



Bluegrass Horse Feed Schools Show Jumping Open Team Championship

Saturday 17th May 2025

Main Arena, 10:45am

Qualifiers

5 schools teams from Ulster Region (includes Cavan, Monaghan & Donegal) and 5 schools teams from the rest of the Republic of Ireland will be eligible to compete at Balmoral Show on Saturday 17 May 2025. For schools in the Ulster Region, the winning school team in the Open Class at each of the qualifying shows will qualify for the final at Balmoral. The top 5 schools from the Equestrian Interschools Ireland League will qualify from ROI. Should a qualified team be unable to compete at Balmoral Show, then the next eligible team from that qualifying venue will be invited to compete.

Once a school has qualified, they are unable to take a further qualifying place but may compete at other venues for prizes/placings. Final team athlete/animal combinations taking part must be declared at entry, completed online at www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/show-jumping/schools-team-show-jumping by **Wednesday 9 April 2025**.

	Organiser	Venue	Date	Contact Details
1	Hazeldene Farm	45 Chestnut Road Ballynahinch BT24 8JQ	Sunday 23 rd February	turleylaura1@hotmail.com 07540 050788
2	Omagh Academy	Castle Irvine Estate Necarne Demesne Irvinestown BT94 1BD	Tuesday 11 th March	ldickson859@omaghacademy.omagh.ni.sch.uk 028 82897401
3	Meadows Equestrian Centre	Embankment Road Lurgan BT66 6FD	Sunday 16 th March	info@themec.co.uk 028 38322417
4	Route Hunt Pony Club	RDA Coleraine 184 Castleroe Road Coleraine BT51 3RW	Saturday 29 th March	janet.currie1948@btinternet.com 07525 908886
5	Danescroft Equestrian	21 Waterloo Road Lisburn BT27 5NW	Wednesday 2 nd April	danescroft.leah@gmail.com 07596 102563

Rules & Information

Teams – A qualifying school team must consist of a minimum of 3 athletes and a maximum of 4, all currently in full time 2nd level education at the same school they represent.

No athlete/animal may compete more than once in the same team.

Animals may not be schooled at the competition venue by anyone other than the athlete competing on the animal taking part in the competition.

Should a qualified school fail to participate at the Championship without acceptable evidence for their non-appearance, this school will not be eligible to compete for a qualifying place in 2026.

Entry Fee & Closing Dates – For all qualified schools the team entry fee of £200 must be paid online at www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/show-jumping/schools-team-show-jumping by **Wednesday 9 April 2025** along with the definite entries (team participants – athletes/animals) and intended running order.
The name and contact details of the team Chef d'Equipe **must** be identified with the entry.

Parking/Wristbands – Team entry fee includes parking passes in the Red Show Jumping car park for 4 horse lorries/trailers and 1 car along with 10 wristbands (1 for each athlete, 1 for a parent/guardian of each athlete, and 2 for school representatives).
Only those with the correct wristbands will be permitted entry to the jumping pocket/warm-up arena.

Stable Reservations – Stables are limited and should be purchased online when making entries. Stabling costs £35 per night. All stables are 3m x 3m approx. Limited shavings are provided. Additional shavings are available to purchase on site.

Arrival Times/Vaccinations/Passports – Teams may arrive on Friday night (providing a stable has been pre purchased) from 6pm – 9pm or on Saturday morning from 6am – 8am only. Entry to Balmoral Park may be refused outside of these arrival times. It is not necessary for all team members to arrive together.

Substitutions – No substitutions from the definite entries are allowed, except in the case of a proven injury where the substitution of an athlete/animal from the definite entry list may be allowed up to 4.00pm on Friday 9 May 2025. After this date/time, no substitution will be considered. In this regard, the Organising Committee/Showjumping Sub-Committee's decision is final.

Declarations – The Chef d'Equipe should identify themselves at the Declarations Office beside the practice arena **between 8.15am and 8.30am** on the morning of the event to declare all team athletes/animals. A **compulsory** health & safety briefing will immediately follow and must be attended by all Chef d'Equipes.

The Chef d'Equipe is the only person eligible to liaise with the Starter/Ground Jury regarding any difficulties during the competition, e.g. an animal losing a shoe etc. Any rider or school representative showing unsporting behaviour will automatically be disqualified from their team, and/or have their team disqualified.

