The Donkey Breed Society

Registered Charity No: 292268
Company Registration No: 01903405

OUR 53rd NATIONAL DONKEY SHOW SCHEDULE
SATURDAY 22nd AUGUST 2026

<<< NEW VENUE >>>

To be held at Pickering Grange Equestrian Centre,
Ellistown Terrace Rd, Ellistown, Coalville LE67 1EZ

Society President: Mr Bill Tetlow Chief Steward: Mr Rob Sims

Show Chairman: Mrs Carole Travell Show Manager: Mrs Karen Logan

Show Secretary: Ms Georgia McCarthy
DBSNationalShow@donkeybreedsociety.co.uk
07801 561889

Society Website:
www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk

CLOSING DATE FOR ALL ENTRIES:
Midnight 30th JUNE 2026

JUDGES

Young People's Classes/Championships	Jean Marsden
Non-breed Classes	Jean Marsden
In-Hand Classes	Robert Cunningham
In-Hand Championships	Sarah Prior
Driving Classes/Championships	Heather Noad

The committee, in addition to the above officials, without whom we could not operate, includes Mrs Carol Morse, Mrs Julie Boyce, Miss Liz Brown, Mrs Trudy Affleck, Mrs Caroline Tween and Mrs Pam Moon.

STOP PRESS

There are lots of exciting changes this year!

New venue

Pickering Grange Farm Equestrian Centre, Ellistown Terrace Rd, Ellistown, Coalville LE67 1EZ. The showground is less than 10 minutes west, off J22 of the M1. Our parking is next to the temporary stables (others approx. 100m away), the show office, the indoor arenas and the outdoor driving arena, the electric hook up and the toilets. There is an onsite café, and for those staying Friday night, a club room with licensed bar and hot food available (Providing we have a minimum of 20 people).

Changes to the Driving Section

More classes, one entry fee (£15) and for this single payment, enter as many as you like. The return of the Presentation class, and 1sts and 2nds from all driving classes (except Presentation) will go forward to the Supreme Driving Championship. The re-instatement of the Cleeve Pan Performance Trophy, for highest points total across all driving classes.

Fantastic new Long-reining Section (with Championship)

We have added more long-reining classes, and a Long-reining Championship, with Champion / Reserve rosettes and Champion sash. 1sts and 2nds from all long-reining classes (except Presentation) will go forward to the Long-reining Championship. A single fee of £15 will cover you for as many of these classes as you like.

New Show Secretary Team

Our new team consists of Georgia McCarthy, Show Secretary, ably supported by Alison McCarthy and Rachel Kendall. We also have a Show Manager in Karen Logan and Show Treasurer David Poole

New way of entering

We will be using the online 'Entrymaster' system, as used by many other shows (many of you will probably already have used it elsewhere). Don't worry – it will still be possible to obtain paper entry forms from the Show Secretary and send them in for central manual entering – but we do hope that most of you will embrace Entrymaster as it will make the Show Secretary's role MUCH easier.

Show Schedule

The organisers reserve the right to amalgamate or split classes as appropriate based on the entries received by 30th June 2026. Please note that every effort will be made to eliminate class clashes, and this may result in re-ordering of classes. Donkeys qualifying at events between that date and 31 July 2026 are still eligible to submit entries, but no later than midnight on 3rd August 2026. If you are a late qualifier, please contact the Show Secretary prior to 3rd August.

Please note that rings commence at 09:30 am. All classes will automatically follow on from the previous one so exhibitors are expected to be ready and waiting in plenty of time. Where an exhibitor in the driving class needs to collect another turnout, they must make the ring steward aware of this, and an agreed waiting time obtained.

RING ONE (Indoor Charnwood Arena – ring furthest from lorry park) – Classes commence at 09:30 am

CLASSES for YOUNG PEOPLE
(not to have attained their 16th birthday before or on the day of the show)

Condition and Turnout – Ridden or in-hand

Class J30 - 3-8 years old
Class J31 - 9-12 years old
Class J32 - 13-15 years old

Young Handler
Note – Junior Day members may enter but will not go forward to the Championship

Class J33 - 3-8 years old
Class J34 - 9-12 years old
Class J35 - 13-15 years old

C9 - DBS Young Handler Championship

1st and 2nd placed, fully paid up, Junior members from Classes J33-J35

Young Rider
Note – Junior Day members may enter but will not go forward to the Championship

Class J36L - Leading Rein 3-8 years old
Class J36R - Ridden 3-8 years old
Class J37 - Ridden 9-12 years old
Class J38 - Ridden 13-15 years old

