



**Baileys Horse Feeds
and
British Breeding's
Futurity Young Horse Evaluations**

RULES AND GUIDELINES

First Edition: 1 March 2007

**From 2007 the Baileys Horse Feeds/British Breeding Futurity
and the former Young Horse Evaluations
will become one series, forming a consistent evaluation pathway
for sport horses and ponies from foals to six years**

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BRITISH BREEDING

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PART I: INTRODUCTION

DEFINITIONS

The term '**British-bred**' is defined as a horse that was either foaled in Great Britain or foaled abroad to a dam normally living in Great Britain that had been temporarily exported for the purpose of mating only. The place of domicile of a foal's sire is not considered a relevant factor in deciding whether or not the foal is British bred.

The term '**breeder**' is as specified by the stud book of origin of any horse entered, except where the owner of the dam at the time of foaling is a breeder normally resident in the UK but the rules of the registering society stipulate that the breeder is the owner of the mare at the time of covering and that person is both different from the owner of the mare at foaling and is permanently resident abroad.

The term '**stallion owner(s)**' refers to the legal owner or legal lessee of the stallion at the time of its nomination

The term '**owner(s)**' refers to the legal owner or legal lessee of the horse at the time of its evaluation/award

The above definitions are subject to the section entitled **transfer of horses**

In all cases, the term '**horse**' is intended to mean both horses and ponies except where a section is clearly only relevant to either horses or ponies.

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT AND IS IT FOR ME AND IS MY HORSE GOOD ENOUGH?

The Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations series has been developed to encourage breeders, owners and trainers of eligible young horses and ponies from foals through to 6 years old to bring them forward for evaluation annually and identify talented young horses early in their careers. This will help determine the appropriate pathway for their future direction, whether they be potential international horses or potential quality young horses targeted for where the bulk of the market demand lies.

It is also the intention that the series builds up a fund of prize money for which these horses can compete annually and that will generate a decent sized prize fund once it has been running for the full six years. To take advantage of this, a breeder or owner can enrol a horse or pony in the Futurity Young Horse Evaluations by paying an annual fee to maintain its eligibility for a full share of the prize fund when the horse or pony is six years old, or a lesser share if they have not taken part every year. In many countries abroad, horses sold with Futurity nominations command higher prices.

In an evaluation (which is not a show) horses are measured against a set of fixed potential performance indicators for each discipline, not against each other. This means that if a horse achieves a lower score against the fixed set of criteria, it may be better suited to another discipline.

The purpose is to determine future performance potential. Horses do not need to be in 'show condition', in fact, this will be disadvantageous. Potential performance horses need to be allowed the time to grow and develop, consequently we see many horses who are prepared off grass, the horses we see are usually always much leaner than 'show' horses.

Horses are not ranked in order, they are awarded First, Second and Third Premium Diplomas according to their scores. Any Diploma is good. A First Premium Diploma is excellent, a Second Premium Diploma is very good and a Third Premium Diploma is good. Any horse securing lower than a third premium diploma may be better suited to another discipline. The evaluators will be happy to explain their decisions to you.

Evaluation sections for each age group are:

- Potential showjumpers
- Potential dressage horses
- Potential eventers
- Potential sports ponies

You will need to enter whichever section your horse is bred for and has an aptitude to do.

Around seven evaluations are held annually at venues around the country. A full list of evaluation dates and venues feature on www.bef.co.uk and in your regional press.

NB: You do not need to be a professional to take part. A quality horse, provided it is not hindered by its handler or rider and is allowed to show itself to the best of its ability, will stand out. The scheme is sometimes criticised because the professionals are perceived to be favoured. This is not the case --as is borne out by 2006 results. However, professionals often present their horses so that they are at their best, and amateurs do not always do this. If you would like to see a slide presentation of how to present your horse and what the evaluators are looking for, please download this from www.bef.co.uk, in the British Breeding section. Remember, it is YOU who can give YOUR horse the best chance, so do YOUR horse a favour and learn how to present it.

There will be no Championship Final in 2007 because the majority of feedback from participants has indicated that they would rather have more regional evaluations and more prize money instead.

In order to ensure that this process is as consistent as possible, the team of evaluators will only vary minimally from venue to venue.

As many winners as possible will be presented with their awards at the *British Breeding* Breeders' Dinner in January of the following year.

WHY PARTICIPATE?

Participation in this scheme will:

- get your young horse evaluated by experts giving an indication of its future prospects
- give your horse the kudos of being entered which can increase its value
- identify the most talented young horses and help shape their future
- facilitate the marketing of young evaluated horses from foals upwards
- provide data for the National Equine Database (NED) about the progeny of stallions and mares to enable identification of successful bloodlines at the earliest possible stage
- provide information about the horses entered which will be of value in subsequent training programmes
- enable the development of scientific breeding performance indicators
- supply material for research and development
- provide data about progeny which will enable the identification, at an early age, of successful bloodlines and combinations
- help the BEF support British breeders and British bred horses

WHAT HAPPENS AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Foals and youngstock up to 3 years old

Foals at foot are presented loose (dams may be shown loose or in-hand according to handler's preference). Yearlings and 2-year-olds are shown in hand on the triangle. Three-year-olds are presented in hand on the triangle and then shown loose, with eventers and showjumpers also being required to loose jump.

The assessments cover:

- conformation and veterinary potential long term soundness evaluation
- paces in hand on the triangle for all ages except foals
- paces loose for foals and 3-year-olds
- suitability of type for intended discipline
- loose jumping for 3-year-old showjumpers, eventers and showjumping ponies

Four year old horses

Four year olds, until last year, participated in the Young Horse Evaluations. The Young Horse Evaluations now form the 4-year-old section of the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations as opposed to being a separate evaluation.

The purpose of the Futurity Young Horse Evaluations four year old section is to assess potential soundness, trainability, jumping ability (where relevant), paces and temperament.

The assessments cover:

- current and potential soundness (two veterinary stages: horse standing and horse in movement)
- conformation and paces in hand (suitability for the discipline)
- paces under rider (suitability for the discipline)
- jumping under rider (showjumpers and eventers only)
- temperament, relative to discipline, and trainability

The evaluations test natural ability and horses should not, therefore, have been pressurised in their training. Any tension produced by such training will be penalised. The requirements of the evaluation are of a basic level which brings them within reach of amateur riders and producers and horses do not, therefore, have to be sent to a professional yard for preparation. However, the requirements are laid down clearly in this document and it is important that the horses are correctly prepared in order that they are presented in order to demonstrate the best of their ability.

Five and Six year old horses

The assessments and results will be based upon competition results in the relevant young horse age classes and in open competition for each discipline. The results data will be verified using the competitive disciplines' databases, the National Equine Database (NED) and the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH) Young Horse Championships in each of the disciplines, if appropriate.. Your horse's results should be supplied to us by the date specified on the relevant form for five and six year olds available from www.bef.co.uk.

Stallion award

Sires of participating animals are automatically listed in either one of two categories – Active stallion or Passive stallion. In order to become an Active stallion and to participate in the stallion award, sires of participating young horses must be nominated and pay a nomination fee. This creates a separate prize fund which is shared amongst the nominated Active stallions that have the most successful progeny performance record across all age groups. Each Active stallion must have at least three offspring enrolled in the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations to be eligible and those Active stallions that do not reach this number of representatives will have their nomination fees returned at the end of the series.

