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# Melbourne Royal Horses in Action Competition 2023 Performance Guidelines

REVISED 15 December 2022

For the Horses in Action competition 2023, Melbourne Royal® will accept performances gained between 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023 for saddle, riding, stock horse, harness, heavy horse and standardbred. Please refer to relevant sections for performance details.

Hunt exhibitors' performance period is 1 June 2022 and 8 August 2023, and Show Jumping is 4 October 2022 to 24 June 2023.

## 1. PERFORMANCE DETAIL

Unless otherwise specified, all nominations for all Horses in Action competitions at the 2023 Melbourne Royal Show must be accompanied by the following performance details:

- (i) Name and date of the Show.
- (ii) Name of class in which the performance was gained especially designated heights or age specifications.
- (iii) Name of exhibit; and
- (iv) Place awarded.

Saddle classes must be accompanied by a list of current performances. The following classes **will not** count as qualifying performances:

- Pony Club classes.
- Affiliated ASA novice classes
- Maiden and novice classes.
- Hack classes restricted by breed, colour, age, district:
- Pleasure or educated classes.
- Consolation classes.
- Pairs and team classes.
- Child's classes.
- Leading rein and first ridden classes.
- Elementary and intermediate classes; and/or
- Any other restricted classes unless otherwise specified in Section 3.



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Exhibitors are to provide **all** relevant qualifications that can then be verified by the relevant societies or organisations.

## **2. QUALIFICATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Qualifications that will primarily be considered include:

Capital City Royal Show Performance gained 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023

- (i) Champion open or show hunter and champion riders at any capital city royal show gained between 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023 is an automatic acceptance in the equivalent class at Melbourne Royal Show.
- (ii) Performances gained at any capital city royal show between 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023 in Open, ladies, gent's and novice 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. One of each performance may be submitted as performances for Melbourne Royal Show 2023. Only one performance may be submitted for consideration per Royal Show. Special classes will **NOT** be considered i.e. child's (Geelong, Bathurst, Toowoomba and Launceston are considered agricultural shows).

ASA Affiliated Agricultural Shows 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023

- (iii) First and/or reserve champion place at ASA affiliated agricultural shows. Only one first or reserve champion from each affiliated ASA show will be considered within the qualifying period.
- (iv) Non- agricultural performances gained 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023 (iv) A maximum of two non-agricultural show performances from shows affiliated with Show Horse Council (SHC) and Equestrian Australia (EA). SHC, EA and VAS Ltd Winner, Runner up or Top 10 performances from a Horse of the Year will be considered as qualifications for Melbourne Royal 2023.
- (v) Final 10 in the following Melbourne Royal Show 2022 classes; Col. A.V. Pope Cup (Melbourne Royal Show only), Providence Cup Hack, Providence Cup Galloway, Grand Parade Trophy, Fairlight Acres Trophy and Lindsay Pudd Trophy are considered as qualifying performances for the 2023 Melbourne Royal Show maybe used as a second performance for the 2023 Royal Melbourne Show.
- (vi) Performances for saddle horse, Galloway and pony classes should be gained in open saddle classes with specified heights.
- (vii) Performances for show hunter horse, Galloway and pony classes should be gained in show hunter classes, with specified heights.

## **3. SADDLE SECTION**

An exhibit may only be entered in open saddle classes or show hunter classes not both.

- (i) Hack, Galloway, and pony classes – **Melbourne Royal recommends a minimum of five qualifications.** Refer to Section 2 for qualification listings, with the exception of Section 2 (v) maybe used as a second performance.
- (ii) Show hunter hack, Galloway, or pony classes – **Melbourne Royal recommends a minimum of five qualifications.** Refer to Section 2 for qualification listings
- (iii) Shetlands – **Melbourne Royal recommends a minimum of three qualifications** from individual registered breed shows and refer to Section 2 for all other qualifications to be considered.
- (iv) Standardbred - **Melbourne Royal recommends a minimum of two qualifications** from individual registered breed shows and refer to Section 2 for all other qualifications to be considered.



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#### **4. JUMPING**

All jumping entries must be accompanied by a list of current performances gained in the qualifying period.

#### **5. HARNESS SECTION**

Exhibits must have exhibited successfully at an affiliated agricultural show, harness show or capital city Royal Show in the qualifying period.

#### **6. RIDING COMPETITIONS**

**Melbourne Royal recommends a minimum of two qualifications** (refer to Section 2).

Riding competitors must ride **an exhibit that is entered and accepted** in Horses in Action Saddle section. The exhibit must be stabled at Melbourne Showgrounds on the same date the riding competition is held.

#### **7. STOCK HORSES**

Exhibits must have exhibited successfully at **three** affiliated agricultural shows, stock horse shows or capital city Royal Shows.

#### **8. HUNTING SECTION**

Exhibits and exhibitors must be fully paid-up members of a member club of the Hunt Clubs Association of Victoria or an approved hunting body. Exhibitors and exhibits must attend five official hunt meetings going over the panels and must be of standard to jump one metre with skill and total control. Qualifications must be gained in the 12 months from 1 June 2022 to close of entries in 2023. Attend a minimum of one hunter show held by a member club or approved hunting body. It is the responsibility of the Hunt Club Masters to adhere to the criteria of horse and rider suitability.

#### **9. ACCEPTANCES**

- (i) From the information supplied, Melbourne Royal will determine which entries are to be accepted. Melbourne Royal may, at its discretion, refuse to accept an entry, an exhibit or an exhibitor.
- (ii) Melbourne Royal will at its discretion, determine which entries are to be accepted based on the performance information supplied.
- (iii) Melbourne Royal will conduct performance checks on a random sampling basis, or any such basis that Melbourne Royal may determine at its sole discretion. If the performance details are found to be incorrect this will result in the disqualification of the entry and possibly the owner of the entry. Depending on the significance of the error, a penalty may be imposed up to five (5) penalty units, currently set at \$100 per unit. In addition, the owner and/or the exhibitor of the entry may be disqualified for a period of up to two (2) years from the date of disqualification.

**MELBOURNE ROYAL WILL, AT ITS DISCRETION WILL DETERMINE ACCEPTANCES.  
Refer Melbourne Royal General Regulations 9.1**