



INTERNATIONALE WELSH GRENZ SCHAU



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English Ridden Classes

These classes originate in England and Wales and should be seen as show classes under saddle instead of dressage tests. These classes are judged by looking at the combination of pony and rider and good manners of the pony under saddle, as well as turnout of the combination. Type of the pony can be part of the judging.

In the UK, due to the long tradition of ridden classes, there are more ponies competing in these kind of classes than is the case in Germany. Welsh riding classes are normally divided into the following classes:

Leading Rein, ponies maximum 122cm and rider with a maximum age of 7 years.

First Ridden, ponies maximum 122cm and rider with a maximum age of 9 years.

At the bigger shows the other saddle classes are divided on section: A, B, C, D and Part Bred.

Due to the fact there is no long tradition of ridden show classes in Germany, we have adjusted the classes to meet the German criteria and make sure more children/adults can compete. At our show the classes are divided according to height of the pony, resulting in classes for ponies till 1.37m and one for 1.38m and above.

At the show 7 saddle classes will be available.

Note for all classes

Only Part-Breds can be shown with plaited mane and tail. A, B, C and D need to be shown in a natural state. Ribbons and other decorations on the pony are not allowed, these are not fancy dress contests.

Hard hats with a minimum of 3-point fastening are to be worn in every class.

Any form of leg protection / bandages etc, side reins, martingales of all types are not allowed

LEADING REIN CLASS (Class 59)

For this class we upped the maximum height of the pony to max. 137 cm. This allows families with only one pony, but more children, to start in multiple classes. The age of the children was upped to 9 years, because in Germany children start riding at a later stage..

Ponies have to be 4 years or older, sections **A, B, C and Parts-Breds** not exceeding 137cm.

For safety reasons stallions and mares with foal at foot are not allowed to compete.

Leading Rein is the first riding test for the youngest children, where safety is most important.

The person accompanying the child must have a minimum age of 16 years. Competitors in this class enter the ring in a quiet walk and always trot in a single show, never as a group. The judge will ask every combination to do a short show, during which the other combinations will be standing in the middle of the ring. As addition to the notes for ridden classes mentioned above, in a Leading Rein class spurs, whips and lead chains are not allowed.

INTERNATIONALE WELSH SCHAU GRUPPE
AM FÄNGER 39
46487 WESEL
DEUTSCHLAND
INT_WELSH_SCHAU@OUTLOOK.COM

BANKDETAILS:
D. JUNKER
DE79 2004 1111 0484 8701 00
BIC: COBADEHXXX
COMDIREKT BANK AG, PASCALKEHRE 15, D- 25451 QUICKBORN



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The lead rein is to be attached to the noseband, not to the bit and should be held in the left hand, keeping the right hand free to assist the child when needed. The lead rein is there as a "safety net" and should not be used as constant break for the pony, because it thinks it is competing in a race. Because this class is a show class both rider as well as handler should be dressed to impress.

Traditionally women wear a dress or a trouser suit with hat. At this point a small tip... Even if your pony is well trained it is not in the "fine English art" to remove your competition by wearing a large white hat !

Men should wear a suit or trousers with jacket, together with a fitting hat. The rider needs to wear a well-fitting Hard Hat with a minimum of 3-point fastening , together with fitting shoes. Sneakers are not desirable and can be dangerous.

The pony should be well mannered and carry its rider quietly and safe. A pony which is a little slower is always better than a hyper pony which could cause children to fall off!

The total picture of pony, rider and handler and the harmony between the 3 is being judged.

FIRST RIDDEN (Class 60)

For the same reason as in the lead rein class we have increased the height of the ponies to max. 137cm and raised the ages of the children up to 12 years.

Ponies have to be 4 years or older, sections **A, B, C and Parts-Breds** not exceeding 137cm.

For safety reasons stallions and mares with foal at foot are not allowed to compete.

This is the next step after the lead rein class for young riders and the safety factor again stands at the foreground. In this class it is expected of the riders that they can ride together at both walk and trot on both reins. You will be asked to ride a small individual show, while the other participants stand in the middle of the ring. During this individual show you are asked to show a short canter at each rein. In this class participants never canter together.

As addition to the notes for ridden classes mentioned above spurs are not allowed and whips can have a maximum length of 65 cm. The pony should show good manners and carry its rider in a controlled and safe manner.

JUNIOR SADDLE CLASS (Class 61 & 63)

This class is open for ponies of all section and riders with a maximum age of 16 years. The rider should be able to show walk, trot and canter on both reins, both together as well as in a individual show. The judge will look for a good presentation and well-mannered ride.

At our show the classes are divided according to height of the pony, resulting in classes for ponies till 1.37m and one for 1.38m and above.

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SENIOR SADDLE CLASS (Class 62 & 64)

This class is open for ponies of all section and riders with a minimum age of 17 years. The rider should be able to show walk, trot and canter on both reins, both together as well as in an individual show. As addition to the junior saddle class gallop and some steps backwards are asked for in the individual show

As can be seen this class can be seen more as a test for both rider and pony, and not as sitting nicely on a pony. Again manners and obedience and very important as well as basic movements.

At our show the classes are divided according to height of the pony, resulting in classes for ponies till 1.37m and one for 1.38m and above.

COB SADDLE CLASS (Class 65)

This class is open to welsh sections C & D with riders of any age, and will be judged as a normal saddle class taking in account the special movement of a cob.

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