



RULE BOOK

2016

The Veteran Horse Society
PO Box 70
Cardigan
SA43 9AJ

Tel: 01239 881300

info@veteran-horse-society.co.uk
www.veteran-horse-society.co.uk

CONTENTS

GENERAL RULES
COMPLAINTS / DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE
WELFARE
SHOWING GUIDELINES
SHOWING GUIDELINES (HORSE & PONIES)
TURNOUT & TACK
MARKING SYSTEM
SHOWING CLASSES
THE VHS SHOWING SERIES – ENGLAND & WALES (*Area, Regional, Direct & Supreme*)
THE VHS SHOWING SERIES – SCOTLAND (*Area, Regional, Direct & Supreme*)
OPEN CLASS QUALIFIERS (AMATEURS & PROFESSIONALS)
NATIONAL VETERAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS
NEW JUDGES APPLICATIONS
USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA
DRESSAGE
PERFORMANCE AWARDS

All competitors/members are to abide by Veteran Horse Society rules at all times.



The Veteran Horse Society
PO Box 70,
Cardigan
SA43 9AJ
01239 881300

The Veteran Horse Society Supreme Finals 2016
25th September 2016

The National Veteran Open Championships 2016
23rd - 25th September 2016

*Bury Farm Equestrian Village,
Slapton, Buckinghamshire, LU7 9BT*

GENERAL RULES

1. Horses and ponies shown in-hand or ridden must be 15 years old or over, except in the case of Specialist Racehorse classes (9R & 10R) where the lower age limit is 12.
2. All horses and ponies must be in a sound and healthy condition. Any veteran showing signs of distress or lameness will be asked to leave the ring.
3. The Society does not accept any liability for any accident, injury, loss, damage or illness to any riders, handlers, spectators, horses, ponies or to any property whatsoever and howsoever caused.
4. The Director of the Society, Julianne Aston, reserves the right to amend rules/classes at her discretion. All changes will be advertised on the website. Members are to understand and familiarise themselves with the rules and to regularly check the website for updates.
5. All membership, showing & dressage cards will be signed by the VHS Secretary and shall remain the property and copyright of the Veteran Horse Society.
6. Equine passports must always accompany the horse/pony when travelling & competing and must be produced on request.
7. All personal membership will run from 1st January to 31st December.
8. All membership/registration fees are non-refundable.
9. Please be aware that dope testing may take place at any show affiliated to VHS. The rules and policies of the show will take precedence over VHS rules.
10. Members are advised to have a personal & public liability Insurance cover.
11. Excessive use of whips/showing canes or misuse of any equipment will result in immediate exclusion from the show ring. Membership will be revoked with immediate effect.
12. Remedial shoeing is permitted and will not be penalised, providing the horse/pony is sound.

COMPLAINTS / DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

1. Members or non-members wishing to register an objection or complaint must put this in writing within 5 working days of the incident happening before the matter can be investigated.
2. Any complaint at a show must be made to the Show Secretary or VHS representative within 30 minutes of the incident. A fee of £25.00 must accompany any complaint. The complaint must be made in writing, signed and contact name and address given.
3. Any welfare issue regarding any veteran, will be acted on immediately. Full details of the horse & rider/handler are required and must be included in the written complaint.
4. All complaints will be taken seriously and responded to within 14 working days of the date the written complaint is received.
5. Any member found to have brought Veteran Horse Society into disrepute through cruelty, dishonesty or inappropriate behaviour will have their membership/registrations/affiliations revoked with immediate effect and further action may be taken against the rider/handler/owner.

WELFARE

1. The Judge may ask the competitor to leave the ring should the welfare of the veteran be compromised.
2. In extreme heat, the Judge may stop the class at any point. It is advised that in extremely hot conditions, the veteran may be offered natural cover in the ring if this is available and competitors may remove their jackets, provided they have a shirt sleeve of at least elbow length. In heat of 35 degrees or more it is expected that the Judge may cancel the class for the welfare of the veterans. This however, is by decision of the Judge on the day.
3. If any horse is seen to have welfare issues, Judges must report this immediately after the show/class has finished to Julianne Aston.