A Passive stallion is listed by default because it has progeny entered in the evaluations but it will not be eligible for prize money because it has not yet been nominated as an Active stallion. See later for other circumstances where stallions will appear on the Passive list

A full list of all Active and Passive stallions is regularly updated on www.bef.co.uk

WHAT DO I GET FOR TAKING PART IN THE SERIES?

All entries reaching an average score of 7 or more will receive a Premium Diploma rosette and a Premium Diploma certificate and have the results entered on the National Equine Database (NED). Entries not scoring high enough for a Premium Diploma will receive a commemorative rosette.

Champion and reserve in each age group and in each discipline at each evaluation venue will receive Regional championship rosettes.

The owners and breeders of the overall top three scoring horses in each age group in each year across all evaluation venues will be eligible for prize money. The amount of which will depend upon the number of entries. This information will only be available after the final evaluation.

Horses which have been through the Futurity in previous years are reported as being increasingly saleable and Futurity nominated horses in other countries have commanded higher sales prices.

See *Recognition and reward* section later

I THINK I MIGHT HAVE A TRY. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO PREPARE?

Preparation of foals to four year olds

In hand and/or veterinary evaluations

Make sure that:

- your horse is used to standing quietly and picks up its legs if/when required
- your handler and your horse are able to trot up and down in hand in a straight line and around the perimeter of a 20m x 20m x 20m triangle at a forward active pace. If you are not able to show your horse to the best of its ability, please ask someone else to help you or you will be putting your horse at a disadvantage
- Yearlings upwards must back up in hand on request
- four year olds must be able to turn in a tight circle both ways in such a way that the rear legs cross
- you and your helpers wear hard hats and loose clothing enabling you to run
- you bring your horse's passport with you to the evaluation and have it ready to hand so that any official can check the identity and eligibility of your horse.
- the hooves and legs are free from oil, any other dressing, boots and bandages
- you and your horse are able to stand quietly to attention, alone in the arena, whilst being examined by the panel of evaluators

Paces loose stage

Make sure that:

- your horse can be caught (bring a bucket of food into the arena with you if necessary)
- both the handler and the helper wear hard hats

Loose jumping stage (3-year-olds only)

Make sure that:

- your horse has already been introduced to a jumping lane and is comfortable in this environment but not over produced or over faced
- your horse can be caught (bring a bucket of food into the arena with you if necessary)
- both the handler and helper wear hard hats

NB: The evaluators reserve the right to terminate immediately the paces loose and the loose jumping stages if the horse is poorly prepared, unruly or cannot be caught when required

Ridden paces stage (4-year-olds only)

Make sure that:

- your horse is able to work at a basic level on both reins in walk, trot and canter and can canter a 20m circle
- the rider is capable and does not hamper the horse in any way which may compromise the horse's ability to present itself to the best of its ability
- the rider is wearing a hard hat at all times
- your horse is wearing the correct saddlery and tack for the discipline (see later) and is not wearing boots or bandages

Ridden jumping stage (4- year-olds only)

Make sure that:

- your horse is able to jump fences of the height and type specified in this document. The evaluators will not mark it down if it is very 'novicey' if the natural style and potential to jump is good
- your horse has not been over produced (see above)
- the rider is wearing a hard hat at all times
- your horse is wearing the correct tack and equipment for the discipline

And finally

Make sure that:

- you look upon the whole evaluation as a learning process and not a competition where you have 'passed' or 'failed'. This is not the intention
- you make sure that your horse enjoys the evaluation as much as possible
- you contact the Organiser if you have any queries or problems. We are more than willing to listen, demonstrated by our annual revision of all the rules to better meet the needs of participants, and can only improve the scheme if you tell us of any concerns, as opposed to complaining to everyone else in the car park afterwards.

NB: Detailed guidelines relating to the requirements of each section of the evaluation follow later in this document

PART II: RULES AND GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluation series is one of the key elements in the implementation of the Strategy for the Horse Industry in England and Wales, published 2005, as well as the British Equestrian Federation (BEF) Strategic Plan. Both highlight an urgent need for a method of standardised assessment that will identify the most successful bloodlines currently being used in sport horse breeding in this country across all age groups from foals to 6 years old. The structure of the evaluations is designed to facilitate this at the earliest possible opportunity and improve the calculation of breeding performance indicators of stallions and mares, both through their own performance and, through the performance of their progeny. In the younger age groups, before performance is proven, the evaluations are designed to identify potential, and this will take into account conformation and the likelihood of remaining sound throughout a competitive career and will be considered in balance with extravagance of movement.

HOW TO TAKE PART

Eligibility and fees

Horses may be entered at any time from birth to the spring of the year in which they reach the age of 6 years old. Entry fees are £50.

A horse which is entered every year from foal to six years and wins as a six year old will win more money than a horse which has not participated every year.

Refunds

Refund of entry fees will only be allowed where the enrolled horse has:

- (i) EITHER died after the annual enrolment fee for the year concerned has been paid
- (ii) OR been declared by a veterinarian as permanently unsound or unable for another other reason to take part in any further Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations

In each case refunds will only be given if:

- (i) enrolment fees for the horse have already been paid in full
- (ii) application is made before 1 September of the year in question
- (iii) the application for refunds are supported by veterinary or other acceptable proof of the claim

NB: In all cases refunds will only be made for the year in question

Eligibility and exclusions

Young horses

To participate in any of the evaluations, an animal must be in its year of birth or in any other year up to and including the year in which it reaches 6 years of age and be:

- (i) a colt, filly or gelding likely to make at least 158cm (15.2hh) that has (or in the case of a foal is eligible for) original pedigree papers and passport including a verified pedigree, issued by a British breed society that is either on the DEFRA list of approved Passport Issuing Organisations (PIOs) or is a member of the British Horse Society (BHS) Horse and Pony Breeds Committee

or be:

- (ii) a colt, filly or geldings born in the UK likely to make at least 158 cm (15.2hh) that has (or in the case of a foal is eligible for) original pedigree papers and passport including a verified pedigree,

issued by a studbook outside the UK that does not have a DEFRA-listed daughter stud book in the UK but has had (or in the case of a foal will have) those papers overstamped by a UK DEFRA-listed studbook

or be:

- (iii) a colt, filly or gelding fulfilling either (i) or (ii) above but likely to make less than 158 cm (15.2 hh) and thus now eligible for the pony section

or be:

- (iv) an imported 4-year-old stallion or mare of any height with papers overstamped by a DEFRA-listed studbook; these imported 4-year-olds may take part in the 4-year-old section horse concours to provide breeding and performance data for NED as potential members of the national breeding herd; those gaining First Premium Diplomas will have their entry fees of £50 refunded and those achieving Second Premium Diplomas will receive a refund of £25 but no horse in this category will be entitled to any other monetary award in the Scheme.

NB: As it is vital that details of all successful animals in the Baileys Horse Feeds / British Breeding Futurity Young Horse Evaluations are recorded in NED, foals of any height eligible under (ii) must provide proof of overstamping of their foreign-issued passport and pedigree by a DEFRA-listed stud book before they can be eligible for any prize money. The organisers recognise that in many cases such documents are not issued to owners until after the series has been completed and will therefore hold these funds for the owner until 1 December to allow for this. If not claimed by this time the prize money will be passed on to the next eligible enrolled horse.

