

# TENNESSEE 4-H HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS HANDBOOK



This handbook is to serve as a guide for conducting the Tennessee 4-H Horse Show, Horse Bowl, Hippology, Public Speaking, Team and Individual Demonstration Contests and the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest. Extension agents, 4-H Club members, parents, leaders and others involved with these events should read and become familiar with these rules, accept the responsibility to follow these guidelines and, upon signature and submission of entry forms, agree to abide by the rules and regulations. These rules are taken directly and indirectly from breed association rule books and altered to accommodate the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program participants.

*Revised March 2026*

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## 2026 4-H HORSE PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE

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## SECTION 1. OBJECTIVES OF THE 4-H HORSE PROGRAM

The 4-H Horse Program encourages 4-H members to:

- Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, a sense of fair play and other desirable character traits.
- Increase knowledge of all aspects of horse science and management of horses.
- Learn skills of horse management and an understanding of the business and career opportunities of breeding, raising, training showing and judging horses.
- Experience the pride of owning (if possible) a horse or pony and being responsible for its care.
- Develop an appreciation of horses and horseback riding, which is a healthy form of recreation.
- Promote a great love for animals and a humane attitude toward them.
- Be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities through working in groups and supporting community services and horse activities.

## SECTION 2. PURPOSE OF THE TENNESSEE 4-H HORSE SHOW PROGRAM

The purpose of the Tennessee 4-H Horse Show Program is to provide a progressive series of educational opportunities for 4-H members to exhibit their skills at the county, region, state, or regional and national levels. This program allows the 4-H members to participate in activities designed to improve their sense of citizenship, fair play, horse management, character, competitive attitude and self-discipline, while creating an atmosphere for learning and applying life skills.

## SECTION 3. PURPOSE OF THE TENNESSEE 4-H HORSE SHOW PROGRAM HANDBOOK

This handbook provides a uniform set of rules and regulations that are intended to standardize 4-H shows throughout Tennessee. It is suggested that these rules be used as a guide for county activities. Counties are encouraged to develop a 4-H horse program to meet local needs and to provide a wide range of educational activities, including a county 4-H horse show. Some classes or divisions in the state 4-H horse show will not be applicable at either the county or region level. If the county or region does not have sufficient interest in a given class or division, it does not have to be held. The list of classes in this program should in no way limit or restrict a county or region program. Each county and/or region is encouraged to include any additional classes that are of a local interest. Only the classes listed in this handbook will be included in the Tennessee 4-H Horse Show.

## SECTION 4. USE OF THE NAME AND EMBLEM OF 4-H

- 4.1. The use of the name and emblem of 4-H is regulated by federal law. This states that only activities or programs under the supervision of UT Extension may use the name and emblem of 4-H.
- 4.2. Any area (regional), region or state 4-H horse show must have the approval of the state 4-H office.
- 4.3. Local and county 4-H horse shows must have the approval of the Extension agent.
- 4.4. Shows or events sponsored by other organizations or individuals that provide separate classes for 4-H members are not permitted to use the name and emblem of 4-H without the approval of the state 4-H office.

## SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE TENNESSEE 4-H HORSE SHOW

- 5.1. To be eligible to participate in the Tennessee 4-H Horse Show, 4-H members must have been in the 4th grade on January 1 of the current year. The last year of participation is the end of the calendar year in which the 4-H'er becomes 19 years old or in which the 4-H'er graduates from high school.
- 5.2. Grade divisions are as follows:
  - Junior — Grades 4 and 5.
  - Junior High — Grades 6, 7 and 8.
  - Senior — Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12.
- 5.3. In classes where there is no Junior High division, the Junior class will include grades 4-8. The grade level is as of January 1 of the current year.
- 5.4. All 4-H members must complete an Entry Form for the State 4-H Horse Championship for each project horse on or before May 15 of the current year. The form(s) should be turned into the county Extension office.
- 5.5. To be eligible for the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships, a member must:
  - A. Be a bona fide 4-H member.
  - B. Show in at least one class at his/her respective regional 4-H horse show (see rule 5.6).
  - C. Have a current 4-H horse entry form dated on or before May 15 and filed with county Extension staff.
  - D. Be showing the member's project horse(s) (see 5.7).
- 5.6. If a member shows in at least one class at his/her regional 4-H horse show, this qualifies the member and ALL the enrolled 4-H project horses of that member for entry at the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships. However, only officially enrolled horses that are properly entered in the Tennessee 4-H Horse Championships will be allowed to show. **ADDITIONALLY, ONCE A HORSE IS ENTERED IN A CLASS AT THE TENNESSEE STATE 4-H HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS, NO CLASSES CAN BE ADDED AND HORSE SUBSTITUTION WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. EXCEPTIONS:**
  - A. 4-H members may scratch horses from various classes.
  - B. Horse substitutions may be made in equitation and showmanship classes.
  - C. If a 4-H member's horse dies, becomes sick or unsound **prior to qualifying at the regional show or before the state show**, the member may substitute another 4-H member's horse or may purchase another horse. A veterinarian's certificate of the death, sickness or unsoundness of the horse must be filed with the Extension agent and brought to the regional or state 4-H horse show.

- D. Additionally, if a 4-H member becomes sick or injured **prior to competing in a class at the regional show**, that youth may show at the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Show provided a doctor's written certification is presented **at the regional 4-H horse show**.
- E. In both instances (illness/injury of horse or 4-H member), **proper and timely entry must still be made** for the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships.
- 5.7.** A 4-H member may be excused from his/her regional show and still participate in the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships if:
- A. A letter, signed by both the 4-H member and his/her respective Extension agent, is written stating the reason for the 4-H member's desire to be absent from the regional show.
  - B. This letter is submitted to and approved by the **4-H Animal Science OR Equine Specialist in Knoxville**.
  - C. The 4-H member, family, leader or Extension agent completes a state entry form along with an entry fee.
- 5.8.** The following conditions must be met if the horse is to be eligible as a project animal:
- A. Member and family-owned: The horse is solely and unconditionally owned by the 4-H member or a member of his or her family (parent, brother, sister, grandparent or guardian). Single or combination ownership is permissible. These members must share management duties equally.
    - (1) Horse MAY NOT be shown in the same class twice.**
  - B. Non-family-owned: The horse is owned by someone other than a member of the immediate family:
    - (1) Single or combination ownership is permissible. These members must share management duties equally.
      - (2) Horse MAY NOT be shown in the same class twice.**
      - (3) A letter of certification and agreement signed by the owner(s) of the horse and the parent or legal guardian of the 4-H member must be approved by the 4-H leader before the horse can be accepted as a project animal. This letter, along with a picture of the horse, must appear in the record book. The member must have free access to the horse.
- 5.9.** Each Extension agent must certify the eligibility of each member and the horse(s) from his/her county.
- 5.10.** A fee must be submitted for each class in which a horse is entered. A separate entry fee for cattle classes may be assessed.
- A. Entry fees are to be submitted **to the County Extension Office** when entry is made.
  - B. Checks for the entry fees are to be made to the **University of Tennessee**.
  - C. **Entry fees are non-refundable.**
- 5.11.** State show entry procedures
- A. Exhibitors will submit state entry forms and fees to the County Extension office.
  - B. County agents will then be responsible for submitting the state entries via the online entry system as well as forwarding hard copy forms to the state 4-H animal science specialist.
  - C. Exhibitors are **STRONGLY** encouraged to "proof" state entries at the regional show.