SHOWING GUIDELINES

1. All show dates will be advertised on the Veteran Horse Society's website.
2. Showing registration will run from 1st January to 31st December.
3. All juniors will require a parent/guardian signature on their membership application/ renewal.
4. Lead rein riders (3-9 years of age). No child under 3 years old may compete. Lear rein riders are not to have attained their 10th birthday before the first of January in the current showing year.
5. Juniors riders/handlers (16 years and under). Handlers **must** be competent enough to handle the veteran without assistance. Riders/handlers not to have attained their 17th birthday before the first of January in the current showing year.
6. All juniors in the ridden section must be capable of walk, trot & canter.
7. The parent/guardian of any child on a first ridden pony not wishing to take part in the group canter will be expected to inform the Steward before the class begins.
8. Riders/handlers of stallions must have attained their 16th birthday before the first of January in the current showing year.
9. All riders/handlers are to be a suitable size and weight for the veteran.
10. Mares in foal or with foals at foot are not permitted to compete.
11. Members and non-members must adhere to VHS rules for all VHS affiliated classes.
12. Competitors must be Amateurs - Horse/ponies must be produced and shown by a competitor who has not been involved with professionally producing for the show ring at any time, past or present. The only exception to this rule is in the VHS Open Class Series.
The VHS definition of a Professional Showing Producer/Rider/Handler: A person who produces (including preparation and schooling), rides or handles equines for the show ring for financial gain. A person who earns finances from a general equine career does not apply i.e. riding school, livery, instructor etc.
13. Riders/handlers may not exhibit under any judge who has, in the past 3 years, had financial interest in that equine, or any other equine belonging to the rider/handler. This includes producing, riding, schooling, instructing, livery, selling, buying, breeding etc.
14. Riders/handlers may not knowingly exhibit a horse/pony which has been bred by the Judge.
15. Late entries will not be allowed into the ring once the initial order to trot has been given.
16. Competitors may not leave or return to the show ring without the Judge's/Steward's permission. Where a competitor has been granted permission to leave the ring, it is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure they return before final judging. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
17. Any fall of horse/rider will result in disqualification.
18. Mobile phones are not permitted in the show ring.
19. Judges should refrain from physical contact with any horse or rider during judging.
20. The Judge's decision is final. Confrontation with a judge in or outside the ring is strictly forbidden and will result in disciplinary action and may lead to membership being permanently revoked.

SHOWING GUIDELINES (HORSES & PONIES)

1. Horses/ponies that have suffered injuries in the past resulting in scarring or blemishes will not be penalised within the marking system, providing the horse/pony has completely recovered and is showing no signs of discomfort.
2. Anything that alters the natural colour or conformation of the horse or pony is strictly forbidden.
3. The Judge will not ride. An individual show is expected, this may or may not be set by the Judge.
4. Galloping is not allowed in any VHS classes. Any intentional galloping will lead to disqualification.
5. Each competitor will be asked a brief history of the veteran by the Judge.

TURNOUT & TACK

Handlers

1. Handlers must wear suitable smart attire.
2. Jacket to be of plain colour or tweed.
3. Jodhpurs or smart trousers.
4. Gloves should be worn.
5. Suitable, smart, safe footwear.
6. No visible jewellery or piercings to be worn.
7. Long hair to be neatly fastened and contained within a hair net. Juniors may wear long plaits but loose pony tails are not allowed.
8. Suitable hats to be worn. No baseball caps. It is strongly recommended that all competitors wear correctly secured riding hats in accordance with the current approved BSI or European standard.

Riders

9. Spurs may not be worn by any riders under any circumstances (with the exception of side-saddle exhibits where SSA rules apply and BD affiliated qualifying classes where BD rules apply).
10. Jacket to be of plain colour or tweed.
11. Jodhpurs to be plain, beige or canary yellow in colour.
12. Shirt of a discreet colour with tie or stock.
13. Gloves should be worn.
14. Jodhpur boots or long riding boots.
15. No visible jewellery or piercings to be worn.
16. It is **mandatory** for all competitors to wear correctly secured riding hats to the current approved BSI or European standard (with the exception of side-saddle exhibits where SSA rules apply).

Grooms

17. To wear a hat, smart attire and suitable footwear (see rules for handlers above).
18. Shorts, jeans, wellington boots and baseball caps are not allowed.
19. Marks **will be deducted** for poorly turned out grooms and they may be asked to leave the ring.

