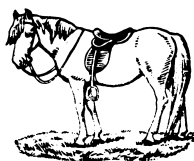


New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society

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2026 New Forest Point-to-Point Races

Following a detailed review of the event and its entry conditions, the Council of the NFPB&CS is pleased to confirm that arrangements are underway for the 2026 New Forest Point-to-Point Races, to be held on Boxing Day, north of the A31 - weather permitting.

There will be a number of changes to the organisation of the races and to the entry conditions this year. A summary of the key changes most relevant to competitors and stewards is set out below. Full details will be included in the Race Schedule and Entry Conditions, which will be published in due course.

1. Hard Hats

Hard hats worn by all competitors and mounted stewards must comply with current safety standards and be checked and tagged prior to race day. Tag checking will be undertaken for all mounted participants and stewards on race day before the start of the event. The Society intends to offer a hat-check and tagging service for those whose hats have not already been checked and tagged to current standards.

2. Body Protectors

Body protectors will be mandatory for all competitors and mounted stewards. Body protectors must comply with the EN 13158:2018 Standard (BETA Level 3, Black and Blue Label).

Older purple-label body protectors certified to the BETA 2009 standard will not be accepted.

Body protector labels will be checked on race day to ensure compliance.

3. Tack Checks

All competitors in the children's races will be subject to a tack check prior to the start of the event. Any tack considered inappropriate or unsafe must be rectified before the competitor is permitted to race and may result in being prevented from taking part. Adult competitors and mounted stewards will also be required to confirm, through the Rider Declaration, that their tack is safe and of an appropriate standard.

4. Pre-Event Safety Briefing

The Society will hold a pre-event safety briefing at 7.30pm on Friday 11th December 2026 at Lyndhurst Community Centre. All competitors and stewards will be invited and are strongly encouraged to attend.

5. Race eligibility:

The minimum age for participation in all adult races will be 18 years, on the day of the races.

The maximum age for participation in the older children's race will be 17 years, on the day of the races.

7. Entry Declarations

An updated Rider Declaration, Competence Declaration for children and Medical Declaration must be completed and signed by all competitors and mounted stewards.

For competitors in the children's races, these declarations must also be signed by a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult. The revised declarations will be made available in due course.

8. Entries

Race entries must be submitted online or delivered by hand to Ford Farm. Postal entries or those taken elsewhere will not be accepted. Completed and signed Rider Declarations will be required for all competitors regardless of the method of entry. Entries will close on Friday 4th December 2026.

Full details of these and any other changes will be included in the 2026 Race Schedule, Entry Conditions and Entry Form and Rider Declarations, which will be published in due course.

Council of the NFPB&CS. September 2026

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