C10 - DBS Young Rider Championship

1st and 2nd placed, fully paid up, Junior members from Classes J36L/J36R-J38

BREAK – followed, no earlier than 11:00 by the NON-BREED CLASSES

Condition and Turnout (No foals)

Class NB01 - Male donkey
Class NB02 - Female donkey

Pet Donkey

Class NB03 – assessing safety, manners and suitability as an all-round pet donkey including a range of skills
No foals nor entire male, donkeys will be permitted in this class

Newcomer – to be judged on the capability of the handler, not the donkey

Class NB04 - This class is based on the handler's skills as required for an in-hand breed class.
The handler is not to have won a first in any in-hand class at the date of this event. Should the handler's position change between date of entry and date of show a full refund of the entry fee will be made.

Novice – to be judged as an in-hand breed class

Class NB05 – This class is for donkeys who have never won an in-hand breed class where conformation is assessed.
Should the donkey's position change between date of entry and date of show a full refund of the entry fee will be made.

RING TWO (Indoor Charnwood arena – ring closest to lorry park) - Classes commence at 09:30 am

IN-HAND BREED CLASSES

YOUNGSTOCK FEMALES

Fillies 1 to 3 years

F17a – Senior Yearlings, born 1st Jan – 31st May
F17b – Junior Yearlings, born 1st June -31st Dec
F18a – Senior 2 year olds, born 1st Jan – 31st May
F18b – Junior 2 year olds, born 1st June – 31st Dec
F19 – 3 year old fillies

YOUNGSTOCK MALES

Geldings 1 to 3 years

M7 – Yearlings
M8 – 2 year olds
M9 – 3 year olds

Colts 1 to 3 years

M3a – Senior Yearlings, born 1st Jan – 31st May
M3b – Junior Yearlings, born 1st June– 31st Dec
M4 – 2 year old colts
M5 – 3 year old colts

ADULT MALES

Stallions

M2 – Senior Stallions, Age 10 - 19
M1 – Junior Stallions, Age 4 – 9
M24a – Veteran Stallions, Age 20 and over

Geldings

M11 – Senior Adult Geldings, Age 10 - 19
M10 – Junior Adult Geldings, Age 4 – 9
M24b – Veteran Geldings, Age 20 and over

ADULT FEMALES

F20 – Junior Barren Mare, Age 4 - 9
F22 – Senior Barren Mare, Age 10 - 19
F24 – Veteran Mare, Age 20 and over
F21 – Junior Brood Mare, Age 5 – 9, to have foaled in current year
F23 – Senior Brood Mare, Age 10 – 19, to have foaled in current year

FOALS (born in current year)

F14 – Senior Filly Foals born 1st Jan – 31st May
F15 – Senior Colt/Gelding Foal born 1st Jan – 31st May
F16 – Junior Foal born 1st June - 7th July

C14 - DBS Foal Championship

1st and 2nd placed foals from Classes F14 – F16

BREAK followed by IN-HAND BREED CHAMIONSHIPS

All donkeys qualifying for the In-Hand Championship will be awarded a qualifying rosette **before** entering the ring for the championships. These will be made up of those that pre-qualified prior to the show, and those that qualify on the day. The judging of the championships will be in accordance with the instructions set out in the notes that follow the schedule.

C1 **DBS British Filly Championship**

C2 **DBS British Youngstock Gelding Championship**

C3 **DBS British Colt Championship**

C4 **DBS British Youngstock Championship** - The champions and their reserves from the Filly/Youngstock Gelding/Colt Championships

C7 **DBS British Stallion Championship**

C5 **DBS British Adult Gelding Championship**

C6 **DBS British Mare Championship**

C8 **DBS British Supreme Championship** – Champion Youngstock, Adult Gelding, Mare and Stallion together with their Reserves

RING THREE (Outdoor Jubilee Arena) – Classes commence at 09:30 am

As part of their commitment to animal welfare, the Donkey Breed Society, alongside the British Driving Society and British Carriage Driving, will have an equine welfare officer on site who can be approached with any concerns.
All Whips (drivers/long-reiners) MUST wear a hat and gloves.
A whip MUST be carried for all driven classes and for class L3 Long-reining Best Whip. A whip is OPTIONAL for all other long-reining classes, but it is encouraged.
A groom MUST be present in the ring or in the vehicle for each turnout.
Juniors MUST wear a hard hat to current standards.
Juniors aged 8-10 MUST have a capable adult in the vehicle.
Juniors aged 11-15 MUST have a competent adult in the vehicle or with a leading rein in the ring at all times.
Juniors (those who have not attained their 16th birthday on or before show day) MUST NOT drive a stallion.
Drivers aged 16 or 17 may drive a stallion but MUST have a competent, able bodied adult present in the vehicle.
Only an adult may long-rein a colt or stallion.
Multiples are welcome in all classes
A novice is defined as a combination of Whip and animal that haven't been awarded a first prize in a driven class.
All first-time exhibitors will be awarded a special rosette.

