



**New Zealand Riding Pony Society**  
( I N C O R P O R A T E D )

# Melville Black Memorial N.I.

**To be competed for by ponies foaled on New Zealand soil and registered with the New Zealand Riding Pony Society.**

*The event is held to promote and celebrate the New Zealand bred Riding Pony in memory of Mr Melville Black a prominent breeder of New Zealand Riding Ponies, a foundation member of the Society, its first president and a patron until his death in 2005.*

Criteria for Host Show	NZRP Society's Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>show is held in the spring or summer, with preference for a spring show</li> <li>preference will be given to a show which is a Royal Show</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>award or confirm a show's hosting rights by 30<sup>th</sup> June, each year</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the show can forecast five entrants at least in the Melville Black Memorial event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide the Melville Black Memorial sash (winner); Runner-up sash; placegetters rosettes (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>), breeders' rosette, prize money (1<sup>st</sup> \$200, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$75, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$25)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Melville Black Memorial event is run as per the Society's criteria (which follows)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide the judging criteria</li> <li>provide a copy of the NZ Riding Pony Society's Judges' List</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the show will actively publicise their hosting of the Melville Black Memorial Event (which is to include information about making contact with the NZRP Soc. for persons wishing to attain registration status for their Riding Pony, in order to enter the event)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>actively publicise the Melville Black Memorial event via the Society's Facebook page, website, and newsletter</li> <li>ensure that ponies nominated for registration, because they wish to enter the Melville Black Memorial, are inspected prior to the event</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>following each show a report about the Melville Black Memorial event is provided to NZRP Council (i.e., results of the class, how many entrants, any feedback received from competitors, comment from the show committee, etc.). The Society would appreciate a photograph of the winner and runner-up to be featured on their Facebook page and in their newsletter.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>seek feedback from competitors as to their experience with regards the Melville Black Memorial event</li> <li>publish the Melville Black Memorial event results on the Society's Facebook Page, and in the newsletter, acknowledging the host show.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be open to discussion with NZRP Council with regards potentially also hosting a NZ Riding Pony Society Open Ridden Registered Pony Class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide a NZ Riding Pony Society "winner" rosette, if an open Ridden Registered Pony class is scheduled</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be prepared to host the event for one year as per the above criteria</li> <li>understand that the hosting rights are for one year, and at the time of expiration of the hosting rights, the show can again follow the NZRP procedure for applying for the hosting rights (knowing that applications are open to all shows that consider they meet the Society's hosting criteria)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follow the NZRP process for considering applications for hosting of the NZRP Melville Black Memorial event, and for awarding the hosting rights</li> </ul>

## Application Form for Hosting

# Melville Black Memorial N.I.

**Applications open on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

**Applications to be sent to NZRP Secretary, by 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**NZRP Council to announce successful applicant on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Criteria for Host Show	Explanation as to how Applicant can Meet Host Show Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>show is held in the spring or summer</li> </ul>	Name of Show:  Next show date: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Show will be a Royal Event
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it is forecast that the show is likely to secure five or more entrants in the Melville Black Memorial event</li> </ul>	<i>Please elaborate and explain your "forecasting" (e.g., you may provide data from recent show entries)...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Melville Black Memorial event is run as per the Society's criteria (which follows)</li> </ul>	<i>(please tick)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, we have read the Melville Black Memorial event criteria, and agree to run the class as per that criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the show will actively publicise their hosting of the Melville Black Memorial Event (which is to include information about making contact with the NZRP Soc. for persons wishing to attain registration status for their Riding Pony, in order to enter the event)</li> </ul>	<i>(please tick)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>Please elaborate, by explaining the publicity you are most likely to engage in.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>following the show a report about the Melville Black Memorial event is provided to NZRP Council (i.e., results of the class, how many entrants, any feedback received from competitors, comment from the show committee, etc.). The Society would appreciate a photograph of the winner and runner-up that can be featured on their Facebook page and in their newsletter.</li> </ul>	<i>(please tick)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Following the show a report about the Melville Black Memorial event will be provided to NZRP Council, within four weeks of the event being held.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be open to discussion with NZRP Council with regards potentially also hosting a NZ Riding Pony Society Open Ridden Registered Pony Class</li> </ul>	<i>Please elaborate...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be prepared to host the event for one year as per the above criteria</li> </ul>	<i>(please tick)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes We the _____ Show, are prepared to host the Melville Black Memorial event for one year (as per the show date stated at the top of this application).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand that the hosting rights are for one year, and at the time of expiration of the hosting rights, the show can again follow the NZRP procedure for applying for the hosting rights (knowing that applications are open to all shows that consider they meet the Society's hosting criteria)</li> </ul>	<i>(please tick)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes We understand that the hosting rights for the Melville Black Memorial are for one year, and at the time of expiration of the hosting rights, we may again make application to host the event (knowing that applications are open to all shows that consider they meet the Society's hosting criteria).

