

SSA COMPETITION RULES 2017

In order to offer Qualifying classes all shows must affiliate by 1st February of the current year. This will ensure inclusion in the Current Show and Fixture List.

- I FALLS:** A fall of horse/pony or rider in any class run under Side Saddle Association rules will result in disqualification, and the rider must leave the ring dismounted. It is strongly recommended that medical advice is then sought before competing in any other class.
- II LEAD REIN** competitors may only compete Hors Concours (see SECTION I, 4) in any S.S.A. affiliated class unless otherwise stated.
- III DISPENSATION:** Any rider with a physical impairment or Special Educational Needs who may require adaptations for competing should apply in writing, accompanied by the relevant medical evidence certificate which externally verifies the impairment or condition, to the Hon General Secretary.
- IV S.S.A. ROSETTES:** S.S.A. Members must carry their current Membership/Points Cards in the ring to be eligible for S.S.A. Rosettes, Awards and Qualifying Place Points (see SECTION I, 7.1). **NO CARDS – NO S.S.A. ROSETTES.**
- V HATS:** Correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hats that meet **one of the following** Current Safety Standards **MUST** be worn by all Junior Riders and Adults where indicated in the competition rules: All PAS 015; VG1; ASTM F1163 04a onwards; SNELL E2001; AS/NZS 3838 2003 onwards. In addition the new BS/EN standard will be allowed, once approved with the finalised number being advised in due course. ***Please note that from the 1st January 2017 the list of standards no longer includes BS/EN1384: 1996 or 2012 (or prior year suffix). The new European standard will be allowed once finalised and will be advised in due course.***
- VI ADULTS:** Adult competitors must wear a hat to Current Safety Standard or above where indicated in the Competition Rules. Where safety hats are not compulsory, Adult competitors wear alternative headgear at their own risk.
Hats to Current Safety Standard or above must be worn by all competitors where indicated.
- VII IDENTIFICATION OF STALLIONS:** Stallions are to be identified by the horse wearing a blue ribbon in its tail.

SECTION I

SIDE SADDLE EQUITATION – RULES FOR QUALIFYING CLASSES

1 MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION

1.1 Only Life, or paid up Full and Junior Members of the Side Saddle Association are eligible to win Qualifying Points, to receive Side Saddle Association rosettes and to proceed to the National Equitation Championships. (Associate Members, or competitors who are not Members of the Association, are therefore not eligible to win Qualifying Points, receive the Association's rosettes or compete in the National Equitation Championships).

1.2.1 **JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP.** A Junior Member is a Member who has attained their 5th birthday and is aged under 18 on 1st January of the current year.

1.2.2 A Young Rider is aged over 5 years but under 14 on 1st January of the current year.

2 JUDGING CRITERIA

In all Equitation classes it is the rider and not the horse that is judged and qualifies, as there will be no reference to the sex, breeding or conformation of the horse. However, horses should, in the opinion of the judge, have manners suitable for carrying a side saddle. Horses shall be four years old or over.

2.1 Judges will take into account effective horsemanship, suppleness, straightness, poise of the rider and overall impression of the combination of the rider and horse.

2.2 Competitors should not compete under a judge who, during the previous six months, has given them individual instruction. (A Side Saddle Association Clinic is exempt). Competitors may compete Hors Concours (see 4).

2.3 The Judging criteria for Qualifying classes does not permit competitors to share a horse or pony. If a horse or pony is shared, at the Judge's discretion, the second rider competes Hors Concours (see 4) and will only ride the freestyle show (see 5.2) at the end of the class.

2.4 No persons are permitted in the ring during an Equitation class, except to bring rugs, assist with remounting or, at the judge's discretion, provide other assistance. Competitors are encouraged to dismount during other competitors' individual shows.

2.5 If any change to saddlery, clothing or equipment takes place during any Equitation class, the competitor automatically

becomes Hors Concours (see 4).