Competition Format – Competitions will be run under SJI rules.

At the Championship and at all participating qualifying venues, the competition will be run as a Competition in Two Phases - Article 274.5.3. Maximum height of fences will be 1m.

- A 45 second countdown will operate.
- Penalties in the first phase will be scored, and time noted, but the bell will not be rung, and the athlete will continue to the second phase, **except** in the case of a fall of horse and/or athlete, when the bell will be rung to signal the end of the competition for that combination.
- Elimination in the first phase for jumping penalties will NOT automatically lead to non-participation in the second phase, unless the Ground Jury feel this is in the best interests of the horse/athlete, in which case the bell will be rung to signal the end of the round.
- Penalties in both phases will be as based on SJI rules. Article 236 Table A.
- The best three scores in the first phase, together with the best three scores and time in the second phase, will establish the team's total score. These will not necessarily be the same athletes.
- Should there be equality of penalties and time for first place, a jump off will take place over a shortened course, by one athlete of each team, selected by the Chef d'Equipe. At the Championship, should there be further equalities for either 2nd or 3rd place, a jump off will also take place, as above, to ensure there are three clear winning teams of the Championship for 1st 2nd and 3rd places.

Table of Faults

- Knockdown 4 faults
- First disobedience 4 faults
- Second disobedience 8 faults
- Third disobedience Elimination
- Fall of horse/pony or rider Elimination
- Exceeding the time limit Elimination
- Exceeding the time allowed in the 1st and 2nd rounds - 1 penalty point for every 4 seconds commenced.
- Exceeding the time allowed in the jump off against the clock - 1 penalty point for each second commenced or fraction of a second.

Judging – The Ground Jury for qualifying competitions & Championship must have at least one judge at Senior National Level or above, and one judge of National level or above, plus a scorer per arena. The decision of the Ground Jury is final.

Each venue hosting a qualifying competition must submit the name of the Senior Judge and Course Designer to Vickie White, RUAS Offices, at least one week before the date of the qualifier.

Course – The Course Designer at the qualifying rounds must be Regional level or above. The Course Designer at the Championship must be Senior National level or above.

- The first phase is a course of 7 to 9 obstacles with or without combinations.
- The second phase takes place over 4 to 6 obstacles, which may include 1 combination.
- Speed will be 325mpm.
- The first fence in phase 1 must not exceed 0.95cms.
- There must be two vertical obstacles in each phase at maximum height of 1.0m.
- Maximum spread 1.20m. Triple Bar 1.30m.
- A jump off, if required, will have a maximum of 7 fences which will include a two stride double combination.

Dress – All animal/athlete combinations should be correctly presented in their school uniforms/colours. Correctly secured protective headgear conforming to the current safety standards is compulsory for all athletes and must be worn at all times when mounted. Back protectors should be worn.

Prize Giving

- At all qualifying competitions in Ulster Region, the team qualifying on the day will receive qualified rosettes. All 5 ROI teams will receive a qualified rosette when the Chef d'Equipe presents to the Declarations Office.
- At the Championship 1st – 3rd teams will be awarded prizes in kind.
- The Bluegrass Horse Feed Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the winning school.
- The winning school will be invited by the sponsor to visit their premises to have an educational guided tour.
- Rosettes will be awarded to all competing teams. The top 3 teams will be invited to the main arena for the prize giving ceremony. The Chef d'Equipe of the remaining teams will receive their rosettes from the Declarations Office.
A Team Turnout prize will be awarded at the Championship to the most appropriately turned out team as chosen by the sponsor. This team will be invited into the main arena to receive their rosettes if they are not already in the top 3 competing teams.

Rules – All competitors are also bound by the general regulations and instructions for the Society's Annual Show as contained in the main Prize Schedule and Equine Prize Schedule which are available online.

It is not possible to provide for every conceivable eventuality in these Rules. If there is no rule to deal specifically with a particular circumstance, or if the literal interpretation of the pertinent rule would result in obvious injustice, reference may be made to the SJI / FEI rules. Ultimately the RUAS Showjumping Sub-Committee will make a decision based on common sense and fair play, thus reflecting as closely as possible the intention of these rules.