Stallions

Sires of participating animals are automatically listed in either one of two categories – Active stallion or Passive stallion. In order to become an Active stallion and to participate in the stallion award, sires of participating young horses must be nominated and pay a nomination fee. This creates a separate prize fund which is shared amongst the nominated Active stallions that have the most successful progeny performance record across all age groups. Each Active stallion must have at least three offspring enrolled in the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding Futurity Young Horse Evaluations* to be eligible and those Active stallions that do not reach this number of representatives will have their nomination fees returned at the end of the series.

A Passive stallion is listed by default because it has progeny entered in the evaluations but it will not be eligible for prize money because it has not yet been nominated as an Active stallion. See later for other circumstances where stallions will appear on the Passive list

A full list of all Active and Passive stallions is regularly updated on www.bef.co.uk

Stallions nominated for the Active list may be of any breed provided they are approved/licenced for breeding, as appropriate, by a DEFRA-listed stud book or if standing outside the UK by a stud book approved by the appropriate government authority in that country. Thoroughbred stallions recorded in the General Stud Book / registered with Weatherbys will be regarded as approved for breeding for Thoroughbred and Weatherbys Part-bred Register purposes.

NB: Stallions entered into the Non-Thoroughbred section of Weatherbys as a Section VII stallion will only be eligible for the Active list if they are also approved / licenced by another DEFRA listed studbook as well.

Stallions may be nominated for the Active list wherever in the world they reside. It is the offspring that must be British bred.

Deceased stallions are also eligible for nomination to the active list.

Stallions, subsequently gelded, may be eligible for nomination to the Active list pending the decision of *British*

Breeding. Veterinary evidence may be required and this must be supplied at the stallion owner/nominator's expense.

If a stallion applying for the Active list is leased, a legal lease agreement must be in place. See also *Sale and transfer of horses* section.

Owners of Active stallions that are no longer at stud (eg deceased or gelded) will still be eligible for prize money provided they have been nominated in that year.

Nomination procedure for stallions

The person nominating a stallion should be the legal owner or appointed agent of the stallion itself at the time of nomination. Where an agent nominates a stallion on behalf of its owner, a letter signed by the owner that the agent is entitled to do so will be required. This person must have the first opportunity to nominate the stallion. Only if they decline to do so may nominations be considered from other persons.

If the owner/agent declines to nominate a stallion, an owner of an eligible offspring may nominate the stallion. The first owner to do so in such circumstances will become the accepted nominator. In such circumstances, the potential nominator should attempt to verify that the stallion owner/agent does not wish to nominate the stallion first or refuses to allow the stallion to be nominated. All stallion nominations will be carefully investigated to ensure that the rules are adhered to.

Should either the owner/agent or the nominee cease to nominate and pay for the stallion at any time, an owner of another eligible offspring may nominate and pay for it. The first owner to do so in such circumstances will once again become the accepted nominator.

In the event of multiple nominations, the first to be received and processed will be accepted.

Stallions are not required to be presented for evaluation.

Stallion nomination fees

Stud fee	Nomination fee
Up to £500	£75
£501 and over	£125

Passive list

As the UK sport horse breeding industry is still developing very rapidly many animals eligible for evaluation may be sired by stallions not on the Active list, such as:

- stallions that the owner does not want, for whatever reason, to be on the Active List
- stallions whom no-one has, as yet, nominated
- stallions no longer at stud due to subsequent gelding or export
- deceased stallions
- stallions based abroad and only available by imported semen

Stallions entered on the Passive list pay no fee and are not eligible to receive any premiums or prize money.

DISQUALIFICATION

In the event of any animal being disqualified, whether as a result of an objection or otherwise, the result shall be declared invalid and any cash award or recognition shall be forfeited.

DECLINING OF ENTRIES

The organisers may at their absolute discretion, decline any entry, or exclude or remove any person or animal from any evaluation without being required to assign any reason or being liable for any compensation.

SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions will be allowed for up to 28 days prior to an evaluation date. Later substitutions will be at the discretion of the entries secretary.

SALE AND TRANSFER OF HORSES

Horses that have been enrolled and Active stallions that have been nominated for the year concerned will be entitled to have their status transferred to the new owners at the time of sale. The time and date of transfer must be notified and after this point, requirements for compliance with the rules of the Scheme and prizes for which the owner is eligible will be transferred. Previous owners can have no call upon prize funds once any horses' ownership has been transferred, save as part of any private agreement forming part of the sales contract between the vendor and the new owner. It is incumbent upon the new owner to ensure that they have proof of sale and transfer and that transfer has been recorded on that horse's passports and with the appropriate breed society(ies) and/or competitive discipline(s).

VENUES AND EVALUATORS

Evaluations will be held around the country to minimise travel requirements for young horses. The venues and dates are listed on www.bef.co.uk and may be subject to revision at any time.

A panel of judges will be used throughout of whom as many as possible, bearing in mind individual commitments, will remain consistent throughout the year. A veterinary surgeon will also form a part of the evaluation team.

Approved evaluators

The *British Breeding* panel of approved evaluators for all age groups up to and including four year olds covered by the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations will be subject to revision from time to time.

Senior evaluator

Where possible the Senior Evaluator will remain consistent throughout the series of evaluations. This is also the case with the panel of evaluators although in practice, there will be a slight variation over the seven weeks of the evaluations.

Declaration of interest

Any evaluator who has any connection with an entry at a Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations evaluation at which they are officiating must declare this to the Organiser. In the event of this occurrence, the relevant evaluator will step aside and not participate in the evaluation of that horse.

Evaluators' decisions

The evaluators' decisions are final in all matters relating to Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations.

EVALUATION SECTIONS

Ages are taken from 1 January in the current year.

FOALS

Section 1 Foals with the potential to be dressage horses

- Group A Colts and geldings born on or before 14 April.
- Group B Colts and geldings after 14 April
- Group C Fillies born on or before 14 April
- Group D Fillies born after 14 April

Section 2 Foals with the potential to be show jumpers

- Group A Colts and geldings born on or before 14 April.
- Group B Colts and geldings after 14 April
- Group C Fillies born on or before 14 April
- Group D Fillies born after 14 April

Section 3 Foals with the potential to be event horses

- Group A Colts and geldings born on or before 14 April.
- Group B Colts and geldings after 14 April
- Group C Fillies born on or before 14 April
- Group D Fillies born after 14 April

Section 4 Ponies

- Group A Colts and geldings born on or before 14 April.
- Group B Colts and geldings after 14 April
- Group C Fillies born on or before 14 April
- Group D Fillies born after 14 April

YEARLINGS

Section 5 Yearlings with the potential to be dressage horses

- Group A Colts and geldings
- Group B Fillies

Section 6 Yearlings with the potential to be show jumpers

- Group A Colts and geldings
- Group B Fillies

Section 7 Yearlings with the potential to be event horses

- Group A Colts and geldings
- Group B Fillies

Section 8 Ponies

- Group A Colts and geldings
- Group B Fillies

TWO-YEAR-OLDS

Section 9 Two-year-olds with the potential to be dressage horses

- Group A Colts and geldings
- Group B Fillies

Section 10 Two-year-olds with the potential to be show jumpers

- Group A Colts and geldings
- Group B Fillies

Section 11 Two-year-olds with the potential to be event horses
Group A Colts and geldings
Group B Fillies

Section 12 Ponies
Group A Colts and geldings
Group B Fillies

THREE-YEAR-OLDS

Section 13 Three-year-olds with the potential to be dressage horses
Group A Colts and geldings
Group B Fillies

Section 14 Three-year-olds with the potential to be show jumpers
Group A Colts and geldings
Group B Fillies

Section 15 Three-year-olds with the potential to be event horses
Group A Colts and geldings
Group B Fillies

Section 16 Ponies
Group A Colts and geldings
Group B Fillies

FOUR YEAR OLDS

Section 17 Four year olds with the potential to be dressage horses Any gender

Section 18 Four year olds with the potential to be show jumpers Any gender

Section 19 Four year olds with the potential to be eventers Any gender

Section 20 Four year olds with the potential to be sports ponies Any gender

FIVE YEAR OLDS

Will not be required to present for evaluation. Awards will be calculated on competition scores.