Horse/Pony

20. Tack must be in good, clean condition and correctly fitted.
21. Lead rein exhibits must be shown in a snaffle bridle. The lead rein must be attached to the noseband at all times during the class. Riders of lead rein ponies are not permitted to carry whips.
22. Stallions must be bitted.
23. Showing canes/whips exceeding 76cm will not be permitted (with the exception of side-saddle exhibits where SSA rules apply).
24. No item of tack can be removed or exchanged whilst a class is in progress without the Judge's permission.
25. Plain, discreet protective boots may only be used in very exceptional circumstances. Written veterinary advice to do so must have been given along with written approval from head office. Boots may also be used for the jumping phase of Working Hunter and Style & Performance classes.
26. Bits – any suitable bit is acceptable. Bit-less bridles are permitted. Children under the age of 12 years are not permitted to use a double bridle or double reins.
27. Should any form of tack not be recognised as commonly used attire, please gain written permission to use this from head office. This may only be acceptable if it is for the welfare of the veteran.
28. The age of the horse/pony must be clearly displayed on the offside of the bridle. VHS age badges are supplied with showing cards in the first instance and are also available from head office (for members and non-members).

MARKING SYSTEM

- Both in-hand and ridden classes will be marked as follows:
 - Performance & manners 50 marks
 - Condition for age, suppleness & turnout 50 marks
- In the event of a tie, the 'performance & manners' mark will take precedence.
- Marks are only awarded for walk, trot and canter. Any other movements will not be marked.
- Over-weight or under-weight horses will be marked down.

SHOWING CLASSES

Foundation classes - In-Hand

- CLASS 1F **DIAMOND VETERAN IN-HAND** (25 years and over). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.
- CLASS 2F **VETERAN IN-HAND** (20–24 years). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.
- CLASS 3F **PRE-VETERAN IN-HAND** (15–19 years). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.

Foundation classes - Ridden

- CLASS 4F **DIAMOND VETERAN RIDDEN** (25 years and over). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.
- CLASS 5F **VETERAN RIDDEN** (20–24 years). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.
- CLASS 6F **PRE-VETERAN RIDDEN** (15–19 years). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.

Foundation classes - Combined age (Area Qualifiers only)

- CLASS AF **COMBINED AGE CLASS IN-HAND** (15 years and over).
To be run as one class but judged as separate age categories: Diamond Veteran (25 years and over), Veteran (20–24 years) & Pre-Veteran (15–19 years). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.
- CLASS BF **COMBINED AGE CLASS RIDDEN** (15 years and over).
To be run as one class but judged as separate age categories: Diamond Veteran (25 years and over), Veteran (20–24 years) & Pre-Veteran (15–19 years). Open to horses and ponies of any breed and height.

Specialist classes (Area Qualifiers only)

- CLASS 7M **MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND IN-HAND** (15 years and over).
Open to large and small breeds. Incorporates qualification for the VHS Regional Finals - Foundation classes.
- CLASS 8M **MOUNTAIN & MOORLAND RIDDEN** (15 years and over).
Open to large and small breeds. Incorporates qualification for the VHS Regional Finals – Foundation classes.
- CLASS 9R **RETIRED RACEHORSE IN-HAND** (12 years and over).
Open to horses that have raced and are registered with Wetherbys. Incorporates qualification for the VHS Regional Finals – Foundation classes.
- CLASS 10R **RETIRED RACEHORSE RIDDEN** (12 years and over).
Open to horses that have raced and are registered with Wetherbys. Incorporates qualification for the VHS Regional Finals – Foundation classes.

THE VHS SHOWING SERIES – ENGLAND & WALES

Area Qualifiers (Round 1)

Area Qualifiers (Round 1) are held throughout the UK, usually at local level shows. Foundation classes. Specialist classes optional. Members and non-members may compete.

