The Side Saddle Association®

(Member of The Showing Council)

www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk

2027 GUIDE FOR AFFILIATING SHOWS

FOR SHOWS REQUIRING SAFETY HATS
TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

including

Information, Notes & Schedule Wording for Show Secretaries
Show Affiliation Form is a separate document

For enquiries about affiliating your Show to the SSA, please contact:
Dr. Karen Milbourne, SSA Show Affiliations:
Moor Cottage, Moor Lane, East Stoke, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG23 5P
Email: showaffiliations@sidesaddleassociation.co.uk Tel: 07768 612560
(Please do not telephone after 8.00 pm)

To find your SSA Local Area Contact:
https://www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk/areas.asp

PLEASE AFFILIATE BY 28th JANUARY, 2027

AFFILIATING CORRECTLY
You can affiliate "ON Line" by visiting
www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk "Affiliating your Show"
In order to be correctly affiliated, Show Secretaries are requested to observe the following rules

- Completed Affiliation Forms and the correct fee must be received by the Side Saddle Association (SSA) by **28th January 2027, TO ENSURE INCLUSION IN THE FIRST EDITION OF THE SSA MEMBERS' SHOWS & FIXTURES LIST**, posted on the SSA Website which is updated weekly.
- A copy of the relevant section of **draft schedules** MUST be sent to SSA Show Affiliations, for approval. Until the draft is **received AND approved** and the **name of your chosen Judge advised NO rosettes will be sent to you.**
- Please ensure the **wording for all classes** conform to those given in this Guide. If you would like any relevant **Class wording emailing in word format,** please do ask.
- Provided Draft Schedule wording has been approved, and your chosen Judge's name advised Rosettes, Mark & Show Report Sheets, as appropriate, will be despatched at least 4 weeks prior to your Show, 2nd class with a receipt of postage. If you have not received your Rosettes, please contact SSA Show Affiliations, as soon as possible. Rosettes received but misplaced will be charged for at cost.
- **Overseas Affiliating Shows** requiring rosettes to be sent to them direct and not brought out from a UK address will be invoiced by the SSA Hon Treasurer for the additional cost, when it is known.
- Please visit: **the Side Saddle Association website - Affiliating Your Show page** for the current **SSA Judges Panel: https://www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk/judgespanel.asp** and the **Areas Page** for the names of **Local Contacts**: **https://www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk/areas.asp**
- A copy of the final Schedule should also be forwarded.

2027 GUIDE FOR AFFILIATING SHOWS

FOR SHOWS REQUIRING SAFETY HATS TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

Please note: ALL Shows affiliating to the Side Saddle Association (SSA), whose H&S and Insurance Policies, or the Venue's, require Safety Hats to be worn at all times should be aware that should they decide to waive the ruling for SSA classes, they do so at their own risk and the SSA cannot be held responsible for such a decision.

INFORMATION FOR ALL SECRETARIES OF AFFILIATING SHOWS
Show Secretaries are urged to contact their local Side Saddle Association Contact if they have any local queries, problems, difficulty in finding Judges, or need advice about Jumping or any other Classes:
https://www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk/areas.asp

A. COMPETITION RULES

FALLS: A fall of horse/pony or rider in any class run under Side Saddle Association rules will result in disqualification, and the rider must leave the ring dismounted. It is strongly recommended that medical advice is then sought before competing in any other class.
HORS CONCOURS: Members competing Hors Concours will only be awarded 2 Qualifying Points; they may not receive SSA Rosettes, Show Rosettes or any Prize with the exception of Open and Junior Equitation Classes where LEAD REIN competitors should be considered for the Junior Turnout rosette. Leaders must be correctly dressed.
JUNIOR COMPETITORS (SSA Members or Non SSA Members): MUST have attained their 5th birthday and be under 18 on 1st January of the current year and **MUST** wear a correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hat that meets **one of the following** current Safety Standards in all classes affiliated to or run by the SSA: All PAS 015; VG1**;** (BS)EN1384 2017**;** ASTM F1163 04a onwards; SNELL E2001; SNELL E2-17, AS/NZS 3838 2003 onwards. In addition the new BS/EN standard will be allowed, once approved with the finalised number being advised in due course. A Spur or Spur band is not permitted in any class where jumping is involved.
LEAD REIN COMPETITORS (SSA Members or Non SSA Members): may only compete **Hors Concours in any affiliated class apart from Best Horse Pony or otherwise stated.** In an Equitation Class, they are not eligible for SSA place rosettes but should be considered for the Junior Turnout Rosette. Leaders must be correctly dressed.
ADULT COMPETITORS (SSA Members or Non SSA Members): MUST be aged 18 or over on 1st January of the current year and **MUST** wear a correctly secured Skull Caps/Riding Hat that meets **one of the following** current Safety Standards in all classes: All PAS 015; VG1**;** (BS)EN1384 2017**;** ASTM F1163 04a onwards; SNELL E2001; SNELL E2-17, AS/NZS 3838 2003 onwards. In addition the new BS/EN standard will be allowed, once approved with the finalised number being advised in due course.
QUALIFIERS: Shows held up to and including the first day of the current year's National Side Saddle Show will be Qualifiers for this year's Show. Shows held after that date will be Qualifiers for the following year.
CLASSICAL/CONTEMPORARY CLASSES: Riders may only enter **either** the Classical OR the Contemporary class, not both, unless they have two horses/ponies of a different type
THE SSA ADOPT the wearing of the **Sunflower Armband** for those with a **hidden disability**

