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Cumberland County Exhibition

Light Horse Show Dates: Sept 2nd - Sept 6th, 2026

Light Horse

Rules & Regulations

Committee Members:

Christine Carter
Bobi Guzzo
Belle Carter
Cathy Moore
Brittany Ripley-Bowden
Charmain Landry
Georgia Carter
Britt Purdy
Kelly Dickie
Sammantha Cormier

Address paper entries to:
Cumberland County Exhibition
P.O. Box 516 Oxford, N.S.
B0M 1P0

e-transfer to
cumberlandexhibition@gmail.com

Please make cheques payable to:
Cumberland County Exhibition

**Important: Be sure to indicate
that your payment is for entry
fees and give the name of the
rider.**

Note: online forms and information can be found at **cumberlandcountyex.com**

Light Horse Division

General Rules and Regulations

- All entries must be on the grounds by 8:00 am on Wednesday September 2nd and remain on the grounds until Sunday 6th afternoon (dismissal will be announced)
- The exhibition buildings will be open for stall prep at 11:00 am on Sunday August, 30th.
- Horses in straight stalls must be tied with heads at front of stall and a tail rope secured behind them.
- All stock to be shown must be properly entered on the form provided.
- The judges may reduce the value of prizes or withhold them altogether if they do not feel the exhibit is worthy of a prize. **The judge's decision is final.**
- Exhibitors **must** be prepared to show their animal(s) at a time called for by the judge. All livestock must be presented in an acceptable condition.
- Any exhibitor interfering with the judge in the performance of Their duties **will be disqualified.**
- Proper tickets and passes **must** be presented at all gates or admission may be refused. This rule is strictly enforced.
- Riders 18 years old and under, as of January 1st, 2026 must wear a certified riding helmet secured with a safety harness while mounted on a horse anywhere on the show grounds, at all times, even during warm-ups and open time in the arena.
- Helmets are strongly recommended for all competitors.
- No stallions may be shown in the light horse division.
- No Mounting or Dismounting inside of livestock barns.

The committee reserves the right to cancel any class with fewer than three entries.

****STALLS MUST BE CLEANED OUT BEFORE DEPARTURE OR YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN TO EXHIBITION NEXT YEAR ****

- Exhibitor's will be entitled to weekend passes based upon the following:
 - 1-3 horses: 1 free pass and may purchase another one at \$10.00.
 - 4 or more horses: 2 free passes and may purchase two more at \$10 each.

The management will take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of any article sent or brought to the exhibition, yet it must be understood that the owners themselves must assume all risk. Should the article be accidentally injured, lost or stolen, while the management will give all assistance in its power towards the recovery of the same, it will not make any payment of the value thereof. Each exhibitor is responsible for their own liability insurance in every division, with absolutely no exceptions.

Rules on Bits

We have adopted the Equestrian Canada Rules on which bits are permitted in the show ring. Please go to <https://www.equestrian.ca/> for clarification.

Light Horse Division

Address entries to:

Cumberland County Exhibition Light Horse Entries
PO Box 516, Oxford NS B0M 1P0

or complete entries online at www.cumberlandcountyex.com

Payment may be made by cheque, cash or e-transfers

Entry will not be confirmed until payment is received.

Important: Be sure to indicate that your payment is for light horse entry fees and give the name of the rider.

Junior Classes are for riders 18 years of age and under as of January 1, 2026.

Senior division is for riders 19 years of age and up as of January 1, 2026.

Competitors 12 years and under that do not wish to compete in the small fry division can enter in the junior division.

Riders competing in the Daisy's Turn&Burn Jr Barrel Jackpot must be between the ages 13-18 as of January 1st, 2026.

