



Riding School National Championship 2026 Schedule

Class 1	All Rounder	Walk & Trot Equitation 1 (2020) Showjumping - 45cm Stable Management Quiz
Class 2	All Rounder	Introduction to Canter Equitation Showjumping - 60cm Stable Management Quiz
Class 3	All Rounder	Prelim Equitation D1 (2020) Showjumping - 70cm Stable Management Quiz
Class 4	Equitation	Walk & Trot Equitation
Class 5	Equitation	Introduction to Canter Equitation
Class 6	Equitation	Prelim Equitation
Class 7	In Hand	Fancy Dress
Class 8	In Hand	Best Handler
Class 9	Show Jumping	Clear Round



Classes 1,2 & 3 - All Rounder

The All Rounder is the perfect way for competitors to show off their horse knowledge and riding skills. This class has three elements; an Equitation test, Show jumping round and a Quiz. There are three different classes within the 'All Rounder' available to enter depending on the riders experience and stage of training, horse and rider combinations can only enter one of these three classes.

- Equitation Test - each equitation test is judged on how well each movement is performed as well as collective marks for riders position and effectiveness throughout the test
 - Class 1 - Walk & Trot Equitation
 - Class 2 - Introduction to Canter Equitation
 - Class 3 - Prelim Equitation
- Show jumping around a course of fences being judged on style and gaining marks for correct and effective riding. Points will be deducted if you knock a fence down or have a refusal or other errors such as error of course.
 - Class 1 - 45cm
 - Class 2 - 60cm
 - Class 3 - 70cm
- Quiz - this is a general horse knowledge quiz which could include questions about coat colours, parts of the horse, equipment and other general horse knowledge. The quiz will get gradually harder from classes 1 - 3 asking questions that will be suitable for the level of training for the competitors in the class.
- The winner will be the highest placed rider over the three sections within each class.

Classes 4 - 6 - Equitation

The Equitation classes are for the competitors who want to showcase their flatwork skills. The tests are marked on how well each movement is performed as well as collective marks being allocated for rider position and effectiveness throughout the test. The winner will be the competitor with the highest score in each class. Combinations of horse and rider can only enter either class 4 or 5 (not both).

- Class 4 - Walk & Trot Equitation this test will not include any canter work
- Class 5 - Introduction to canter, designed to encourage riders not quite ready to progress to Prelim, this test will mainly be a walk, trot test with a small amount of canter work.
- Class 6 - Prelim Equitation Including walk, trot and canter

Class 7 & 8 - In Hand

The In Hand Classes are a great way for competitors to show off their turnout skills, if they take pride in presenting the horses in a clean and tidy manner and enjoy grooming and bathing the horses this could be the classes for them. Handlers will be required to lead the pony in walk and ask the pony to halt on command.

- Class 7 - Fancy Dress. A chance to use imagination and show off creativeness with coming up with a fancy dress costume for both the handler and the pony.
- Class 8 - Best handler. A chance to show off handling skills asking the pony to walk around the arena in a controlled manor and to perform simple handling challenges e.g. to halt in a required area before proceeding to show a change of direction.
- Showing attire for the handler is not essential, but recognition will be given to their overall tidiness and cleanliness and their correct PPE for the activity
- Plaiting of manes and tails is optional, but it is hoped that this will not be done by Centre staff



Class 9 - Clear Round Show Jumping

Clear Round Show Jumping will be run alongside Classes 1-3's show jumping. Perfect for the rider who does not enjoy the equitation as much as the thrill of jumping. Competitors will jump around a set course of fences with the aim to jump clear. e.g no refusals, errors of course or poles knocked down.

- Run as a pick a height competition competitors can enter at any of the below heights
 - 45cm
 - 50cm
 - 70cm
- Combination of horse and rider can only enter at one height range

Championship Prizes and Awards on offer at the Championships on 8th April 2026 will be:

- A Trophy for 1st placed in each class
- A medal for those placed 2nd and 3rd in each class
- Rosettes up to 10th place in each class, subject to starters on the day
- Throughout the day an overall accumulative points system will be put in place to recognise the Centre's who have so kindly helped and encouraged their competitors to prepare for and to attend the event. Points will be awarded in each class for each competitor placing, subject to starters, for the first 3 placings, for example, 1st place = 3 points through to 3rd place = 1 point.
 - Award to the top three centres

Wild Card

For one class only each Centre can nominate one rider to enter under the 'wild card' system. The rider must have competed at the centres qualifying rounds and enter in the class that they competed in.

Additional information

We value, respect and embrace equity, diversity and inclusivity and consider our Riding School Championships as an ideal environment to increase participation for all. If you have any participants that have genuine need for adaptations to our offer to enhance their opportunity to join us at this amazing event, please do contact us to discuss their individual requirements at approvedcentres@bhs.org.uk

For any additional information and to receive qualifier pack please contact the Approved Centre team on 02476 840509 or approvedcentres@bhs.org.uk