3 SUBSTITUTION OF HORSES

There will be no bar to the substitution of one horse for another in a side saddle Equitation Qualifying class.

4 HORS CONCOURS COMPETITORS

4.1 Members competing Hors Concours must ensure that the Show Secretary, Judge, and Ring Steward are informed before the commencement of the class.

4.2 Competitors must provide and wear a white armband.

4.3 Members competing Hors Concours will only be awarded 2 Qualifying Points; they may not receive Side Saddle Association Rosettes, Show Rosettes or any Prize.

5 SIDE SADDLE EQUITATION QUALIFYING CLASS JUDGING PROCEDURE

5.1 Competitors enter the ring together and are required by the Judge to walk, trot and canter on the right rein, followed by a change of rein through trot and canter left, before being called into line.

5.2 Each competitor is asked to give a freestyle show not exceeding 2 minutes, including some walk on one rein, and trot and canter on each rein.

5.3 Each competitor's saddle and turnout will be inspected after completing the freestyle Show. (See Turnout Guidelines).

5.4 LATECOMERS. Competitors who enter the ring after the class has started trotting may only compete Hors Concours (see 4).

5.5 LEAD REIN competitors may only compete Hors Concours (see 4).

6 QUALIFICATION FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Competitors in Qualifying Equitation Classes are awarded Qualifying Points based on their placings, provided they are carrying their Championship Points Cards, in the ring or arena.

6.1 Qualifying Points are awarded as follows:

1st place: 5 points^[1]_[SEP] 2nd place: 4 points^[1]_[SEP] 3rd place: 3 points

2 Qualifying Points are awarded for competing but not being placed in the first three. (For Open classes, please also see 7).

6.2 No Qualifying Points are awarded in the event of a fall during a class, or in the event of a Judge removing a competitor from the Ring (see 10.2), or in the event of a competitor leaving the ring without the Judge's permission.

7 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING POINTS

7.1 Competitors in the Equitation Championship Qualifying Classes must present their Championship Points Cards in the ring in order to be signed by the Judge. Members presenting their cards after the class are only eligible for 2 Qualifying Points regardless of their class placing.

7.2 In Open classes, competitors will receive the affiliating Show's trophies, rosettes and prize monies as they stand.

7.3 S.S.A. rosettes and Qualifying Points shall be awarded to eligible Adult and Junior Members as two sections; i.e. the three highest placed Adult Members and the three highest placed Junior Members will each receive S.S.A. rosettes and Qualifying Points to third place. All other Members receive 2 points each.

7.4 The Young Rider rosette sponsored by Southernden Farm will be awarded to the highest placed rider aged under 14 on 1st January.

7.5 2 Qualifying Points shall be awarded to Adult and Junior Members who participate as mounted guinea pigs at S.S.A. Examinations and Seminars. Championship Points Cards must be presented on the day.

7.6 Continuation cards can be obtained from the Hon. General Secretary.

8 TURNOUT ROSETTES

8.1 In Open, Adult and Junior Equitation Qualifying Classes, Side Saddle International offers a rosette to the highest placed Adult Member and Manor Grange Stud Show Centre offers a rosette to the highest placed Junior Member, whom the Judge considers to be the best turned out.

9 QUALIFIER FOR THE SIR LANCELOT MEMORIAL TROPHY (selected shows only)

9.1 A Special rosette will be offered to the Adult Member of the S.S.A. Area in which the show is organised, who is judged, during the Equitation Class, (irrespective of final placing) to be the most elegant. That Member will be eligible to compete in the Final for the Sir Lancelot Memorial Trophy (donated by the late Mrs. E. Skelton) at the National Side Saddle Show. A Member may only qualify once per season between one National Show and the next, and if the Judge's first choice has already qualified, the rosette will be awarded to the next eligible competitor.

9.2 Up to two 'Sir Lancelot' Qualifiers may be organised by each Area each year. These are held by invitation of the Chairman of the S.S.A. Area in which the Show(s) is/are held.

