

THE TROT is one of the breed's strongest characteristics. In hand classes, the exhibitor should be allowed to show his animal at a good free trot while being observed from the side. After individual inspection and observation from front and rear, it is suggested that the exhibitor trot his animal out in a large half circle and back to the line.

TOE LENGTH must not exceed 4" for Section A ponies and 4½" for Section B ponies. Combined weight of shoe and pad must not exceed 10 oz. for Section A and 12 oz. for Section B. NOTE: These limits apply to all sections in the Welsh Division.

UNSHOD ponies may be shown. Foals and yearlings in hand classes must be unshod.

FULL FETLOCKS may be shown in breeding classes.

PLEASURE DRIVING. In driving classes, when conditions permit, exhibitors will appreciate the opportunity to show their animals at their very best gait which has a natural reaching and extending action. Except in children's classes and congested rings, the Judge is encouraged to ask the exhibitors for an extended trot, or to "drive on".

PASSENGERS are permitted in pleasure driving classes.

HUNTER BRAID is optional for both Section A and B ponies in the Pleasure Pony section. Braided foretop and first strand behind the ear is permitted only in Roadster, Formal Driving and Fine Harness Sections.

ROADSTERS show at the jog trot and road gait the first way of the ring, jog trot, road gait and at speed when reversed.

STRETCHED PONIES MUST BE DISQUALIFIED. Stretching is not allowed in any Welsh class.

# JUDGING WELSH PONIES



The ability to judge Welsh Ponies is founded upon a knowledge of breed conformation and experience with horses. This leaflet is neither a rule book nor a handbook; it is not designed to create experienced, qualified judges. It is designed to supplement the current American Horse Shows Association Rule Book, highlighting those points essential to the breed and offering suggestions which will allow the animal to be exhibited to its best advantage.

## WELSH PONY SOCIETY OF AMERICA

P. O. Box 2977  
Winchester, Virginia 22601

1981 Edition

## TO THE JUDGE -

In 1961, Albert E. Hart., Jr., President of the American Horse Shows Association, wrote the following to the judges in the Welsh Division:

"The rules and specifications for judging Welsh Ponies are a result of extensive study. They offer a division in which the Welsh Pony can be shown without losing its individuality as a breed. It is your duty, as a judge of this division, to study these rules and specifications carefully and see that they are upheld."

While our registry protects the purity of the breed, we must rely on you to maintain our standard through knowledgeable and impartial judging. We ask that you re-read the Welsh Division of the American Horse Shows Association Rule Book, paying particular attention to the latest changes. When you are invited to judge Welsh classes, we ask that you do so in strict compliance with these rules.

Your assistance in preserving the standards of the Welsh Pony will be greatly appreciated now and reflected in future generations of fine animals.

Roger D. Van Cleve  
President

## ESSENTIAL POINTS OF CONFORMATION

General Character:	Hardy, spirited and pony-like.
Color:	Any color except piebald and skewbald.
Head:	Small, clean-cut, well set on, and tapering to the muzzle.
Eyes:	Bold.
Ears:	Well-placed, small and pointed, well up on the head, proportionately close.
Nostrils:	Prominent and open.
Jaws and Throat:	Clean and finely cut, with ample room at the angle of the jaw.
Neck:	Lengthy, well-carried and moderately lean in the case of mares, but inclined to be cresty in the case of matured stallions.
Shoulders:	Long and sloping back. Withers moderately fine but not "knifey".
Forelegs:	Set square and true, and not tied in at the knees. Long strong forearm, well developed knee, feet well shaped and round, hoofs dense.
Back and Loins:	Muscular, strong and well coupled.
Girth:	Deep.
Ribs:	Well sprung.
Hind quarters:	Lengthy and fine. Tail well set on and carried gaily.
Hind Legs:	Hocks to be large, flat and clean with points prominent to turn neither inwards nor outwards. The hind leg not to be too bent. The hock not to be set behind a line from the point of the quarter to the fetlock joint. Feet well shaped, hoofs dense.
Action:	Quick, free and straight from the shoulder, well away in front. Hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage and well under body.