

Maryland State Fair

Hellen B. Smyth Fitting & Showing and Shetland Pony Show

Monday, September 7, 2026

Start Time - 9:00 AM

Entry Fee - \$5.00 per class

Judge

Lani Hyde

Monkton, Maryland

Steward

Betsy Sobolewski

Littlestown, Pennsylvania

Winner Fitting and Showing 14-17

The E. E. "Bud" Stitely

Perpetual Trophy

Winner Fitting and Showing 8-13

The Hellen B. Smyth

Perpetual Trophy

Open to children 17 years of age and under as of December 1, 2025. To be judged on the child's ability and knowledge of cleaning and grooming procedures, as well as showmanship. Age to be taken into consideration. Classes will be shown individually starting with Children under 8 years of age. Horse/pony may be used by more than one exhibitor in different age groups. No foals allowed. **Adults or helpers may accompany children into the ring to carry their grooming equipment but must leave before the judging begins.**

If a child needs assistance in the ring during the contest, the Ringmaster will assist. The ponies/horses will be tied to the fence. The children must have their own grooming equipment with them. Children should be clean, tidy and dress to groom, not to ride. Braiding will not be considered in the judging of the class.

F101. Fitting and Showing - Children - under 8 years of age

F102. Fitting and Showing - Children - 8-13 years of age

F103. Fitting and Showing - Children - 14-17 years of age

ONLINE ENTRIES ONLY

No Exceptions

- Online Entries OPEN on **Friday, May 1, 2026**
- Late Fee of \$25.00 goes into effect on **Saturday, August 1, 2026**
- Online Entry System closes on **Friday, August 7, 2026**

Bedding For State Fair

Straw Only •• NO Shavings

If you need straw for the Fair, you will need to order

Price - \$8.00 per bale

Text or Email Beverly Abbott

Text - 410-596-7592

Email - bevabbott2575@gmail.com

Payment should be made in the Show Office
when you pick up your numbers

Cash or Check Only - No Credit Card

Shetland Pony Show - 10:30 AM

F104. Harriet S. Rogers Leadline - 3 years & under

F105. Harriet S. Rogers Leadline - 4-6 years

F106. Leading Rein - 8 years and under

F107. Equitation Walk - 8 years and under

F108. Fillies 2 Years and Under

F109. Mares 3 and 4 Years Old

F110. Mare 5 Years and Under

F111. Mares Over 5 Years

F112. Champion Mare

F113. Colts 2 Years and Under

F114. Stallions 3 Years and Over

F115. Champion Stallion

F116. Gelding Yearling

F117. Gelding 2 Years Old

F118. Geldings 3 and 4 Years Old

F119. Geldings 5 Years and Older

F120. Champion Gelding

F121. Supreme Champion

F122. Pinto (Multi Color) - Judged 100% on color

F123. Solid Color - Judged 100% on color

F124. Youth Showmanship - 13-17 years

F125. Youth Showmanship - 9-12 years

F126. Youth Showmanship - 8 years and under

F127. Costume Class - provide narrative for
announcer

F128. Shetland Pony Walk-Trot

F129. Shetland Pony Walk-Trot-Canter

F130. Equitation Walk-Trot

F131. Equitation Walk-Trot-Canter

F132. Shetland Pony Cross Rails

F133. Shetland Pony Over Fences

F134. Equitation Over Fences

F135. Jumper In Hand

F136. Adult Halter Obstacle

F137. Youth Halter Obstacle

F138. Shetland Driving

F139. Best Children's Pony

Prize Money as follows

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Shetland Conformation.....	25.00.....	15.00	10.00	5.00	Ribbon.....	Ribbon
Shetland Performance	25.00.....	15.00	10.00	5.00	Ribbon.....	Ribbon

Shetland: Pinto (Multi Color) and Solid Color • Ribbons Only
 Shetland: Champion and Reserve Champion • Ribbons Only

Class Specifications

F104 - **Harriet S. Rogers Leadline - 3 years and under**

F105 - **Harriet S. Rogers Leadline - 4-6 years of age**

May not cross enter into any other pointed riding classes for the day. Entry made in the name of the child/pony combination. Pony should be under the control of the child as much as possible, with the adult holding a lead attached to the bridle at the cavesson or bit. Exhibitors may have one additional attendant in leadline classes. Judges 75% on child's equitation and 25% on correct type, manners, performance, and suitability of pony. Walk only.

F106 - **Leading Rein (BCP) - ages 8 years and under**

May not cross enter into any other pointed riding classes for the day. Entry made in the name of the child/pony combination. The leading rein may be attached to the cavesson only and the pony should be under control of the child at all times. Leader must be 14 years or older. Pony will walk both ways of the ring, lineup, and stand quietly. Each pony will be called from the line individually to walk out, and then trot back past the judge. Ponies will not be asked to back but may be asked to walk or trot over a ground pole. Judged 25% on child's equitation and control of pony and 75% on pony's correct type, performance, manners and suitability. This class counts toward Best Child's Pony.

F107 - **Equitation Walk - Open to any beginning rider age 14 and under.**

May not cross enter into any other pointed riding classes for the day. Entry made in the name of the child. To be judged 100% on rider's equitation and ability to control the pony.

F108 thru F121 - **Halter (Conformation)**

Ponies and exhibitors will enter the ring as directed, line up side by side, and ponies will stand square. Ponies will be led one at a time at a walk away from the judge to a halfway point indicated by the ring steward, continue at a trot to a designated point, turn to the right with exhibitor on the outside of the pony, trot a short distance, then trot back to return to the line up.

F122 - **Pinto (Multi-Color)**

Any age or sex with any pinto color. Judged 100% on color.

F123 - **Solid Color -**

Any age or sex with any solid color. Judged 100% on color.