B. MARK SHEETS, ETC.

Show Report Sheets and/or Classical & Contemporary Side Saddle Class Mark Sheets Results are provided by the SSA and should be returned to SSA Show Affiliations (together with any unused Rosettes) within 14 days.
Mark Sheets for Equitation Jumping, Working Hunter and WHP Classes are available to download from the SSA Website: sidesaddleassociation.co.uk

C. JUMPING CLASSES

Side saddle jumping classes are a crowd-puller and exceptionally popular. Shows wishing to offer them are invited to discuss the range of classes with their Area Chairman. You are asked, **IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY**, to request an SSA representative to walk and approve the course. All courses should be designed to encourage.

D. ROSETTES PROVIDED BY THE SSA

Please note these Rosettes are additional to and do not replace a Show's own rosettes:

***The Side Saddle Association* Equitation Classes:**
2 sets, 1st to 3rd places, Special for highest under 14 and 2 Turnout as detailed in class wording.
If applicable, **Sir Lancelot/Lady Guinevere**: 1 special rosette

Classical Ladies Qualifying Classes
1 special rosette, as detailed in class wording
1 Mark/Result Sheet, 1 SSA and 1 BSHA Qualifying Card

Contemporary Ladies Qualifying Classes
1 special rosette, as detailed in class wording
1 Mark/Result Sheet, 1 SSA Qualifying Card

Concours d'Élégance, Costume Concours d'Élégance, **Riding Club Horse/Pony:**
2 special rosettes, as detailed in class wording

Best Horse or Pony:

2 special rosettes, as detailed in class wording
CHAPS offer a qualification card to the highest placed coloured exhibit who qualifies, as detailed in class wording
1 CHAPS Qualification Card

Additional Special Rosettes:

SSA rosettes are available for Shows to purchase and award to the highest placed SSA Member, their current Championship Points Card riding side saddle in such classes as, Equitation Jumping, WH/WHP, Ladies Hunter, Ladies Hack, SS Show Pony, etc

SCHEDULE WORDING FOR 2027

FOR SHOWS REQUIRING SAFETY HATS TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

Please use the wording below for your scheduled SSA classes

EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING CLASSES

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO OPTIONS BELOW:

CHOICE 1 - Open Equitation, open to Adults and Juniors. If entries warrant, an **Open Class** may be divided into an Adult and a Junior Class at the discretion of the Show. SSA Rosettes and Qualifying Points shall be awarded to Adults & Juniors as 2 sections: the highest placed Adult & Junior Members will receive SSA rosettes to 3rd place, and Qualifying Points down each line. The highest placed Member under 14 on 1st January of the current year will receive a rosette. **Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.**

CHOICE 2 – Adult Equitation and **Junior Equitation** separate classes with same rosettes as Choice 1.