## SECTION 6. GENERAL INFORMATION: 4-H MEMBERS AND HORSES

- 6.1. It is mandatory that members be polite, be good sports, and be properly attired. **Members are notified that any act of discourtesy or disobedience to the judge, to committee members or other officials on the part of the rider, owner, parents or trainer shall disqualify the horse and the member.** A 4-H member MAY NOT receive any physical or electronic assistance in the ring after the youth has entered the gate.
- 6.2. **ALL RIDERS (INCLUDING ADULTS) AT 4-H EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED WHILE MOUNTED OR WHILE IN A VEHICLE BEING PULLED BY EQUINE.**
- 6.3. Dogs of 4-H members, parents or guests must be on leash at all times and are not allowed in buildings or show rings.
- 6.4. Cruel or rough handling of horses will not be allowed and may result in elimination at the decision of the judge and/or show committee.
- 6.5. Horses and ponies must be 3 years old to be shown in any performance class.
- 6.6. Stallions are ineligible to compete in any 4-H horse show.
- 6.7. Unruly and unsound horses will be excused from the ring. Determination of unruliness will be left to the judge and/or show committee. Determination of unsoundness will be left to the judge. Unsoundness shall not penalize a rider in equitation classes unless it is sufficiently severe to impair the performance of the horse or is detrimental to the horse's well-being.
- 6.8. The exhibitor must make the choice of showing the animal as a horse or pony. An animal cannot be shown as both a horse and a pony in classes that have separate horse and pony designations. Pony heights for the various divisions are as follows:
  - A. Western, Speed Events, Saddleseat and Spotted Saddle Horse Divisions – 58 inches (14.2 hands) and under
  - B. Hunter Division
    - (1) Small ponies – 50 inches (12.2) hands and under
    - (2) Medium Ponies – more than 50 inches (12.2 hands and not to exceed 54 inches (13.2 hands)
    - (3) Large ponies – more than 54 inches (13.2 hands) and not to exceed 58 inches (14.2 hands)
  - C. Walking/Racking Division – 60 inches (15 hands) and under
- 6.9. All ponies MUST be measured at the regional show in order to show in pony classes at the state show.
  - A. If a pony was not shown, and thus was not measured at the regional show, it may be entered into the state show BUT must be measured at the state show prior to pony competition.
  - B. If a "pony" is not measured, it will automatically become a HORSE entry.
  - C. Although an equine is measured as a PONY, it may be shown in HORSE classes **instead of** pony classes.
  - D. A pony may NOT be shown in BOTH pony and corresponding horse classes.
  - E. A pony MUST be measured every year until the year that the pony is 6 years old. Ponies 6 years old and older will not need to be measured in subsequent years.
  - F. A measurement will only be recorded ONCE for each pony/horse (Exception: ponies under 6 years old. See above).
- 6.10. **A member can exhibit only one horse or pony in a class. The same horse MAY NOT be shown in the same class twice. A member MAY NOT enter more than one horse in a class.**

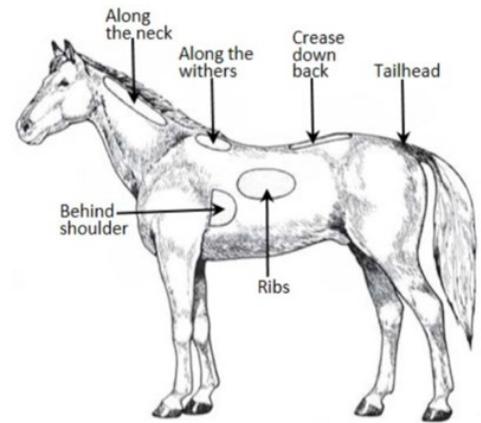
**A. There is an exception in Gaited Trail where a member is exhibiting a different horse in more than one of the divisions (Walking, Racking, SSH). These youth may exhibit each horse in their respected Gaited Trail class since it will be different horse/rider combinations.**

