection B – PREPARATION and PRESENTATION

- 1 All animals must be presented in a “fit” condition – being over-fat (or underweight) will create a bad impression and may prove detrimental to your animal's movement and conformation assessment/marks.
- 2 All animals must be presented in “show” condition – i.e. According to their type/category (plaited, hogged etc).
- 3 All animals should be recently shod or trimmed.
- 4 All Stallions must lunge properly in a forward-going manner, on both reins. Animals which are unable to lunge properly will fail the Vetting Stage and will not proceed before the Graders.
Suggested lunging equipment: bridle, lunge cavesson, lunge line (22ft ro 26ft), lunge whip, brushing boots (optional).
Please note: side reins, chambon, De Gogue, chiffney or stallion harness are NOT permitted; however, the use of a chiffney is permitted for general handling or vetting only but will not be allowed in front of the Graders.
- 5 All animals will be expected to walk and trot-up in a controlled manner. Any animal deemed to be out of control will be asked to retire and there will be NO refund of entry fees under these circumstances.
- 6 The day of the Grading is NOT the time to teach your animal – it should already be familiar with what will be expected. It is **essential** to practice at home all aspects of what will be required for the grading procedure – including in-hand work, loose schooling, loose jumping (where required), ridden work etc.

Subsection C – INITIAL IMPRESSIONS

The Exhibit

- 1 Forelegs should have a strong forearm, good knees and straight, free action. There should be no question of the animal being back- or over- at the knee.
- 2 Hind legs should have strong and flat hocks with no evidence of curbs, spavins, etc. Clean flat bone and pasterns not long or upright.
- 3 Feet should not be boxy or flat and not turning in or out. Animals may be presented shod or unshod

but their feet **must** be presented in good condition. It is advisable to have them shod or trimmed within a relatively short space of time prior to the grading to have them looking their best.

- 4 A kind, generous head with a good eye and no evidence of parrot mouth.
- 5 Withers well defined and the neck should be set on well with a good length of rein.
- 6 Please take the time to present your exhibit in a clean, fit condition, and turned out in accordance with its type/category (e.g. Plaited or hogged, plain tack or coloured browband etc) as these will all have an effect on the initial, and overall, impression given to the Grading Panel.
It is suggested that animals with excessive and or long tails, put a single tail plait in for their Vetting or Grading inspection.
- 7 Please ensure you have with you all correct equipment you will need on the day – for example, lunging equipment etc.
- 8 Each exhibit will be allocated an individual number – this must be worn at all times by the attendant or the exhibit as a bridle number only.
- 9 Any animal scoring an average mark less than 5 within the Feet, Foreleg and/or Hindleg sections of the Conformation Assessment will be deemed as a “FAIL”.

The Handler

- 1 Whilst lunging, BHS rules will apply – hard hat, strong boots (not shoes) and gloves to be worn. Handlers incorrectly dressed will be asked to comply with HSE guidelines before continuing.
- 2 A minimum of two handlers per exhibit is required when in front of the Grading Panel.
- 3 Handlers must present themselves dressed correctly according to the type/category of the exhibit they have forward for the Grading Panel:
Sporthorse/ponies – white shirt and white or black trousers, white running shoes.
Part-bred Arabs – white shirt and white trousers.
All other types – hacking or tweed jacket, smart trousers (not jeans).
All handlers of all animals are advised to wear suitable protective headgear to current safety standards.
- 4 The instruction of the Vet, Graders, Officials or Stewards **MUST** be obeyed at all times.
- 5 Anyone attending the grading with an exhibit must behave in an orderly manner at all times.
Anyone behaving disgracefully, disrespectfully, disruptively or in a manner which may be deemed to bring the Society into disrepute will be asked to leave the event immediately and will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of this Society.
- 6 Owners presenting animals for Grading do so accepting the views of the Grading Panel/Committee.
The Grading Panel is drawn from members of the equine community with a broad span of experience and CHAPS would wish to endorse those views/opinions and urge stallion and mare owners to act in accordance with the views of the Grading Panel/Committee.
- 7 Owners wishing to challenge or dispute the Graders' decision(s) **MUST** follow the appeals procedure as stated on Page 1 of this booklet.

