

British Native Pony Championship – all you need to know

Open to 11 breeds native to Britain, this championship, which is supported by Allen & Page, is a popular series for riders of these attractive ponies.

Britain is lucky to have a heritage of breeds native to these isles. Throughout history, these breeds have supported our way of life and adapted to survive in the exposed and rugged regions of the UK, but selective breeding has made them into versatile all-round ponies for modern life. They possess many sought after qualities for competition which is reflected by the influence of Welsh and New Forest genes in the breeding of Europe's top dressage ponies.

Which breeds are included?

- Connemara – British Connemara Pony Society - <http://www.britishconnemaras.co.uk/>
- Dales- Dales Pony Society - <http://www.dalespony.org/>
- Dartmoor- Dartmoor Pony Society - <http://www.dartmoorponysociety.com/>
- Eriskay – Eriskay Pony Society - <http://www.eriskaypony.com/>
- Exmoor – Exmoor Pony Society - <http://www.exmoorponysociety.org.uk/>
- Fell – Fell Pony Society - <http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/>
- Highland – Highland Pony Society - <http://www.highlandponysociety.com/>
- New Forest – New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society - <http://www.newforestpony.com/>
- Shetland – Shetland Pony Stud Book Society - <http://www.shetlandponystudbookociety.co.uk/>
- Welsh (A, B, C & D) – Welsh Pony and Cob Society - <http://wpcs.uk.com/>

What levels do they run at?

- Intro
- Prelim
- Novice
- Elementary
- Medium
- Advanced Medium
- Prix St Georges

Who can compete?

- This is open to current Full/Club members. People who have never competed BD before are welcome.
- At each level there will be a section for purebreds and a section for part bred at the Championship.

- They're run under BD/ Quest rules and combinations must be eligible for the level at which they wish to compete.

Who do I need to be a member of to be able to qualify?

- To qualify for The Native Pony Championships, riders need to be a minimum of a Club member (£30) on an associate horse with BD (free of charge). This allows the combination to compete at Intro and Prelim levels, as well as at the finals. Novice and Elementary will require class tickets to compete unless you are a full BD member. BD will provide two free class tickets to anyone who is not a full member who would like to try and qualify.
- To qualify, your pony or horse must be registered with one of the British Native Pony Breed societies on either the full or part bred list.

How do I qualify?

- Qualification period is between the 1 January 2017 and 30 September 2017.
- A horse and rider combination need to achieve three scores at 60% or above in regular BD or Quest competitions at the level they wish to compete at.
- By achieving the three scores this gives direct qualification to the Championships.

What shows can I get my scores at?

- Scores can be gained in any regular BD affiliated competition or BD Quest competitions. To see a list of competitions please visit <http://schedules.britishdressage.co.uk/default.aspx>
- Score sheets from Area Festivals, Regionals, Winter or National Championships, and Quest Regional or Quest National Championships, may not be used towards qualification.

Can I compete at different levels?

- Combinations may compete and qualify at different levels but can only compete in two levels/classes at the final.

How to do I know when I have qualified?

- Once you have achieved your three qualifying scores, you need to log your qualification with BD.
- Please send an email to karen.beaumont@britishdressage.co.uk or write to Karen Beaumont, British Dressage, Meriden Business Park, Copse Drive, Meriden, West Midlands CV5 9RG, stating where and when you achieved your three scores to qualify.
- You will then receive an invitation to the final after the qualifying period has ended.

What happens at the final?

- The final will take place at Vale View, Leicestershire on 28 September – 1 October
- There will be two sections per level – A- Full bred B- Part Bred.

I still have questions, who should I contact?

- Karen Beaumont at British Dressage: karen.beaumont@britishdressage.co.uk 02476 698909