- 6.11. A 4-H member may exhibit a horse in a horse class and a pony in a pony class in the same division (i.e., western pleasure, hunter, barrels, etc.)
- 6.12. PROOF OF A NEGATIVE COGGINS TEST FOR EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA FROM AN APPROVED LABORATORY WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE OPENING DATE OF THE SHOW MUST BE PROVIDED FOR EACH HORSE OR PONY TO BE EXHIBITED.
- 6.13. The **original** certificate showing proof of the negative Coggins test must accompany the horse and be presented before the exhibitor may pick up an entry packet and show. The copy with the horse is the one that will be checked.
- 6.14. Horses that show clinical signs of infections or communicable disease shall not be stalled, shall be denied participation, and must be removed from the grounds.
- 6.15. All exhibitors should check well in advance of the show with their veterinarian for a preventive health program review. A vaccination program should be considered and discussed with the veterinarian.
- 6.16. The age of horses will be determined as of January 1 of the year foaled. A horse becomes a year older on January 1, not on its actual birthday. (Exception: Registered Tennessee Walking Horses, Racking Horses and Spotted Saddle Horses foaled in September, October, November and December may be considered foals of the following year).
- 6.17. Junior Horses – In Western, Ranch and Hunter division classes, reference to junior horses means yearling minimum age, 5 years maximum age. Junior horses competing in western pleasure, western horsemanship, reining, vrrhand trail classes that are shown with a hackamore or snaffle bit may be ridden with one or two hands on the reins. The tails of the reins must be crossed on the opposite side of the neck when riding with two hands on split reins except in reining classes. In the Gaited division TWH/RH classes, reference to junior horses means maximum 5 years of age and a minimum age of yearling In the Gaited division SSH classes, reference to junior horses means maximum 3 years of age and a minimum age of yearling.
- 6.18. Senior Horses – In Western, Ranch and Hunter division classes, horses must be 6 years of age and older. For Gaited division classes, horses must be 5 years of age or older.
- 6.19. Courses, patterns, and/or rules may be altered at the discretion of the Extension staff.
- 6.20. No trainers, parents, or other adults are allowed to ride horses in primary show rings **at any time.**
- 6.21. **No 4-H member will be allowed to ride his/her horse on any concrete or pavement at the state 4-H horse show. Exhibitors MUST lead their horses to the appropriate riding arena or ring. Areas where the 4-H members may mount on pavement or concrete will be designated with signs as a “mount area.”**
- 6.22. A 1-minute time limit to enter the ring once a number is called for all entries of all classes will be imposed.
- 6.23. Hair may be added to the tail of any horse in any division.
- 6.24. Show management reserves the right to combine any class with like classes if there are less than 5 entries in a particular class or split classes based on entries at the time entries close.
- 6.25. The horse owner/parent/exhibitor assumes all risk and care of the horse/pony while at the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships.

#### 6.26. Welfare Stewardship Rule: Minimum Body Condition Score (BCS) Needed to Compete.

Research has shown that health complications, including heat stress, stress of traveling and showing, can be exacerbated at low body condition scores.

Due to concerns for animal welfare and the objective of the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program to educate and promote quality equine husbandry; horses, ponies, mules, donkeys and/or other equids shall not be shown at the Tennessee 4-H Horse Show with a body condition score less than 4 based on the Henneke BCS scale (ribs easily discernable, withers accentuated and neck obviously thin). Six areas are evaluated when assigning body condition scores to horses or other equids (Image 1) when utilizing the Henneke BCS system (Table 1). At least two (2) personnel from the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program Committee will evaluate any horse in question; including but not limited to the University of Tennessee equine Extension specialist, University of Tennessee Extension veterinarian, general show manager or division chair/manager, University of Tennessee Regional Extension staff, or other qualified person. If a horse is determined to have a BCS of less than 4, the representatives from the Tennessee 4-H Horse Program Committee will make a final decision whether or not to disqualify the animal from the remainder of the show. *If you have questions about the body condition score of your horse, or if you are not sure your horse will pass inspection, please contact your county Extension agent, regional specialist, Extension veterinarian or equine Extension specialist.*



