

**SYDNEY ROYAL HORSE SHOW  
2026 GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE  
ALL PERFORMANCES MUST BE SUBMITTED AT TIME OF ENTRY**

**There will be no additional performance accepted after close of entries:  
WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2025**

*The RAS have a limited number of stables to allocate at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and stabling availability substantially determines the maximum number of Exhibits that we can accept into our Competitions.*

*The RAS has traditionally used performances gained according to its Performance Guidelines to select the best Exhibits and Competitors from amongst those who enter to compete at the Sydney Royal Horse Show.*

*Given the current circumstances, the RAS encourages all willing exhibitors to enter for 2026, and the RAS Horse Committee will work to take all information into account in the fairest way they can when offering acceptances of entry for the 2026 Show.*

**The RAS will accept performances to be submitted in the following categories and the Committee will take all information into account in the fairest way they can when offering acceptances of entry for the 2026 Show:**

1. Any performances gained between Thursday 28 November 2024 and Wednesday 26 November 2025 towards the following performance requirement:  
*As detailed section by section hereunder, saddlehorses and show hunters require a minimum of FIVE (5) open wins during the official performance period. This requires at least **FOUR (4) open wins from Agricultural Shows**, and no more than **ONE (1) open wins from a non-agricultural (Breed or Hack) Show**. The majority of breed classes need a minimum of three (3) wins in the Class that is relevant to what you will be entering (e.g. Three (3) open breed led wins if you are entering led Classes and three (3) open breed ridden wins if you are entering under saddle).*
2. Consideration may be given to exhibits who placed at the 2025 Sydney Royal Horse Show. Exhibitors are encouraged to submit results where an exhibit placed at the 2025 Show.

**Please note:** The RAS cannot provide a copy of any past performances submitted. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to re-submit their performances accurately.

**All horses entered must be microchipped and registered on a recognised National Registry. All horses entered must also be registered** with a BREED SOCIETY recognised by the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of NSW (refer to Schedule) or with EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA, or the SHOW HORSE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALASIA. Only horses entered in Business Delivery & Turnout Classes and Heavy Horse Obstacle classes are not required to be registered.

**If results are incorrectly recorded (Name, date of show, number in class, award gained, type of class, judge and exhibitor), the performance may not be accepted.**

First place, Reserve Champion, Champion or Supreme Champion winners from the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show or any other State Royal Shows within the performance period are **not** afforded automatic entry into classes for future shows.

**A "WIN" is considered as:**

- First place, Champion or Reserve Champion in Open Classes at Agricultural Shows. An OPEN CLASS is one that does not restrict entrants. Examples of restricted Classes include Novice, Intermediate, Maiden, Local, etc.
- First, second, third and fourth placing in Open Classes at State Royal Shows, being Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Perth, Darwin, Adelaide and Hobart. Please note: Bathurst, Geelong, Toowoomba, Launceston and Norfolk Island are considered Agricultural Shows, not State Royal Shows.
- First and second placing in a Novice Class at the previous Sydney Royal Horse Show will be considered as a win.
- Only one (1) Lady's, Gentleman's or Child's HACK OR SHOW HUNTER event win, may be included as part of your performance.
- For Show Hunters only, one (1) Working Show Hunter event win may be included as part of your performance.

A first place in **Open Class** at the Sydney Royal Horse Show will be the equivalent of two Agricultural Show wins.

If you win a **NOVICE CLASS** at a State Royal prior to the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show, it is the Exhibitor's responsibility to officially withdraw from the Novice Class entered into, or transfer into an Open Class, if they are not already entered. If a horse has won an Open/Childs/Adult/Lady/Gent Class at a State Royal Show it is no longer considered a novice. If a rider has won an Open or Novice class at a State Royal Show, he or she is no longer considered a novice. An Exhibit that has qualified to compete in an Open Championship Class at another State Royal will no longer be eligible to compete in a Novice Class at Sydney Royal. A child under 17 years who has won an open or novice riding class at a State Royal will be eligible to compete as an adult novice rider, whilst eligible.

