

Hope Sheepdog Trials and Agricultural Society

General show rules applying to all exhibitors, entrants and competitors to the show.

1. Except where otherwise stated all classes are open to any entrant residing in the United Kingdom.
2. The right is reserved
 - (a) To decline any application for entry without giving reasons
 - (b) to reduce the number of prizes in the event of insufficient entrants in any one class
 - (c) In the case of the Sheepdog Trials, to restrict entries if in excess of the number required for the day's running.
3. Animals not eligible to compete in a class will not be allowed in the judging ring whilst that class is being judged, and no person will be allowed in the judging ring whilst the judging is in progress, except for those having duties inside the ring.
4. The stewards in each section, together with the section secretary, will decide the eligibility of any entry.
5. No exhibits or stock must be removed from the Showground without the permission of the section secretary before 4.30 p.m.
6. The Judges' decision will be final and binding on all matters.
7. All protests or objections will be dealt with according to the rules and conditions of the classes involved. Each individual complaint or objection must be made in writing to the secretary with a deposit of £10 (within one hour of completion of judging) which will be returned if the individual complaint or objection is sustained, or it is believed to have been made in good faith. Both the complainant and any other party involved will be given the fullest opportunity of presenting their case.
8. The decision of the Judges or committee, as the case maybe, on all matters, questions, protests and disputes arising shall be final except that the committee cannot over-rule the Judges' decisions. No decision shall be subject to review by any court of law.
9. Any five of the appropriate section committee shall be a sufficient quorum for the settlement of any questions or disputes referred to them under these Rules and Regulations.
10. Any person using obscene, abusive or offensive language or conduct towards any official at or near the Showground or trials will be disqualified and/or ordered off.
11. Prize monies will be paid by cheque or BACS within one month of the Show. All winners who do not receive payment by this time must advise the section secretary.
12. Any number of entries may be made in each class and payment for each entry must be made. Every animal entered in more than one class will be charged the entrance fee for each class. (N.B. The above rule does not apply to the Sheepdog Trials.)
13. All Livestock exhibited at the Show must have been the bona-fide property of the exhibitor for at least two calendar months immediately prior to the date of the show. (N.B. this rule does not apply to the Sheepdog Trials.)
14. All exhibits to be taken out of wagons and tied to the place allocated. All wagons to be then parked in reserved area.
15. Competitors who contravene any of the rules or regulations for the show, or who, during the Show, or after, is guilty of conduct which, in the opinion of the committee, is prejudicial to the interests of the Society, shall, in respect to any penalty which may be imposed on them at the Show, be liable to disqualification from competing or entering at the Society's Show for such period as the Committee may decide.

16. All trophies and cups of whatever nature remain the property of the Society and are to be delivered up to the Society when requested and shall be insured whilst in the competitor's possession.

17. All exhibitors and entrants shall take all proper and reasonable precautions to ensure that any dog or exhibit is safe and not in any condition that is likely to cause damage or loss to the society or any member of the public attending the show. Whilst the committee, judges, stewards and other members of the Society shall take all reasonable care, they shall not be responsible to exhibitors whilst they are upon the society's showground or entering or leaving the showground for any damage or loss which shall be caused or sustained by reason of any unforeseen event or matter which is beyond their control.

18. The objects of the Society in offering prizes is to promote the rearing and breeding of the aforementioned exhibits and to encourage interest in the society as well as agriculture and horticulture throughout the Country.

19. Any question affecting the eligibility relating to entries and all competitions, or anything in any way affecting the Show and Sheepdog Trials, not otherwise covered by the rules shall be determined, and resolved by the appropriate Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding upon all parties. All entries and exhibits are accepted expressly on this understanding.

20. The Society shall be liable for (1) any negligent act of the Society its servants or agents which results in death or personal injury and (2) other loss or damage where it is held unreasonable to exclude liability for such other loss or damage.

Other than as above, neither The Society nor its servants or agents shall be responsible for death, injury, disease or other loss caused to any competitor, exhibitor or servants or any exhibit of any kind brought onto any of the grounds used in connection with the Show.

21. All exhibitors and competitors to the Show and Trials must be covered by a Public Liability Policy, including Show use. (The Society recommend an Indemnity of not less than Two Million Pounds for any one accident.) The Society reserves the right to require any exhibitor to produce proof that a suitable Public Liability Policy is in force.

22. All Exhibitors must adhere to the Code of Practice for Safety and Accident Prevention on the Hope Showground.