10 JUDGES

10.1 All Equitation Qualifying Classes must be judged by a current S.S.A. Panel Judge who is either a Life, Full, Associate or Honorary Member. Judges are responsible for checking from the current S.S.A. Shows and Fixtures List that they are judging at a correctly affiliated show.

10.2 Judges have the right to remove from the Ring any Competitor who in their opinion uses the whip excessively, or whose Saddlery or Equipment becomes unsafe during the class, or whose horse is:

- (i) unruly
- (ii) lame, or in a condition which the Judge considers unsuitable for competition
- (iii) wearing a saddle that is likely to cause it discomfort
- (iv) wearing a saddle that is dangerous.

10.3 In all matters the Judge's decision is final, and the Judge should not be consulted at any time.

10.4 A Judge may only take one Probationary Judge at any one show. Judges are eligible to recommend a Probationary Judge or take a Probationary Judge at a show providing they do not have an * against their name in the Judges' List.

10.5 Sir Lancelot Memorial Trophy will be judged by a recognised Panel or invited guest judge.

10.6 A Judge may not judge more than two Sir Lancelot Qualifiers between one National Side Saddle Show and the next and preferably not more than one in the same Area.

11 TROPHIES

All trophies, which are the property of the Side Saddle Association, are deemed Perpetual Challenge Trophies.

12 LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

The Side Saddle Association accepts no liability for any accident, damage, injury or illness to horses, riders, grooms, spectators or any other person whatsoever.

SECTION II

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Any Member entering any Championship Equitation Class must have won at least 10 Qualifying Points in Qualifying classes between the previous and the current National Equitation Championship. The following additional qualifications apply:

1 In order to qualify to enter the NOVICE EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS at Junior level, Members must not have:

(i) been placed first or second in a Novice Equitation & Turnout class at the National Equitation Championships in two consecutive years.

2 In order to qualify to enter the NOVICE EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS at Adult level, Members must not have:

(i) been placed first or second in a Novice Equitation & Turnout class at the National Equitation Championships within the last three years, or

(ii) been placed in the first six in an Intermediate Equitation & Turnout class at the National Equitation Championships within the last three years, or

(iii) competed in an Open Equitation & Turnout class at any previous National Equitation Championships.

3 In order to qualify to enter the ADULT INTERMEDIATE EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS, Members must not have:

(i) been placed first or second in an Intermediate Equitation & Turnout class at the National Equitation Championships within the last three years, or

(ii) been placed in the first six in an Adult Open Equitation & Turnout class at the National Equitation Championships within the last three years.

4 In order to qualify to enter the OPEN EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS at Adult or Junior levels, Members must have:

(i) been placed first or second at least once in Qualifying classes between the dates of the previous and the current the National Equitation Championships.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(a) Members who have been placed first or second in Qualifying classes since the previous National Equitation Championships, but do not feel capable of entering the Open Equitation Championship class, may enter the appropriate Novice or Intermediate Class provided that they have gained at least 10 Qualifying Points and are otherwise eligible for the class.

(b) Members who have at any time competed in Open Equitation Championship classes or have been placed first or second in the Intermediate Equitation Championship class automatically qualify to enter the current year's Open Equitation Championship class, provided that they have won at least 10 Qualifying Points in Qualifying classes.

(c) Adult Members who were Junior Members in the previous year may enter the Adult Equitation Championship class of their

choice, provided that they have gained the appropriate qualifications for the class.

- (d) Each Equitation Championship will have its own Test, which will be published in the current year's Shows and Fixtures List and on the website.
- (e) At the National Side Saddle Show, Members may enter only one Championship class.
- (f) At the National Side Saddle Show, a Newcomer is a Member who has not previously competed in an Equitation Championship class at any level.

B. RIDER OF THE YEAR ^[SEP]AND OTHER CHAMPIONS

Please see the **NOTE** explaining the scoring method at the end of Section B.