**Additional comments...**

# Application Process for Hosting of the NZRP Melville Black Memorial N.I. Event

- NZRP Society to advertise the hosting rights criteria and application process by 1<sup>st</sup> February in the year that the event is due for allocation (closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> May).
- NZRP Council to check all written applications, noting the degree to which they meet the criteria.
- *NZRP Council to consult with members (who attended and entered, and those who did not attend, or did not enter) to attain their voice.*
- At a NZRP Council meeting, allocate the Melville Black Memorial class based on the merit of the submitted applications.
- On or by 30<sup>th</sup> June announce the successful applicant.
- Unsuccessful applicants will receive written communication from the NZRP Council.

The New Zealand Riding Pony Society's ...

# Melville Black Memorial

To be competed for by ponies foaled on New Zealand soil and fully registered with the New Zealand Riding Pony Society.

To be held at the  
North Island TBC, &  
South Island TBC

Open to novice ponies (mares, geldings) (in accordance with RAS rules). **Ponies entering the ring to compete in a Melville Black Memorial event must not have attained their sixth novice win.**

**Special Melville Black Memorial Sash to the winner, and place-getter awards (2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>).**

## NZRP Sponsored Prize Money

1<sup>st</sup> = \$200; 2<sup>nd</sup> = \$75; 3<sup>rd</sup> = \$25

**The breeder of the winning pony to receive a breeder's rosette.**

*The event is held to promote and celebrate the New Zealand bred Riding Pony in memory of Mr Melville Black a prominent breeder of Riding Ponies in New Zealand, a foundation member of the Society, its first president, and a patron until his death in 2005. The event was first held in January 2007 and has enjoyed great support since its inception.*

**NB: To enter a pony in this competition pony owner or rider must be a financial member of the NZ Riding Pony Society.**

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q: Can a pony enter the Melville Black Memorial in the South Island and the North Island as well?**

**A:** Yes, if the pony is still a novice (the pony has not attained its sixth novice win on entering the ring to be judged).

**Q: Can a pony that has won a Melville Black Memorial enter again?**

**A:** Yes, if the pony is still a novice (the pony has not attained its sixth novice win on entering the ring to be judged).

**Q: Can a pony that has been entered into a Melville Black Memorial class BUT attains its sixth novice win prior to the event (even on the day of the event) compete in the Melville Black Memorial class?**

**A: NO.**

## Guidelines for the judging of Melville Black Memorial (for novice fully registered Riding Ponies)

Entrants in this class may be of show pony type or show/saddle hunter pony type. The emphasis when judging these entrants is first and foremost **quality of conformation** (as pertaining to the Show Pony type or the Show/Saddle Hunter-type Riding Pony) and soundness (80%). Quality movement (in relation to type) combined with manners befitting an animal bred to be a child's mount complete the criteria of a winning entrant (20%). Working entrants on the circle along with the opportunity to view the "straightness" of each entrant's action is adequate. No workout is required. Entrants may be "stripped" of their saddles.

- The Society requests that the judge is a RAS / NZ Riding Pony Society listed judge. (NZRP Judges' List is on the NZRP website)
- For ponies not yet fully registered with the Society, nomination for inspection must be with the Registration Officer by 31st October each year. Registration rules and forms on are on the NZRP website: <https://nzridingpony.co.nz/>
- Registration Officer: Judith Johnson, 93 Bathgate Road, No 10 Rd, Waimate 7980. Email: [maxwellton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:maxwellton@xtra.co.nz)