

Notes

Show	Show Dates	Scurry	Type*
Scurry Weekend	26-27 April		I
Devon County Show	15-17 May	Fri & Sat	Q
Herts County Show	24-25 May	Sun	I
Suffolk Show	28-29 May	Wed & Thurs	Q
Royal Bath & West	29-31 May	Fri & Sat	Q
South of England	6-8 June	Sat	Q
Royal Three Counties	13-15 June	Sat & Sun	Q
Hickstead Derby	19-22 June	Sat & Sun	Q/I
Kent County	4-6 July	Sat & Sun	Q
Hickstead RIHS	22-27 July	Sat	Q
New Forest & Hampshire	29-31 July	Weds	Q
Equifest	6-9 Aug	Fri & Sat tbc	Q
Edenbridge & Oxted	24-25 Aug	Sun	Q
Dorset County Show	6-7 Sept	Sat & Sun	Q
Bucks County Show	28 Aug	Thurs	I
Horse Of the Year Show	8-12 Oct	Wed - Sat	Finals

* I = By Invitation, Q = HOYS Qualifier

THE OSBORNE SCURRY GROUP

The aim of this group is to provide high class entertaining pony scurry driving competitions. Membership is by invitation only.

The group are also available to provide demonstrations & displays throughout the UK and Europe

We are able to provide displays from 15 minutes to full competitions high speed thrilling main ring entertainment

Show secretaries requiring more information please contact us at the address below

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Rules for Osborne Scurry Group HOYS Series 2025

FUNDAMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **THESE RULES APPLY TO THE OSBORNE SCURRY GROUP HORSE OF THE YEAR SERIES 2025. A LIST OF SHOWS IS AVAILABLE ON THE OSBORNE WEBSITE (www.osborne-ref.co.uk/osg)**
- **SCURRY DRIVING INVOLVES TWO PONIES (OF RELATIVELY EQUAL SIZE) PULLING A VEHICLE AROUND A COURSE OF HAZARDS AT SPEED. THE VEHICLE IS DRIVEN BY A “DRIVER” AND BALANCED BY A “GROOM” POSITIONED BEHIND THE DRIVER. COMPETITORS ARE TIMED AROUND THE COURSE AND TIME PENALTIES ARE IMPOSED FOR CONTACT WITH THE HAZARDS AND OTHER RULE INFRINGEMENTS. THE WINNER IS THE COMPETITOR WITH THE LOWEST OVERALL TIME.**
- **THE OBJECT OF THE OSBORNE SCURRY GROUP IS TO PROVIDE ENJOYABLE DRIVING FOR COMPETITORS AND A SAFE SPECTACLE FOR THE PAYING CUSTOMER.**
- **JUDGES WILL STRIVE TO MAKE DECISIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE RULES AND THESE FUNDAMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS. THE DECISION OF THE JUDGE WILL BE FINAL. THERE IS NO RIGHT TO APPEAL.**
- **PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS INHERENT IN SCURRY DRIVING. THE BEHAVIOUR OF PONIES, PARTICULARLY IN TIMES OF STRESS, MAY BE UNPREDICTABLE AND MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY. KEEP OUR SPORT SAFE:**
 - **STAY ALERT**
 - **BE SAFE**
 - **YOU COMPETE AT YOUR OWN RISK**
- **ALL COMPETITORS MUST ALWAYS STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SAFETY, MINIMISING RISK TO THEMSELVES AND OTHERS WHENEVER POSSIBLE.**
- **ALL COMPETITORS MUST STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF TURNOUT.**

- 39 Following the final Horse Of The Year Show Qualifier, two reserves will be named for each class. These reserves will be the next in line following the qualifying procedure.
- 40 The Secretary must be informed within 48 hours of qualification if any competitor does not wish to accept their qualification. For each pair qualified for the Horse Of The Year Show, one spare may also be entered as a substitute in accordance with the Osborne Scurry Group Rules.
- 41 To qualify for the Horse Of The Year Show a driver must complete at least six qualifying competitions. A round in which the driver is eliminated or disqualified will not count towards this total. This applies to both Categories.
- 42 Scurry vehicles may only be driven at shows by a competent person who is a member of the OSG.
- 43 On Health & Safety grounds, non-members may not ride on scurry vehicles in the ring e.g. no show officials on laps of honour, friends, family etc