Section 21 Five year olds with the potential to be dressage horses Any gender

Section 22 Five year olds with the potential to be show jumpers Any gender

Section 23 Five year olds with the potential to be eventers Any gender

Section 24 Five year olds with the potential to be sports ponies Any gender

SIX YEAR OLDS

Will not be required to present for evaluation. Awards will be calculated on competition scores.

Section 25 Six year olds with the potential to be dressage horses Any gender

Section 26 Six year olds with the potential to be show jumpers Any gender

Section 27 Six year olds with the potential to be eventers Any gender

Section 28 Six year olds with the potential to be sports ponies Any gender

The organisers reserve the right to divide or combine any of the sections within an age group.

MULTIPLE ENTRIES

The annual entry fee of £50 covers one evaluation at one Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluation. However, a horse may be entered in a maximum of two sections at one venue upon payment of AN ADDITIONAL £25 provided there is entry space available. Owners with horses they wish to enter for a second section must indicate this by using a second enrolment form for the horse and indicating a first and second preference for assessment and we will attempt to accommodate their wishes.

In no circumstance will a horse be allowed to enter for assessment at more than one qualifying venue. However in the case of unforeseen sickness of horse, handler or owner or transport problems on the day of the first evaluation, the owner may apply for the original entry to be transferred to another venue later in the qualifying series. Only if this permission is granted by the organisers may the horse be presented for assessment at this new venue.

Single owners entering five or more horses will be entitled to an entry fee discount.

TRANSFER OF ENTRIES

If the evaluators feel that the pedigree, type, conformation and paces of an animal makes it more suitable for another discipline they reserve the right suggest that animal be transferred that class, provided the class has not already been judged or is not full.

RECOGNITION AND REWARD

Diploma certificates are awarded in all sections, detailing the horse's name, its pedigree, score, venue and date. These are A4 and suitable for framing. It is normally the case that they accompany a horse if it is sold.

First Premium Diploma and rosette for all horses scoring 8.0 marks or above.

Second Premium Diploma and rosette for all horses scoring from 7.5 to 7.9 marks

Third Premium Diploma and rosette for all horses scoring from 7.0 to 7.4 marks

Commemorative rosettes for others.

All Active stallions will receive **Stallion Diploma** certificates suitable for framing. The sires with the top performance progeny records over the entire evaluation series in any one year will receive **rosettes and prize money**.

Dams of top scoring youngstock will receive **Broodmare Diplomas**.

Four year old mares scoring over 80% will receive **Elite Mare Diplomas**.

First, second and third placed horses over all evaluations in any one year and for each year group will receive **prize money** for both owner and breeder.

Champion and Reserve Champion rosettes will be awarded to **first and second placed horses** in each discipline, within each age group at each evaluation venue.

NB: In order to be eligible for any monetary premium or championship ribbon, unless circumstances are exceptional, the horse concerned must be presented in the arena for the prize giving.

In the event of any perceived irregularities, prize money will be withheld pending investigation.

The BEF will use the names of participants and photographs to promote the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations and these will be the property of BEF to be used as they see fit and for publicity purposes as required by the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations' administration committee.

Where possible, photographers and regional media will be present at evaluations.

SPECIAL AWARDS

A number of breed societies or other organisations may provide rosettes and awards for certain animals. Eligibility for these prizes is usually determined by the sponsor and may not be on the same basis that *British Breeding* provides reward and recognition.

The **Council of the Central Prefix Register** will award a special cash prize to the breeder and owner of the highest-scoring eligible animal across all evaluations. To be eligible, a horse must have papers issued by a member society of the Central Prefix Register and bear as part of its name a prefix registered with the Central Prefix Register for its breeders exclusive use.

HORSES FOR SALE

One of the goals of *British Breeding's* programmes is to provide a market for the horses that have completed in the evaluations it organises. This is done by identifying them as being for sale in the list of entries at each venue at no extra fee and exhibitors who wish to make use of this facility should tick the appropriate box in the entry form. Several good young horses have changed hands every year as a direct result of their appearance in *British Breeding's* evaluations.

TIMINGS

Please see www.bef.co.uk on the Monday before an evaluation for approximate timings based on number of entries. Please note that this may vary on the day due to inevitable delays and/or horses not presenting for evaluation.

NUMBERS

Horses presented for evaluation are required to obtain their own bridle numbers. These are small circular discs of approx 6cm circumference which can be bought or made. The number to be placed on the disc will be published, along with approximate timings on www.bef.co.uk the Monday before the evaluation. Ideally a horse will have the number on both sides of its halter or bridle. The number must be as large as possible and marked in permanent black ink.

RESULTS

Each evaluation's results will be published on the BEF website www.bef.co.uk as soon as possible after the evaluation. The results and a media release for each venue will be sent to the national and regional media.

All results will appear on the National Equine Database (NED).

Where possible, photographers and regional media will be present at evaluations.

Whenever possible, copies of the score sheets will be available for collection by the owners at the end of the evaluation day. Failing that, they will be mailed after the evaluation as soon as admin resources permit.

PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

Horses being prepared for or taking part in the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations must not be exposed to any of the forbidden drugs or treatments listed as prohibited in the Annex

E1 of the British Equestrian Federation Rule Book as these might influence the performance or the temperament of the horse. Random drug tests may be carried out in accordance with the British Equestrian Federation procedures.

HORSE PASSPORTS AND VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

Horse passports **MUST** accompany every horse (except for unweaned foals) presenting for evaluation. This is a legal requirement. Some venues require vaccination certificates and it is advisable that these are carried too, if they do not form part of the passport.

OBJECTIONS

Any objections lodged concerning the eligibility of specific entries or related matters must be submitted before the evaluation has finished and must be accompanied by a cash fee of £50, which will be returned if the objection is upheld. The BEF's complaints procedure will be followed and no ongoing correspondence will be entered into unless further information is required by the BEF.

INFRINGEMENT OF RULES OF CONDUCT

Infringements of rules of conduct must be reported to the relevant steward in the first instance and then to the senior evaluator if necessary.

INCIVILITY

Any act of discourtesy or disobedience to any evaluator, veterinary surgeon, steward or show official on the part of the owner, groom, rider, trainer or agent of any horse will at the discretion of the organisers render that horse eligible for disqualification, in which case any entry fees, charges and awards will be forfeited.

DANGEROUS BEHAVIOUR OF HORSES

If any horse taking part in a Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding Futurity Young Horse Evaluations* is deemed by the organisers to be **at any time** behaving in such a way as to endanger the safety of any person, animal or property or any part of the venue where the evaluation is being held, including all stabling areas, working in arenas, horsebox parks and public areas, the organisers reserve the right to terminate the assessment of that horse, and require the exhibitor or his or her representative to remove the horse from the venue immediately. In the event of such a termination, no refund of fees will be allowed.

STABLING

Exhibitors are asked to enquire about and observe the rules and regulations concerning stabling and regulations at the relevant host venue. All stabling should be booked directly with the host venue.