Division Rules:

- Entry fees are \$8.00 per class, open barrels, poles, and prom barrels are \$20 and Stake class is \$25. Payment must accompany the entry form. If entering the same horse for open and small fry events, please put both entry forms in one envelope.
- Cross entries between English and Western are permitted.
- Riders who must do tack changes between back to back classes must have sufficient help in the warm up area to make it a quick and safe process. The rider must be mounted and prepared to return to the ring within 5 minutes.
- The fee for straight stalls is \$20 and some box stalls are available, on a first come first serve basis for a fee of \$30 (**All stall allotments will be final**)
- Hay, straw, bedding and tack boxes must be kept neat and tidy at all times.
- Back numbers are provided at no additional cost. No outside numbers are permitted.
- For insurance purposes, all riders must have an up-to-date Equestrian Nova Scotia membership. **Or-** If from another province- their provincial equivalent. ENS membership info can be found at <https://horsenovascotia.ca>
- All riders in the light horse and small fry classes must be dressed appropriately.
- Horses can **not** be entered in more than two divisions and can only be ridden once per class.

Western: A long sleeve shirt with sleeves rolled down and the shirt must be tucked in, a western hat or helmet (please refer to helmet rules) and cowboy boots. Spurs and chap are optional. No roping or barrel racing reins are permitted except in gymkhana events.

English: Tweed or dark colored jacket, helmet, light colored or brown breeches, tie or hunting stock and English boots.

5th \$5

Small Fry

1st \$9

2nd \$7

3rd \$6

4th \$5

5th \$5

Prize money awarded:

1st \$13

2nd \$11

3rd \$9

4th \$7

Costume class: 1st \$15, 2nd \$13, 3rd \$11, 4th \$9, 5th \$7

There will be awards for high point

Gymkana, Poles, Barrels

Walk-Trot

Jr. – Performance

Sr. – Performance

Small Fry

Must be the same horse and rider combo.

Helmet Rules

For safety reasons: ALL riders 18 years of age and younger, as of January 1st, 2026 must wear an approved riding helmet, secured with a safety harness at all times while on horseback, on the grounds of the Cumberland County Exhibition. **We encourage those over 18 years of age to wear approved helmets in all classes.**

Post Entries

All post-entries during the exhibition will be by 5:00 p.m. the day before the event. Must be to the light horse committee.

Insurance

*For insurance purposes the Cumberland County Exhibition requires that all light horse competitors have an ENS (Equestrian Nova Scotia) or provincial equivalent membership if from outside of Nova Scotia. A copy of each rider's membership must accompany all entry forms. **The entry is not complete without this proof of membership/insurance.***

For more information on ENS membership, visit:

www.horsenovascotia.ca

Light Horse Line Classes

- Halter Mares: three years old and older
- Halter Geldings: three years old and older
- Grooming/conditioning
- Senior Showmanship: This class is open to exhibitors 19 years of age and older.
- Junior Showmanship: This class is open to exhibitors 18 years of age and under.

Light Horse Performance classes

Western Classes

- Senior Western Pleasure: This class is open to riders 19 years of age and over. Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein. Horses should stop readily, stand quietly and rein back easily.
- Junior Western Pleasure: This class is open to riders 18 years of age and under. Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein. Horses should stop readily, stand quietly and rein back easily.
- Senior Western Equitation: This class is open to riders 19 years of age and older. Rider to show horse at a walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and rein back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount.
- Junior Western Equitation: This class is open to riders 18 years of age and under. Rider to show horse at a walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and rein back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount.
- Trail Horse: Horses will be shown over and through obstacles. Walk, jog and lope will be included in the course. The course will be posted prior to the start of the class. Western tack must be used.
- Ranch Riding: In ranch riding, the horse is judged on its ability to work at a forward, working speed while performing required and optional maneuvers. The ranch riding horse should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse.
- Ranch Pleasure: In ranch pleasure, the horse is judged on its ability to work at a forward, working speed while performing required and optional maneuvers. The ranch riding horse should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse. This will be performed as rail work.

- **Western Pleasure Stake:** Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein. Horses should stop readily, stand quietly and rein back easily.

