



Delivered by
the RUAS



**BALMORAL
SHOW 2026**
13TH - 16TH MAY



Ulster Bank

EQUINE

EXHIBITORS' MANUAL



SPONSORED BY

EQUIKLEEN

NEW Show Opening Hours

Wednesday - Friday 9.30am – 7.00pm

Saturday 9.30am – 6.00pm

There is a soft opening for wristband and ticket holders at the main entrance from 8am for those wishing to watch early equestrian classes. Trade stands won't open until 9.30am.

The Show Office is located adjacent to Gate G.

How to get to Balmoral Show

Exhibitors must follow the exhibitor route to gain access to the show grounds via Gate 6 Bog Road. When you arrive, you will be directed to your car park by security – please have all relevant parking tickets and entry wristbands ready for inspection to help avoid any unnecessary congestion. If you do not have a parking ticket, you will be directed to the orange car park and payment will be taken by parking management. Please note that you cannot enter the Bog Road on Show Days from the Halftown Road. See below map showing route, this can also be found on our website.

Car park tickets must be clearly displayed on the windscreen at all times.

Vehicles parked in any of the car parks on Show days without the appropriate ticket displayed will be clamped or towed away.



NEW FOR 2026

For Balmoral Show 2026 exhibitors will **not receive packs**, instead they will receive their parking passes and digital collection voucher(s) for their wristband(s) through their online portal.

Due to limited connectivity Digital Collection Vouchers must be downloaded on your phone or printed **before arriving on site**.

Parking Passes

No vehicles will be permitted access to the Showgrounds without a pre-purchased parking pass.

All parking passes must be printed in advance and clearly displayed on your vehicle dashboard for security checks.

Arrival & Wristband Collection

All exhibitors must follow the correct arrival process:

1. Follow the designated route to your allocated car park.
2. Once parked, make your way to the nearest Wristband Office.
3. Scan your Digital Collection Voucher and print your wristbands.

Important: Wristbands **must be collected before accessing the stable or vetting areas**. No exceptions.

Exhibitors must not present animals at the vetting area before collecting wristbands.

You will not be permitted into the stable area without a valid wristband.

Multiple Digital Collection Vouchers

If you have purchased or been allocated more than one voucher, you can choose one of the following options:

1. Print all wristbands yourself and distribute them manually.
2. Email each voucher from your Online Portal to the recipients, allowing them to print their wristbands upon arrival on site.

Vetting Procedure & Catalogue Numbers

Exhibitors must know their animal's catalogue number **before** presenting at the Veterinary Area.

This can be found on your Online Portal under 'Equestrian Entries'. The number is located in the 'Comp #' column, to the left of the animal's name

Exhibitors without their catalogue number ready will be asked to leave the queue and will not be allowed to rejoin until they have it.

Equines will be subject to inspection by the RUAS veterinary team. Passports with up-to-date vaccinations and height certificates (where applicable) must be available for inspection.

Any animal without a passport or **up-to-date vaccinations** will be **refused entry**. (see vaccination requirements on page 6)

Back & Bridle Numbers will be provided at the vetting area.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

WRISTBANDS

Equine exhibitors are entitled to two admission wristbands per horse/pony entered, up to a maximum of 10 wristbands (an additional wristband will be given for foal classes).

All wristbands are non-transferable and must be attached correctly to your wrist to gain access to the Show.

If you have anyone attending to your horses, they must have a wristband to gain access to the stable area and to gain access to the site after show hours. This is for everyone's safety and the safety of all exhibits. Offence should not be taken if you are refused entry – please follow the rules and have the appropriate wristband.

Anyone not in possession of an admission wristband will be charged at the entry gate.

Broken or damaged wristbands must be brought to the Show Office to obtain a replacement.

Refunds will not be made to anyone paying at the gate on arrival who claims to have forgotten their wristband.

Any person found making unlawful resale copies (or attempting to sell the wristbands) or tickets will be removed from the show without refund or other compensation. Entries will be cancelled and a possible ban on future years issued.

All wristbands must be worn on the wrist and always fastened during the event. Wristbands not worn as directed will be retained at the entrance gates. Tampering will invalidate the wristbands. Stretching, tearing, taping or cutting the wristbands is not permitted. If wristband tampering is evident, the wristband will be voided, and the wearer will be refused entry.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE TIMES

Exhibitors arriving outside the hours stated below will be refused entry.

Tuesday 12 May

9.00am and 9.00pm.

Wednesday 13 May – Friday 15 May

6am – 8am & 6pm – 9pm

Saturday 16 May

6am – 8am

Provided exhibitors are not required to participate in any of the parades they may leave once their class has finished, however if an animal leaves the show grounds they will not be admitted again unless they are presented at the vetting area within the allocated times.