F124 - **Youth Showmanship - 13-17 years**

F125 - **Youth Showmanship - 9-12 years**

F126 - **Youth Showmanship 8 years and under**

Same pattern as the Halter (Conformation) classes.

F127 - **Costume Class - Categories - Scariest, Funniest, Prettiest and Most Creative.**

Each contestant or group of not more than three contestants are to prepare themselves and their mounts to carry out a specific theme of their choice. Costume should show imagination, ingenuity and clearly represents the efforts of the exhibitor. All entries should be accompanied by a 3" x 5" card which contains the name(s) of the exhibitor(s) and the theme of the costume or an explanation of the purpose or intent. No skits or acts will be accepted. All exhibitors must design the costumes in such a manner as to permit movement at the walk and to be safe. Helmets must be worn at all times. Evaluation and scoring shall be at the discretion of the judge.

F128 - **Shetland Pony Walk-Trot (BCP)**

F129 - **Shetland Pony Walk-Trot-Canter (BCP)**

F132 - **Shetland Pony Cross Rails (BCP)**

F133 - **Shetland Pony Over Fences (BCP)**

Entry made in the name of the pony. There is a limit of one rider per pony in the cross rails and over fences classes. Riders 17 years of age and under. Cross Rails will complete a course of 4-8 fences not over 12 inches in height. Over Fences will complete a course of 4-8 fences not over 18 inches in height. Both jumping courses may be trotted and/or cantered. Courses will be posted near the ingate at least one hour prior to class start. Three refusals in either jumping course results in elimination. The pony will be judged 100% on performance, manners, suitability as a child's mount and correct type. Rider should be in complete control of pony at all times.

F130 - **Equitation Walk-Trot**

F131 - **Equitation Walk-Trot-Canter**

F134 - **Equitation Over Fences**

Riders in class F127, F128 and F131 may not cross enter into the Beginner division. Shown both ways of the ring at the appropriate gait(s), lineup and stand quietly and back. Riders Over Fences will complete a course of 4-8 fences not over 18 inches in height. Over Fences course may be trotted and/or cantered. Equitation classes to be judged 100% on rider's equitation and ability to control pony. Three refusals in the Over Fences course results in elimination.

F135 - Jumper-In-Hand

Minimum age of exhibitor is 8 years of age. Pony must be 3 years old or older. Exhibitors may not go over jumps. Pony to be shown in halter or bridle with appropriate lead. Whip may be carried but only as encouragement and may only be used to lightly tap pony's hindquarters if needed. Jump standard should be less than 42 inches, with no wings. Jumps may not be higher than 21 inches. Four to six jumps required. Pony is judged on correct type, manners, way of going, and ability to negotiate course. Three refusals will eliminate pony from class.

F136 - Adult Halter Obstacle (over 17 years of age)

F137 - Youth Halter Obstacle (17 years of age and under) (BCP)

Pony may be shown in each class one time. Exhibitors may show more than one pony. Pony must be at least 1 year old. Class to be judged on performance and manners in each obstacle. Pony will be penalized for refusal to perform task or excessive time taken on an obstacle, but not eliminated. Maximum time of one minute per obstacle. Pony may be shown in bridle or halter with lead. Maximum of 6 obstacles per class. Obstacles should reflect tasks encountered in everyday life. Obstacles may include small jump (no more than 12 inches), a pattern at a designated gait, daily chores (mailbox, gate, umbrella, putting on a blanket, etc.), walking over tarp, backing between rails, trotting cavetti picking up hoof for cleaning,, etc. Course will be posted near gate at least one hour before class start Exhibitors may walk the course prior to the time allocated for judging set by show management. No whips or crops allowed.

F138 - Shetland Driving

Driving apron, appropriate hat (no ballcaps) or hard hat,, and appropriate driving whip are required. Gloves are optional. A neat, clean appearance with safety in mind is paramount. Safety helmets (hard hats) are not penalized. No gowns or formal attire. The emphasis is on safety first. Unsafe or unruly ponies will be dismissed from the ring by the judge. Drivers are encouraged to be aware of and follow ADS pleasure driving standards (see www.americandrivingsociety.org). Bicycle wheel carts are allowed but wooden or solid spoke wheels are preferred for safety reasons. Well-fitting leather, biothane, or beta-biothane harnesses are allowed in black or brown. Round or square blinkers are allowed. Any non-twisted snaffle or other standard driving bits such as liverpool or butterfly bits are allowed. Bridle must include cavesson. Checks are allowed but optional and should not be adjusted tightly. Headers are allowed but not required while standing in the line up. Headers may not touch the pony in any way except in an emergency. Passengers may act as headers in the line up. Passengers may not aid the driver in any way during the time in the ring. All youth drivers under age 12 MUST have an adult experienced in driving as a passenger. Adult passengers may act as headers for youth or remain in the carriage during the line up. Minimum age for driving ponies is 3 years old. Judged 100% on the pony, unless otherwise noted.

Walk - A freely moving and regular walk. The pony should walk calmly with an even and determined pace. The walk is a four beat gait.

Slow Trot - The trot is slower and more collected. The pony should indicate willingness to be driven lightly on the bit while maintaining a steady cadence.

Working Trot - This is the pace between the extended and the slow trot. The pony should go forward freely and straight, without high knee or hock action, on the bit, with even steps.

Extended Trot - This is a clear, but not excessive, increase in pace and lengthening of stride while remaining well balanced. Light contact to be maintained. Excessive speed and action will be penalized.

Halt - Pony and vehicle should be brought to a complete square stop. At the halt, pony should stand quietly, and straight with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs.

Back - The pony must move backward at least three steps in an unhurried manner, pushing the carriage back evenly in a straight line. The driver should use quiet aids and light contact.