Rosettes optional (not supplied for combined classes): 1st to 3rd place (members & non-members)
Regional Final qualification (red cards to non-members): 1st to 4th place (members & non-members)
Young Rider qualification and rosette: Judge's discretion (one per show)

1. Foundation Classes – Regional Final qualification will be awarded from 1st to 4th place in each age category (1F - 6F). This includes combined classes (AF & BF) where all competitors will be placed in the final class order but the Judge will award 4 qualifications in each age category.
2. Specialist Classes – Regional Final qualification will be awarded from 1st to 4th place in each class (7M, 8M 9R & 10R), irrespective of age. Qualification in an Area Specialist class entitles the combination to compete at a Regional Final(s) (Round 2) in the relevant Foundation class section.
3. Should any competitor have already qualified, then qualification should be passed down the line to a maximum to 6th place.
4. Qualifying members carrying their valid membership & showing cards will have the Regional Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. This allows entry to any Regional Final(s) (Round 2).
5. Non-members placed in a qualifying spot will be given a **red** non-members qualification card. This must be submitted to head office, together with a membership & showing card application and fee. It is advisable to retain a photocopy of any card sent by post. A signed showing card will then be sent out with the membership pack, allowing entry to Regional Final(s) (round 2).
6. Young Rider qualification – A Young Rider rosette and qualification will be given to the young rider of the Judge's choice, entitling them to enter the Young Rider Championship at the National Veteran Open Championships. This award is given at the Judge's discretion (one per show). Qualifying members carrying their valid membership & showing cards will have the Young Rider section of their showing card signed by the Judge. Qualifying non-members will be given an **orange** Young Rider card which must be submitted to head office, together with a membership & showing card application and fee in order to compete in the Young Rider Championship.

Regional Final (Round 2)

Regional Finals are open to qualified members only. Foundation classes only. It is not mandatory for shows to hold championships, although they may choose to do so.

Rosettes: 1st to 6th place (each class)

Supreme Final qualification: 1st to 2nd place (each class)

M&M Supreme Final qualification: Highest placed M&M (each class)

Young Rider qualification and rosette: Judge's discretion (one per show)

1. To compete in a Regional Final you must be a fully paid up member of VHS with valid membership card. You must also have a VHS showing card with a valid Regional Final qualification signature.
2. You will be asked to show both of these cards to the Steward on entering the ring and will **not** be allowed to enter without them.
3. No substitution of horse/pony or rider/handler will be allowed.
4. Competitors may attend up to 4 Regional Finals in any one year, providing they are within an acceptable travelling distance. If a competitor is seen to be 'chasing' Regional Finals, this may lead to their membership being revoked.
5. Supreme Final qualification – 1st and 2nd placed competitors in each class will each qualify for the Supreme Final and will have the Supreme Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. Entries to the Supreme Final **must be made within 21 days of the show date**. Late entries will not be accepted. If a competitor has already qualified or does not wish to attend, they must

refuse the qualification and pass it down the line **on the day**.

6. M&M Supreme Final qualification – The highest placed M&M in each class will qualify for the M&M Supreme Final at the National Veteran Open Championships and will have the M&M Supreme Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. It is possible for an M&M to qualify for both the Supreme Final & the M&M Supreme Final. If the competitor has already qualified or does not wish to attend, they must refuse the qualification and pass it down the line **on the day**.
7. Young Rider qualification – A Young Rider rosette and qualification will be given to the young rider of the Judge's choice, entitling them to enter the Young Rider Championship at the National Veteran Open Championships. This award is given at the Judge's discretion (one per show). Qualifying members will have the Young Rider section of their showing card signed by the Judge.

Direct Qualifiers (Round 1 & 2 combined)

Direct Qualifiers are a direct route to the Supreme Final. Foundation classes only.

Members and non-members may compete at these.

It is not mandatory for shows to hold championships, although they may choose to do so.