Shows may, if they desire, take entries on the day from fully paid up members of the OSG

The rules for the OSBORNE SCURRY GROUP HOYS SERIES 2025 will be interpreted and enforced by the Steering Committee. If you have any questions about these rules, please ask one of the committee members for clarification. The Steering Committee reserves the right to amend these rules from time to time. Current members of the Steering Committee are:

Alison Osborne
Paul Orchard
Jeff Osborne (chairman)

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30 The Judge or show executive will have the responsibility for drawing the starting order. In the Championship Class starting order will be determined by the qualifying times, slowest first, fastest last.

31 Competitors who have entered a show but are no longer able to attend (for whatever reason) must use their best endeavors to contact the Show Secretary as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in sanctions for other shows in the series at the discretion of the Steering Committee.

32 If a driver qualifies for a Championship at any show they must make every effort to come forward. Under certain conditions this rule may be waived;

- A) The health of the driver prevents them from competing;
- B) The health of the ponies prevents them from competing; or
- C) A driver qualifies more than one pair of ponies, but has insufficient competent help to allow all qualified pairs to compete safely.

Non-compliance with this rule may result in prize money being withheld.

33 All Members shall ensure that none of their actions bring either the Osborne Scurry Group or the sport in general into disrepute. A breach of any of the rules may be discussed by the Judges or by the Steering Committee and the necessary reprimand made or sanctions imposed. This shall be in tune with the Spirit of the Sport. Any relevant factors may be taken into consideration, including the severity of the breach, and the degree of culpability for the breach. The Judges and the Steering Committee has a general discretion whether to impose a penalty, and the nature of the penalty. Penalties include but are not limited to the following:

- A) An oral or written reprimand;
- B) Disqualification from the competition;
- C) Disqualification from previous competitions, including any prior qualifications;
- D) Disqualification from the series;
- E) Suspension from a competition or from the series.

35 Membership of the OSG is restricted to drivers with proven ability, as decided by the steering committee

36 The winner of each class and height of an Osborne Scurry Group HOYS competition will qualify for the preliminary round at the Horse of the Year Show. If the winner has already qualified, the qualification will pass down the line to the next unqualified pair, subject to approval by the Steering Committee (in order to maintain standards).

37 If more than one competitor achieves the same score in a qualifying round (know as a dead heat) the prize money will be shared. If it is a HOYS qualifier, the place will go to the pair highest placed in the subsequent Championship.

38 For HOYS only one pair of ponies may be qualified per driver in each class.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS / EQUIPMENT

1 Membership of the Osborne Scurry Group is compulsory for all drivers and grooms. All members shall be 16 years old or over for drivers. Grooms must be 15 and over. A Membership Application Form may be downloaded from www.osborne-ref.co.uk/osg or obtained from the Secretary. The membership period runs from 1st January to 31st December. A membership renewal fee is payable each year, and should be settled by 1st April. The renewal fees for 2025 are as follows:

- Drivers £35
- Grooms £25

2 All ponies must:

- A) Be no greater than 148cm in height;
- B) Not be less than 4 years old; and
- C) Be vaccinated as per current FEI and Horse Of The Year Show Rules. (Owners must be prepared to verify this and produce their pony passports to a member of the Steering Committee.)
- D) Be clean, well presented, healthy and competition fit.

3 There are two categories for ordinary events based upon the height of the ponies. Category (A) is for ponies 122cm and under. Category (B) is for all other ponies over 122cm and not exceeding 148cm. The height of the largest pony in a pair will define the category for the pair (either A or B).

4 All vehicles must:

- A) Be equipped with four wheels.
- B) Not have delayed steering.
- C) Have a minimum front axle track of 130cm. Wheels with camber to be measured at the narrowest point.
- D) Have a rear axle track of not less than 80cm.
- E) Be clean and safe.