**ONLY ONE PERFORMANCE FROM EACH SHOW WILL COUNT** If you win your Open Class and then go on to win the Champion, only one will count as a win (including performances from Royal Shows). Should you place first in a restricted (e.g. Novice, Intermediate, etc.) Class and go on to win the Champion or Reserve, the Champion or Reserve will be counted. Similarly, if you place second (in open or restricted Class) and go on to gain Reserve Champion, the Reserve Champion will be counted as a win.

- **SADDLE HORSES AND SHOW HUNTERS AN EXHIBIT CAN ONLY BE ENTERED IN EITHER SADDLE HORSE CLASSES OR SHOW HUNTER CLASSES BUT NOT BOTH.** THE PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES BELOW APPLY TO BOTH SADDLE HORSES AND SHOW HUNTERS. Qualifications for entry of SADDLE HORSES OR SHOW HUNTERS to the Sydney Royal Easter Show change from year to year. There is no specific performance requirement set until after the Closing Date of Entries when all entries are considered. However, it is recommended a **minimum of FIVE (5) open wins are required** during the official performance period. **This requires at least FOUR (4) open wins from Agricultural Shows, and no more than one (1) open wins from a non-agricultural (Breed or Hack) Show that is affiliated with an RAS of NSW Recognised Society (as listed on this document).** Please Note: "Top 10 Horse of the Year" will **not** be counted as a win, but Exhibitors are able to include this in their performance listing.
- **CHAMPION SADDLE HORSE HACKS, OR CHAMPION SHOW HUNTER HACKS** from the 2025 Sydney Royal Horse Show will be accepted into Open Classes with only two additional (2) performances from Agricultural Shows held after Tuesday 22 April 2025. Please note: Supremes, Champions and Reserve Champions from other State Royals will count as one (1) win.
- In cases where a horse has only four (4) wins, second placings at Agricultural Shows will be considered at a ratio of four seconds are equal to one first. In addition, overall performance at all events will be taken into consideration.

#### **WORKING SHOW HUNTERS**

- **Only horses entered in Show Hunter and/or Ridden Breed Classes are eligible to enter Working Hunter Classes.**
- All horses entered in Working Hunter classes **must submit at least two (2) jumping performances** obtained during the qualification period.
- This placing may be gained in a Working Hunter Class, a Showjump Competition at Pony Club, Adult Riding Club, Showjump Club, Eventing performance, or an Interschools Showjumping performance.
- Clydesdales, Percherons & Shires are not eligible for the Working Show Hunter classes.
- **The performance must demonstrate the horse and rider combination have experience completing a showjump course however does not need to be a win.**

#### **LEADING REIN**

- Ponies which are to be ridden in Leading Rein must have been accepted for and competing in a ridden class or classes for Breed or Hack events at the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

#### **BREED CLASSES**

- Qualifications for entry into Breed Classes at the Sydney Royal Easter Show alter from section to section. **The majority of breeds unless otherwise specified need a minimum of three (3) wins in the Class that is relevant to what you will be entering** (e.g. Three (3) open breed led wins if you are entering led Classes and three (3) open breed ridden wins if you are entering under saddle).
- Breed wins will only be accepted from shows affiliated with an RAS recognised Breed Society. Recognised Breed Societies are listed in this document and on the website.
- Breeds which require a suggested minimum of two (2) placings in the Class that is relevant to what is being entered are: Clydesdales, Percherons and Shires.
- First places, Champions and Reserve Champion placings in relevant Classes at Agricultural Shows or Breed Shows must be gained during the official performance period.
- First, second or third placing gained in a Class at the 2025 Sydney Royal Horse Show will be considered as a win.
- Yearlings require a minimum of two (2) placings within the official performance period.
- Broodmares do not require any performances and may transfer to dry mare Classes only if they have the relevant performance.