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel*
- *Shows held up to and including the first day of the current year's National Side Saddle Show will be Qualifiers for this year's Show. Shows held after that date will be Qualifiers for the following year.*
- *In all equitation classes it is the rider and not the horse that is judged and qualifies and there will be no reference to the sex, breeding or conformation of the horse. However, horses should, in the opinion of the judge, have manners suitable for carrying a side saddle. Horses shall be 4 years old or over.*
- *Lead Rein Competitors may compete in a Junior or Open Equitation Qualifying Class. They are not eligible for SSA place rosettes but should be considered for the Turnout Rosette. Leaders must be correctly dressed.*
- *Competitors enter the ring together and are required by the Judge to walk, trot and canter on the right rein, followed by a change of rein through trot and canter left, before being called into a provisional order.*
- *Each competitor is asked to give a freestyle show to a maximum of 2 minutes, after which the competitor's turnout is inspected.*

WORDING FOR CHOICE 1 ***(Please note this Class counts as two Classes for the Affiliation Fee)***

The Side Saddle Association

EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS OPEN QUALIFYING CLASS

Run under SSA Rules defined in the current Members' Handbook. Open to SSA Members and Non-Members. Members carrying their current Championship Points Cards are eligible for SSA rosettes to 3rd Adult and 3rd Junior places and SSA Championship Points. **Southernden Side Saddles** sponsor a rosette to the highest placed Member aged under 14 on 1st January of the current year. A rosette sponsored in memory of **The Late Mr R Philpot** is offered to the Adult Member and **Beaver Hall Equestrian Centre** sponsor a rosette for the Junior Member, including lead rein riders, judged to be the best turned out

WORDING FOR CHOICE 2

The Side Saddle Association

EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS ADULT QUALIFYING CLASS

Run under SSA rules defined in the current Members' Handbook. Open to SSA Adult Members and Non-Members aged 18 or over on 1st January of the current year. Members carrying their current Championship Points Cards are eligible for SSA rosettes to 3rd place and SSA Championship Points. A rosette sponsored in memory of **The Late Mr R Philpot** is offered to the Adult Member, judged to be the best turned out.
Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.

EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIOR QUALIFYING CLASS

Run under SSA rules defined in the current Members' Handbook. Open to SSA Junior Members and Non-Members aged under 18 on 1st January of the current year. Members carrying their current Championship Points Cards are eligible for SSA rosettes to 3rd place and SSA Championship Points. **Southernden Side Saddles** sponsor a rosette to the highest placed Member aged under 14 on 1st January of the current year. **Beaver Hall Equestrian Centre** sponsor a rosette to the Junior Member, including lead rein riders, judged to be the best turned out.

Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.

QUALIFIER FOR THE SIR LANCELOT MEMORIAL TROPHY

- *Only applicable to UK Areas (Area 20 cannot hold Sir Lancelot Qualifiers)*
- *For Shows (maximum of 2 per Area), invited by the relevant SSA Area Chairman, to hold a Sir Lancelot Qualifier*
- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel but may be assisted by a Celebrity or Sponsor*

A Special rosette **sponsored by Lucinda Sims** will be offered to the Adult Member, carrying their current Championship Points Card, of the **SSA Area in which the Show is organised**, who during the Equitation Qualifier Class (irrespective of final placing) is judged to be the most elegant. That member will be eligible to compete in the Final for the Sir Lancelot Memorial Trophy (donated by the late Mrs E. Skelton) at the National Side Saddle Show. A Member may only qualify once per season between one National Show and the next, and if the Judge's first choice has already qualified, the rosette will be awarded to the next eligible competitor.

QUALIFIER FOR THE LADY GUINEVERE TROPHY

At those shows where a Sir Lancelot Qualifier is to be held a Special rosette **sponsored by SSA Area 6** will be offered to the Junior Member, carrying their current Championship Points Card, of the **SSA Area in which the show is organised**, who during the Equitation Qualifier Class (whether Open or Junior) (irrespective of final placing) is judged to be the most elegant. That Junior Member will be eligible to compete in the Final for the Lady Guinevere Trophy at the National Side Saddle Show. A Junior Member may only qualify once per season between one National Show and the next, and if the Judge's first choice has already qualified, the rosette will be awarded to the next eligible competitor.

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SIDE SADDLE RIDING CLUB HORSE/PONY CLASS

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel*

Open to horses and ponies 4 years old or over. Riders will be required to give a short show including a small jump, maximum 61cm (2'). The height may be adjusted during the course of the class at the Judge's discretion. The class shall be judged on the show, the manners of horse/pony and its suitability for the rider. Conformation will not be considered. **A Special rosette Sponsored by Kernow Side Saddle** will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the SSA carrying their current Championship Points Cards.

Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.

BEST HORSE OR PONY RIDDEN SIDE SADDLE

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel*

Open to horses and ponies 4 years old or over: conformation & manners will be taken into consideration; horses/ponies will not be stripped. **A Special rosette Sponsored by Emma's Ark Luxury Home Dog Boarding** will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Members of the SSA carrying their current Championship Points Cards.