Rosettes: 1st to 6th place (each class, members & day-members)

Regional Final qualification (red cards to non-members): 1st to 4th place (each class, members & day-members)

Supreme Final qualification: 1st to 2nd place (each class, members & day-members)

M&M Supreme Final qualification: Highest placed M&M (each class, members & day-members)

Young Rider qualification and rosette: Judge's discretion (one per show, members & day-members)

1. Non-members wishing to take part in a Direct Qualifier must purchase day membership from VHS head office in advance of the show, at a cost of £15. They will then be provided with an age badge and a day membership card which they will need to carry in the ring. Day membership will apply to that show and that day only. Any day-member qualification signatures will be recorded on the day membership card by the Judge. This card must be submitted to head office **within 14 days of the show**, together with a full membership & showing card application and fee. It is advisable to retain a photocopy of any card sent by post. A signed showing card will then be sent out with the membership pack in order for the qualifications to become valid for use.
2. Current VHS members are not required to obtain a day membership to enter these classes.
3. Regional Final qualification – Regional Final qualification will be awarded from 1st to 4th place in each class. Qualifying competitors will have the Regional Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. This allows entry to any Regional Final(s) (Round 2). Should any competitor have already qualified, then qualification should be passed down the line to a maximum to 6th place.
4. Supreme Final qualification – 1st and 2nd placed competitors in each class will each qualify for the Supreme Final and will have the Supreme Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. Entries to the Supreme Final **must be made within 21 days of the show date** (day-members will need to become full members to do so). Late entries will not be accepted. If a competitor has already qualified or does not wish to attend, they must refuse the qualification and pass it down the line **on the day**.
5. M&M Supreme Final qualification – The highest placed M&M in each class will qualify for the M&M Supreme Final at the National Veteran Open Championships (day-members will need to become full members to enter). Qualifying competitors will have the M&M Supreme Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. It is possible for an M&M to qualify for both the Supreme Final & the M&M Supreme Final. If the competitor has already qualified or does not wish to attend, they must refuse the qualification and pass it down the line **on the day**.
6. Young Rider qualification - A Young Rider rosette and qualification will be given to the young rider of the Judge's choice, entitling them to enter the Young Rider Championship at the National Veteran Open Championships (day-members will need to become full members to do so). This award is given at the Judge's discretion (one per show). Qualifying young riders will have the Young Rider section of their showing card signed by the Judge.

The VHS Supreme Final

Bury Farm Equestrian Village on Sunday 25th September 2016

1. All entries for the Supreme Final need to be made within the allotted timescales (see Regional Final and Direct Qualifier rules).
2. Entries must be for the same combination as per the qualifying rounds. No substitution of horse/pony or rider/handler will be allowed.
3. Anyone found to have taken a second qualification for the Supreme Final with the same horse will have all qualifications revoked.
4. All entries will be required to submit a brief biography of their horse/pony which will be used by the commentator on the day.
5. Supreme Final classes will be held for each age section with 1st and 2nd placed competitors from each class going forward to a championship. There will be a separate In-Hand and Ridden championship.
6. The Champion and Reserve from both championships will go forward to the Overall Supreme Final Championship.
7. The Overall Champion will become the reigning VHS Veteran Horse of the Year and will hold the title for one year.
8. The Champions may be invited to attend functions around the country and represent the Society at various events (within an acceptable travelling distance).
9. All trophies presented by the Veteran Horse Society, will remain the property of the Society and must be returned clean and undamaged after 11 months (unless stated). A refundable deposit will be required when each trophy is collected.

THE VHS SHOWING SERIES – SCOTLAND

Area Qualifiers (Round 1) - Scotland

Area Qualifiers (Round 1) are held throughout Scotland, usually at local level shows. Foundation classes. Specialist classes optional. Members and non-members may compete.

Rosettes optional (not supplied for combined classes): 1st to 3rd place (members & non-members)
Regional Final qualification (red cards to non-members): 1st to 4th place (members & non-members)
Young Rider qualification and rosette: Judge's discretion (one per show)

1. Foundation Classes – Regional Final qualification will be awarded from 1st to 4th place in each age category. This includes combined classes where all competitors will be placed in the final class order but the Judge will award 4 qualifications in each age category.
2. Specialist Classes – Regional Final qualification will be awarded from 1st to 4th place in each class (7M, 8M 9R & 10R), irrespective of age. Qualification in an Area Specialist class entitles the combination to compete at a Regional Final(s) (Round 2) in the relevant Foundation class section.
3. Should any competitor have already qualified, then qualification should be passed down the line to a maximum to 6th place.
4. Qualifying members carrying their valid membership & showing cards will have the Regional Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. This allows entry to any Regional Final(s) (Round 2).
5. Non-members placed in a qualifying spot will be given a **red** non-members qualification card. This must be submitted to head office, together with a membership & showing card application and fee. It is advisable to retain a photocopy of any card sent by post. A signed showing card will then be sent out with the membership pack, allowing entry to Regional Final(s) (round 2).
6. Young Rider qualification – A Young Rider rosette and qualification will be given to the young rider of the Judge's choice, entitling them to enter the Young Rider Championship at the Grand Slam, Ingliston Equestrian Centre. This award is given at the Judge's discretion (one per show). Qualifying members carrying their valid membership & showing cards will have the Young Rider section of their showing card signed by the Judge. Qualifying non-members will be given an **orange** Young Rider card which must be submitted to head office, together with a membership & showing card application and fee in order to compete in the Young Rider Championship.

