



## DECLARATION OF INDEMNITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF RISK

### WEARING OF RIDING HELMETS AT THE VETERAN HORSE SOCIETY NATIONAL VETERAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

The human head is very vulnerable and may suffer considerable damage owing to injuries caused by a fall or impact from a horse. Injuries to the head may have long term effects and in some cases can be life threatening. It has been proven that wearing a correctly fitted, good condition riding helmet may prevent or lessen an injury to your head. The Veteran Horse Society (VHS) promotes safe riding and strongly recommends that a correctly secured riding helmet that meets or exceeds the current Showing Council hat policy standards (viewable at [www.theshowingcouncil.co.uk](http://www.theshowingcouncil.co.uk)) is worn at all times while handling, exercising, riding or competing any horse or pony. For any person under 18 years of age it is compulsory to wear a riding helmet that meets or exceeds the current Showing Council hat policy standards while handling, exercising, riding or competing any horse or pony. Scoring in any VHS competition, including the Saturday Evening Performance, will not be affected if a riding helmet is worn.

#### **DECLARATION – Age 18 plus competitors only**

I am aware of the risks involved while handling, exercising, riding or competing any horse or pony and that all horses can be unpredictable on occasion, no matter how well schooled or prepared.

I understand that the Veteran Horse Society will permit adult competitors to compete in the 'Costume Concours d'elegance' classes, Side Saddle classes, Foreign Breed classes, Supreme Final classes and/or Saturday Evening Performance classes only without a riding helmet should they choose to do so and that I fully understand the risks involved in doing so. I will take all possible precautions and will not enter a horse if I am in any doubt as to the safety of myself or others. I will also accept any decision that if, in the opinion of the judge, officials or show organisers, the risk to myself or any other person is unacceptable and that their decision to exclude me is final.

I hereby confirm that I accept full responsibility for not wearing a riding helmet to the standards specified above while competing at The Veteran Horse Society National Veteran Championships. Having taken this decision I hereby indemnify the Veteran Horse Society, Arena UK and the show organisers against all claims, proceedings, actions, damages, costs, expenses, indirect or consequential loss and any other liabilities which may arise out of my participation.

Nothing in the disclaimer shall be construed to limit or exclude liability for death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the VHS.

I agree that following receipt of this completed and signed declaration of indemnity and acceptance of risk form regarding the wearing of helmets at the VHS National Veteran Championships 2025, the show office will issue me with a coloured wristband which I must wear when mounted. I agree to show this wristband readily to any official on the showground who may request to see it. I understand this wristband is non transferable and I will not permit it to be used by anybody else.

Name .....Competitor No.....  
*Please print in capitals*

Signature ..... Date .....