

## Thornton Cleveleys & District Horse Club Rules & Regulations - 2024

1. **In any dispute the Committee's decision is final.**
2. By attending any planned Thornton Cleveleys and District Horse Club activity and/or by payment of membership or entry fees, competitors and spectators agree not to hold Thornton Cleveleys and District Horse Club and/or its Officials liable or responsible for any loss, damage, injury, illness or accident incurred by any applicable persons or property.
3. The Secretary of Thornton Cleveleys and District Horse Club must be informed of any Health and Safety issues which occur on the Showground. This must then be entered into the Accident Book.
4. **The decision of the Judge on the day, in all classes, will be final. No competitor is to complain directly to a Judge.**
5. **Complaints must be lodged in writing to either the Secretary or Chairman with a deposit of £25.00 within 15 minutes of the class ending. The deposit will be forfeited if the objection is not sustained.**
6. Any abuse or defamatory behaviour to Judges, Stewards, Officials or Members of the Club will not be tolerated and will result in a one year ban and loss of all points for the season.
7. The Thornton Cleveleys & District Horse Club Social Media Policy must be adhered to and action will be taken where this is found to have been breached.
8. A horse/pony or rider/handler are **NOT** permitted to enter any class which is to be judged by a person who had, or has, any financial interest or is connected with the horse/pony or rider/handler in any way.
9. There is to be no riding on the Showground other than at official events organised by Thornton Cleveleys and District Horse Club.
10. Galloping on the Showground is forbidden, unless at the request of a Judge. Trot and canter must only be undertaken in designated areas of the Showground, including rings and warm up areas. Competitors found to be abusing this rule risk cancellation of their membership and loss of all points for the season.
11. In the interest of safety, lunging may only take place in the designated area of the showground.
12. Horses/Ponies must be loaded/unloaded on the Showground.
13. A fall of the horse/pony or rider/handler in any class will result in elimination and the combination must leave the ring. The rider must not remount in the ring.
14. **Any animal not kept sufficiently under control may be asked to leave a ring or the Showground immediately by any Judge, Steward or Official of the Club.**
15. Senior riders/handlers are those who have attained their 17th Birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.
16. Junior riders/handlers are those who have not attained their 17th birthday before the 1st January 2024.
17. Competitors who have not attained their 3rd birthday at the 1st January 2024 may not compete in any class.
18. All horse/pony and rider/handler ages are at the 1st January 2024 and will remain throughout the season.
19. Horses/ponies must be aged 4 years and over to be ridden on the Showground.
20. Stallions/Colts must be ridden/handled by a person aged 16 years and over. All stallions must display a stallion disc. Exhibitors of stallions should make themselves known to the gate stewards on entry to the Showground.
21. Any animal deemed to be in poor condition will not be eligible to compete.
22. All riders must be suitably mounted for the type/height of horse/pony they ride.
23. The misuse/excessive use of a whip, bit, spurs or any item of saddlery in any way whatsoever on the Showground is forbidden. Whips/Canes should not exceed 30"/ 76cms.
24. Spurs may only be worn by Senior riders in applicable classes, with the exception of Showjumping classes where Junior riders are also able to use them. Competitors should seek clarification if they are unclear.
25. A correctly fitted riding hat with a fastened safety harness, that meets the current recommended British Standard, must be worn by all riders, at all times, when mounted. Junior Members must wear a riding hat with a fastened safety harness in all In-Hand classes. All handlers are strongly advised to adhere to this rule.
26. Correct riding dress must be worn by all riders (unless otherwise stated). Handlers must be smartly dressed with suitable footwear.
27. Mobile telephones, earpieces and communication devices must not be used in the ring.
28. Non-Competitive entries are not permitted in any class.
29. All classes are pre-entry only and must be entered using the system provided by the Club. All entries will close at 17:00 the evening prior to the show/event. **There will be no exceptions to this rule under any circumstances.**

30. The Committee reserves the right to alter or cancel any class or timing of classes if necessary.
31. The Committee reserves the right to close pre-entries early for any class where capacity limits have been reached. Where demand is maintained the Committee reserves the right to split the class for the purposes of judging.
32. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that they are entered into the correct class.
33. Entry fees will **not** be refunded.
34. **In accordance with GDPR and our Privacy Policy, Thornton Cleveleys and District Horse Club will retain all membership and entry records for two years after the annual membership period has expired. Your data may be used for the purposes defined in the Privacy Policy. Any request to remove details from our records should be addressed to the Secretary.**
35. Competitors wishing to qualify for respective championships must ensure that they familiarise themselves and comply with all rules of that show/society to avoid penalising themselves and/or Thornton Cleveleys and District Horse Club.
36. Members are only eligible to accrue points during the season after their membership has been accepted and a membership number has been issued. The membership is valid from the date joined until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.
37. The name of the horse/pony should be maintained for the entire season as points are awarded for the combination. This will avoid two sets of points being started.
38. To be eligible for a points award at the end of season presentation, the combination of rider/handler **and** horse/pony must have competed in the class at a minimum of two shows during that season.
39. To be eligible to compete in a Championship at the relevant shows the combination of rider/handler **and** horse/pony must be that which qualified in the respective classes. There are to be no substitute riders/handlers.
40. The points system will be available to view at each show.
41. Points are awarded for all classes, unless otherwise stated, as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place = 5 points + 1 attendance point
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 4 points + 1 attendance point
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 3 points + 1 attendance point
  - 4<sup>th</sup> place = 2 points + 1 attendance point
  - 5<sup>th</sup> place = 1 point + 1 attendance point
42. To be eligible for the attendance point, the member must present their horse/pony for the class.
43. To be eligible to win a trophy at the Annual Show, competitors must have paid their membership fee on or before Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024.
44. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that they get to the rings at the correct time.
45. **In the event of times clashing it is up to the competitor to decide which class they will compete in. Once a class has been called competitors have a maximum of 10 minutes to enter the ring. There will be no entry to the ring once the class has commenced trot.**
46. **All animals entering the showground should have an up to date vaccination for Equine Flu.**
47. It is recommended that all exhibitors have a minimum of third party insurance cover.
48. Judging/Scoring of specific classes are as follows:
  - a. Best Turned Out
    - i. 30% cleanliness, condition and correctness of tack
    - ii. 30% cleanliness and preparation of the horse/pony
    - iii. 30% neatness of rider (and handler if on lead-rein)
    - iv. 10% overall impression.
  - b. Tiny Tots, Young, Junior Handler
    - i. 50% ability of handler
    - ii. 25% suitability of age/height of pony and handler
    - iii. 25% overall impression.
  - c. Equitation
    - i. 50% rider's use of seat and aids
    - ii. 25% rider's position
    - iii. 25% suitability of partnership and overall impression.