The Highest placed **coloured exhibit ridden by a competitor aged 16rs or over** (who has not already qualified) receives a Qualification Card and qualifies for the Side Saddle Final at the **CHAPS Championship Show**. Open to any type of exhibit. Riders/Owners need not be a member or their exhibit registered with CHAPS at the time of qualification, but in order to compete at the Championships, the Rider/Owner must be a showing member and their horse/pony registered with CHAPS before entering the final. Lead Rein competitors are eligible for this class. Leaders must be correctly dressed. **Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.**

SIDE SADDLE CONCOURS d'ÉLÉGANCE

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel but may be assisted by a Celebrity or Sponsor*

The sole criterion for this class is the elegance of the picture presented by horse and rider. Attention may be paid to the rider's personal appearance but detailed inspection of rider or tack is not required. Fancy dress or period costume is not permitted. Competitors are required to walk, trot and canter. No individual show is required, but the Judge may ask groups of 3 or 4 riders to give short displays. **A Special rosette Sponsored by Mr & Mrs Marchbank** will be awarded to the highest placed Adult Member and Junior Member of the SSA carrying their current Championship Points Cards.

Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.

SIDE SADDLE COSTUME CONCOURS d'ÉLÉGANCE

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel but may be assisted by a Celebrity or Sponsor*
- *Where this class is a main ring attraction Shows may, at their discretion limit entries to Adult competitors only and the rosette provided for the highest placed Junior will not be awarded.*

The sole criterion for this class is the elegance of the picture presented by horse/pony and rider, and the way of going of the horse/pony. Safe tack must be used. Detailed inspection of the rider's period costume is not required. Fancy dress is not permitted. Competitors are required to walk, trot and canter. No individual show is required, but the judge may ask small groups of 3 or 4 riders to give short displays. **A Special rosette sponsored by S&G Oakley-Pope** will be awarded to the highest placed Adult and Junior Member of the SSA carrying their current Championship Points Card. Competitors should produce a brief résumé about their costumes for the Commentator.

. **Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.**

THE SIDE SADDLE ASSOCIATION CLASSICAL LADIES SIDE SADDLE QUALIFIER

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA, SHBGB or BSHA Judges' Panels*
- *A maximum of 3 per SSA Area for Area run Shows*

Open to SSA Adult Members and Non-members, aged 18 and over on January 1st of the current year, riding side saddle, on horses exceeding 148cm (14.2hh). To be judged 25% conformation and action, 25% manners and way of going, 25% rider, and 25% turnout of horse & rider. Judges may request a short show, but exhibits; but horses will not be stripped. Traditional habits must be worn. Fancy Dress and Period Costumes NOT permitted. **Judges must use the mark sheet provided**. The highest placed horse/rider combination qualifies for the Final to be held at the National Side Saddle Show. In the event of previous qualification, the Qualification Card may be passed down to fourth place. The highest placed horse/rider combination qualifies for the Final to be held at the National Side Saddle Show. One special rosette and the qualification card will be given to the qualifying combination at adult each show, this may not always be the winner. If the winner has already qualified they may be passed down to fourth place. ***Qualifiers kindly sponsored by Mrs. T. Mitchell and Mr. L. Mitchell***. Qualifying combinations are required to become Full Members of the SSA 21 days prior to the National Side Saddle Show or as soon as possible if qualified after that date to be eligible to compete at the Final. Combinations qualifying between one National Side Saddle Show and the next may carry forward the qualification, for that year only.

The four highest placed **Riding Horse**, **Hack** *(not ex 160cm)*, **Cob** or **Hunter**, Mare or Gelding, 4 years and over, ridden by a SSA Adult Member qualify for the current year's **BSHA Championship Mears-Wood Show Ladies Show Horse Championship** Combinations qualifying after the current year's BSHA Championship Show may carry forward the qualification, to the following year. **SSA Members** who qualify for **The Ladies Show Horse Championship**, **will not be required to join the BSHA** in order to compete in any **Side Saddle class** at the **BSHA National Championship Show.** If the BSHA Championship Show entries have closed at the time of qualification, competitors will not be charged a late entry fee for the Championship**.**

Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.

