



Bluegrass Horse Feed Schools Showjumping Open Team Championship Schedule

Saturday 18th May 2024

Balmoral Show, Balmoral Park, Lisburn

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 18 May 2024. The top 5 schools in the Equestrian Interschools Ireland League will qualify from ROI. For schools in the Ulster Region, the top school team in the Open Class at each of the qualifying shows will qualify for the final at Balmoral. 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 do not have to be declared until completion of final entry form to be received by Wednesday 17 April 2024.

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 Championships without acceptable evidence for their non-appearance, this school will not be eligible to compete for a qualifying place in 2025.

Ulster Region Schools - It is the **school** that qualifies, not the **members** of the team at any qualifying venue, so it is therefore the responsibility of the Chef d'equipe to choose the athletes/animals to represent the school prior to entering the team for the Championship.

After each of the Ulster Region qualifiers, the successful school must confirm their attendance at Balmoral Show by entering online at www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/schools-team-showjumping. The entry fee of £140 must be paid online at this time and within 14 days of qualifying to secure the school's place in the Championship. Qualified teams will be updated on the Balmoral Show website after each team has confirmed their intention to compete and paid their entry fee.

Republic of Ireland Schools - Once qualified from the Equestrian Interschools Ireland League final, teams must enter online to confirm their attendance at www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/schools-team-showjumping along with entry fee of £140 and return the Final Entry Form with definite entries (team participants – athletes/animals with intended running order). As it is the intention to have a full complement of schools at the Championships, failure to return the required documentation and fee on time will result in the next eligible school from the Equestrian Interschools Ireland League being invited to attend.

Closing Dates - The Final Entry Form with definite entries (team participants – athletes/animals) with intended running order, must be received from both Ulster Region qualified schools and Republic of Ireland successful schools by Wednesday 17 April 2024. This form can be downloaded from the Balmoral Show website at www.balmoralshow.co.uk/competitions/schools-team-showjumping. The name, contact number etc., of the team Chef d'equipe must be identified on the entry form.

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 10 May 2024. After this date/time, no substitution will be considered. In this regard, the Organising Committee/Showjumping Sub-Committee's decision is final.

Order of Starting - The order of Teams starting at the Championship will be drawn by the Organising Committee on the day following close of entries, and all schools will be notified accordingly. Schools are required to make their definite entries in the order they wish their athletes to compete. Start lists for the Championship will be available online www.balmoralshow.co.uk immediately after the schools have been notified of the drawn order.

Entry Fee/Wristbands/Parking – Entry fee includes parking passes for 4 horse boxes 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 must be booked and paid for online in advance. Stabling costs £30 per night. All stables are 3m x 3m approx. Limited shavings are provided. Additional shavings 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.

All schools must indicate on their entry forms which day they intend to arrive to Balmoral Show. It is not necessary for all team members to arrive together.

All equine animals wishing to compete at Balmoral Show must be vaccinated against Equine Influenza. Passports with certification confirming proper vaccination must be available for inspection on arrival at Balmoral Show. No equine will be admitted to the showgrounds unless they have the following:

- The minimum of a 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 should then be given 150 – 215 days after the 2nd primary vaccination (not within 7 days of the Show).
- An annual booster should be given within 12 months of the previous vaccination (not within 7 days of the Show).

All vaccinations should 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.

It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the above has been administered and all dates are correct. Failure to do so will result in the animal not being admitted to the Showgrounds.

Declarations – The Chef d'equipe should identify themselves at the Declarations Office beside the Practice Arena and must declare all team athletes/animals before 9am on Saturday 18 May 2024 to receive competitor numbers for all team athletes/animals. Numbers must be worn by all athletes while in the practice area and arena. 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 - **Change of rules for Championship.**

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.
- Both phases will be run against the clock, and placings will be according to the penalties and time in the 2nd phase, and if necessary, the penalties and time in the 1st phase.
- The best three scores for each team will give the score.
- 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 Championships, 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 in 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 allowed in the 1st and 2nd round - 1 penalty point for every 4 seconds commenced.
- Exceeding the time allowed in the jump off - 1 penalty point for each second commenced or fraction of a second.

Judging - The Ground Jury for qualifying competitions & Championships 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 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 in the Championships must be Senior National level or above. The first phase will consist of 7 to 9 obstacles.

- In the first round, there must be 2, two stride double combinations.
- In the second round there must be at least 1, two stride double combination.
- Speed will be 350mpm.
- The first fence in round 1 must not exceed 0.95cms.
- There must be two vertical obstacles in each round at maximum height – 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.
- Course Walk – The arena will be declared open following inspection by the Ground Jury and Course Designer. All athletes will be expected to be properly dressed, with jackets/jodhpurs/boots/hat etc. and all coaches/support staff to be tidily dressed. The course will be open for inspection 30 minutes before the start of the competition and will be walked on foot.

Falls – In case of a fall of an athlete and/or animal at any time in the competition arena, in the practice arena or elsewhere within the grounds of the event, the athlete must be checked by the event's medical service (or by a medical doctor if the medical service is not available) before they may be permitted to take part in the round in progress or in the next round or competition at the event, respectively the animal must be cleared by the Veterinary Delegate, before it may be permitted to take part in the next round or competition at the event, according to the provisions outlined in paragraphs 4.1 – 4.3 under JRs Art.224.4. Athletes are expected to make themselves aware of the detail of the FEI & SJI Jumping Regulations.

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. Although back protectors are not compulsory they are advisable to be worn.

Prizes

- 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 unit.
- 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.
- A Team Turnout prize will be awarded to the most appropriately turned out team at the Championship. Inspection for this will be done in the holding area, prior to participation in the Championship.

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.