1 The Adult Side Saddle Rider of the Year shall be the Adult Member, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Adult Open Equitation Championship class and the Adult Open Equitation Jumping. During the year as title-holder, the Rider of the Year may be required to represent the S.S.A. at certain events.

2.1 The Junior Side Saddle Rider of the Year shall be the Junior Member, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Junior Open Equitation Championship class and the Junior Open Equitation Jumping class.

2.2 The Young Rider of the Year shall be the Young Rider, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Young Rider section of the Junior Open Equitation Championship class and the Young Rider section of the Junior Open Equitation Jumping class.

3 The Adult Intermediate Champion shall be the Adult Member, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Adult Intermediate Equitation Championship Class and the Adult Intermediate Equitation Jumping Class.

4 The Adult Novice Champion shall be the Adult Member, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Adult Novice Equitation Championship Class and the Adult Novice Equitation Jumping Class.

5.1 The Junior Novice Champion shall be the Junior Member, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Junior Novice Equitation Championship Class and the Junior Novice Equitation Jumping Class.

5.2 The Young Rider Novice Champion shall be the Young Rider, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Young Rider section of the Junior Novice Equitation Championship class and the Young Rider section of the Junior Novice Equitation Jumping class.

6 The Adult Amateur Champion shall be the Adult Member, riding the same horse or pony, with highest percentage score totals from the Adult Open Equitation Championship Class and the Adult Open Equitation Jumping Class. The definition of 'Amateur' will be given in the National Side Saddle Show Schedule.

NOTE: The Rider of the Year and other Championship results are achieved by adding the total Equitation percentage marks (which include the Turnout marks) and total Equitation Jumping percentage marks (which include the Penalties marks) together and dividing by four to achieve the final percentage. In the event of a tie, the competitors with the highest percentage score totals in the Equitation riding phase shall take the highest place(s). Only those competitors entered in the Rider of the Year and other Championships shall have their percentage marks included for the overall results.

C. OVERSEAS COMPETITORS

1 Overseas Members may compete in Equitation Championship classes at Junior, Intermediate or Open level without Qualifying Points.

2 Overseas Members are not eligible for any of the Equitation Championship titles without having gained appropriate Qualifying Points (Section IIA).

3 In Equitation and Equitation Jumping classes, English habits, and hard hats where required, are compulsory.

4 In all other classes, Overseas Members may wear traditional habits.

5 The Adult Overseas Champion shall be the Adult Overseas Member, riding the same horse or pony, with the highest percentage score totals from the Adult Open Equitation Championship class and the Adult Open Equitation Jumping class. See NOTE at the end of Section B.

D. CONDUCT OF CHAMPIONSHIP EQUITATION TESTS

1 The Tests will be conducted in accordance with the Side Saddle Association Rules as they appear in the current Members' Handbook.

2 The approximate time allowed for each test is 5 minutes.

3 The arena for the Open and Intermediate tests measures 20m x 60m, and for the Novice tests 20m x 40m.

4 Scale of marks for all tests: ^[SEP]10 – excellent, 9 – very good, ^[SEP]8 – good, 7 – fairly good, 6 – satisfactory, 5 – sufficient, 4 – insufficient, ^[SEP]3 – fairly bad, 2 – bad, 1 – very bad, ^[SEP]0 – not performed.

- 5 Penalties for error of course: 1st error = 2 marks, 2nd error = 4 marks, 3rd error = 8 marks, 4th error = elimination.
- 6 Equitation Championship tests may not be commanded or performed on a lead rein.
- 7 Judges will assess the Correctness of the Rider's position and the Influence on the Horse/Pony's way of going and the Stability and Balance of the Saddle.

E. EQUITATION JUMPING

Competitors may only compete once in any Equitation Jumping class, but may ride subsequent rounds, the National Side Saddle Show excepted, Hors Concours on another horse or horses.

