

'BALMORAL STAR OF THE FUTURE' PERFORMANCE HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

**CLASSES: FIVE YEAR OLD
SIX & SEVEN YEAR OLD**

Championship finals will take place at Balmoral Show on Friday 17 May in the Main Arena. The Championship is restricted to those who have pre-qualified.

Aim

To identify high class horses bred in Ireland with the potential to become top class performance horses and to create a medium for breeders, producers and trainers to display their quality young stock and encourage them to produce and present the correct type of horse likely to make it at the top level.

Eligibility

Restricted to Irish Bred horses only. Only animals with named passports identifying sire, dam, dam sire, microchip and breeder may compete.

Horses must be 15.0hh (153cm) or over.

To be ridden by riders who have attained their 16th birthday by 1st January in the current year.

Competition Format

On entering the arena, each competitor will present to the judge where conformation will be assessed whilst mounted before riding away to demonstrate their horses walk and trot paces on the flat.

Competitors will then proceed straight to the jumping phase which will comprise of a course of show jumps immediately followed by natural cross country type fences.

There will be no more than 16 jumping efforts in total with the maximum height of fences being 1m for 5 year olds and 1.10m for the 6&7 year old class.

At the end of the jumping phase, the competitor will demonstrate the ability of their horse to gallop.

The judge will assess each horses performance and marks will be awarded based on conformation & type, paces, way of going throughout the jumping phase and star potential. In the event of equality of marks, the potential & star quality mark will take precedence.

Judges marks out of 100 to be awarded as follows:

Conformation & Type	10 marks
Paces - Walk & Trot	10 marks
Jumping - Scope & Technique	30 marks
Way of Going	20 marks
Gallop	10 marks
Potential & Star Quality	20 marks

Jumping Penalties (where relevant) to be deducted from judges marks as follows:

First disobedience	4 Penalties
Second disobedience	8 Penalties
Third disobedience	Elimination
Knock down of obstacle	4 Penalties
Fall of horse or rider	Elimination
Error of course	Elimination
Retaking of obstacle already taken	Elimination

Qualifiers

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Meadows Equestrian Centre | Saturday 2 March 2024 |
| 2. Hazeldene Farm | Sunday 17 March 2024 |
| 3. Wexford Equestrian Centre | Wednesday 20 March 2024 |
| 4. Gransha Equestrian Centre | Saturday 30 March 2024 |
| 5. Lusk Equestrian | Sunday 7 April 2024 |

Entries for qualifiers to be made directly to the qualifier venue.

3 horse/rider combinations in each class may qualify at each qualifying venue. If any of the top 3 horses have already qualified, placings may go down the line providing a minimum mark of 55 has been obtained.

Once qualified entries must be made online within 48 of qualifying at www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions.

Riders may ride a maximum of two horses per class in the final. A change of rider will not be permitted under any circumstances. Only the horse/rider combination that qualify will be allowed to compete at Balmoral Show.

Rules

- Correctly secured protective headgear conforming to the current safety standards is compulsory for all riders and must be worn at all times when mounted.
- A body protector must be worn by all riders. A correctly fitted, BETA approved, and appropriately labelled Level 3 body protector manufactured in the year 2018 or after is recommended. If a rider chooses to wear an airbag style body protector, it must be worn over a recommended body protector.
- Eventing colours and attire must be worn along with the required dress code of beige, fawn or cream breeches, long black/brown boots and gloves.
- Any suitable snaffle bridle may be worn. Bits must be used in their manufactured condition without any addition or modification to, or on, any part and conform to the requirements of the class. The bit must never be used to reprimand the horse. Judges will take into consideration the effectiveness and severity of the bit and bridle and their decision is final.
- Martingales, neckstraps and/or breastplates are permitted. Standing martingales are not permitted.
- Numnahs (if used) must conform neatly with saddle contours. Saddle cloths or visible logos are not permitted.
- Hind leg boots or bandages are not allowed. Overreach boots are permitted.
- Only blunt metal spurs, or ones with rubber rowels facing downwards are permitted.
- No item of tack excluded from competition is allowed in the practice arena.
- If for any reason a competitor goes through the start with incorrect tack, the judge will have no option but to eliminate that competitor.