The Procedure

- 1 Vetting and Grading times will have been allocated pre-event date – either by post, email or phone. Please contact the Grading Contacts shown on the CHAPSUK website if you are not in receipt of your time(s) two days prior to the grading date.
Please allow yourself plenty of time for arrival and preparation before your allocated times.
It will do neither yourself nor your exhibit any favours if you are late or flustered.
Missed time slots cannot be guaranteed to be substituted for a later time.

- 2 Every animal presented for vetting must be accompanied by its passport at the time of vetting. Please present the passport to the vet or a steward when bringing your animal forward; without this the vetting will not be able to go ahead. The passport will be given back to you when it has been checked by the vet.
- 3 Your exhibitor number will be sent out with the acknowledgement of entry letter. This should be worn by the main handler when presenting the exhibit to the vet and to the grading panel. Additionally the exhibit may wear a bridle number, but note that these are not provided.
- 4 It is anticipated that all results should be available for collection on the day of the Grading from the Chief Steward; however, where any unforeseen circumstances occur, this may not always be possible, and in which case all results will be forwarded to entrants within the following week. The passport must then be forwarded to CHAPS Admin for updating. A temporary passport replacement card may be issued where necessary to comply with passport regulations.
No discussions will be entered into in any public areas whatsoever with regards to any of the results.
- 5 Wherever possible it is preferred that exhibits have an attendant present during their stay at the grading – failing this, **please leave a mobile contact number on your box/stable should the need arise to contact you at any time.** No exhibits are permitted to be stabled overnight in horseboxes or trailers for HSE reasons.
- 6 Please take the time to locate the vetting box(es) prior to your allocated time and make yourself familiar with the area designated for assessment by the Grading Panel.
- 7 Animals will be vetted as close to their allotted times as possible; and will only proceed before the Grading Panel if they pass their vetting.
- 8 Runners may be around the venue calling exhibits to designated areas at their allotted times – please be aware that animals may be called before the Grading Panel up to half an hour before their allocated times should space become available due to other animals failing their vetting or grading assessments – remember it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to ensure you are where you should be when you should be and if called early you are available at that time. Exhibits running out of order will hold the day up and timing is usually critical as there are generally a good number of exhibits to assess in the given timescale.
- 9 The Grading is divided into 3, 4 or 5 stages, depending on your exhibit type/category, as follows:
 - Stage One** – The Vetting (to include temperament assessment).
 - Stage Two** – Conformation and Movement Assessment In-hand (by the Graders).
 - Stage Three** – Loose Assessment, to include jumping assessment where applicable.
 - Stage Four** – Ridden Assessment, for stallion 4 years old or over.
 - Stage Five** – BSJA Jumping Assessment (ridden, optional for BSJA stallions only).

Stage One – VETTING and TEMPERAMENT

Your Exhibit will be initially assessed by the Veterinary Surgeon presiding on the day. All animals will be assessed for soundness and lack of congenital disease. **including, but not limited to the following:**

- Contagious or infectious disease
- Defective Genital Organs
- Roaring and Whistling
- Cataract
- Sidebone
- Ringbone
- Navicular Disease
- Bone Spavin

- Luxation of the Patella
- Shivering
- Stringhalt
- Mal-occlusion of the Jaw (overshot or undershot)

Animals will be lunged on both reins in trot and canter to establish that their lungs and heart are functioning properly. The animal will also undergo tests to verify its soundness. This is an external examination only.

Please ensure your animal has two fully descended testicles prior to entering the Grading.

Any problems which arise during the vetting which require referral to a specialist will be sought at a Centre of Excellence agreed by CHAPS' Veterinary Surgeon and the owner. All fees are to be met by the owner.

DNA profiling is the modern way of identification, enabling a permanent record to be kept of an unalterable characteristic of the horse or pony. A DNA profile is extracted from a non-invasive sample of the animal (e.g. Mane or tail hair), which will be done on completion of a "passed" veterinary inspection.

Temperament will be assessed throughout the vetting. Any animal showing unreasonable behaviour may be asked to retire and the vetting will be discontinued.

Animals which fail the veterinary inspection (or do not complete the procedure) will proceed no further with the Grading on this occasion.

The object of the examination is to exclude stallion or mares from passing on undesirable traits.

Allowances may be made for any obvious or provable injury (a copy of any relevant veterinary report must be submitted).

