



# Protection of Animals Act 1934

1934 CHAPTER 21 24 and 25 Geo 5

## **1 Prohibition of certain public contests, performances, and exhibitions with animals.**

- (1) No person shall promote, or cause or knowingly permit to take place any public performance which includes any episode consisting of or involving—
- (a) throwing or casting, with ropes or other appliances, any unbroken horse or untrained bull; or
  - (b) wrestling, fighting, or struggling with any untrained bull; or
  - (c) riding, or attempting to ride, any horse or bull which by the use of any appliance or treatment involving cruelty is, or has been, stimulated with the intention of making it buck during the performance;

and no person shall in any public performance take part in any such episode as aforesaid.

- (2) For the purposes of proceedings under paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of the preceding subsection, if an animal appears or is represented to spectators to be unbroken or untrained it shall lie on the defendant to prove that the animal is in fact broken or trained.

In proceedings under paragraph (c) of the said subsection in respect of the use of any such appliance or treatment as is therein mentioned upon a horse before or during a performance, it shall be a defence for the defendant to prove that he did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to know, that the appliance or treatment was to be or was used.

- (3) In this section—

the expressions “horse,” and “bull” have, respectively, the same meanings as in the <sup>M1</sup>Protection of Animals Act, 1911;

the expression “public performance” does not include a performance presented to the public by means of the cinematograph.

- (4) In the application of this section to Scotland—

the expression “horse” has the same meaning as in the <sup>M2</sup>Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act, 1912; and

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**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made by the [legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) editorial team to Protection of Animals Act 1934. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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the expression “bull” means ox as defined in that Act.

**Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1911 c. 27.

**M2** 1912 c. 14.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

- Act repealed by [2006 c. 45 Sch. 4](#)

**Commencement Orders yet to be applied to the Protection of Animals Act 1934**

Commencement Orders bringing legislation that affects this Act into force:

- [S.I. 2007/499 art. 2](#) commences ([2006 c. 45](#))
- [S.I. 2007/1030 art. 2](#) commences ([2006 c. 45](#))
- [S.S.I. 2006/482 art. 23](#) commences ([2006 asp 11](#))