DRIVING SECTION

D1 Driving Presentation Class
To be judged on cleanliness, suitability and fit of the harness and vehicle and the attire of the Whip. NOT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE TYPE OF HARNESS / VEHICLE. Fit and cleanliness are paramount

D2 Open Driving
Awards for the best

a) Exercise Turnout
b) Private Turnout
c) Trade Turnout
d) Multiple Turnout

D3 Driving Best whip
Awards to the best

a) Open
b) Junior (8- 15 yrs)
c) Senior (60 and over)

D4 Pleasure Driving
Aimed at the turnout deemed the most suitable for pleasure driving, capable of being driven on a public road. Turnouts may be asked to negotiate e.g. a road junction. Hats/gloves/whips must be worn/carried but show attire is not necessary

a) Open
b) Novice

D5 Driving Precision and Paces
Test provided. Judged by 2 judges, one looking at the accuracy of the movement (precision) and the other on the way of going (paces). Callers are allowed without penalty in the novice section, a 3-point penalty will be incurred in the open.

a) Open
b) Junior (8- 15 yrs)
c) Senior (60 and over)

D6 Driving Cones
Closest to the optimum time through the course, balls knocked off will incur a 5 sec penalty. Penalty

a) Open
b) Junior (8- 15 yrs)
c) Senior (60 and over)

1 second for every second above or below the optimum time. The optimum time can be considered a collected trot. The time will be posted on show day (when course is built)

D7 Driving Agility

C13 Driving Championship
First and second prize winners from the above classes D2-D7 are eligible

C12 Novice Driving Championship
All turnouts awarded a Novice Qualifier rosette in classes D2-D6 are eligible

Awarded during the Driving Supreme championship

- C11 Concours D'elegance – the turnout that makes the most pleasing picture. Not judged on performance.
- Traditional rein handling- the Whip that the judge feels has the best traditional rein handling

LONG-REINING SECTION

L1 Long Reining Presentation Class
To be judged on cleanliness, suitability and fit. NOT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE TYPE OF EQUIPMENT USED.
L2 Long-reining

a) Open

b) Junior Whip (8-15 years)
c) Best Multiple

L3 Long-reining Best Whip
a) Open
b) Junior (8-15 yrs)
c) Senior (60 years and over)

L4 Long-reining Precision and Paces
Test provided. Judged by 2 judges, one looking at the accuracy of the movement (precision) and the other on the way of going (paces). Callers are allowed without penalty in the novice section, a 3 point penalty will be incurred in the open.
a) Novice
b) Open

L5 Long-reining Cones
Closest to the optimum time through the course, balls knocked off will incur a 5 sec penalty. A 1 second penalty for each second over or under the optimum time will be awarded. The optimum time can be considered a brisk walk. The time will be posted once the course is built.

L6 Long-reining Agility

C14 Long-reining championship
All first and second prize winners from classes L2 – L6 are eligible

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Trophies. Anyone with a trophy from last year should return it to Caroline Tween, preferably before the event. Her contact numbers are 01277 514046 or 07763 492845

Day Members. Any day member will not be eligible for an award that goes to the individual as opposed to the donkey. This includes, but is not limited to: Young Handler, Young Rider, Newcomer, Best Whip, and the Trinette Hindle Award.

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SOCIETY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL SHOW

All donkeys must have passports. Those entered in the In-hand breed classes will need either a DBS passport or one over stamped by the DBS.

All riders, handlers, whips and grooms must be members of the DBS. Day memberships are available at a cost of £5 for any 'helpers on the day' who will be entering the ring. There is no charge for helpers who remain outside the ring.

This show will abide by the rules and regulations contained in the Society's Affiliated Showing Rules apart from:
Rule 5(o) – which is replaced by the definitions for the Driving Championships - C11 to C13
Rule 5(p) – which is replaced by the procedures provided in the notes at the end of the schedule

A copy of the Affiliated Showing Rules can be downloaded from the Society website- www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk. Please ensure you have read these before making your entries for the event as you will be asked to confirm that you have done so.

KEEP IT CLEAN AND TIDY

You must NOT use hay nets / bags outside your lorry / trailer. You must ensure all dung is removed prior to you leaving. We will be charged a clean-up fee of £100 if the car park and surrounding areas we are using are not left clean. We will pass this fee on to any members who have not cleared up their area.