Regional Final (Round 2) - Scotland

Regional Finals are open to qualified members only. Foundation classes only. It is mandatory for Regional Finals in Scotland to hold championships.

Rosettes: 1st to 6th place (each championship)

Supreme Final qualification: In-Hand Champion & Reserve, Ridden Champion & Reserve
Young Rider qualification and rosette: Judge's discretion (one per show)

1. To compete in a Regional Final you must be a fully paid up member of VHS with valid membership card. You must also have a VHS showing card with a valid Regional Final qualification signature.
2. You will be asked to show both of these cards to the Steward on entering the ring and will **not** be allowed to enter without them.
3. No substitution of horse/pony or rider/handler will be allowed.
4. Competitors may attend up to 4 Regional Finals in any one year, providing they are within an acceptable travelling distance. If a competitor is seen to be 'chasing' Regional Finals, this may lead to their membership being revoked.
5. Supreme Final qualification – The In-Hand Champion & Reserve and the Ridden Champion & Reserve will each qualify for the Supreme Final and will have the Supreme Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. Entries to the Supreme Final can be made by contacting VHS head office and this **must be done within 21 days of the show date**. Late entries will not be accepted. If a competitor has already qualified or does not wish to attend, they must

refuse the qualification and pass it down the line **on the day**.

6. Young Rider qualification – A Young Rider rosette and qualification will be given to the young rider of the Judge's choice, entitling them to enter the Young Rider Championship at the Grand Slam, Ingliston Equestrian Centre. This award is given at the Judge's discretion (one per show). Qualifying members will have the Young Rider section of their showing card signed by the Judge.

Direct Qualifiers (Round 1 & 2 combined) - Scotland

Direct Qualifiers are a direct route to the Supreme Final. Foundation classes only.

Members and non-members may compete at these.

It is mandatory for Direct Qualifiers in Scotland to hold championships.

Rosettes: 1st to 6th place (each championship, members & day-members)

Regional Final qualification (red cards to non-members): 1st to 4th place (each class, members & day-members)

Supreme Final qualification: In-Hand Champion & Reserve, Ridden Champion & Reserve (members & day-members)

Young Rider qualification and rosette: Judge's discretion (one per show, members & day-members)

1. Non-members wishing to take part in a Direct Qualifier must purchase day membership from VHS head office in advance of the show, at a cost of £15. They will then be provided with an age badge and a day membership card which they will need to carry in the ring. Day membership will apply to that show and that day only. Any day-member qualification signatures will be recorded on the day membership card by the Judge. This card must be submitted to head office **within 14 days of the show**, together with a full membership & showing card application and fee. It is advisable to retain a photocopy of any card sent by post. A signed showing card will then be sent out with the membership pack in order for the qualifications to become valid for use.
2. Current VHS members are not required to obtain a day membership to enter these classes.
3. Regional Final qualification – Regional Final qualification will be awarded from 1st to 4th place in each class. Qualifying competitors will have the Regional Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. This allows entry to any Regional Final(s) (Round 2). Should any competitor have already qualified, then qualification should be passed down the line to a maximum to 6th place.
4. Supreme Final qualification – The In-Hand Champion & Reserve and the Ridden Champion & Reserve will each qualify for the Supreme Final and will have the Supreme Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring. Entries to the Supreme Final can be made by contacting VHS head office and this **must be done within 21 days of the show date** (day-members will need to become full members to do so). Late entries will not be accepted. If a competitor has already qualified or does not wish to attend, they must refuse the qualification and pass it down the line **on the day**.
5. Young Rider qualification - A Young Rider rosette and qualification will be given to the young rider of the Judge's choice, entitling them to enter the Young Rider Championship at the Grand Slam, Ingliston Equestrian Centre (day-members will need to become full members to do so). This award is given at the Judge's discretion (one per show). Qualifying young riders will have the Young Rider section of their showing card signed by the Judge.