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COMPULSORY VACCINATION AGAINST EQUINE INFLUENZA

Compulsory Vaccination against Equine Influenza – All equine animals wishing to compete at Balmoral Show must be vaccinated against equine influenza – no equine will be admitted to the showgrounds unless they have the following;

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- **A minimum of the Primary course consisting of 2 vaccinations, not less than 21 days and not more than 92 days apart (not within 7 days of the show).**
- **A booster must then be given 150 - 215 days after the 2nd primary vaccination (not within 7 days of the show).**
- **An annual booster must be given within 12 months of the previous vaccination (not within 7 days of the show).**

All vaccinations must be properly documented in the animal's passport and signed by a veterinary surgeon and stamped with their official practice stamp to authenticate each vaccination.

Please note: Foals should be vaccinated from 5 months.

If there is a current outbreak of Equine Influenza in Ireland, G.B. USA and other European countries – please ensure that all Persons Responsible (Owners/Athletes) keep up to date with FEI, HSI and SJI requirements regarding vaccinations, and biosecurity best hygiene practices, as they may have to be amended should further outbreaks continue. Updates will be found on the appropriate websites. All passports must be up to date, or entry to the Showgrounds will not be allowed.

Control: The influenza virus is easily destroyed outside the body. Cleanliness is required to control it. The greatest risk spread appears to be by nasal discharge and by attendant's hands. Horses may harbor the virus for approx. nine to ten days after coughing ceases. The virus will survive in wet, humid conditions in horse boxes, stables etc but in dry or warm dry conditions it soon dies.

STABLING

A stable is no longer included with your entry and must be booked when completing your entries.

NB: Exhibitors are not permitted to work from their horse boxes/lorries and must book a stable for the required night(s), with the exception of, Clydesdales/Agri Horses, Driving & Hackney Classes and Donkeys.

All stables must be vacated by 5.30pm (providing your class has finished). Stables that are not vacated will be charged an additional night.

No equine may stable in a stable other than that allocated to it by Society officials. **STABLE SWAPPING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Any owner/exhibitor found in breach of this rule will be removed from the showgrounds with immediate effect and forfeit any entry fees paid, and prize money won.

Stables will include some shavings which have kindly provided by Bluefrog. A limited supply of shavings will be available to purchase from the stable manager.

Equestrian Farms feeds can deliver additional bedding if ordered in advance. It is advisable to use rubber mats in stables due to ground conditions.

Any Horse in isolation will not be allowed out of the isolation box, except by order of one of the stewards or a senior member of staff.

VET

If your horse requires veterinary attention during show hours, please let a steward know. If you require urgent attention outside show hours contact Lagan Valley Vets 07734 140089.

Any treatment administered by the vet will be payable by the owner/exhibitor.

RANDOM DOPE TESTING

Equines entered at Balmoral Show may be subject to sampling for illegal substances.

Tests will be carried out by the Society's appointed veterinary surgeon, and a steward will accompany the veterinary surgeon when tests are being taken.

Should the sample taken prove positive, on analysis, for a prohibited substance, the exhibit will be disqualified.

MEASUREMENT OF HORSE & PONIES

Horses and ponies entered in classes with a height restriction must be in possession of a current height or final measurement certificate appropriate to their class. This certificate should be issued by a society or scheme approved by the FEI or issued by a National Federation affiliated to the FEI or a certificate issued by a society or scheme approved by such National Federation and must be presented with their passport at arrivals.

PERMITTED AREAS

Horses and ponies will be restricted to the area between the loose box accommodation and Rings 1 and 2 and uniformed traffic stewards will be employed to implement this. At no time when the show is open to the public will exhibitors be permitted to ride or lead their animals outside the restricted area.

EXERCISING

Ridden horses and led horses will be allowed to exercise in the warmup areas. Exercising in the judging rings or main arena is strictly prohibited.

All arenas and the lunging pen will be closed between **10.30pm & 5am (Tuesday – Saturday)**. All equines must be stabled during these times except in the case of an emergency. Any exhibitor seen violating this rule will have all entries cancelled and/or any prizes/placings already gained made null and void. (Also see rule 44 of the General Rules and Regulations)

Lunging in the Horse Rings practice arena is **only permitted** on: Tuesday 13th May from 9am – 10.30pm and Wednesday 15th May from 5am – 12noon. Those wishing to lunge outside of these times must use the lunge pen.

The exercising or examination of horses on the paths or roadways is strictly forbidden.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

Forms of cruel, inhumane, or abusive treatment of horses or ponies, including, but not limited to, the various forms of rapping, are strictly forbidden in all areas of the Showgrounds.

SHOEING

For horses and ponies that are shod only normal shoes that do not cover the frog are permissible. Normal shaped open heeled plastic stick-on shoes are permissible. No bar shoes, pads or gel pads are allowed.