#### **WORKING AUSTRALIAN STOCK HORSE CLASSES**

- **Only horses entered in Stock Horse Classes are eligible to enter Working Stock Horse classes.**
- All horses entered in Working Stock Horse classes **must submit at least three (3) Working Stock Horse performances** obtained during the qualification period.
- ASH Futurity and Maturity classes will **not** be counted as a win, but Exhibitors are able to include this in their performance listing.

#### **RIDING CLASSES, TURNOUT CLASSES & EQUESTRIAN SHOWCASES.**

- For the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show, **Riding Classes require a minimum of three (3) Open Riding Class wins** at Agricultural Shows or recognised Breed shows.
- First and second placing in a Novice Class at the previous Sydney Royal Horse Show will be considered as a win.
- **Turnout Classes** require a minimum of two (2) performances (placings) in Turnout Classes during the qualification period or a minimum of three (3) Open Riding Class wins at Agricultural Shows or recognised Breed shows.
- It is the Rider's responsibility to confirm that the mount nominated to be used in your Riding Class(es)/Turnout Class has been accepted for (excluding Pony Club) and competing in at least one Class for breeds, hack or showjumping before it can be used as your Riding Class/Turnout mount. If the horse nominated, was not accepted in at least one Class, then you must contact the Horse Section to nominate a different horse, that you have confirmed with the Owner

has been accepted and competing in at least one Class at the 2024 Sydney Royal Easter Show, otherwise you must officially withdraw.

#### **HARNESS CLASSES**

- Horses or Ponies entering in the Harness Classes are **recommended to submit one (1) harness performance** at a recognised Agricultural Show or Harness Show. These must be gained during the official performance period.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

- **THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES ACCEPTED AFTER ENTRIES CLOSE ON Wednesday 26 November 2025.**
- Your online entry/nomination MUST be submitted by the Official Closing Date – Wednesday 26 November 2025 for Breeds, Hacks, Harness, Leading Rein & Riding Classes.
- To assist exhibitors, we have provided a Performance Record Sheet on the Sydney Royal Website [www.rasnsw.com.au/horse](http://www.rasnsw.com.au/horse). Print a copy and record your performance throughout the year.
- **For Agricultural Shows, which hold more than one (1) Annual Show**, Performances will only be counted if they are listed in the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW's Show Dates Book or ASC website. For any Agricultural Shows running supplementary shows, it is a requirement to have more than one month between these two shows.
- Additional Annual Shows held interstate will be considered on an individual basis.
- **Multiple Agricultural Society performances gained on the same Agricultural, or other showground, over one or more successive days involving similar but independent programs, run by one or more Agricultural Show Societies will only be accepted as one individual performance (per Exhibit per Section/Breed).**

#### **ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of NSW RECOGNISED SOCIETIES**

Arabian Horse Society of Australia Ltd

Australian Miniature Pony Society Inc.

Australian National Saddlehorse Association

Australian Pony Stud Book Society Inc.

Australian Saddle Pony Association

Australian Stock Horse Ladies Association

Australian Stock Horse Society

Australian Stud Book

Commonwealth Clydesdale Society

Equestrian Australia

Equestrian NSW

Harness Racing Australia

Independent Miniature Horse Registry Inc.

Percheron Association Australia Ltd

Percheron Horse Breeders Association of Australia Inc.

Riding Pony Studbook Society of Australia Ltd

Shire Horse Society Australia Inc.

Shire Horse Society (UK)

Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.

Welsh Pony & Cob Society Inc.

Australian Carriage Driving Society (ACDS)

Australian Hunter and Show Horse Association

Australian Tradesman & Delivery Show Horse Driving Association Inc

Harness Racing NSW

Shetland Pony Society of Australia Inc.

Shire Horse Breeders Australia Inc.

Show Harness Horse and Pony Association

Trade Harness Australia

Australian Bushman Campdraft & Rodeo Association (ABCRA)

Australian Professional Rodeo Association (APRA)

Jumping NSW

NSW Mounted Police

NSW Polo Association

NSW Polocrosse

NSW Tentpegging Association

Pony Club Association of NSW