Random dope testing samples (as described earlier) may be taken at CHAPS' discretion and expense; however, if an animal fails the test, the owner will be liable for all costs incurred.

Time permitting following the Vetting; you will be able to return your exhibit to either your horsebox/trailer or stable if you have pre-booked one.

Stage Two – CONFORMATION, MOVEMENT and TYPE/CATEGORY ASSESSMENT

The next stage of the day, for all those passing the Vet, is to be assessed by the panel of Graders.

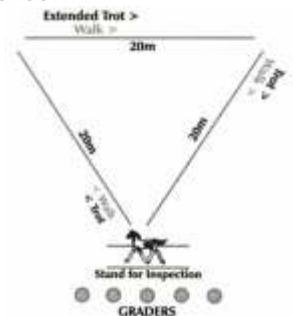
This will consist of (usually 5) well-respected and knowledgeable people who have a wealth of equestrian and breeding experience behind them. Please respect their views and be courteous to them at all times.

The animals will undergo a Conformation, Movement and Type/Category assessment.

The Graders are permitted to be "hands-on" with any exhibit as they see fit.

At the Graders' request, a Traditional, Vanner or Native type exhibit may be requested to have its tail plaited during Stage Two to allow a better view of the hind limbs during assessment. Please ensure you have suitable bands with you should this request be made.

The animal will enter the grading arena in-hand and present themselves in front of the Graders, at the top end of the triangle (see diagram), for initial inspection. Only when all Graders have completed their assessment will the animal be asked to move off. Entrants then have the option to either complete the In Hand Assessment on the Triangle first or undergo the Loose Assessment"



The handler must walk the exhibit around all three sides of the triangle. As they return to the top end of the triangle they should proceed to working trot down the near side, show some strides of extended trot along the top side and return to working trot down the far side of the triangle (if necessary, it is permitted to halt or walk the animal at each corner to change direction). As you approach the top of the triangle you will either be asked to trot a second lap of the triangle or permitted to stand in front of the Graders or Stewards.

Animals will be expected to be well mannered and able to show themselves off to their best advantage; from this point of view, and for your own benefit, it is essential that you practise this at home before attending the Grading.

Stage Three – LOOSE ASSESSMENT

All animals will then be free schooled in the arena. This is to assess their natural paces and presence. You will be permitted to enter the arena with your exhibit in order to keep them moving and show them off on both reins. It is essential to have practised this at home to ensure your exhibit is controlled and shows sufficient strides of walk, trot and canter without purely cantering/galloping about.

At the conclusion of the free schooling the animal will either be caught up, the graders saluted and the arena left at walk; or will proceed to the loose jumping phase.

Show Jumpers/Eventers & Multidiscipline types will be required to loose jump down the jumping lane. Loose jumping will take place on the LEFT rein only. There will be three fences (crosspole, an upright and a spread) placed at related distances (two strides) apart.

All jumps down the jumping lane may be set/alterd by the owner/exhibitor to suit their animal – they may request the help of the jump lane steward(s), but the responsibility lies with themselves to ensure the jump distances/heights are suitable for their exhibit.

One practice attempt will be allowed down the lane followed by a maximum of three further attempts. Three consecutive refusals will mean the animal will have no jumping assessment score allocated. Please indicate on your entry form “jumping” assessment.

A minimum of two people must be present for this section, one to send the animal down the jumping lane and one to catch it up again at the far end and return it to the caged area to re-enter the jumping lane. Upon completion of the loose jumping stage the animal should be halted, the graders saluted and the arena left at walk.

Stage Four – CHAPS GRADING RIDDEN ASSESSMENTS

Ridden assessments apply to stallions only. These are intended primarily for those exhibitors who wish to compete under saddle at CHAPS events and in CHAPS affiliated show classes.

In order to complete a ridden assessment a stallion must first have participated in the full grading process (either on the day of the ridden assessment or at a previous grading). On the day of the grading, exhibitors of stallions eligible for ridden assessment will be notified by the Chief Steward that they may come forward for assessment. Ridden assessment may be performed at a future event if the exhibitor so wishes, but the animal will not be able to compete under saddle until such assessment has been satisfactorily completed.