*Image 1: Six areas of evaluation utilized to assign body condition score.*

<b>Table 1: Horse Body Condition Scores and Descriptions (Adapted from Henneke et al., 1983)</b>	
<i>Score</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>1 — Poor</i>	<i>Animal is extremely emaciated. Spinal vertebrae, ribs, tailhead, and point of hip and point of buttocks project prominently; bone structure of withers, shoulders and neck easily noticeable; no fatty tissue can be felt.</i>
<i>2 — Very Thin</i>	<i>Animal emaciated. Slight fat covering over base of spinal vertebrae; transverse processes of the lumbar vertebrae feel rounded; spinous processes, ribs, tailhead, and point of hip and point of buttocks prominent; withers, shoulders and neck structures faintly discernable.</i>
<i>3 — Thin</i>	<i>Fat built up halfway on the spinal vertebrae; transverse processes cannot be felt; slight fat cover over ribs; spinous processes and ribs easily discernable; tailhead prominent, but individual vertebrae cannot be identified visually; point of buttocks appear rounded but easily discernable; point of hip not distinguishable; withers, shoulders and neck accentuated.</i>
<i>4 — Moderately Thin</i>	<i>Slight ridge along back; faint outline of ribs discernable; tailhead prominence depends on conformation, but fat can be felt around it; point of hip not discernable; withers, shoulders and neck not obviously thin.</i>
<i>5 — Moderate</i>	<i>Back is flat (no crease or ridge); ribs not visually distinguishable but easily felt; fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy; withers appear rounded over spinal vertebrae; shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body.</i>
<i>6 — Moderately Fleshy</i>	<i>May be slight crease down back; fat over ribs spongy; fat around tailhead soft; fat beginning to be deposited alongside of withers, behind shoulders and along the sides of the neck.</i>
<i>7 — Fleshy</i>	<i>May have crease down back; individual ribs can be felt but there is noticeable fat between ribs; fat around tailhead soft; fat deposited along withers, behind shoulders and along neck.</i>
<i>8 — Fat</i>	<i>Crease down back; difficult to feel ribs; fat around tailhead very soft; area along withers filled with fat; area behind shoulder filled with fat; noticeable thickening of neck; fat deposited along inner thighs.</i>
<i>9 — Extremely Fat</i>	<i>Obvious crease down back; patchy fat appearing over ribs; bulging fat around tailhead, along withers, behind shoulders and along neck; fat long inner thighs may cause them to rub together; flank filled with fat.</i>

## SECTION 7. FORBIDDEN SUBSTANCES, METHODS AND PRACTICES

- 7.1.** The administration of any drug affecting the central nervous system (stimulant or depressant) to a horse shown in any 4-H class is strictly prohibited.
- 7.2.** Show management of all 4-H shows or 4-H classes have the right to have horses tested for drugs by a qualified veterinarian. Samples will be submitted to a suitable laboratory for testing, and the results of such tests will be provided to county and state Extension faculty for appropriate action. If the test is positive, the exhibitor will pay all veterinary and laboratory costs and forfeit all and any awards. Otherwise, the protesting party will be liable for such costs.
- 7.3.** The use of irritants (including blisters, ginger or similar sores or pain-inducing substances or devices) that affect the gait, carriage or performance of the horse is forbidden. Horses competing in Walking, Racking, and/or Spotted Saddle Horse classes (excluding Trail) must be inspected by the show DQP prior to competing.
- 7.4.** Horses suspected of being under the influence of any drug, chemical or caustic agent that would alter their natural performance and/or horses having granulation tissue, raw or bleeding sores from old or new scars due to prior mistreatment shall be disqualified from competition.

## SECTION 8. AWARDS

- 8.1.** Awards will be presented to the top 10 placings in each class. The first-place winner will be designated as Grand Champion. The second-place horse will be designated as Reserve Champion. Each entry will receive an appropriate award.
- 8.2.** The judge shall not place any exhibitor regardless of the number of contestants in a class, if the exhibitor is unable to execute the prescribed maneuvers called for to complete the class.

## SECTION 9. PROTESTS

- 9.1.** A protest may be made in writing to the show committee by a leader or an exhibitor, when co-signed by a leader, for any violation of rules other than the judge's decision and pony height after declared by show officials.
- 9.2.** The protest must contain a statement of the act(s) that constitutes the alleged violation and the specific rule(s) allegedly violated.
- 9.3.** The protest must be signed by the protestor(s) and accompanied by a deposit of \$100 cash.
- 9.4.** The protest must be filed within 30 minutes after the infraction in a class.
- 9.5.** The protest (in writing) will be directed to the protest committee and will be decided upon as promptly as the situation permits.
- 9.6.** If the protest is upheld, the \$100 deposit shall be returned; otherwise, it shall be forfeited.

