

GUIDELINES FOR TURNOUT IN ALL SIDE SADDLE CLASSES AND DISPLAYS (EXCEPT HISTORICAL AND COSTUME CONCOURS CLASSES)

1 ADULT WEARING A BOWLER HAT

1.1 Side saddle habit of a restrained hue with long black boots. OR

1.2 Tweed or discreet check habit (e.g. Prince of Wales) with long boots. If brown boots are worn, it should be with a brown bowler and black boots with a black bowler (never mixed). Garter straps for boots optional in 1.1 and 1.2. If worn, they should be of correct length for rider's leg and the buckle on the centre of the knee, attached by a button or loop.

1.3 A blunt spur or spur band to be worn on counter (seam) of boot. Straps to fit boot neatly.

1.4 The hem of the habit apron should be parallel to the ground, and the bottom of the hem should be approximately one hand's width above the left counter (seam) of the boot. The right toe should never show under any circumstances. The habit should be made of sufficient weight to prevent the apron blowing around in the wind.

1.5 The hem of the jacket should not touch the back of the horse, and ideally should be just clear of the back of the saddle.

1.6 Breeches of a colour similar to or the same as that of the habit. Light coloured breeches (if worn) must not show at any time.

1.7 The bowler hat should be a safety bowler and be worn with an unwrinkled ideally matching coloured veil (e.g. brown with brown bowler) that does not show above the brim of the hat. The back of the veil to be fastened centrally in the brim of the hat in either a V-shape, or meeting centrally on or crossed over, the bun. The veil can be rolled, or cut and re-threaded to fit the wearer if too large. The brim of the hat should be parallel to the ground and just above the eyebrows.

1.8 Hair should be worn in a bun (real or false) no bigger than the size of a small doughnut, and the bun should be high enough to touch the underside of the brim of the hat. This is optional when a Current Standard Safety Hat is worn, however a bun should not interfere with the fitting of the safety hat. Hair should be held tidily, with no wisps, in fine mesh hairnets of the same colour as the hair.

1.9 A shirt (either plain or discreetly striped) with snugly fitting collar and tie, the tie securely fastened (tie-pin optional).

1.10 Waistcoats should not be brightly coloured (e.g. red). The fastening of the bottom button is optional.

1.11 Brown or tan leather gloves (never black) or string gloves of similar hue.

1.12 Hunt Buttons and/or Collars should only be worn by those entitled to do so. No floral buttonholes may be worn. SSA badges may be worn.

1.13 No visible jewellery or earrings or studs covered with plasters are permitted in any side saddle class or activities (medical reasons excluded with a certificate).

1.14 A rigid cane or flexible stick not more than one metre in length will be carried to be used as a right leg aid. Flexible dressage type sticks should be of the leather covered type and the tassel should not be of a bright colour.

1.15 Where a rider chooses to wear a hat to Current Safety Standard or above, the guidelines above apply, with the exception of the veil. Back Protectors may be worn.

2 ADULT WEARING A SILK HAT

Only correct if worn after midday at shows of county standard and upwards, and never for preliminary judging, unless class or show rules permit.

2.1 Side saddle habit of dark hue with long black boots.

2.2 Hunting tie or stock made of plain, unpatterned cotton, cotton mix or silk, worn over a collarless shirt, and tied if shaped as for hunting, or if fourfold as for showing, both ways pinned with a plain stock-pin or hunting tie-pin horizontally through the knot.

2.3 Garter straps, spur, veil, bun, breeches, waistcoat, whip, and jewellery as in Section 1.

2.4 Gloves of dark brown or tan leather or cream chamois leather.

2.5 A lady's silk hat the height of the crown should measure between 120mm (43/4") and 133mm (51/4"), depending on the height of the wearer.

3 JUNIOR RIDER

Aged under 18 on the previous 1st of January.

As in Section 1 except:

3.1 Hat to Current Safety Standard or above to be worn.

3.2 A blunt spur or spur band is permitted in any class on the flat; but not in any class involving jumping.

3.3 Hair ribbons (if worn) to be plain black, brown or navy, and hair (however worn) should be exceptionally neat and tidy.

3.4 A cane/ flexible stick not to exceed 76 cms when riding a pony not exceeding 148cms or one metre, when riding a pony/horse exceeding 148cms, and of sufficient length to be used as a right leg aid.

3.5 In the case of small children, black or brown jodhpur boots are acceptable regardless of colour of habit. Plain gaiters may be worn, but not half-chaps.

4 GENTLEMAN RIDERS

4.1 For all classes except as stipulated in 4.2, gentleman riders to wear traditional Ratcatcher. Bowler (or a hat to Current Safety Standard or above), collar, tie, tweed coat, breeches, boots and spur. Back protectors may be worn.

4.2 When ladies are permitted to wear silk hats (see Section 2), gentlemen may wear a silk hat, collar, tie, black tail coat and waistcoat, salopets or close fitting military trousers, spur, brown, fawn or tan gloves.

4.3 Junior Riders refer to 1.10 to 1.13, and 3.1, 3.2, 3.4 and 3.5.

5 HORSE OR PONY

5.1 Correctly fitting English type side saddle (with or without breastplate) with safety fitting or, if the saddle has a roller bar, a safety stirrup. The inside measurement of the stirrup should be at least 12mm (half an inch) wider than the boot. A correctly fitting black stirrup tread may be used. Numnahs (when worn) should be well fitting and unobtrusive to the eye. Wykeham pads are permitted, but must fit the saddle.

5.2 Saddle linen should be correctly whitened (lightly applied and with no old flaking whitener left on), or if left unwhitened, should have no marks or rust stains visible. Clean serge lining is permitted, particularly in the case of ponies, but should not be whitened.

5.3 Threefold leather girth (or lampwick), with central loop if full length balance girth is fitted.

5.4 Optional leather balance girth, full length, or attached to the girth.

5.5 Correctly fitting bridle with bit(s), plain browband and leather reins (plain or plaited or laced) of a length so as not to catch on the knee or right toe. If two reins with buckles are used they must be fastened and point in the same direction. Pelham and double bridles may only be used with a cavesson noseband.

5.6 Snaffle bridles may have a cavesson, flash, drop or Grackle noseband. If rider is wearing a silk hat, a double or Pelham-type bridle (with two reins, curb chain and a lipstrap) must be worn.

5.7 Martingales, boots and bandages are NOT permitted except in Equitation Jumping

5.8 Fly fringes, nose gauzes and ear covers are permitted for equitation and equitation jumping classes provided they are discreet, of a colour to match the horse/pony and competitors are carrying a current annual Veterinary letter, which clearly states the reason.

5.9 Cruppers may be used, but must be correctly fitted.

5.10 Pure-bred native breeds and other breeds whose governing bodies stipulate unplaited manes or tails, need not be plaited.

6 ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR NON EQUITATION, SSA AFFILIATED CLASSES

6.1 Where the schedule states Hats to Current Safety Standards or above to be worn, in classes where a Silk Hat could be worn competitors may wear a hunting tie/ stock or shirt and tie. If wearing a hunting tie/stock the horse should be ridden in two reins.

Turnout hints and tips can be found in the Members only section of the SSA website