DOGS

Dogs are NOT permitted anywhere on the Showgrounds, including Car Parks. Anyone who brings a dog(s) onto the site will be asked to leave.

PARADES

A parade of prizewinning young stock horses will take place in P&O Arena on Wednesday 13 May. The Champion, Reserve Champion and 1st – 3rd prize winners in each class will be required to participate.

A parade of prizewinning horses will take place in the Main Arena on Thursday 14 May. The Champions, Reserve Champions and 1st – 3rd prize winners in the following classes are required to participate; Ridden Hunter, Coloured Horses, Ladies Hunters Astride, Ladies Side Saddle - Balmoral Classic Competition, Riding Horses, Ridden Irish Draught, Performance Irish Draught and Ridden Connemara Ponies.

A parade of prizewinning Heavy horses will take place on Friday 15 May in the P&O Arena. The Champion, reserve champion and 1st – 3rd prize winners in each class are required to participate.

Exhibitors will be advised of the collection arrangements for parades at the time of the presentation of class prizes.

If an animal is absent from a parade without good reason, the exhibitor is liable to forfeit the prize or prizes won by the animal.

NUMBERS

Back numbers, corresponding with the catalogue number of the animal will be provided, and **must be worn by the grooms or riders**, at all times, or in the case of harness horses, on the back of the carriages. Bridle numbers are also provided, and these must be worn when the exhibits are out of the stables. If these numbers are not clearly displayed, you will not be allowed to enter the warm up area.

DRESS & HEADGEAR

Each rider and groom must be correctly dressed, and protective headgear conforming to the current safety standards must be worn at all times whilst mounted. All exhibitors are encouraged to wear recommended protective headgear to BSI standard with chin strap but in the working hunter horse classes and in the ridden and working hunter children's pony classes, exhibitors must wear a riding hat complying with the current safety standards at all times whilst mounted. All exhibitors under 14 years in the Private Driving and Light Trade section should wear protective headgear complying with the current safety standards.

All riders should be correctly dressed when walking the course (no denims should be worn).

No earrings, piercings, or visible jewellery should be worn.

GROOMS

If any groom is absent from his horse at the time of judging, the horse will be liable to be excluded from competition. Grooms in charge of horses remaining in the Showground overnight must be in attendance at 7am each morning to clean out the stables.

FEEDING

The exhibitor must provide their own fodder for their animals while onsite, the Society does not supply hay or take charge of feeding any exhibit.

Equestrian & Farm Feeds will have limited feed supplies available to buy on site. Orders can be placed from their unit located within the stable area or ordered in advance for collection by calling 02892 677640.



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RESIDENTIAL LORRY PARK

Parking is available from 9am on Tuesday 12th May 2026 and vehicles must be removed by 8pm on Saturday 16th May 2026.

The Pink and Brown residential parking is for exhibitors and their helpers only and only those with wristbands will be permitted to stay onsite. This is to help us control who is coming and going to the site and to ensure we are doing what we can to keep the residential areas safe.

- **Your parking pass must be clearly displayed on the front window of the vehicle and must have a mobile contact number on the pass in case of an emergency.**
- Toilet and shower facilities are located behind the permanent stables and adjacent to Gate C.
- All vehicles will be supplied with an electrical hook up connection, **generators are not permitted.**
- All rubbish must be placed in the bins provided.
- Owners must dispose of chemical toilets waste in the designated areas behind the permanent stables adjacent to the holding stabled.
- All vehicles must have a current gas safety certificate and carbon monoxide detectors are recommended.
- All vehicles must be insured by the owner.
- Vehicles are left on site at the owner's own risk. The Society is not responsible for damage to or the loss of any property.
- Adequate precautions must be taken for preventing and dealing with the outbreak of fire and you must provide a suitable fire extinguisher in your vehicle. Open fires are prohibited anywhere within the Residential parking area. BBQs are permitted but must be supervised at all times and you must ensure that these are extinguished correctly after use.
- All accidents or incidents within the Residential parking areas must be reported to the Group Operations Director in the Show Office.
- People staying on site must be respectful of others. No loud music or rowdy behaviour is permitted at any time. Noise must be kept to an absolute minimum between 11pm – 7am.
- **Antisocial behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated and those found to be disruptive will be asked to remove from the showgrounds.**
- **No Dogs are permitted anywhere on site.**

GAS & ELECTRIC

In accordance with the health and safety executive guidance Note PM32 it is a requirement that all portable apparatus is checked for electrical safety (PAT tested) and provided with an electrical safety certificate. Trailing electrical cables are also identified as being a major safety hazard and their use across aisles is prohibited.

FIRST AID FACILITIES

- Eikon Exhibition Centre - First Aid Room
- Beside Arena 2 (Ambulance)
- Park Centre East (located beside the members enclosure)
- Beside Arena (Ambulance)
- A team of paramedics and a doctor are also on duty

ATMS

ATM's are located in the Ulster Bank marquee at the Arena and in the Eikon Shopping Village.