5 Competitors must have a different vehicle for each pair of ponies entered into a competition.

6 An appropriate harness must be used. It should be in good working condition, clean and safe.

7 A suitable whip must be carried by competitors.

8 Vehicles, equipment and ponies may be inspected at any time, whether before, during or after competition. There will be a penalty for non-compliance with the rules, which may include disqualification from the show.

THE COURSE

- 11 A standard course should include twelve hazards (where possible) constructed in a manner compatible with the Osborne Scurry Group Rules and Guidelines for Judges and Course Builders. The course will be a combination of simple cone hazards, a box and a serpentine.
- 12 The width between the cones of a simple hazard will be 170cm.
- 13 Once the course has been constructed, it will be walked and cleared by the Judge. The course can only be changed if found to be unsafe or technically incorrect. Any competitor who attempts to alter the course in any way, unless under the direct instruction of a Judge, will be disqualified.
- 14 A bell or suitable audible signal shall indicate that a competitor may start the course. Once the start bell has been rung competitors must pass through the starting gate and commence their round within one minute.
- 15 Hand controlled brakes may not be applied selectively whilst competing.
- 16 The course hazards must be completed in the specified order.
- 17 Once at least one wheel has passed between the boundaries of a hazard it will be seen as having been attempted.
- 18 If a competitor takes an incorrect route during a complex hazard, they may either re-start the hazard from the point where the error occurred or re-attempt the hazard from the original entry point.
- 19 If a fallen hazard prevents the progress of the pony pair (or the hazard is otherwise undriveable) the Judge has the discretion to ring the bell and stop the clock. Once the hazard has been rebuilt, the bell will be sounded for a second time and the clock will continue from the previous point. The entire hazard must then be re-attempted by the competitor.
- 20 If a Judge should accidentally ring the bell whilst a round is being driven and it is found to be to the detriment of the competitor, said competitor has the right to attempt the whole course again after the other competitors have completed their rounds.
- 21 The course is live from passing through the start until passing through the finish.
- 22 Once a competitor has completed their round, or has retired, they must exit the arena in a safe manner at no more than a walk or a trot.

TIME PENALTIES

- 23 Time penalties will be imposed for rule infringements as set out below. Some rule infringements will result in disqualification.

	Penalty
Any incident not covered in this list	No penalty
Dislodging any part of a cone hazard. Ball must fall to the floor to be judged off.	4 secs
Driver leaving the vehicle	20 secs
Groom leaving the vehicle:	
1 st time	8 secs
2 nd time	Disqualification
Dislodging any of a complex hazard's parts other than a ball and cone, bell to be rung for reinstating hazard if it is in a dangerous position before restart	
1 st time	No penalty
2 nd time	Disqualification
For disturbing either the Start or Finish timing equipment	Disqualification
Starting before the bell has sounded	Judge's discretion – maximum penalty is disqualification
Neglecting to pass through either the Start or Finish	Disqualification
Dislodging a hazard before start bell	No penalty
Dislodging a hazard that has not yet been attempted after start of round, ring bell, stop clock for rebuild, and restart if necessary	8 secs
Passing through or dislodging cones already driven	4 secs per incident
Cones must be driven in numerical order, failure to do so	Disqualification
Remember - The course is live from passing through the start until passing through the finish (Rule 21)	

MISCELLANEOUS

- 25 All drivers must wear the following whilst competing and walking the course: Hat (with chin strap to British standard), jacket and driving apron. If wet weather garments are required they must be of a presentable nature.
- 26 Skull caps must be approved in advance. They will not normally be approved if the silk is multi-coloured.
- 27 Advertising is permitted on vehicles but not on drivers' or grooms' competition clothing.
- 28 When waiting in the collecting ring each pair of ponies must be attended and held by a competent groom.
- 29 When driving each driver must be accompanied by a groom sitting at the rear of the vehicle for balance. For the duration of the competition the groom must remain sitting at all times. The driver has sole responsibility for the safety and competence of their groom.