



BRC Hat Rules 2026

Information for Competitors

How does this affect me?.....

For 2026, the requirement remains for all BRC members to have their hats tagged with a **PINK** hat tag before competing in any BRC Qualifiers or Championships.

BRC, British Eventing and The Pony Club have joined together to unify hat standards, resulting in a single hat tag now being accepted across all three member bodies. This means that each organisation will be using the same pink coloured tag, but it will carry the logo of the body that tags the hat. However, any pink tag, with any of those three logos, will be permitted at all three organisations, preventing the need for separate tags for each Member Body competition. Tags by other organisations are not permitted and will need to be tagged with one of the three member bodies tags.

When you arrive at the competition, take your hat with you when you go to declare. The Official Steward will then check that your hat complies with an accepted standard and will place a pink BRC tag on it. It is a good idea to allow a little extra time when arriving at a competition for this to be done. Please note, you will not be allowed to ride anywhere at that event if your hat has not been tagged, and hats which do not comply with an accepted standard will not be tagged under any circumstances.

It is the competitors' responsibility to ensure they arrive at a competition with a hat to the correct standard, so it is therefore imperative that you check your hats before you get to the event, in order to avoid disappointment. To do this:

- 1) Use the following information or the BRC 2026 Handbook for reference
- 2) Check that your hat clearly displays one of the accepted standards
- 3) Check that the standard also shows the correct corresponding date
- 4) Check that your hat also displays the correct corresponding quality assurance mark
- 5) Make sure that you do not remove any labels from inside your hat which may hold the relevant information, as a hat will not be tagged without all the required information visible and attached.

Only hats which comply with **all of the above steps** will be accepted for tagging. If you're in doubt, please contact the BRC office for further advice. If your hat cannot be tagged, you will not be allowed to ride wearing that hat under any circumstances.

Please note: No alterations, protrusions or additions are to be made to a hat under any circumstances. For the Quadrille competition, please see the Quadrille rules in the Handbook for further information regarding costumes. Important additional information regarding hats for XC and head cams, can be found below.










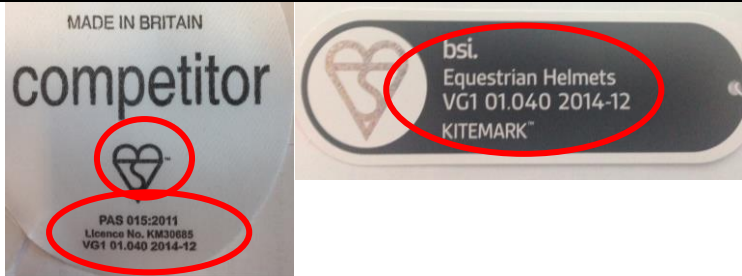



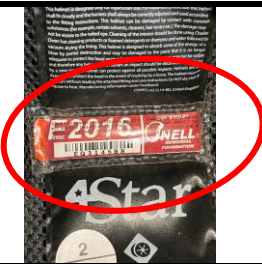





BRC Hat Rules 2026

Only hats to the following specification are acceptable at ANY BRC activity. At all BRC Area Qualifiers and Championships, hats must show a visible PINK 'hat tag'.

This can be a BRC, BE or PC pink tag.

Any other standards / dates are NOT acceptable and will not be tagged.

Hats must meet ALL of the requirements of one of the following rows:

	Standard and Date	Quality Assurance Mark	Examples
1	PAS 015 2011	AND MUST HAVE BSI Kitemark  Or Inspec IC Mark 	
2	VG1 01.040 (2014-12)	AND MUST HAVE BSI Kitemark  Or Inspec IC Mark 	
3	ASTM F1163 (2015 or 2023)	AND MUST HAVE SEI mark 	
4	SNELL (E2016 or 2021)	AND MUST HAVE Official SNELL label and number 	
5	AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards)	AND MUST HAVE SAI Global mark 	
6	EN1384: 2023	AND MUST HAVE BSI Kitemark  Or Inspec IC Mark 	

IMPORTANT INFO FOR THE CROSS-COUNTRY PHASE: Only a "Jockey Skull" of an even round or elliptical shape with a smooth or slightly abrasive surface, having no peak or peak type extensions may be worn for any XC phase. Noticeable protuberances above the eyes or to the front, not greater than 5mm, smooth and rounded in nature are permitted. It must also comply with the 'Protective Headwear' criteria and be tagged as set out above. A removable hat cover with a light flexible peak may be used. The use of **HEAD CAMS** are **strictly prohibited** at any BRC affiliated competition. This includes use on the head, chest, bridle or any other part of the horse or rider.