DOCUMENTATION AND OTHER CHECKS

Random checks will be made to ensure that all donkeys are fully vaccinated in accordance with the venue rules (see below), are accompanied by their passport, have been micro-chipped and the exhibitor has appropriate public liability insurance cover.

EXHIBITOR NUMBERS

Exhibitor numbers will NOT be posted out but will be available for collection from the Show Office on the morning of the show.

STABLES

There are 2 types of stables available and they will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis.
The stables will be empty of bedding when you arrive and must be left empty (and clean) when you leave. You can either bring your own bedding (shavings only), or purchase bale(s) on arrival. Cost - £10 per bale. No other bedding type may be used. When you leave, you can take your clean bedding away with you if you wish. No mucking out equipment / wheelbarrows is provided.
There are 24 temporary wooden stables. They are approximately 10 foot square and situated at the side of car park, very close to the indoor arenas, Show Office and nearby driving arena. They are not within a building and do not have power or lighting. Their floor is of the same material as the car park (clinker?). They are older but serviceable. It is recommended that no more than 2 donkeys are stabled in each stable. Cost is £40 for 1 night, or £50 for 2. (Does your donkey chew wood? You will be responsible for any damage caused).
There are 26 concrete stables, approximately12 foot square. They are housed in an American barn, approx. 100m from the Show Office / parking and our arenas. They have concrete flooring with rubber matting. They have lighting. It is recommended that no more than 3 donkeys are stabled in each of these stables. Cost is £60 per stable for 1 night, £70 for 2 nights.
Day use – temporary stables may be hired for the day, at a cost of £20 each.
Stables must be cleared and left empty of bedding. Any exhibitor hiring a stable will be expected to leave it clean and tidy – any fine imposed by the venue will be passed onto that exhibitor. The fee for a stable left dirty / not empty is £25. Should a stable not be considered to be clean and tidy on arrival please provide photographic evidence so we may take the matter up with the venue.

VACCINATIONS/PASSPORTS

In accordance with the current vaccine requirements, all horses, ponies and donkeys attending events at the venue must have received at least their first two vaccines. Animals with full programs are advised to have six monthly boosters, however annual boosters are acceptable. All vaccines need to have 7 clear days before attending the event. It is every exhibitor's responsibility to ensure all animals are vaccinated correctly from the start date of their programme. The Society reserve the right to undertake our own random checks and any person being in charge of an animal not being in compliance will both be asked to leave the site. All animals must have passports with them.

ARRIVAL TIME FOR YOUR CLASS
All classes will automatically follow on from the preceding class(es) so please ensure you take this into account in planning your entries and also your arrival time.

ACCOMMODATION
Grass camping available at a cost of £10 per night. Sleeping in lorries / caravans / trailers in the car park is free of charge. There is limited electric hook-up, at a cost of £40 per night. This is adjacent to the indoor arenas.

MAKING YOUR ENTRIES (Online if at all possible please!)
From this year (2026) we will be using the online entry system 'Entrymaster'.
www.entrymaster.co.uk Payments will be made as part of this process, using a card via the Stripe system.
If you cannot / choose not to use Entrymaster, please contact the Show Secretary Georgia McCarthy 07801 561889, DBSNationalShow@donkeybreedsociety.co.uk to arrange for paper / emailed forms to be sent to you, which can then be returned and entered centrally. Payment for this type of entry can be by bank transfer (preferred) or cheque. Full details on how to return the forms / pay will be sent with your paper forms.

CANCELLATIONS
In the event the Society is forced to cancel the event all fees paid will be refunded in full. Any exhibitor wishing to cancel their entries due to ill health from and including 1st July 2026 will receive a refund, after deducting a £20.00 administration fee, on the production of an appropriate medical certificate from a vet (for the donkey) or a doctor (for the exhibitor).

PRICES

Junior classes (classes J30 to J38)	£7
Non-breed classes (classes NB01 to NB06	£12.50
Inhand breed classes (Classes beginning with an F (females) or M (Males)	£12.50
Driving classes – pay once and enter as many as you wish (subject to fitness of donkey(s))	£15
Long-reining classes – pay once, enter as many as you wish (subject to fitness of donkey(s))	£15
Day membership (name of day member to be supplied)	£5
Temporary wooden stables (approx. 10' by 10') – 1 night	£40
Temporary wooden stables – 2 nights	£50
Concrete stables (approx. 12' by 12') – 1 night	£60
Concrete stables – 2 nights	£70
Day stable (temporary wooden stable only)	£20
Bale of shavings (or bring your own)	£10
Camping (on grass)	£10
Electric hook up	£40
Administration charge (once per set of entries for a member). Includes one catalogue	£6
Additional catalogue	£5
If entries are made online, there is a £2 charge, If payments made by card online, there is a 1.5% transaction charge	

Donations are welcomed.