The VHS Supreme Final - Scotland

Grand Slam. Ingliston Equestrian Centre on Sunday 25th September 2016

1. All entries for the Supreme Final need to be made within the allotted timescales (see Regional Final and Direct Qualifier rules).
2. Entries must be for the same combination as per the qualifying rounds. No substitution of horse/pony or rider/handler will be allowed.
3. Anyone found to have taken a second qualification for the Supreme Final with the same horse will have all qualifications revoked.
4. All entries will be required to submit a brief biography of their horse/pony which will be used by the commentator on the day.
5. Both an In-Hand Supreme Final class and a Ridden Supreme class will be held (for all qualified veterans 15 years and over).
6. The Champion and Reserve from both classes will go forward to the Overall Supreme Final Championship.
7. The Overall Champion will become the reigning VHS Scottish Veteran Horse of the Year and will hold the title for one year.
8. The Champions may be invited to attend functions around the country and represent the Society at various events (within an acceptable travelling distance).
9. All trophies presented by the Veteran Horse Society, will remain the property of the Society and must be returned clean and undamaged after 11 months (unless stated). A refundable deposit will be required when each trophy is collected.

OPEN CLASS QUALIFIERS (AMATEURS & PROFESSIONALS)

New for 2016, The Veteran Horse Society Open Classes are completely separate from the traditional VHS Showing Series above. The open classes may be held at larger county-type shows and offer the unique opportunity for professionals and amateurs to compete alongside one another in a single affiliated open ridden veteran class.

1. Non-members wishing to take part in a Open Class must purchase day membership from VHS head office in advance of the show, at a cost of £15. They will then be provided with an age badge and a day membership card which they will need to carry in the ring. Day membership will apply to that show and that day only. Any day-member qualification signatures will be recorded on the day membership card by the Judge. This card must be submitted to head office **within 14 days of the show**, together with a full membership & showing card application and fee. It is advisable to retain a photocopy of any card sent by post. A signed showing card will then be sent out with the membership pack in order for the qualifications to become valid for use.
2. These classes are open to all horses/ponies aged 15 to 30. No horse/pony over the age of 30 will be permitted to complete.
3. Open Class Final qualification – 1st and 2nd placed competitors in each class will qualify for the Open Class Final at the National Veteran Open Championships (day-members will need to become full members to enter). Qualifying competitors will have the Open Class Final section of their showing card signed by the Judge in the ring.

THE NATIONAL VETERAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bury Farm Equestrian Village 23rd to 25th September 2016

This is a unique weekend of competition dedicated purely to veteran horses and ponies. It is open both to members and non-members and aims to provide a wide variety of classes which cater for all. We pride ourselves on creating a friendly and encouraging atmosphere for all to compete and have fun with their veterans.

All classes are for amateurs only, with the exception of the Open Class Final.

Schedules and entry forms will be published on our website www.veteran-horse-society.co.uk .

We will be hosting the last Regional Final of the season at Bury Farm on Friday the 23rd September.

NEW JUDGES APPLICATIONS

We welcome and encourage all new Judge applications. From those with an extensive level of showing knowledge and experience, to those who have a passion and interest in veteran horses.

To apply to join the VHS Judges Panel, please send a completed application by email or post to head office. More information can be found on our website www.veteran-horse-society.co.uk .

USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, Twitter and other social networking sites are popular with both members and non-members for communicating and sharing information and pictures. The VHS encourages the use of forums such as these in a positive, inclusive and respectful manner.

Inappropriate and offensive comments of any nature will not be tolerated under any circumstances - this includes inappropriate or disrespectful remarks about the Society, Judges, members and non-members etc.

Any person found to be making any such remarks in a VHS owned group will be removed from the group without warning.

Any member found to be making such remarks in any forum will be subject to the VHS disciplinary procedure which could result in membership being revoked.