1 THE COURSE

- (a) The course shall consist of at least six fences: rustic, coloured or a mixture of both.
- (b) Maximum height of fences (competitors may select at which height they would like to jump within their relevant class):
- Young Rider & Junior Novice A:** Maximum number of fences 8 38 cms (1'3") max height, 30cms (1'0"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 30 cms (1'0")
- Young Rider & Junior Novice B:** Maximum number of fences 8 53 cms (1'9") max height, 38 cms (1'3"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 46 cms (1'6")
- Young Rider & Junior Open A:** Maximum number of fences 8 53 cms (1'9") max height, 38 cms (1'3"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 46 cms (1'6")
- Young Rider & Junior Open B:** Maximum number of fences 8 70 cms (2'3") max height, 46 cms (1'6"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 61 cms (2'0")
- Adult Novice A:** Maximum number of fences 8 70 cms (2'3") max height, 46 cms (1'6"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 61 cms (2'0")
- Adult Novice B:** Maximum number of fences 8 76 cms (2'6") max height, 61 cms (2'0"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 70 cms (2'3")
- Adult Intermediate A:** Maximum number of fences 9 76 cms (2'6") max height, 61 cms (2'0"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 70 cms (2'3")
- Adult Intermediate B:** Maximum number of fences 9 84 cms (2'9") max height, 70 cms (2'3"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 76 cms (2'6")
- Adult Open A:** Maximum number of fences 10 84 cms (2'9") max height, 70 cms (2'3"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 76 cms (2'6")
- Adult Open B:** Maximum number of fences 10 91 cms (3'0") max height, 76 cms (2'6"), max spread, first 2 fences max height 84 cms (2'9")
- (c) It is recommended that the first fence is built on the right rein towards the collecting ring
- (d) Doubles and 'dog leg' turns MAY NOT be included at any level

2 JUDGING

- 2.1 Two judges, marking independently, and positioned in different areas of the Arena, will judge the competitors. At the National Equitation Championships there will be a third judge who will be adjudicating the Penalties only; these Penalties will be deducted from each set of Bonus points from the other judges.
- 2.2 The two Judges will take into account effective horsemanship, suppleness, straightness, poise of the rider, the presentation of the horse to the obstacle, the rider's position and the fluency and correct style of both horse and rider over the obstacle and when landing.
- 2.3 Each obstacle will attract a maximum of 10 bonus marks using the following scale: 10 – excellent, 9 – very good, 8 – good, 7 – fairly good, 6 – satisfactory, 5 – sufficient, 4 – insufficient, 3 –fairly bad, 2 – bad, 1 – very bad, 0 – not performed.
- An overall general impression mark out of 20 will be awarded.
- 2.4 In the event of a tie, the Bonus Marks (excluding penalties) will take precedence, followed by the Overall General Impression marks.
- 2.5 Each competitor will commence the round immediately after the bell (no salute required).

3 PENALTIES

From the bonus marks awarded, the following penalties will be deducted:

Knocking down any part of an obstacle, including a wing: 2 penalties 1st refusal: 3 penalties 2nd refusal: 6 penalties 3rd refusal: Elimination

Re-crossing original track will be considered a refusal.	Taking wrong course:	Elimination
Fall of horse and/or rider in ring:		Elimination
Horse and rider leaving the arena:		Elimination
Any outside assistance:		10 penalties

4 SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT

- 4.1 Any conventional bridle, with bit, may be used.
- 4.2 Only one noseband may be used. It may be either a cavesson, flash, grackle or drop noseband.
- 4.3 Martingales are permitted, either running or standing. Neck-straps are permitted.
- 4.4 No side reins, running, draw, check or bearing reins are allowed. Market Harboroughs are not allowed.
- 4.5 Boots and bandages are allowed.
- 4.6 Blinkers and hoods are not allowed.
- 4.7 A whip not more than 1 metre (39") in length may be carried.
- 4.8 A blunt spur is optional for Adults but may not be worn by Juniors.
- 4.9 Back protectors are permitted. If a jacket is not worn, a sweater of a colour similar to that of the apron must be worn.
- 4.10 Hats to Current Safety Standard or above must be worn.

