



The Side Saddle Association®

Historical Costume Class – Guidelines

1. General

- a) Any historic period may be portrayed up to 1950.
- b) The aim is to give a correct presentation for the chosen historical period. This is NOT a Fancy Dress class. Costume and horse tack will be taken into consideration.
- c) Participants enter individually, if an unmounted leader is required, he/she may wear correct costume for the period and their role.
- d) The class will be judged at walk on both reins, lead rein permitted (see c. above). Inspection of the costume and horse tack will take place when the class is lined up.
- e) Marks will be allocated for two aspects: costume and horse tack.
- f) Modern fastenings may be used where there is an issue of safety.
- g) The safety and comfort of the horse or rider should never be compromised in pursuit of historical accuracy.

2. Costume

- a) Outerwear, underwear and accessories should be in keeping with the chosen historical period.
- b) Details such as silhouette, fabric (colour, trimmings, weight and materials), appropriate style and drape will be examined.
- c) Period make-up may be included to help create the 'look'.
- d) Appropriate accessories may include jewellery, hairstyle, headwear, bag, belt, footwear, etc.
- e) Junior riders are required to wear a hat to the current British Safety Standard.

3. Horse Tack

- a) Bits and Saddles – MUST be safe and fit the horse. The welfare of the horse and the safety of the rider is paramount at all times. Any participant may be requested to leave the competition if the Judge feels that welfare or safety is compromised in any way.
- b) Adaptation of modern saddles and/or careful and correct use of material to give correct indication of the period being portrayed is permissible.
- c) Saddlecloths must be safe and fit the horse and be correct for the historic period, as should any decoration of the horse.

4. Judging of the Class

Judging of the class will be done with competitors riding at walk on both reins. Competitors will enter the ring on the right rein at walk and will remain at walk for the duration of the class, except when asked to line up by the judge for close inspection and awards.

Competitors are required to submit a brief resume about their costume, for the commentator.

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