English Classes

- **Senior English Pleasure:** This class is open to riders 19 years of age and over. Horses to be shown; at a flat footed walk, normal trot and easy canter with a light contact on the horse's mouth. Horse should stand quietly and rein back easily.
- **Junior English Pleasure:** This class is open to riders 18 years of age and under. Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk, normal trot and easy canter with a light contact on the horse's mouth. Horse should stand quietly and rein back easily.
- **Senior English Equitation:** This class is open to riders 19 years of age or older. Rider to show horse at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and rein back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount.
- **Junior English Equitation:** This class is open to riders 18 years of age and under. Rider to show horse at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and rein back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount.
- **Road Hack:** This class is open to all English competitors. Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk with a reasonably loose rein, trot, strong trot, easy canter and gallop. To be judged on performance.
- **Hunter Under Saddle Stake:** Horses to be shown; at a flat footed walk, normal trot and easy canter with a light contact on the horse's mouth. Horses should stand quietly and rein back easily.
- **Junior Hunter Hack Equitation over Fences:** This class is open to riders 18 years of age and under. Combination of flatwork with two jumps not to exceed 18 inches. The focus is on the horse's style, manners and movement. With emphasis on even, smoothly gaits and natural athletic jumps.
- **Senior Hunter Hack Equitation over Fences:** This class is open to riders 19 years and over. Combination of flatwork with two jumps not to exceed 18 inches. The focus is on the horse's style, manners and movement. With emphasis on even, smoothly gaits and natural athletic jumps.

There will be a Grand Champion Equitation class for both English and Western. Top 2 Junior and Senior. Please look for a time on the program

Walk-Trot Division

Horse and rider combinations may not ride in any other division.

- **Walk-trot Western Pleasure:** Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk and jog, both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein. Horses should stop readily, stand quietly and rein back easily. Class is open to juniors and seniors.
- **Walk-trot English Pleasure:** Horses to be shown at a flat footed walk and trot, both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein. Horses should stop readily, stand quietly and rein back easily. Class is open to juniors and seniors.
- **Walk- trot Western Equitation:** Rider to show horse at a walk and trot both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and rein back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount. Open to juniors and seniors.
- **Walk-Trot English Equitation:** This class is open to both juniors and seniors. Rider to show horse at a walk and trot both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and rein back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount.
- **Walk-Trot Pole Bending:** Three runs over the weekend will determine the final placing for this class. Running order will be posted prior to class. Western tack must be used. A 5 second penalty for each knocked pole will be added to time. Open for juniors and seniors.
- **Walk-Trot Barrel Racing:** Three runs over the weekend will determine the final placing for this class. Running order will be posted prior to the start of class. Western tack must be used. A 5 second penalty for each knocked barrel will be added to time. Open to juniors and seniors.
- **Trail Horse:** Horses will be shown over and through obstacles. Walk and jog will be included in the course. This course will be posted prior to the start of the class. Western tack must be used. Open to juniors and seniors.
- **Inclusion Class:** This class is meant for individuals who have disabilities and/or require extra assistance. Riders can have as many helpers in the ring as they require for support. Riders and their horse will walk/jog along the rail (please adjust speed based on comfortability). *Note: This class is open to both english and western exhibitors.*
- **Keyhole:** A keyhole will be outlined with shavings in the arena. The rider/horse will attempt to walk/trot into the keyhole, turn around, and walk/trot back to the timeline without going out of the outlined area. Judges discretion - contact with outline or stepping outside will result in No Time.

Gymkhana Classes

Note: A five second penalty will be added if the hat is not on the rider's body the entire time that they are in the arena for their gymkhana events.

- **Open Poles** Three runs over the weekend will determine the final placing for this class. Running order will be posted prior to class. Western tack must be used. A 5 second penalty for each knocked pole will be added to time. Will place 2 flights.
- **Open Barrel Racing**: Three runs over the weekend will determine the final placing for this class. Running order will be posted prior to the start of class. Western tack must be used. A. Will place 2 flights 5 second penalty for each knocked barrel will be added to time
- **Open Prom Barrels**: Running order will be posted prior to class. Western tack must be used. This class will be scored based on outfit and time. Your outfit will be scored by the judges from 1-10 (1=best, 10=worst) and added to your time. Meaning, the lowest time plus your score wins. Example: Outfit score of 6 + time of 18.111 = a total of 24.111.
- **Daisy's Turn&Burn Junior Jackpot**: Open to riders ages 13-18 as of January 1st, 2026. This is an open barrel class, meaning only competitors registered in loping classes are allowed to compete. A 5 second penalty for each knocked barrel will be added to time. Winners are determined on fastest time and prizes will be presented during the award ceremony held at the end of the exhibition. If a rider runs off pattern, it will result in disqualification.