*NB: Some venues charge a penalty to the evaluation organisers if stables are left unclean. If any such charges are levied at any venue, an immediate refund for the full amount will be demanded by the organisers and those concerned will be expected to reimburse British Breeding and if they do not, they may be prohibited from entering any further Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding Futurity Young Horse Evaluations* evaluations for a period of 12 months from the date of the offence.*

The BEF assesses each venue before running an evaluation but cannot be held responsible for any perceived lack of facilities which become apparent to competitors during their stay.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Exhibitors are asked to read carefully and observe the rules and regulations concerning fire precautions at the relevant host venue and to comply with any rules.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Exhibitors must adhere to all relevant Health and Safety legislation, policies and guidelines for each venue at all times and not to put themselves or anyone else at risk. Exhibitors, spectators and all other persons should bear in mind that these evaluations are for young horses and that all horses, particularly young ones, can be easily frightened and can be dangerous. Members of the public are requested to keep clear of all horse areas and to avoid behaviour that might alarm horses. Children must be supervised at all times.

DOGS

Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times. Some venues may prohibit dogs from certain parts or all of their facilities. Dogs are not allowed at Sunnybank.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

Neither the administrators of the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations, nor the British Equestrian Federation nor its member bodies, nor venue organisers nor their agents or officials or employees nor the sponsors will be responsible for any accident, injury or damage that may occur to, or any illness disease which may be contracted by any animal entered for the series howsoever occurring, and the exhibitors shall keep *British Breeding*, the British Equestrian Federation, the venue organisers, sponsors, together with their agents, officials and employees and the sponsors indemnified against all liability arising from any accident, injury, damage, illness or disease. Neither *British Breeding*, nor the British Equestrian Federation, nor its member bodies nor the venue nor their agents or officials or employees nor the sponsors shall be in any way liable for anything that may happen (from any circumstances whatever) to property brought to any Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations evaluation or for any other loss, claim, matter, circumstance or event whatever in connection with, or rising out of, or attributable to *British Breeding*, the British Equestrian Federation, or the venue organisers, sponsors, together with their agents, officials and employees or the sponsors or these or any other rules or regulations or special conditions prescribed by the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations Scheme. Each exhibitor will be considered responsible in all aspects for the attendants in charge of his/her animals and for any other servants, employees, or agents of his for the consequences of any infringement by any such persons of these rules and regulations.

INSURANCE

All owners and competitors are personally responsible for damages to third persons caused by themselves, their employees, their agents or their horses. It is a requirement that they have in force current third-party insurance providing full coverage for participation in or at Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

Owners and breeders enrolling animal into the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations should note that details of their names and addresses are stored electronically. Results, scores etc of participating horses will also be uploaded to the National Equine Database in the normal way. The British Equestrian Federation is authorised to process personal data under the terms of the Data Protection Act, 1998.

EQUITY POLICY

British Breeding is committed to a policy of equal opportunities and aims to ensure that all people, irrespective of age, gender, ability, race, religion, ethnic origin, creed, colour, social status or sexual orientation have a genuine and equal opportunity to participate in its programmes at all levels and in all roles. This is taken to include employees, volunteers, participants and spectators.

RULE CHANGES

The organisers reserve the right to change any of the Rules and Guidelines without notice should circumstances warrant. Revised versions will be posted on www.bef.co.uk.

PAYMENTS

Cheques must be crossed and made payable to *British Breeding*. No entry will be accepted without full payment. In the event of returned cheques, an administration fee of £30 will be charged and the entry refused until such time that full settlement is made which must be prior to the close of entries for the relevant evaluation.

PART III: HELPING YOU TO PREPARE AND WHAT TO DO ON THE DAY

As well as reading through the following notes, handlers and owners are recommended to download the slide presentation on how to present your horse for this series, which can be found on the BEF web site at www.bef.co.uk in the British Breeding section.

THE HANDLER

Equipment and turnout

The handler(s) should be dressed neatly and wear suitable footwear. During the loose jumping phase of the 3-year-old Show Jumping and Eventing sections they must wear a hard hat to BSI Standard EN1384 (kite marked), PAS 015 (kite marked), ASTM 1163, ASTM 95, SNELL E95, AZ3838 or NZS3838 or such other protective headgear as may reasonably be expected to offer a similar or higher level of protection. If the owner so wishes, different handlers may present the horse in the different stages of the Baileys Horse Feeds/*British Breeding* Futurity Young Horse Evaluations Championships to ensure that the horse shows itself to maximum advantage.

It is essential that the handler gives the horse the best possible chance to move forward as freely as possible. The handler should therefore be someone who is able to move well enough themselves to show off the horse's movement to best advantage. For this reason the handler should also make sure that they are dressed in a way that enables them to move as fast as necessary. White trousers, shirt and running shoes are the preferred dress for the youngstock classes. Many handlers wear white trousers and stud branded shirts/gilets, which is perfectly acceptable.

Whips and other aids

Whips may be carried. Whip cracking is not allowed when in the ring with other competitors. Excessive use of the whip or any other device (whistle, shaker, plastic bag) in the collecting or warmup area is not permitted especially where it unnerves other competitors' horses. Evidence of such practices will be severely penalised.

Handler's assistant

During the horse's individual show ONLY (see below), the handler may use an assistant to follow behind the horse with a whip.

Lunging

Lunging of horses is not permitted at any venue.

FOALS

Equipment and turnout

Foals should be shown in a leather foal head collar and must be shown with a plaited mane if the mane is long enough. White 'continental' tapes are allowed. Bandages, brushing boots and other leg coverings are not allowed. Although mares (dams) are not judged, if a foal is accompanied by the mare then the mare should wear a snaffle as she will be required to trot out at speed around the triangle to encourage her foal to move on correctly and severe biting may inhibit her ability to do this. Dams may wear leg protection if deemed necessary.

Procedure

Foals will be assessed individually. Conformation will be judged first, followed by assessment of paces loose at their dam's side. Dams may be loose or in-hand according to handler's preference. Following this they will be seen as a group once all the animals in sections 1-4 have been assessed, when they must be led.

Once all the horses in sections 1-4 have completed their individual show, all the exhibits will parade together in a circle at walk, which should be shown as freely as possible.

The judges will then announce the scores for each of the horses in sections 1-4 and give a brief verbal critique, after which rosettes reflecting the premium awarded will be distributed. The scores will be available later in the day.

Depending upon numbers in each section, sections may be split or combined.

ALL YEARLINGS AND 2-YEAR-OLDS and 3-YEAR-OLD DRESSAGE HORSES

Equipment and Turnout

Youngstock in these categories should be shown plaited, and wearing a simple bridle with or without a bit according to preference, except that 2 and 3 year old colts **MUST** be shown bitted (snaffle only) and a stallion chain is allowed. Manes must be plaited and white 'continental' tapes are allowed. Bandages and boots are not allowed.

Procedure

Youngstock will be assessed individually and then as a group once all the animals in that section have been assessed.

Type and conformation will be judged first, followed by assessment of paces on the triangle.

In the conformation assessment the horse should be stood up in front of the judges facing left and preferably with the right fore and the left hind slightly advanced.

In the assessment of correctness and elasticity of gaits the horse will be required to trot freely forward around a triangle of approx 20 m x 20 m x 20 m. This enables the judges to view the horses from behind, the side and in front so that they can assess the horse thoroughly.

NB: Three-year-old dressage horses will also be required to be shown loose to enable further assessment of elasticity and athleticism.