Ridden assessments will normally be performed in a small group either at the end of the day, or mid-way through the day depending on the number of exhibits to be assessed. Exhibitors should therefore be prepared to stay for the full day if required. Adequate notice will be given to allow for preparation and warming up, but the onus is on the exhibitor to check the notice board or with the Chief Steward to find out whether his/her animal is required and at what time.

Format

Exhibitors will enter a marked area at walk in groups of up to five animals at a time. This area may be an indoor arena, an outdoor arena or a roped grass ring, depending on the venue, and animals should be prepared accordingly and have experience of being ridden in all these potential situations.

The group will perform together in walk, trot and canter on both reins and some extended strides may be required at the discretion of the graders. The group will then line up at one side of the designated area and each exhibit will perform an individual display lasting no more than four minutes and including as a minimum: halt, immobility, walk, trot and canter on both reins and some extended canter strides. Other movements may be included where exhibitors wish to show-case their animal to spectators and mare owners, but no extra credit will be given in the assessment.

Account will be taken of:

- Manners and way of going in the group
- Execution of the individual display
- Manners while lined up alongside other exhibits.

Any exhibit that is deemed to present a danger or risk in any way whatsoever will be asked to withdraw from the assessment and the ridden assessment will on this occasion be declared failed.

When all exhibits have performed an individual display the group will be dismissed and will leave the ring at walk in an orderly fashion.

Stage Five – BSJA ASSESSMENT

From 01.01.2005, animals wishing to include a BSJA Assessment will have to perform a ridden jumping display (if 5 years old or over) to comply with current (as designated at the time of grading) BSJA guidelines. Details from BSJA upon receipt of an SAE. Please state on your entry form if you wish your exhibit to perform a BSJA Assessment.

SECTION TWO – Sport Horse/Pony Section

The information contained within SECTION TWO of this Handbook is relevant only to Sports Horses/Ponies.

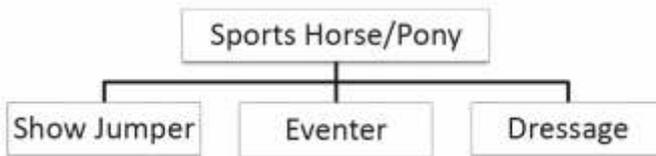
Sport Horses/Ponies MUST be presented for grading by handlers wearing white (or black) trousers, white shirt or “stud” shirt and appropriate white footwear.

DEFINITION of TYPE

SPORTS HORSE/PONY – Ideally, these animals should possess Thoroughbred or Warmblood bloodlines in their breeding and must have the ability to compete in an Olympic discipline (show jumping, eventing, dressage).

Sports Horses and Ponies MUST have a **minimum 3-generation verifiable pedigree** to be assessed under this heading.

Exhibits Grading in this type/category will be entered into the appropriate Stud Book as set out in these Guidelines.



1 Show Jumper

Exhibits entering in this section are not expected to have the same level of conformation as that required for a Show Horse; or its gaits be that of a Dressage Horse, but must have well-coupled, powerful hind quarters, a good canter and must exhibit a good approach, take-off and landing technique and bascule over the fence, good manners and good temperament. To be presented with a plaited mane and pulled or natural tail.

2 Dressage

Exhibits entering this section are not required to jump. The horse should be supple and expressive in its movements from its hind quarters, back and shoulder. It should have a good, trainable attitude and temperament and good manners, good conformation (but not necessarily that expected of a Show Horse). To be presented with a plaited mane and pulled or natural tail.

3 Eventing

Exhibits entering this section will be required to jump. The horse should have good basic technique on the approach, over and from the fence and have good natural ground-covering gaits. These animals should have a more athletic outline and natural suppleness, good manners and temperament. To be presented with plaited mane and a pulled or natural tail.

N.B. Please state on entry form, Showjumping, Dressage or Eventing under the type if entering as a Sports Horse or Pony.

SECTION THREE – All Other Types

The information contained within SECTION THREE of this Handbook is relevant to ALL types EXCLUDING Sports Horses/Ponies.

Exhibits must be presented for grading by handlers wearing hacking/tweed jacket, shirt and ties, smart trousers (not jeans) and suitable footwear (not shoes). All handlers of all animals are advised to wear suitable protective headgear to current safety standards.

DEFINITION of TYPES

1 SHOW HORSE/PONY

Show Hunter Horse – Light, middleweight, heavyweight and Working Hunter types exceeding 15.0hh (153cms). Must possess quality, a good length of rein, and a good action. Manes to be plaited and tails to be pulled or plaited.

