

Guidelines for Show Hunter Hack Classes

The popularity of the Show Hunter has grown in over the last few years. The Show Hunter type is not expected to have the same refinement as the Show Hack, but has other attributes which make them suitable for all age groups to enjoy. The Show Hunter should create the impression that it is capable of hunting over a variety of terrains all day. It should give a stronger impression than The Show Hack.

TYPE

The Show Hunter should have more substance without coarseness.

It should have a nobler head rather than a fine small head.

It should display good substantial bone without being unduly fine.

It should be of middleweight/heavy weight but not unduly heavy.

The Show Hunter must have quality.

It should display boldness.

The Show Hunter must also display a steady and reliable temperament.

It may be of any colour.

CONFORMATION AND SOUNDNESS

The Show Hunter must be of good conformation and soundness.

It should have a kind, bold eye, a good length of rein, a strong well-muscled back and hindquarter and a deep girth.

It should have a good length of forearm and be shorter in the cannon for strength and action.

The knee should be flat and the hocks strong and clean.

It should have natural balance.

ACTION AND PACES

The Show Hunter must be free and forward moving in all paces, and be straight in its action. A flat stilted action is unacceptable for a Show Hunter, but some knee action can be displayed.

It must be sound of wind and limb. Unsoundness negates the Show Hunter's ability to carry out a full days hunting.

WORKOUT

Show Hunter Hacks are not required to jump.

The workout for this class should be free flowing and forward moving, with the horse covering the ground in all paces.

The workout should be kept simple but all workouts should include, a change of rein at canter and a gallop.

The horse, when asked to halt, must come down through the paces calmly, obediently and stand still quietly without fidgeting.

The expectation of extended trot and flying changes in a Show Hack event, are not expected in the Show Hunter class.

The leniency shown for minor transgressions in a Show Hack event **should be** penalised in a Show Hunter event.

ORDER OF JUDGING (allow equal percentage for each)

- TYPE

- CONFORMATION AND SOUNDNESS
- ACTION, PACES AND WORKOUT
- TEMPERAMENT

ATTIRE

Hacking Jacket – Preferably tweed with acceptable colours being green, brown or blue tweed, the colour chosen to go well with the mount. Plain navy and black are acceptable.

Helmet – An approved safety helmet must be worn.

Shirt – A shirt to tone with the jacket and a plain discreetly patterned tie, stock or ratcatcher is acceptable.

Breeches/Jodhpurs – should be fawn, beige or banana in colour.

Boots – Short boots for children, long boots for older children and adults.

Gloves – should be plain and match the rider's boots.

Buttonholes are not usually worn.

PRESENTATION OF HORSE

Should be immaculate with manes to be plaited, tails to be pulled or plaited and be in a healthy, shiny state.

Horses should not have checkers but large, discreet patterns are acceptable.

Make up should not be applied.

False tails are acceptable.

SADDLERY

Saddlery should be clean, neat and well fitting, but may be more 'workmanlike' than for a ridden show class.

Bridle should be a simple snaffle or double bridle (matching the colour of the saddle) and have a plain brow band (no coloured, ribboned or fancy brow bands).

Saddle should be a straight cut show saddle.

Dummy spurs, canes and whips (but not Dressage whips) are permitted.

A numnah to suit the horse is acceptable.

GENERAL

Stallions are not eligible and horses or ponies must be 3 years of age or older.

HEIGHT DIVISIONS

Small Pony: Up to and including 12.2hh

Large Pony: Over 12.2hh up to and including 14hh

Galloway: Over 14hh up to and including 15hh

Hack: Over 15hh