Once all the horses in the section have completed their individual shows all the exhibits will parade together in a circle at walk, which should be shown as freely as possible.

The judges will then announce the scores for each of the horses in the section after which rosettes reflecting the premium awarded will be distributed.

3-YEAR-OLD SHOWJUMPERS AND EVENTERS

Equipment and Turnout

As above, except that bandages and boots are allowed in the loose jumping phase (see below) **ONLY**.

Procedure

As above, except that all horses in a show jumping or eventing or sports pony section will be assessed for conformation first, then loose jumped individually in catalogue order, after which the results for that section will be announced. The jumping grid will be comprised of crossed poles, followed by an oxer and animals will be allowed to go through the jumping lane three times to allow them to adjust to any problems or tension they encounter as a young horse in a strange environment. Please note that this is not a loose-jumping high-jump competition and the elements will only be as high as is necessary to enable the evaluators to see the horse's

natural shape over a fence. The height and width of any element will not exceed 1m for horses and the heights and widths for ponies will be adapted accordingly, usually 70cm.

NB: Because timings are tight it is essential that horses are prepared for loose jumping and are used to being turned loose and caught again.

Once all the horses in the section have completed the loose jumping phase, all the exhibits in the section will parade together in a circle at walk, which should be shown as freely as possible.

The judges will then announce the scores for each of the horses in the group after which rosettes reflecting the premium awarded will be distributed.

EVALUATOR'S GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are issued to the evaluators of these classes and are included here for reasons of transparency and clarity

Foal and Youngstock Classes

Judging criteria

All horses in an age/discipline/sex group enter the one at a time. Each horse is given a mark from 0 to 10 (one decimal point allowed) agreed by the Evaluators present, using the score grid for each of the following criteria:

- Type (suitability for discipline, breed, masculinity/femininity)
- Conformation (head, neck, topline, body, limbs etc)
- Correctness/suitability of gait for discipline
- Elasticity and athleticism (including jumping ability for show jumpers and eventers)
- Veterinary mark

These criteria may be slightly different to the ones you are used to so please be careful when allotting marks that they fall under the correct headings. Where a mark of less than 5 is given (50%) a comment is mandatory. In all other circumstances comments are recommended because participants attend in order to hear an impartial evaluation of their horse and value such comments greatly.

Scoring guidelines

These scoring criteria are meant as guidelines only and in the case of collective marks (eg type, paces and overall impression) will reflect a number of factors

- 10 EXCELLENT** Outstanding sports potential in all respects, as near ideal as possible, combined with superb presence
- 9 VERY GOOD** Almost a 10 but not absolutely perfect in all respects
- 8 GOOD** An animal scoring 8's across the board must really be of good potential as a breeding or performance animal. Paces scoring 8 will be supple, athletic and swinging through back at all times
- 7 FAIRLY GOOD** Acceptable overall and with no more than one minor potential long term performance limitation indicator (eg conformation base narrow or wide or slightly long in loin and short in croup but limbs correct). Paces scoring 7 will be rhythmical and straight but could be more elevated
- 6 FAIR** Showing one major potential long term performance limitation indicator (eg offset cannons, dishing, plaiting etc) or two or more minor faults. Paces scoring 6 will be straight but restricted and lacking athleticism
- 5 ACCEPTABLE** Showing two major potential long term performance limitation indicators but otherwise sound. Not of breeding quality. Paces scoring 5 will be regular but lacking straightness and athleticism

- 4 **NOT ACCEPTABLE** Numerous or diverse potential long-term performance limitation indicators. Paces scoring 4 will show some irregular steps
- 3 **FAIRLY POOR** Major multiple potential long term performance limitation indicators. Paces scoring 3 will be irregular throughout
- 2 **POOR** Will usually be generally poor in all respects. Paces scoring 2 will indicate that the horse is lame
- 1 **VERY POOR** Awarded when a specific pace is not shown sufficiently well to be assessed. Paces scoring 1 will show that the horse is very lame
- 0 **NOT SHOWN** As above. The animal is unfit to be evaluated

When all the horses in a section have been assessed individually they should then be asked to return to the arena together and then asked to walk around in single file on a loose rein (also helps with further assessment of walk). Evaluators will confirm their scoring at this point and the top scoring horse will be pulled into the line up first with the remainder following on in score order. Critiques will then be given and premium rosettes distributed as follows according to the scores that have been assigned:

- 1st premium: Score of 8.0 or above
- 2nd premium: Score of 7.5 to 7.9
- 3rd premium: Score of 7.0 to 7.4

Horses scoring below 7 will not be awarded a premium, but will be awarded a commemorative rosette.

Four-year-olds

Equipment and Turnout

Four year olds should be shown plaited, and wearing a snaffle bridle. Bandages and boots are not allowed in the in hand phase.

Procedure

Four year olds will be assessed individually. There are 6 stages in the assessment as follows:

Stage 1	Veterinary examination I	Assessment of horse at rest (V1)
Stage 2	Veterinary examination II	Assessment of horse in movement (V2)
Stage 3	Conformation and paces in hand	Suitability for the discipline (C)
Stage 4	Paces under rider for Dressage	Suitability for the discipline (PD)
Stage 5	Paces & jumping under rider for Eventing	Suitability for the discipline (PE)
Stage 6	Ridden Jumping	Approach, pace and style (J)

The veterinary assessment will be carried out first. This will consist of a static evaluation and a dynamic (in motion) evaluation (see detail later).

Type and conformation will be judged following the veterinary assessment, followed by assessment of paces on the triangle (see detail later)

In the conformation assessment the horse should be stood up in front of the judges facing left and preferably with the right fore and the left hind slightly advanced.

In the assessment of correctness and elasticity of gaits the horse will be required to trot freely forward around a triangle of approx 20 m x 20 m x 20 m. This enables the judges to view the horses from behind, the side and in front so that they can assess the horse thoroughly.

Horses are assessed for temperament (i.e. willingness and general impression) at every stage of the evaluation according to the discipline / section concerned.

The evaluations usually take place in this order but in the event of there being a large number of entries or for any other reason, this may not be possible.

Evaluation Scores

Scoring

Marks for all criteria in all age groups are awarded on a scale of 0 – 10, to one decimal place, by each panel of evaluators.

The following guidelines are used by all the evaluators in determining the marks to award: -
10 = Excellent; 9 = Very Good; 8 = Good; 7 = Fairly Good; 6 = Satisfactory; 5 = Sufficient; 4 = Insufficient; 3 = Fairly Bad; 2 = Bad; 1 = Very bad and 0 = Not performed.