ONSITE SPAR SHOP

The Spar shop, located in the centre of the Show grounds will be open for livestock, equine & trade exhibitors from Monday 11 May

Available in shop

Hot drinks - tea, coffee, sandwiches, confectionery, cold drinks, milk, bread, toiletries etc.

10% discount for wristbands wearers. (excludes cigarette & tobacco)

Shop opening hours:

Monday 11 May 8am – 4pm

Tuesday 12 May 8am – 4pm

Wednesday 13 May 7am – 8pm

Thursday 14 May 7am – 8pm

Friday 15 May 7am – 8pm

Saturday 16 May 7am – 6pm

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Should for any reason you have a complaint during the Show please inform the show office.

HEALTH & SAFETY inc Roles and Responsibilities of Exhibitors

SECURITY PRECAUTIONS

Unattended tack boxes should be always locked.

Communication arrangement – In the event of an emergency an announcement informing the public and exhibitors of the emergency situation and the actions to be taken will then be broadcast over the public address system.

In the event of the public address system not being available for use information will be conveyed using loud hailers.

On receiving instructions to evacuate do not attempt to take your animals with you. Ensure they are securely stabled and leave as requested.

Role & Responsibilities of Exhibitors

Whilst the Society has a major responsibility it must be stressed that exhibitors have an equal responsibility, and the Council hopes that all exhibitors will treat this responsibility seriously and so minimise the risk of accident and injury. In essence this comes down to common sense, but a number of specific regulations are included in the prize schedule and this manual and additionally other specific arrangements are advised separately to exhibitors as part of their general instructions.

- Being alert to obstructions or hazards which may lead to slip, trip and fall or other accidents – particularly electric cables.
- Competent persons to lead livestock.
- No children in unauthorised areas or close to livestock where an accident can occur.
- No Vehicles or livestock movements in unauthorised areas.

It is also recognised that all trade or stock exhibitors at agricultural events organised by the Society have a responsibility for their personal safety and a duty of care to their fellow exhibitors and to any other person (including the public) who has reason to be on the premises.

This responsibility includes: -

- The duty to comply with safety instructions and directions as included in the rules and regulations and instructions to exhibitors for the various events.
- The duty to refrain from the wilful misuse or interference with anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare and any action that might endanger themselves or others.
- The duty to use properly the means and facilities provided for health, safety and welfare.
- The duty to ensure that where appropriate, the necessary safety instructions are passed on to all other persons who may be involved with the exhibit at any time during the event.

Code of Conduct

- Only those who are attending to animals and have valid wristbands will be permitted to stay on site after Show hours. This will be policed and those without wristbands will be removed from the site.
- Exhibitors are not permitted to drink alcohol in the stable area.
- You must always act responsibly and refrain from any act which would endanger you or others or animals.
- You are not permitted to handle stock other than your own unless you have the permission of the owner.
- You must stay within your own area and not interfere with any other livestock or trade stand.
- Security has the right to remove anyone from the Showgrounds if they are behaving in an inappropriate manner.
- Vehicles are not permitted to move around the Showgrounds after 8pm.
- You must respect the property of others.
- If you are found to have caused any damage to the property of the RUAS or any other exhibitors at the Show you will be liable for all costs.
- Anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated and will be referred to the PSNI.
- Any exhibitor attempting to show stock whilst intoxicated will be prohibited from the judging ring.
- Fractious animals will also be prohibited from the judging ring and/or parades.
- Exhibitors who wilfully ignore instructions may find that they will be barred from exhibiting at future shows organised by the Society.
- Anyone found to be in breach of these rules will be banned from the Showgrounds for the remainder of the Show and for future years.

INSURANCE

Exhibitors are required to provide their own insurance against fire, theft and other appropriate risk not only with regards to their own property but also against any third party claims.

Every exhibitor must have Public Liability Insurance (we recommend a minimum of 5 million GBP cover however independent advice should be sought from your Insurance Broker) and should bring a copy of their certificate of insurance with them.

Acceptance of the previous two provisions shall be a condition of entry.

Each exhibitor shall be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to, occasioned by, or arising from any animals or item exhibited by him whether or not due to the negligence of the Society or any of its servants, agents, sub-contractors or other entrants, exhibitors or invitees and for its description as given in the catalogue.

In no case will the Society be responsible for the safe delivery or dispatch of exhibits.

Exhibitors shall indemnify the Society against all legal proceedings in regard thereto.

CAR PARK MAP INCLUDING WRISTBAND OFFICES & ENTRY SCANNING POINTS



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BALMOREAL FOR 2026



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LET'S GET SOCIAL



#BalmoralShow