SUPPORTERS CLUB LOTTERY

If you are not already a member of the Supporter's Club, please consider joining as this makes a real difference to the financial viability of the show. There will be a stand at the show (in the entrance to the indoor arenas) where you can learn more and sign up.

National Show, 22nd August 2026 – Additional Information

Definitions/Information for In-Hand Breed Classes

1. **In-Hand Championships**
   Donkeys who have pre-qualified at affiliated shows during the year together with those qualifying at the National Show In-Hand Classes, on 22nd August 2026, as listed in the schedule, will enter the ring wearing their qualifier rosettes. They will parade in the ring as instructed by the judge, who will select the Champion and then the Reserve Champion.

2. **Youngstock and Supreme Inhand Championships**
   The Champion donkeys from the Youngstock and 3 adult In-Hand championships, together with their reserve champion will enter the ring and line up, with the reserves behind the champion. The judge will select the Champion from the first row, their reserve will move forward, and the judge will select the reserve champion from the new first row.

3. **Progeny Points Awards**
   Points are awarded to the sire / dam where eligible, and the highest scoring sire will win the Stallion Progeny Points Award, while the highest scoring dam will win the Mare Progeny Points Award. Points will be awarded in the In-Hand classes at the National show and from pre-qualified donkeys who are not forward at this show. The parent of the pre-qualified progeny will be awarded 6 points for each pre-qualified donkey, but those donkeys will not be eligible for in-hand class points. For non- pre-qualified donkeys who enter the In-Hand Classes the following are points are awarded to the parents of the progeny as follows; 6 for 1st, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 3 for 4th 2 for 5th and 1 for 6th. In addition, there will be 4 points for each parent of the Individual Champions and a further 2 points for the parents of the Reserve Champions. There are 4 points for each parent of the DBS British Supreme Champion and 2 points for the parents of the DBS British Reserve Champion.
   Those donkeys registered in the Stud Book as well as those entered in other appropriate DBS registers are eligible for the awards. The winning mare and stallion must be owned on the date of the show by a fully paid-up member of the society.
   If the winning donkey(s) are deceased the award will still be made. If the owner(s) of the winning donkey(s) are deceased the Society shall retain the trophy(s) for that year. As the results cannot be ascertained until after the show the trophies will be presented at the Society Annual General Meeting. In the event of a tie all winners will hold the trophy(s) for equal periods.

Additional Information for Driving Classes

Best Whip Class

The vehicle and harness, providing they are safe, will not be taken into account in the judging. Judging will be based entirely on the whips ability to drive correctly in the traditional English manner.

Stubbings Trophy

Points will be awarded to entrants with any disability, driving a suitable vehicle or a vehicle purpose built to carry a wheelchair. The vehicle is to be driven in the traditional English style, or the driver is to use reins with any necessary adaptations. The whip may be accompanied by an able-bodied companion. The points will be awarded as follows for each position in each class – 6 for 1st, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 3 for 4th, 2 for 5th and 1 for 6th. The trophy will be awarded to the entrant with the highest total score. In the event of a tie the trophy will be shared on a time basis. Eligible entrants must mark their entry forms with a large "D" in the top right-hand corner.

Cleeve Pan Performance Trophy

Points will be awarded in every driving class, 6 for 1st, down to 1 for 6th. The highest points total will be awarded the Cleeve Pan Performance Trophy.

Overall Points winner

There will be an overall donkey winner from those entered at this show. Points will be accumulated in all classes (apart from

any of the Championships) and the donkey with the most points will be awarded the Dinky Rugs cup..

Donkeys will be awarded 6 points for a first place down to 1 point for a sixth place in every class entered.

The more classes entered the more chance your donkey has of winning this award; however please do not over-extend your donkey, their welfare is paramount.

National Showing Points

These can be accrued in all classes at this event. Championships are excluded.

The Trinette Hindle Award.

This award is made in memory of Trinette, who was always immaculately turned out (in brown, including a brown bowler). All adult handlers who take part in the Inhand Breed Classes are automatically eligible to be considered for this award. There will be a 'spy in the camp' who will determine who, in their opinion, is best turned out.

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.....RAFFLE.....

Please support our raffle

Donations very welcome and lots of prizes to win!