DRESSAGE

VETERAN HORSE DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vale View Equestrian Centre – 14th to 16th October 2016

1. The Veteran Horse Dressage Championships are run in partnership with British Dressage (BD). They form part of the British Dressage Veteran Horse & Rider Championships and will be run in accordance with BD rules.
2. The qualifying year runs from 1st November to closing date for entries to the Veteran Horse Dressage Championships (the following year).
3. Veteran Horse Dressage is open to all horses/ponies 15 years and over and will be in split into two age categories: 15-19 years and 20+ years.
4. The levels included in the Veteran Horse Dressage Championships are as follows:-

Intro	Elementary
Prelim	Medium
Novice	Advanced Medium
5. Anyone competing at Novice level can claim one free class ticket by emailing karen.beaumont@britishdressage.co.uk .
6. Both horse and rider must be eligible for the level they are competing at.
7. In accordance with the new competition structure implemented by BD on 1st December 2015, only those combinations competing in the bronze or silver sections of the relevant level will be eligible for the Veteran Horse Dressage Championships.
Combinations competing in the gold section of their level *may* be eligible for the Championships but will be considered by BD on an individual case basis. Affected competitors are requested to contact Karen at BD with details of their competitive history for a decision on eligibility.
8. Combinations are able to qualify in 2 consecutive levels and must compete at the same level(s) at the Championships.
9. Downgrading – BD rules apply.
10. Riders must be full members of the Veteran Horse Society and have a VHS dressage card in order to be eligible to qualify for the Championships (horses/ponies must be registered with the VHS in order to obtain a VHS dressage card – registration is free of charge).
VHS membership / dressage cards can be applied for at any time. Early application is encouraged.
11. Combinations must achieve two scores of 60% or above at the same level to gain qualification to compete in the Veteran Horse Dressage Championship.
12. Qualifying scores can only be achieved at regular BD affiliated competitions, Team Quest or My Quest fixtures.
13. Riders must have full BD membership and horses must have BD associate horse registration (or above) to compete at the Veteran Horse Dressage Championships.
14. More information can be found on the website www.britishdressage.co.uk .
15. For VHS related dressage queries, please email vhsdressage@hotmail.com .

PERFORMANCE AWARDS

The purpose of the Performance Awards Scheme is to encourage and reward the capability and versatility of the veteran horse and pony by offering a wide range of classes and activities in the equestrian world.

1. This competition is open to all horses and ponies 15 years old and over.
2. Riders/handlers must be a fully paid up member of the VHS. Horses/ponies must also be registered with the VHS.
3. The Performance Awards competition will run from 1st January to 31st December. Those applying after the start date can only gain points from the date their membership fee has been received by head office.
4. Any horse/pony sold during the competition may transfer any points gained to the new owner providing they are a fully paid up member of the Veteran Horse Society.
5. Entry is free to all VHS members and a results card will be included in your membership pack.
6. Extra results cards can be obtained free of charge by sending an A5 SAE to head office.
7. All entrants must register in one of the following groups:
 - Pre-Veteran (15–19 years)
 - Veteran (20–24 ears)
 - Diamond Veteran (25 years and over)
8. Competitors must fill in their cards and keep total of their score.
9. Results cards must be signed by the Judge/Secretary.
10. Completed results cards must be returned to head office no later than the 31st December. No late entries will be accepted.
11. It is advisable to keep a photo copy of your results card before posting. Recorded delivery is recommended for your postage of the results cards. Please send an SAE if you require acknowledgement of receipt. The Veteran Horse Society cannot be held responsible for any results cards lost in the post.
12. Scores will be checked and results will be calculated.
13. The organiser's decision is final and binding at all times.
14. Winners will be notified by post by 1st February and results will be posted on the website.
15. 1st to 6th placed in each age group will be awarded a rosette and the winner of each age group will receive a prize.
16. Score System: Eligible events

Veteran Ridden	Dressage	Show Jumping
Veteran In-Hand	Side Saddle	Working Hunter
Ridden Showing	Horse/Pony club	Hunter Trials
In Hand Showing	Combined Training	Eventing
Driving	Le Trec/Pleasure Rides	E-Dressage

Place	1 st	2nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6th
Points earned	6 points	5 points	4points	3 points	2 points	1 point