

## **CLIFDEN HIGH PERFORMANCE**

**The final will be held in the Showgrounds, Clifden on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022**  
featuring a prize fund of

**\*\*\*€3000\*\*\***

The Connemara Pony Breeders' Society run this class with the aim of displaying the versatility of the Connemara pony, highlighting the performance aspect of the pony over fences with emphasis on the ride ability, scope, versatility and suitability for child or adult.

The final will take place on day four of the Annual Connemara Pony Show in Clifden, Co. Galway on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022. There will be 5 shows holding qualifiers nationally for the final. The entry fee for the qualifiers is €25 per pony (enter for qualifiers with the show hosting the qualifier) Entry fee for the final €40 per pony.

The top five ponies will qualify from each qualifier. The qualifiers and the final will be primarily run under the Irish Pony Society Rules for the working hunters so the scoring system will be the same.

### ***At the Qualifiers***

At the qualifiers ponies will be asked to jump a minimum of 9 numbered fences including a double and a triple combination at a minimum of 1m high and 1m wide, and a minimum of three fences at the qualifiers should be built to a height of 110cm high and 110cm wide. Each fence will be marked out of 10 and then a mark out of 20 will be awarded for the way of going. The total is then divided by 2 and penalties are then deducted. Penalties: knock -10, 1<sup>st</sup> refusal -15, 2<sup>nd</sup> refusal -20, 3<sup>rd</sup> refusal Elimination. A fall of rider will incur elimination.

This will complete Phase One.

In Phase Two, each pony will be asked to show, trot, canter and gallop. Unless otherwise requested, ponies will be required to show canter on both reins with a simple change of canter lead through trot. The pony will be stripped and judged for movement, conformation true to breed and type true to breed (i.e. Connemara). The total marks for Phase Two will be 45 consisting of manners (10), performance (10), movement (10), breed conformation (10) and type (5).

### ***Final***

At the final ponies will be asked to jump a course of a minimum of 12 numbered fences which will include a double and a treble up to a maximum height of 110cm and width of 110cm (minimum height being 1m and a width 1m). A joker fence will also be included, which will carry double marks but will be at maximum height (110cm) and will pose a certain level of difficulty over and above the other fences on the

course. Weather permitting the river may be used with an optional fence being provided. This will complete Phase One.

In Phase Two, each pony will be asked to show, trot, canter and gallop. Unless otherwise requested, ponies will be required to show canter on both reins with a simple change of canter lead through trot. The pony will be stripped and judged for movement, conformation true to breed and type true to breed (i.e. Connemara). The total marks for phase 2 will be 45 consisting of manners (10), performance (10), movement (10), breed conformation (10) and type (5).

### **HIGH PERFORMANCE IS EXPECTED**

#### ***Rules for Qualifiers and Final***

1. Open to registered Connemara ponies in possession of a CPBS passport, aged 5 yrs old and over.
2. Passports of qualifying ponies and microchips will be checked at the qualifier and must be presented at the final. Microchips will be checked at the final. Ponies must be registered in the name of the current owner.
3. Stallions must be ridden by a rider that has attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the current year.
4. Bitless bridles and gags **not allowed**. Pelhams must have two reins leading from hands to the bit or a single with leather roundings, three ring snaffles must have two reins or a set of roundings.
5. Only front boots allowed in Phase One. Boots **must** be removed for Phase Two
6. Spurs are **not** allowed.
7. Running martingales only.
8. Riders who have not attained their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022 **must** wear a body protector for Phase One. Body protectors may be removed for Phase Two.
9. A rider may compete **no more than two ponies** at any one qualifier, but only one rider/pony combination may be chosen to compete at the final – *this choice must be declared at the relevant Qualifier*. (It is recommended that if you intend to compete at the High Performance Final that you attend as many Qualifiers as possible in preparation – ponies already qualified will compete in other qualifiers Hors Concours (HC)).