Hack – Small Hack exceeding 148cms, but not exceeding 154cms; Large Hack exceeding 154cms but not exceeding 160cms. Hacks are usually small Thoroughbred types with some Arab blood. Quality, elegance, smooth and graceful movement coupled with a true pointing of the toe.

Riding Horse – lightweight types, usually $\frac{3}{4}$ TB. Small Riding Horse exceeding 14.2hh (148cms) but not exceeding 15.2hh (158cms); Large Riding Horse exceeding 15.2hh (158cms). Riding Horses should have quality, substance and good action. Manes to be plaited and tails to be pulled or plaited. Clean-legged.

Show Pony/Show Hunter Pony – Show Ponies should be a quality pony with a smooth and graceful movement and a true pointing of the toe; not to exceed 1.2hh (148cms).

Show Hunter Ponies should be a quality pony with substance and movement; exhibits not to exceed 15.0hh (153cms). Manes to be plaited and tails to be pulled or plaited.

Show Cob – A short-legged animal exceeding 14.2hh (148cms) but not exceeding 15.1hh (154cms). The cob should have substance, bone and be able to carry substantial weight. To be shown with a hogged mane and a pulled and banged tail and clean legs.

Part Bred Arab – Must have a minimum of 12½% Arab blood. There are no height restrictions for this category. To be shown to type. It must, however, be noted that an animal carrying only 12.5% Arab bloodlines cannot, on its own, afford the progeny the right to Arab Horse Society registration.

2 **TRADITIONAL** – A short-legged animal, open height. The animal should have substance, bone and be able to carry substantial weight. A true Traditional type should be shown natural with full mane and tail and feathered legs.

3 **NATIVE TYPE** – To be shown as naturally as possible. A Native (e.g. Part-bred Welsh Section A, D etc) will usually have more quality of coat, less coarse hair, and less feathering than a true Traditional type.

4 **VANNER** – Usually considered the traditional type of a Tradesman's horse of pre-motor days. Of mixed breeding, active and capable of a good trot. Frequently have upright shoulders; may exceed 16.0hh (163cms). Can be shown traditionally with full manes, tails and feather OR pulled tails and hogged manes.

5 **TROTTER** – No height restriction.

Animals within the following Section will be permitted to compete in CHAPSUK In-Hand only affiliated classes, only if they are licensed/Graded with their appropriate Breed Society Studbook.

No CHAPS UK Covering Certificates will be issued or permission to advertise.

To compete in In-hand CHAPS UK affiliated classes, Owners/Handlers must be CHAPS(UK) Members annually and the Stallion registered with CHAPS(UK).

- 6 **AMERICAN BREED or TYPE** – Type and breeds to include Part-bred Quarterhorse, Morgan, Saddlebreds and American Show Horses. To be shown in natural state as per respective breed standards. Registered with the appropriate breed society. No height restriction.
- 7 **SHETLANDS** (Pure-bred) To be shown in natural state.
- 8 **MINIATURE Exhibits** not to exceed 34" in height.

GRADING CATEGORISATION

Exhibits coming forward for Grading within this section must firstly categorise into either Non-Native Types or Native/Vanner/Traditional Types. Within these two type categories they must then select the relevant “Grading Path” suitable for their horse or pony. The Category and subsequent Path they choose to Grade their exhibit down will determine what they requirements they must fulfil in order to Grade successfully.

Minimum verifiable pedigree requirements, as laid out in this section, should be met by all exhibits before they are permitted to present for Grading.

If a stallion applies to the Society with no parentage but an excellent record in the competition field then an acceptance may be given by the designated Grading Committee to present for Grading and if the animal passes a grading will be inserted into the Multidiscipline/Appropriate section.

Animals without the required pedigree may also attain acceptance to present for grading by gaining a First Premium in the Youngstock Evaluations within the Breeding Section

If a Multidiscipline stallion or mare reaches a designated standard in a specific field or sport, then, at the discretion of the designated Grading Panel/Committee, the horse can be transferred to the relevant section.

NON-NATIVE TYPE HORSES and PONIES



Multidiscipline

Exhibits entering this section will be required to jump and must have good basic jumping technique. Animals should be bold and free-moving with good basic gaits, and have sound conformation.