SECTION III

ADDITIONAL CLASSES AVAILABLE TO AFFILIATING SHOWS

The Judge for the following classes shall be a S.S.A. Panel Judge or a judge from any other appropriate judges' panel.

SIDE SADDLE RIDING CLUB HORSE/PONY OPEN CLASS

Hats to Current Safety Standard or above must be worn.

Open to horses and ponies 4 years old or over. Riders will be required to give a short show including a small jump, maximum height 61cms (2') excluding the National Show. The height may be adjusted during the course of the class at the Judge's discretion. The class shall be judged on the show, the manners of the horse/pony, and its suitability for the rider. Conformation will not be considered. A Special rosette will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the S.S.A.

BEST HORSE OR PONY ^[1]_[SEP] RIDDEN SIDE SADDLE

Open to horses or ponies 4 years old or over: conformation and manners will be taken into consideration. Horses/ponies will not be stripped. Special rosette to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the S.S.A. The Highest placed coloured exhibit (who has not already qualified) receives a Special rosette and qualifies for the Side Saddle Final at the CHAPS Championship Show.

CONCOURS d'ÉLÉGANCE CLASSES

The Judges for the following two classes must be on the current S.S.A. or any appropriate judging panel but may be assisted by a Celebrity or Sponsor.

SIDE SADDLE CONCOURS d'ÉLÉGANCE

The sole criterion for this class is the elegance of the picture presented by horse and rider. Attention may be paid to the rider's personal appearance, but detailed inspection of rider or tack is not required. Fancy dress or period costume is not permitted. Competitors are required to walk, trot and canter. No individual show is required, but the Judge may ask groups of three or four riders to give short displays. A Special rosette will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the S.S.A. carrying their current Championship Points Cards. **N.B.** Silk hats are permitted to be worn by Adults in this class **AT ANY TIME OF DAY.**

Juniors must wear hats to Current Safety Standard or above for this class.

Where this class is a main ring attraction Shows may, at their discretion, limit entries to adult competitors only and the rosette provided for the highest placed Junior will not be awarded.

SIDE SADDLE COSTUME ^[1]_[SEP] CONCOURS d'ÉLÉGANCE

The sole criterion for this class is the elegance of the picture presented by horse/pony and rider and the way of going of the horse/pony. Safe tack must be used. Detailed inspection of the rider's period costume is not required. Fancy Dress is not permitted. Competitors are required to walk, trot and canter. No individual show is required, but the judge may ask small groups of riders to give short displays. A Special rosette will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the S.S.A. carrying their current Championship Points Cards.

Competitors should produce a brief written résumé of their costume for the Commentator.

Juniors must wear hats to Current Safety Standard or above for this class.

QUALIFIER FOR THE CLASSICAL LADIES SIDE SADDLE FINAL

The Judge must be on the current S.S.A., SHBGB, BSHA, BSPS, or P(UK) Judging Panels

A maximum of 3 qualifiers per annum are permitted for S.S.A. Area run Shows

Open to S.S.A. Adult Members and Non-members, aged 18 and over on January 1st of the current year, riding side saddle, on horses exceeding 148cms (14.2hh). To be judged 25% conformation and action, 25% manners and way of going, 25% rider, and 25% turnout of horse & rider, by a SHBGB, BSHA, BSPS, P(UK) or S.S.A. Panel Judge. Judges may request a short show, but will not ride exhibits; horses will not be stripped. Traditional habits must be worn. Fancy Dress and Period Costumes NOT permitted. **N.B.** Silk hats are permitted to be worn in this class AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY, UNLESS SHOW SCHEDULE WORDING STIPULATES SAFETY HATS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES. Judges are requested to use the mark sheet provided. The highest placed horse/rider combination qualifies for the Final to be held at the National Side Saddle Show. In the event of previous qualification, this may be passed down to fourth place. **Special rosettes** are offered by **Mrs. T. Mitchell** to the winner and if the winner has already qualified, a second rosette is awarded with the Qualification Card. Qualifying combinations are required to become Full Members of the S.S.A. 21 days prior to the National Side Saddle Show or as soon as possible if qualified after that date to be eligible to compete at the Final. Combinations qualifying between one National Side Saddle Show and the next may carry forward the qualification, for that year only.

