

SHOW RULES

Cymru Groom 2026 — Rules

By entering and purchasing a ticket you agree to these terms. Please check your class card and the general rules before competition day.

Class rules

Handstrip

- Handstripping without clipper use — Small & Medium: 2h 30m · Big: 3h.
- With clipper use — Small: 2h · Medium: 2h 15m · Big: 2h 30m.
- Breed-standard finish required. Coloured chalk powder/block/spray and cream allowed.
- Limited clipper areas only for Scottish Terrier, Westie and Schnauzer standards.

Spaniels & Setters

- All breeds and sizes — 2h 30m.
- Stripping knives allowed.
- Clippers only on Cockers and Setters for chest and ears.

Poodle

- Toy 2h · Miniature 2h 15m · Standard 2h 30m (+15 mins spray-up topknot).
- Dogs should be washed and fluff-dried. No clipper comb attachments.
- Muzzle and feet shaven pre-start. No colouring allowed.
- Topknots may be pre-banded including extensions; no pre-start spray-up products.

Pure Breed

- Small & Medium 2h · Large 2h 30m.
- Dogs should be washed and fluff-dried.
- No clipper comb attachments and no colouring.

Workshop

- Small & Medium 1h 30m · Large 2h.
- Commercial styling allowed. Handstripped breeds may be clipped or scissored.
- Poodles accepted in non-standard trims (including Bedlington/Kerry Blue styles).
- No colour.

Student

- All breeds and sizes — 2h 30m.
- For those in training or newly qualified.
- Can remain in Student for 12 months even with placement, then move to Beginner.
- All techniques except colour.

Beginner

- All breeds and sizes — 2h 30m.
- Maximum 2 years' experience including training.
- After 12 months competitor moves to Open class.
- All techniques except colour.

Intermediate

- All breeds and sizes — 2h 30m.
- For contestants with more than 2 years' experience.
- After 12 months competitor moves to Open class.

Asian Style

- Time allowed: 2h.
- Accessories (gems/collars etc.) allowed if styling remains the focus.
- Judges must still be able to assess finish through the coat.
- Any colour must be applied before competition.

Doubles

- Two competitors grooming one dog simultaneously, one side each.
- You may observe each other but cannot swap sides.
- Not eligible for Best In Show.
- Small & Medium 1h 30m · Large 2h.

Jackpot

- 2-hour time limit for any breed/size/technique.
- Coat must allow a distinct visible change in appearance.
- All grooming techniques allowed except singeing on site.
- No decorative objects, colour sprays or glitter.

General rules

Classes

Three placements per class/category. Open is for those who have not won their category. Competitors remain in Open until they win three Golden Scissor Awards. Champion is for competitors with three Golden Scissors in Open or prior Champion-level eligibility.

Equipment

Contestants must bring their own table and tools. No tools or electricity provided by organisers.

Dog welfare

All dogs receive a 5-minute comfort break after one hour in both AM and PM sessions. Competitors provide their own dogs. All non-handstrip dogs must be washed.

Coat requirements

Minimum 8 weeks coat growth (poodles minimum 5 cm). No visible lines/patterns. Insufficient coat or visible lines may lead to mark-down or disqualification.

Contestant conduct

Competitors must be in ring 30 mins before start with dog and tools. No chatting with audience/competitors during class; second offence disqualifies. Mobile devices not allowed during competition unless medically exempt.

Safety & behaviour

Aggressive language/behaviour toward staff, judges or spectators leads to disqualification. Unsafe dog handling receives one warning; second offence disqualifies. Clipper burns, nicks or cuts disqualify from placement.

Judging protocol

Clear table/floor before judging and place a comb on table. Present your dog stacked for judge. Complaints must be submitted in writing to show producers before event end.

Entries & refunds

Entries close 12 AM Sunday 1 June 2026. £10 admin fee for class changes. Tickets are non-transferable and non-refundable except extenuating circumstances.