THE SIDE SADDLE ASSOCIATION CONTEMPORARY LADIES SIDE SADDLE QUALIFIER

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA, SHBGB or BSHA Judges' Panels*
- *A maximum of 3 per SSA Area for Area run Shows*

*Open to SSA Adult and Junior Members a*nd Non-members riding a Native, Part Bred, Heavy or World Breed horse/pony side saddle. To be judged 25% suitability of horse/pony for rider, 25% manners and way of going for type, 25% rider, and 25% turnout of horse & rider. Conformation will not be taken into consideration. The Judge will request a short show. Traditional habits must be worn. Judges are requested to use the mark sheet provided. The highest placed horse/rider combination qualifies for the Final to be held at the National Side Saddle Show. One special rosette and the qualification card will be given to the qualifying combination at each show, this may not always be the winner; if the winner has already qualified they may be passed down to fourth place. **Qualifiers kindly sponsored by The Langley Family.**

Qualifying combinations are required to become Full Members of the SSA 21 days prior to the National Side Saddle Show or as soon as possible if qualified after that date to be eligible to compete at the Final. Combinations qualifying between one National Side Saddle Show and the next may carry forward the qualification, for that year only.

Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above.

OTHER CLASSES

Whilst not offered as SSA affiliated classes, SSA "Special" Rosettes are available for purchase for the following classes. SSA Mark Sheets for these classes can be downloaded from the SSA Website: "Affiliating Your Show" page: https://www.sidesaddleassociation.co.uk/showaffiliation.asp

WORKING HUNTER AND WORKING HUNTER PONY CLASSES

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA, SHBGB, BSHA, BSPS or P(UK) Judges' Panels*
- *These classes may be combined at the Show Organisers/Judge's discretion*
- *Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above for all phases of these classes*

SIDE SADDLE OPEN WORKING HUNTER

- Open to horses exceeding 148cm (14.2hh). Riders any age. Height of fences not to exceed 84cm (2'9"). The spread of fences shall not exceed the height. This class will be judged in accordance with SHBGB mark sheets. **Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above for all phases.**

SIDE SADDLE OPEN WORKING HUNTER PONY

- Open to ponies not exceeding 153cm (15hh). Riders any age. Height of fences not to exceed 76cm (2'6"). If the class is split into height groups, ponies not exceeding 143cm (14hh), will jump a course not exceeding 69cm (2'3"), ponies not exceeding 133cm (13hh) a course not exceeding 61cm (2'). The spread of fences shall not exceed the height. This class will be judged in accordance with BSPS mark sheets. **Competitors must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above for all phases.**

SIDE SADDLE EQUITATION JUMPING CLASSES

- *The Judge shall be on the current SSA Judges' Panel*
- *To be run under SSA rules as they appear in the current Members' Handbook*
- *Competitors **must wear a hat to current Safety Standard or above**.*
- *Junior riders are **not permitted** to wear a spur or spur band in any class where jumping is involved*
- *Shows may title their class/(es) at their discretion, i.e. Open, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Beginners etc., but may not exceed the appropriate heights or spreads stipulated below*
- *It is recommended that the first fence is built on the right rein towards the collecting ring*
- *The first two fences MUST NOT be at maximum height*
- *Doubles and "Dog Leg" turns MAY NOT be included at any level*
- *Competitors may only compete once in any Equitation Jumping class, but may ride subsequent rounds, the National Side Saddle Show excepted, Hors Concours, on another horse or horses.*
- *Competitors may select at which height they would like to jump within their relevant class.*
- *The course shall consist of rustic or coloured fences, or a combination of both, and the number of fences must not exceed those stated.*
- *Maximum height and spread of fences:*

Young Rider & Junior Novice A: Number of fences 8 - max height 40cms, max spread 30 cms, first 2 fences max height 30 cms
Young Rider & Junior Novice B: Number of fences 8 - max height 55cms, max spread 40cms, first 2 fences max height 45cms
Young Rider & Junior Open A: Number of fences 8 - max height 55cms, max spread 40cms, first 2 fences max height 45cms
Young Rider & Junior Open B: Number of fences 8 - max height 70cms, max spread 45cms, first 2 fences max height 60cms

Adult Novice A: Number of fences 8 - max height 70cms, max spread 45cms, first 2 fences max height 60cms
Adult Novice B: Number of fences 8 - max height 75cms, max spread 60cms, first 2 fences max height 70cms
Adult Intermediate A: Number of fences 9 - max height 75cms, max spread 60cms, first 2 fences max height 70cms
Adult Intermediate B: Number of fences 9 - max height 85cms, max spread 70cms, first 2 fences max height 75cms
Adult Open A: Number of fences 10 - max height 85cms, max spread 70cms, first 2 fences max height 75cms
Adult Open B: Number of fences 10 - max height 90cms, max spread 75cms, first 2 fences max height 85cms