Other

- **Costume Class**: Open to all light horse exhibitors.
- **Cumberland County Owned**: This class is open to both English and Western exhibitors with a horse owned in Cumberland County. Horses to be shown at a walk, jog or trot, lope or canter both ways of the ring. To be judged on performance, 60% conformation. If class entries are sufficient, this class will be divided prior to entering the ring, wait for your ring steward's direction please. Riders must have a groom available to help as they will be asked to un-tacked their horse to be judged on their conformation.
- **Adult leadline**: Open to all exhibitors and their parents/handlers.
- **Lead Line**: Open to all exhibitors 2 to 8 years of age, as of January 1st, 2025. Horses to be led at a walk only. Riders may not show in any other classes. Helmets must be worn for this class. Appropriate insurance must be held by the leader of the horse.
- **Down And Back**: One barrel is placed at the end of the arena and riders are timed as they run around the barrel and back past the timeline. A knocked barrel means no time. Fastest clean runs determine the placings.

- **Keyhole:** A keyhole will be outlined with shavings in the arena. The rider/horse will attempt to run into the keyhole, turn around, and run back to the timeline without going out of the outlined area. Judges discretion - contact with outline or stepping outside will result in No Time.

Small Fry Division

This is for riders 12 and under, as of January 1st, 2026 with a light horse or a pony, to be shown at a walk or jog only. Riders in this division cannot show in other divisions.

Small Fry Classes

- **Small Fry Showmanship:** focuses on the exhibitor's ability to fit and show a horse at halter. Judges evaluate the grooming and fitting of the horse and the expertise of the exhibitor in presenting the horse to the best of his or her ability. Contestants must work a predetermined pattern consisting of maneuvers such as walking, trotting, pivoting, backing and setting up.
- **Small Fry Equitation:** This class is open to all English and Western riders. Riders to show at walk, jog, or trot both ways of the ring. Small Fry should stand quietly and back readily. Riders may be asked to dismount and mount. Judged on riding ability only.
- **Small Fry Pleasure:** This class is open to all English and Western riders to be shown at a flat footed walk, jog, or trot both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein. Should stop readily and stand quietly.
- **Costume Class (Small Fry):** Open for kids 12 years of age and under. For safety reasons, costume class must be performed with the horse being led from the ground.
- **Small Fry Barrel Racing:** Course and running order will be posted prior to class. Western tack must be used. Walk, jog only. If you lope you will be penalized with the judge's decision. Small fry riders may have their horses led by a handler, but placed below a rider who rides independently.
- **Small Fry Pole Bending:** Course and running order will be posted prior to class. Western tack must be used. Walk, jog only. If you lope you will be penalized with the judge's decision. Small fry riders may have their horses led by a handler, but placed below a rider who rides independently.
- **Small Fry Apple dunking:** Participants will ride from cone A to cone B where a feed pan with water and an apple where the rider "bobs" for their apple and runs back to cone A. Riders are judged based on time.
- **Small Fry Obstacle Course:** Horses will be shown over and through obstacles. Walk jog will be included in the course. The course will be posted prior to the start of the class.

- **Small Fry Prom Barrels:** Running order will be posted prior to class. Western tack must be used. 50% will be judged on glam and song choice, the other 50% will be judged on time.



Cumberland County Exhibition 2026

Light Horse Entry Form

note: online form available at cumberlandcountyex.com

Name: _____ Phone: _____

email: _____

ENS# (or equivalent) _____

Class #	Class Name	Horse's name	Rider

Number of classes X \$8 _____

Straight stall @ \$20 _____

Box stall \$30 _____
Admin Fee @ \$10 _____
Total _____

Cumberland County Exhibition

PO Box 516
Oxford, NS
B0M 1P0

Send with proof of ENS# to

Make cheques payable to Cumberland County Exhibition
or e-transfer to cumberlandexhibition@gmail.com and include the rider's name and "light
horse entry fee" with the payment.