These scoring criteria are meant as guidelines only and in the case of collective marks (eg type, paces and overall impression) will reflect a number of factors

- 10** **EXCELLENT** Outstanding sports potential in all respects, as near ideal as possible, combined with superb presence
- 9** **VERY GOOD** Almost a 10 but not absolutely perfect in all respects
- 8** **GOOD** An animal scoring 8's across the board must really be of good potential as a breeding or performance animal. Paces scoring 8 will be supple, athletic and swinging through back at all times
- 7** **FAIRLY GOOD** Acceptable overall and with no more than one minor potential long term performance limitation indicator (eg conformation base narrow or wide or slightly long in loin and short in croup but limbs correct). Paces scoring 7 will be rhythmical and straight but could be more elevated
- 6** **FAIR** Showing one major potential long term performance limitation indicator (eg offset cannons, dishing, plaiting etc) or two or more minor faults. Paces scoring 6 will be straight but restricted and lacking athleticism
- 5** **ACCEPTABLE** Showing two major potential long term performance limitation indicators but otherwise sound. Not of breeding quality. Paces scoring 5 will be regular but lacking straightness and athleticism
- 4** **NOT ACCEPTABLE** Numerous or diverse potential long-term performance limitation indicators. Paces scoring 4 will show some irregular steps
- 3** **FAIRLY POOR** Major multiple potential long term performance limitation indicators. Paces scoring 3 will be irregular throughout
- 2** **POOR** Will usually be generally poor in all respects. Paces scoring 2 will indicate that the horse is lame
- 1** **VERY POOR** Awarded when a specific pace is not shown sufficiently well to be assessed. Paces scoring 1 will show that the horse is very lame
- 0** **NOT SHOWN** As above. The animal is unfit to be evaluated

Calculating scores

The three separate section (discipline) scores are calculated as follows:

Marks for Promising Dressage Horse section = $(V + C + 2PD)/4$

Marks for Promising Show Jumper section = $(V + C + 2J)/4$

Marks for Promising Event Horse section = $(V + C + PE + J)/4$

Maximum points for each of the three sections = 10

RULES FOR FOUR YEAR OLD ASSESSMENTS

Veterinary assessment

1 Aim of the assessment

It is the responsibility of the veterinary surgeon to certify that the horse is sound (i.e. shows no signs of lameness or symptoms of infectious disease).

The veterinary examination also assesses the overall orthopaedic health state of the young horse at this early stage of its training with particular emphasis on identifying signs that certain tissues such as joints, growth plates etc have difficulty in coping with normal training preparation. Horses showing signs of having been put under pressure in their training leading to signs of muscle soreness will also be marked down.

Thus, the veterinary marks are a reflection of whether the conformation and physical structure of the horse is such that the horse is likely to remain sound and be competing at the peak of its ability in 6 – 8 years time in whatever its chosen discipline/sport. Note the difference between this assessment and the conformation assessment in Stage Three (Conformation and Paces) where the evaluators are looking at the conformation required for potential success in the chosen discipline.

The identity and eligibility of the horse is also checked at this stage and the handler must ensure that he/she has the horse's passport readily to hand to give to the veterinary evaluator's steward for examination at this point.

2 Veterinary examination I

Examination involves an examination of the horse at rest, including examination of feet, possible palpation of limbs, neck, trunk, back, quarters etc

3 Veterinary examination II

The examination involves inspection of the horse's movement when turned in a tight circle, moved out on a hard surface in hand in a straight line and on a 20m circle on both reins and asked to step backwards. Flexion tests will only be carried out if the veterinary surgeon specifically requests it.

4 Personnel

The veterinary surgeons conducting the veterinary assessments are members of BEVA and have been drawn from an approved panel by the Young Horse Evaluation Series Committee.

5 Horse and handler turnout

The horse should be shown in a snaffle bridle free of extra aids or equipment. The horses must not wear studs, nor be shod with soles unless accompanied by an explanatory veterinary certificate citing the reason. Hoof dressing and leg colouring must not be used in preparing the horse for the veterinary phase. The handler should be dressed as for the Conformation assessment. If the owner so wishes, and provided that the same number is used throughout, different handlers and riders may present the horse in the different stages of the Evaluation procedure to ensure that the horse shows itself to maximum advantage. All handlers and helpers must wear a hard hat to BSI Standard EN1384 (kite marked), PAS 015 (kite marked), ASTM 1163, ASTM 95, SNELL E95, AZ3838 or NZS3838 or such other protective headgear as may reasonably be expected to offer a similar or higher level of protection

6 Assessment procedure

Should the veterinary surgeon determine that a flexion test is required it is useful if two assistants are available, one positioned at each end of the track where the horse will be shown. These assistants carry out the flexion so that the Veterinary surgeon can observe the horse both coming towards (i.e. after a front leg has been flexed) and going away (after a hind leg has been flexed). If the horse reacts to the flexion test or it is not possible to carry out a flexion test a mark of not higher than 6.0 will be given.

7 Examination sheets

The results of the examination, including any observations, are recorded by the veterinary surgeon and the owner is given the opportunity to ask any questions they may have concerning the results of the assessment.

8 Elimination

It may be necessary to eliminate a horse from taking part in the rest of the assessment on the grounds of lameness or infectious disease. The decision to eliminate a horse should be made known to the owner, handler, and organiser and to the officials. A horse eliminated on the grounds of injury or illness may apply for dispensation to take part in another assessment later in the same year only.

9 Preparation

The handler/owner should ensure that the horse is already used to having its ears, eyes, teeth and hooves examined by unfamiliar people. The horse must also accept close examination of its skeletal frame, tendons and ligaments by a veterinary surgeon using both visual methods and palpation. The horse must be trained to accept palpation of the leg while lifted and must also be familiar with measuring procedures for both height and bone and should allow each leg to be lifted in turn. The horse should be able to back up in hand and also to trot out in hand in a straight line and on a 20 m circle on both reins.

Conformation and Paces In-Hand

1 Purpose of the Assessment

To assess the correctness of conformation and paces as they affect the ability of the horse to participate successfully in the selected disciplines. If in doubt about which discipline a horse is suited for, it is recommended that an entry is made in more than one discipline, albeit it at more than one venue, and thus take advantage of the expert assessment of the evaluators.

2 Turnout and training

The horse should be shown in a simple snaffle bridle. Stallions may be shown on a stallion line when in hand. Bandages, boots etc are not allowed during this part of the evaluation. The horse will be shown on the triangle. Please see earlier for guidelines as to how to show your horse in walk and trot to the best of its ability using the triangle as a guide.

3 The assessment procedure

Each evaluator assesses the horse and the marks awarded, and any remarks are then discussed by the panel of evaluators to arrive at an agreed result. The evaluators give marks from 1 to 10, to one decimal place, for each of the following:

1. Type
2. Head, neck and body
3. Limbs
4. Correctness of movement

Paces Under Rider Assessment

1 Purpose of the Assessment

To assess the quality and correctness of the paces of the horse under rider in order to participate successfully in the selected disciplines.

2 General

The horse is shown under saddle in all three paces according to instruction from the evaluator

The panel assesses each pace (walk, trot and canter in dressage and walk, trot, canter and potential to gallop in eventing) and marks on a scale of 0 – 10, to one decimal place. Additional marks are then awarded for trainability and temperament which take into account eagerness to go forward, willingness and cooperation; and for general impression which includes potential for the discipline, presence and athleticism. At the end of each evaluation day the evaluators will give a short verbal critique, including the marks for each horse and the overall score. This critique may also include a judgement on how the rider may have influenced the horse and the assessment.