The highest placed **Riding Horse, Hack** (not exceeding 160cm), **Cob** or **Hunter**, Mare or Gelding, 4 years and over, ridden by a S.S.A. Adult Member qualifies for the current year's **BSHA Championship Show DMSL Phone Systems Ladies Show Horse Championship** and if already qualified the ticket will go to the next highest placed horse down to 5th place. Combinations qualifying after the current year's BSHA Championship Show may carry forward the qualification to the following year. **S.S.A. Members** who qualify for **The Ladies Show Horse Championship**, will not be required to join the BSHA in order to compete in any **Side Saddle class at the BSHA National Championship Show**. If the BSHA Championship Show entries have closed at the time of qualification, competitors will not be charged a late entry fee for the Championship.

EQUITATION JUMPING^(SSEP) (to be run under S.S.A. Rules)

The course shall consist of six to ten fences: rustic, coloured or a mixture of both. Maximum heights of fences – see page 18.

Hats to Current Safety Standard or above must be worn.

Shows may title their class(es) at their discretion.

PONY RIDER SIDE SADDLE STAKES

Open to ponies not exceeding 148cms (14.2hh). The course will consist of 6 to 10 obstacles, minimum height of 46cms (1'6") and maximum height of 61cms (2'), spread not to exceed 61cms (2'). There will be no doubles.

HORSE STARTER^(SSEP) SIDE SADDLE STAKES

Open to Horses exceeding 148cms (14.2hh). The course will consist of 6 to 10 obstacles, minimum height of 61cms (2') and maximum height of 76cms (2'6"), spread not to exceed 76cms (2'6"). There will be one double of uprights.

TOP HAT SIDE SADDLE STAKES

Open to Adult riders only. The course will consist of 6 to 10 obstacles, minimum height 84cms (2'9"), maximum 91cms (3'0") approx., and spread not to exceed 91cms (3'0"). In the event of a tie after the first round there will be a timed jump-off.

FOR AFFILIATING S.S.A. AREA RUN or SHOW RUN BY S.S.A. MEMBER SHOWS ONLY

SIDE SADDLE INTERNATIONAL ADULT AND JUNIOR INTERMEDIATE EQUITATION QUALIFYING CLASS

Adult Members – see the qualifications for the Adult Intermediate Equitation Championships in Section II (2) and for Juniors Members who have not been placed in the first 6 in a previous Junior Open Championship Class within the last three years.

NON-QUALIFYING^(SSEP) EQUITATION CLASSES

These classes are designed only for Area or Members' Shows. Shows may vary the entry qualifications of these classes in order to attract further novice or restricted entries at their discretion. The Schedule will clearly state the Show's rules regarding turnout.

SIDE SADDLE INTERNATIONAL^(SSEP) NOVICE SIDE SADDLE EQUITATION CLASS

Side Saddle International Rosettes will be awarded to the 3 highest placed S.S.A. Members.

Open to riders who have never competed in a Side Saddle Association Equitation Qualifying class. A short simple show will be required. (Qualifying Points for Equitation championship classes at the National Equitation Championships are not awarded in this class.)

SIDE SADDLE INTERNATIONAL RESTRICTED SIDE SADDLE EQUITATION CLASS

Side Saddle International Rosettes will be awarded to the 3 highest placed S.S.A. Members.

Open to riders who have never been placed in the first three in a Side Saddle Association Equitation Qualifying class. A short simple show will be required. (Qualifying Points for Equitation championship classes at the National Equitation Championships are not awarded in this class.)

