



## Balmoral Show 2026 - Connemara Qualifiers

Qualifiers are open to Registered Connemara Ponies (excluding stallions)

### Ridden Classes:

To be judged on ride, good temperament, conformation, soundness, breed type and suitability for child or adult.

Ponies are required to be stripped.

- Mare or Gelding, 4 and 5 years old suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 12th birthday on the 1st January 2026.
- Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 10th birthday but not their 16th birthday on 1st January 2026.
- Mare or Gelding, 6 years old or over suitable for and to be ridden by riders 10 years old and over on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026.

### QUALIFICATION:

**Top 5 pony/rider combinations in each of the ridden classes will qualify at each qualifying venue, if any of the top 5 have already qualified placings will go down the line.**

**2 reserves will also be selected in each class and should any qualified pony withdraw from this class; a reserve pony from the same qualifying venue will be invited to compete at Balmoral Show in the relevant section. Any pony withdrawn from a class after 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 will not be replaced.**

**A change of rider for the final will not be permitted under any circumstances.**

**Once qualified entries must be made online at [www.balmoralshow.co.uk](http://www.balmoralshow.co.uk) within 48 hours.**



## Balmoral Show 2025 - Connemara Qualifiers



Qualifiers are open to Registered Connemara Ponies (excluding stallions)

### Working Hunter Classes:

On entering the arena, each competitor will present to the judge where conformation will be assessed whilst mounted before riding away to demonstrate their pony's walk and trot paces on the flat. Competitors will then proceed straight to the jumping phase which will be a course of eight to ten fences, which have a natural appearance. The style of jumping and way of going will be marked by the judge and refusals will be penalised.

Competitors may not share a pony.

No change of tack is allowed during the competition.

Hind leg boots, bandages, bitless bridles, standing martingales, gag snaffles, hackamores and spurs are not permitted.

Fence height: minimum of 69cm, maximum 99cm, max spread 84cm.

- Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 10th birthday but not their 16th birthday on 1st January 2026.
- Mare or Gelding, 4 years old or over, suitable for and to be ridden by riders who have attained their 16th birthday on 1st January 2026.

Marks will be awarded as follows:

<b>JUMPING</b>	<b>50 MARKS</b>
<b>MANNER &amp; PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>20 MARKS</b>
<b>CONFORMATION &amp; MOVEMENT</b>	<b>15 MARKS</b>
<b>TYPE</b>	<b>15 MARKS</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 MARKS</b>

### QUALIFICATION:

The top 6 pony/rider combinations in each of the working hunter classes are eligible to enter for Balmoral Show, if any of the top 6 have already qualified placings will go down the line.

2 reserves will also be selected in each class and should any qualified pony withdraw from this class; a reserve pony from the same qualifying venue will be invited to compete at Balmoral Show in the relevant section. Any pony withdrawn from a class after 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 will not be replaced.

Riders can only ride one pony in the final. A change of rider will not be permitted under any circumstances.

Once qualified entries must be made online at [www.balmoralshow.co.uk](http://www.balmoralshow.co.uk) within 48 hours.