3 Horse and rider turnout

This should conform to the rules laid down for Novice tests conducted under British Dressage rules except that horses competing in the Paces under Rider section for Promising Eventers may wear running martingales. For permitted bits please see British Dressage Rule No 61 (see diagram opposite). NB. Myler snaffles (MB09) and Myler type snaffles with rotating mouthpieces are allowed provided the bits are made of the same metal throughout

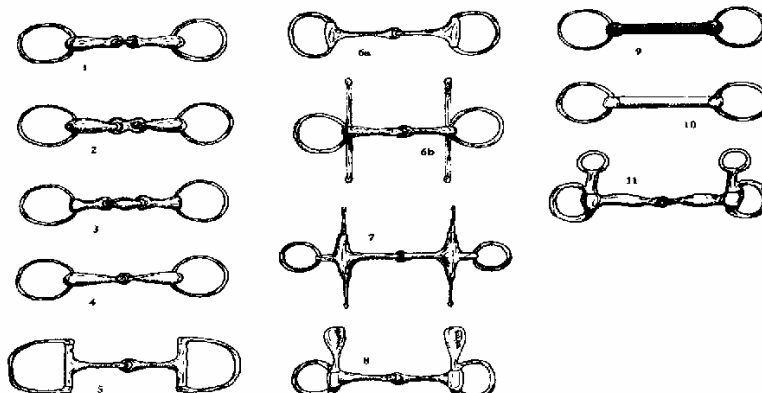
Boots and bandages are not permitted during this part of the assessment. The rider must wear a hard hat to BSI Standard EN1384 (kite marked), PAS 015 (kite marked), ASTM 1163, ASTM 95, SNELL E95, AZ3838 or NZS3838 or such other protective headgear as may reasonably be expected to offer a similar or higher level of protection. Top hats and bowlers are not permitted. Spurs and whips acceptable under BD rules are allowed.

Provided that the same number is used throughout, different handlers and riders may present the horse in the different stages of the evaluation procedure to ensure that the horse shows itself to maximum advantage.

PERMITTED BITS

61. Snaffle

Bits should follow the configuration of those illustrated below. Where there is any doubt, guidance should be sought from the Chief Executive of British Dressage, preferably in writing with a diagram, but may take until the following year for approval. No variations other than those illustrated may be used until verified.



1. Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece
 2. Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece (French Link)
 3. Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece with Lozenge
 4. Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece
 5. Racing Snaffle (D ring)
 6. Egg-butt snaffle:
 - a) without cheeks
 - b) with cheeks
 7. Other type of snaffle with cheeks
 8. Snaffle with upper cheeks only
 9. Rubber, leather or plastic snaffle jointed or unjointed
 10. Unjointed snaffle
 - 11a. Hanging cheeks snaffle or Loose ring hanging snaffle
- * Bits of rubber, nylon or other synthetic materials are permitted.

Bits must be used in their manufactured condition without any addition to/on any part. Only the bits that are illustrated are permitted, they may be used with any of the cheeks or rings illustrated.

It is permitted to use two reins with a snaffle bit. Plastic bits with a cylindrical joint are not permitted.

All parts of the bit coming into the horse's mouth must be made of the same type of metal **or compound** (some do vary in colour). It is not permissible to use copper in conjunction with other metals.

4 Assessment procedure

The horse must move in balance and with confidence in all paces and in a suitable outline for a young developing horse. The horse should accept the contact in trot and canter and, if possible, follow this pattern: -

- Trot down the centre line
- One circuit in trot on the left rein
- Change rein across diagonal and show lengthened strides
- One circuit in trot on right rein
- One circuit in canter on right rein
- Change rein across diagonal through trot
- One circuit in canter on left rein and show some lengthened strides
- Transition to trot and, on a 20 metre circle, allow the horse to stretch his neck (long rein)
- Collect reins, walk, change rein across diagonal with a free walk on long rein
- Collect reins and leave arena

Jumping Ability Assessment

1 Purpose of the Assessment

To assess the quality, style, scope and athleticism of the horse under the influence of a rider.

2 Arena

Jumping under saddle will normally take place indoors. Stewards will be available to build and repair the fences, but assistance is always appreciated.

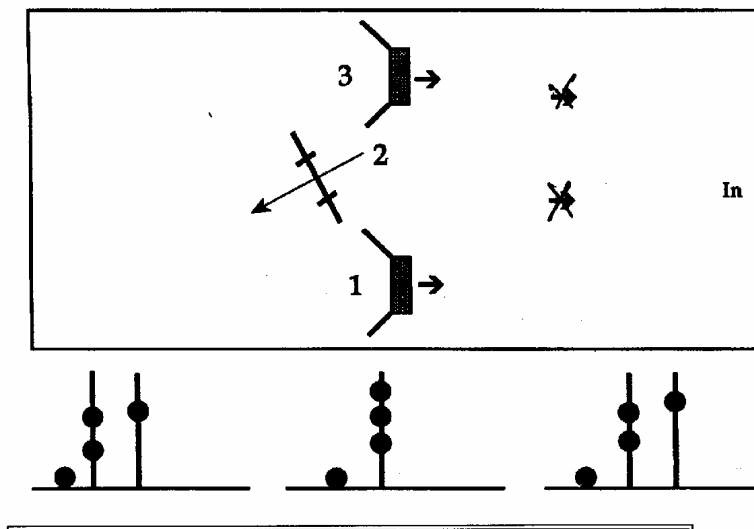
4 Horse and rider turnout

This should conform to the rules laid down for Novice tests conducted under British Dressage rules except that:

- horses may wear running martingales
- brushing boots and bandages may be worn

The rider must wear a hard hat to BSI Standard EN1384 (kite marked), PAS 015 (kite marked), ASTM 1163, ASTM 95, SNELL E95, AZ3838 or NZS3838 or such other protective headgear as may reasonably be expected to offer a similar or higher level of protection. Only those spurs and bits acceptable under BSJA rules are allowed. Different handlers and riders may present the horse in the different stages of the evaluation procedure to ensure that the horse shows itself to maximum advantage.

5 Sequence of fences



The horse and rider should trot around the arena before commencing jumping. Before starting the course they may jump Fence 1 as a practice fence when indicated by the evaluators. Usually Fence no 1 is jumped twice **as a practice fence** without the back pole. Following this, and, on a signal from the evaluators, the rest of the course is then jumped. The evaluators may request to see additional jumps. If the horse completes the course on only one canter lead the evaluator may request the rider to show the horse jumping from the other canter lead.

In order to gain a mark of 7.0 or more horses must jump Fence No 3 at a height of and spread of 1m (70 cm in the case of ponies).

APPENDIX I: PRESENTING YOUR HORSE IN HAND – BEGINNERS' NOTES

Entering the arena

The horse is walked energetically on a straight line. The handler walks at the horse's left shoulder carrying the crossed or separated reins in the right hand and whip in the left hand.

Presentation for assessment of overall conformation and structure

The horse is presented to the evaluators at the given location and the halt prepared in good time. After halting the handler stands in front of the horse with a rein in each hand or in the case of a stallion being shown on a stallion line with hands 6 inches apart. The reins should be held about 20 cm from the rings of the bit and the ends of the reins should be gathered up neatly. The horse is presented to the conformation evaluators with the left fore slightly in front and the left hind slightly behind. The body weight should be evenly placed. The head is held in a natural position and the handler's attention should be solely on the horse. When the evaluators move to examine the horse from in front, the handler should move to the side so that the front legs can be seen. If the evaluators move to the right hand side of the horse then the handler should calmly move the horse so that the right fore is in front and the right hind is behind.

Presentation at walk

When the evaluators give the command the handler moves back to the left shoulder and the horse is walked off using the triangle as a guideline. There is no need to stop and turn at each angle of the triangle, the idea is to maintain rhythm and forward motions.

Presentation at trot

When presenting the horse at trot the handler should gather the reins into the right hand so that they can run freely and follow the horse without hanging on the reins, as this will bend the horse and disturbing it's natural movement. The handler should run in line with the horse's shoulder, concentrating solely on the horse. The horse should move freely and energetically and willingly obey the voice aid. Again, just use the triangle as a guide and ensure that your horse moves forward and shows itself to the beat of its ability.

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