YOUNG SIDE SADDLE RIDER PONY CLASS

Ponies not to exceed 138cm (13.2hh). Open to Riders aged between 5 and 10 years on 1st January of the current year. Any conventional bridle with bit may be used. Spurs are not permitted. Riders need not wear habits. Lead Reins permitted. No cantering is allowed except for individual performances. The Judge will take into account the horsemanship, suppleness, straightness, poise of the rider and manners and suitability of the pony.

HISTORICAL SIDE SADDLE CLASS

(Guidelines are available from the Hon. General Secretary)

The Judge should have a sound knowledge of historical apparel.

This class will be judged at walk. The Judge will inspect competitor's attire and horse/pony's tack closely, for historical accuracy, when the class is lined up. Competitors must submit a brief résumé about their apparel, together with a photograph of the copied costume, to confirm authenticity. 2 special rosettes will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the S.S.A.

Lead Rein Competitors are eligible for this class.

Juniors must wear hats to Current Safety Standards or above, for this class.

OTHER CLASSES

WORKING HUNTER AND WORKING HUNTER PONY CLASSES

Hats to Current Safety Standard must be worn for the jumping phase of these classes.

Junior competitors must wear a hat to Current Safety Standard or above throughout these classes.

These classes may be combined at the Judge's discretion.

Riders may be of any age. In all working hunter classes, the spread of the obstacle may not exceed the height.

SIDE SADDLE^[SEP] OPEN WORKING HUNTER

Open to horses exceeding 148cms (14.2hh). Height of fences: maximum 84cms (2'9"). This class will be judged in accordance with SHBGB mark sheets.

SIDE SADDLE^[SEP] OPEN WORKING HUNTER PONY

Open to ponies not exceeding 153cms (15hh). Fences not to exceed 76cms (2'6"). If the class is split into height groups, ponies not exceeding 143cms (14hh) will jump a course not exceeding 69cms (2'3"); ponies not exceeding 133cms (13hh) a course not exceeding 61cms (2').

SHOW JUMPING CLASSES

To be judged in accordance with BS rules. Table A7 and speed 325mpm. The maximum permitted length of whip, including the tassel, is 1 metre (39").

Hats to Current Safety Standard or above must be worn.

SPECIAL ROSETTES

The S.S.A. offers Shows the option of awarding rosettes to the highest placed Side Saddle Association Member in such classes as Ladies' Hunter, Ladies' Hack, Side Saddle Show Pony etc.

SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT^[SEP] required by other societies/shows

DRESSAGE:

BRITISH DRESSAGE rules apply concerning biting and saddlery, with the exception that Double or Pelham bridles are permitted in Freestyle to Music classes at the National Side Saddle Show. British Dressage Walk & Trot, Preliminary & Novice Dressage Tests may only be ridden in a snaffle bridle. For competitors' dress, see Equitation Turnout Guidelines (subject to individual Show Rules).

RIDING CLUB DRESSAGE rules state that a whip may be carried in Horse Trials and Dressage Championships and qualifying classes for these championships by competitors riding side saddle.

PONY CLUB DRESSAGE. Some Tests may be ridden in a Snaffle or Simple Double bridle, and others only in a Snaffle. Please check carefully.

No protection of the horses' legs is permitted in any dressage test.

All Dressage and Dressage to Music Test Sheets may be obtained from British Dressage, The National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire. CV8 2RJ.

WORKING HUNTER:

SHBGB Rules apply. A change of saddle is permitted to enable the judge to ride, if she or he does not ride side saddle.

WORKING HUNTER PONY:

BSPS Rules apply.

SHOW JUMPING:

BS Rules apply.

EQUITATION JUMPING:

See Rules under Equitation Jumping.

S.S.A. EQUITATION:

See Turnout Guidelines (subject to individual Show Rules).

OTHER CLASSES:

Appropriate Society affiliation rules from the show schedule override S.S.A. rules.