

**RACEHORSE TO RIDING HORSE IRELAND**  
**- RETRAINING CLASS**

**Title:       Retraining (within the confines of the show ring) Racehorse to Riding Horse**

Please Note:     The retraining class is a qualifier for the all Ireland final at the Iverk Show, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny.

Open to thoroughbred horses that have started under rules on either the track or point to point but must not have:

- Won more than 3 classes in either retraining or novice classes under Racehorse to Riding Horse Ireland rules
- Won an open class under Racehorse to Riding Horse Ireland rules
- Won or been placed in the first three places or a championship such as the Royal Dublin Horse show, Balmoral, Hickstead or the Royal Windsor Horse show.

Passport and racing details to be made available for inspection on the day of the show.

Snaffle bits only to be used. No spurs allowed. Martingales acceptable.

Competitors must have attained their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Proper show turnout is essential.

(where a show only holds a retraining class, open horses will be eligible to enter but must adhere to retraining rules of snaffle bit (snaffle mouthpiece on curb bit is not acceptable) and no spurs).

## Format of the class

The judge does not ride in the retraining class.

The class will riding as a group in which horses will perform walk, and trot only on both reins. Each competitor will perform an individual show displaying a walk, trot, and canter (on the correct lead) as well as a gallop before returning to a halt (to be maintained for 5 seconds). The judge may ask relevant questions such as the horses age, how long it has been out of training etc, to gather background on the animal.

The competitor should walk away from the judge, and trot back towards the judge, then continue into a figure of 8 and canter on both reins on the correct lead. The competitor should extend into gallop along the long side and then return to halt and maintain for 5 seconds. Salute and return to the line up.

Horses will be called into a line up by Judges on preference or as instructed.

This horse is being judged on suitability of retraining from a racehorse to a riding horse and this is the first rung on the ladder, therefore the control, manners, rhythm of paces and suitability for retraining are the most important factors.

The judge will score the various paces as they are performed, noting that the horse should be working at his own natural paces not rushing or sluggish. The judge is looking for the horse to be responsive to aids as well as for example, cantering on the correct lead.

As this is the first class on a learning curve the horse does not have to be perfectly on the bit nor be in exceptional show condition.

Judges should remember that this class is designed to encourage the leisure riders and happy hackers to compete and enjoy a day out with their ex racehorse, as well as being a stepping stone for the more professional riders with a novice ex racehorse.

Ring Steward should total each sheet as the scoring is completed.

**Conformation is not taken into account by Racehorse to Riding Horse Ireland as a horse can race and win at the highest level with conformation issues. In addition blemishes such as scars, splints, curbs, and stringhalt are to be ignored.**

Scores attained on the score sheet determine the winner and other placings. Score sheets to be made available to competitors after the class and must be returned to the show office (unless the competition forms part of a league and in which case score sheets will be available when the league concludes).

**THE JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL!**

**Title:       Open Racehorse to Riding Horse**

Note:       This class is an Irish Thoroughbred Marketing qualifier. The final to be held at the Iverk show, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny.

This class is also part of the Down Royal Northern Region Ridden League, which is based on the ridden score and not the place achieved in the class. You require your RH2RH scoresheets to qualify.

Class will be in hunter class format – judge will ride.

All competitors will receive a pair of tickets to a night at the races at Down Royal on 27<sup>th</sup> July.

**Title:       Working Hunter**

This class is open to all thoroughbred horses (raced or not). However, the horse must hold a passport issued by Weatherbys or an equivalent thoroughbred breeding authority (sport horse half bred or any other association is not acceptable by RH2RH Ireland).

The class will be run as part of the Novice Working Hunter class.

Please identify yourself to the judge as a RH2RH competitor.

Prizes in kind will be presented by RH2RH Ireland to the two highest placed thoroughbreds.

## **Points to Note**

Racehorse to Riding horse Ireland judges horses on the level of training, control, obedience and manners first and foremost.

However the judge may use their discretion should a horse misbehave and the judge feels that it is out of context for the animal, for example that there is an unusual distraction outside of the ring.

## Tack

Plain leather Bridle – Single  
- Micklem

Bits - Snaffle bits only allowed in this class

**\*\*In the event a competitor does not have the correct bit, if the judge permits them to compete then a deduction of 10 marks must be made from the total score on the score sheet\*\***

Martingales are acceptable (running or standing if fitted properly)

Nosebands plain / Grackle / drop / flash

Saddles for showing may be reasonably straight to show the horse off but so long as the saddle is fitted and does not obstruct the action of the horse it is acceptable (jumping, general purpose, and dressage are all acceptable, as is side saddle (however the competitor must have an astride saddle available for the judge to ride the horse)).

Games, polo, racing, or treeless saddles are **NOT** acceptable and competitors will be refused entry to the class and forfeit their entry fee.

## Turnout

### **Horses**

Manes to be plaited

Tails to be plaited or pulled

Heels to be trimmed

Remedial Shoes are permitted if required.

### **Riders**

Tweed, Navy or Black Jackets are acceptable

Cream, Beige or Canary Jodphurs/breeches

Velvet hats or skull caps with black, navy or brown velvet covers are acceptable

Hats **must** have a three point harness in the interest of safety – no exceptions are permitted.

Shirt and tie or hunting stock

Long boots or short boots with gaiters or chaps

Gloves

Hairnet where appropriate

Canes or riding whips of standard length may be carried – schooling whips are not permitted

Spurs are **NOT** permitted in this class.

**Anyone seen to abuse a horse will be eliminated and immediately asked to leave the ring.**