These horses should show a good attitude, a willingness to work, with manners and kind temperament. These animals should be a good all round general purpose performer, and show a natural aptitude for all disciplines. To be presented with a plaited mane and pulled or plaited tail.

Show/Riding

If entering this section, the owner **MUST** declare on the entry form the “type” of horse (e.g .Hunter, Hack, Riding Horse, Show pony, Show hunter pony etc).

The horse/pony must be “true to type”, have correct conformation, movement, size and stature for that type; have a good length of rein, good clean limbs, be mannerly and possess a good temperament.

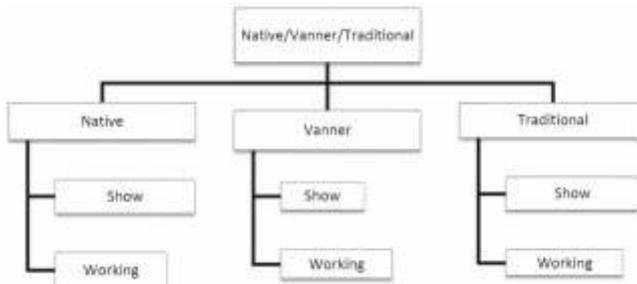
To be presented with a plaited mane and pulled tail.

Further information on “Types” will be made available on the CHAPS(UK) Grading Section of the Website.

Pedigree Requirements: Show/Riding – both horses and ponies should have a **minimum of 3 full generation verified pedigree by 2020**. They will be entered into the appropriate Stud Book as set out in the Guidelines. “Type” definitions for these animals can be found elsewhere in this booklet.

Multidiscipline – both horses and ponies must have a minimum of 2 full generation verified parentage by 2020.

NATIVE, VANNER and TRADITIONAL TYPE HORSES and PONIES



Presentation and expectation for all Native, Vanner and Traditional “types” are as per details found in “Definitions of Types”. However, if the vet finds any conformation issue which is not a failure but is hidden by hair or feather, then the Grading Panel will be made aware of this issue.

Show or Working Native, Vanners and Traditionals

All entrants in the Native, Vanner Traditional categories will require a **full two generation verifiable pedigree** to present for Grading. DNA profiling, at the owner's expense, can be used to prove pedigree.

Animals in the “show” category are those competing within the show ring in ridden and in-hand showing classes. They do not have to be broken to drive.

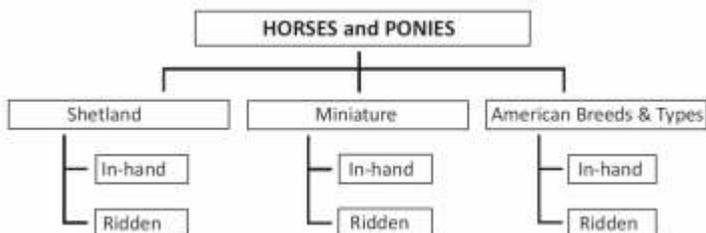
“Working” animals, e.g. Those broken to drive or general purpose suitable to compete all Riding Club activities.

“Working” animals are those designated for driving/working purposes and ideally should have a small head and not be thick through the jowel, they should have a deep angular shoulder with good straight limbs but can be slightly out behind. They should have strong, deep pastern/joints with powerful hindquarters. They are not expected to possess as much movement/action as their “show” counterpart cob types.

Animals being graded under the “working” category will be required to demonstrate their ability in harness & appropriate vehicle.

Stallions/Mares graded in the “Working” category are NOT eligible for CHAPS(UK) HOYS qualifiers, unless they represent within the “Show” category.

SPECIFIC TYPES with a PARENT BREED SOCIETY



Animals within this Section will be permitted to compete in CHAPSUK In-Hand only affiliated classes, only if they are licensed/Graded with their appropriate Breed Society Studbook.

No CHAPSUK Covering Certificates will be issued or permission to advertise.

To compete in In Hand CHAPSUK affiliated classes, Owners/Handlers must be CHAPS(UK) Members annually and the Stallion registered with CHAPS(UK).

To compete in CHAPS(UK) **Ridden** affiliated classes, including HOYS; Shetlands must attend & pass a **CHAPS(UK) Grading Ridden Assessment**. Please contact the Grading Officer direct for further information and procedure.