## SECTION 10. STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW DIVISIONS

**10.1.** The Tennessee State 4-H Horse Show will have nine separate divisions. They are:

- A. Western
- B. Speed Events
- C. Roping
- D. Hunter and Jumper
- E. Walking/Racking
- F. Saddleseat
- G. Spotted Saddle Horse
- H. Roger Elder Ranch
- I. Miniature Horse

**10.2.** To maintain division status, the division must have 10 horses competing at the state horse show. If less than 10 horses are exhibited for two consecutive years, the division may be eliminated.

**10.3.** Horses are eligible to be shown in NO MORE THAN TWO DIVISIONS (plus Dressage classes) at the state 4-H horse show. Miniature horses may show only in miniature showmanship, halter, trail and hunter (jumper) classes. County and/or regional 4-H horse shows may allow members to exhibit in more than two divisions. Horses may not be cross entered between corresponding horse and pony classes.

**10.4.** Halter Classes

Exhibitors may enter up to six halter horse and/or pony classes per division (junior halter mares, junior halter geldings, senior halter mares, senior halter geldings, pony halter geldings, pony halter mares). Show management reserves the right to split junior and senior, mare and gelding halter horse classes by exhibitor age if warranted by entry numbers. Only one horse or pony/rider combination per class is permitted.

- Junior Halter Mares (maximum age per breed standards, yearling minimum age)
- Junior Halter Geldings (maximum age per breed standards, yearling minimum age)
- Senior Halter Mares (minimum age per breed standards)
- Senior Halter Geldings (minimum age per breed standards)
- Pony Halter Mares
- Pony Halter Geldings

**10.5.** Points will be compiled separately for each horse entered. Division champions will be determined based on one horse/one rider. A division winner will be announced for each division. However, in the Walking/Racking Division a separate winner will be announced for walking emphasis and racking emphasis.

A. Tie Breakers

- (1) Highest placing in showmanship class.
- (2) Highest placing in equitation class.

**10.6.** All classes will receive points except goat tying and ground/dummy roping.

**10.7.** Youth are only eligible to win one High Point Award in Walking, Racking and Spotted Saddle Horse Divisions in a given year.

**10.8.** Each member will be awarded points based on the following sliding scale (State and Southern Regional):

# Horses in Class	Placing	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1		1									
2		2	1								
3		3	2	1							
4		4	3	2	1						
5		5	4	3	2	1					
6		6	5	4	3	2	1				
7		7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
8		8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
9		9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
10+		10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

## SECTION 11. SOUTHERN REGIONAL 4-H HORSE SHOW

- 11.1.** Tennessee can send 70 horses to participate in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships.
- 11.2.** All members must pay their own expenses to attend and participate in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE MADE AT THE STATE SHOW.**
- 11.3.** Qualification Procedure
- A. Priority will be given to the top-point-earning senior members, followed by the top-point-earning junior high and junior members. The high-point junior high and junior in each division will be included in the top 70 contestants. **Senior, junior high and junior members must have earned at least three points to be eligible for consideration for Southern Regional participation.** However, if a full quota is not achieved with the preceding criteria, members with lesser points will be considered, with seniors receiving priority.
  - B. Qualification will be based upon categories as follows:
    - (1) Western Division      (5) Dressage
    - (2) Speed Events          (6) Saddleseat Division
    - (3) Roping Events        (7) Non-Trotting: Walking, Racking and SSH Divisions
    - (4) Hunter Division      (8) Roger Elder Ranch Division
  - C. Members may qualify in only one category. If members qualify in more than one category, they choose which category they will qualify in, thus which horse they will take.
  - D. The number of 4-H members qualified from each of these categories will be determined based on the percentage of members exhibiting in each category at the Tennessee 4-H Horse Championships. A member is counted only once in each division.
  - E. Members will be ranked by classifications (senior, junior high and junior) within each category from highest- to lowest-point earners to determine qualified members.
  - F. If allocations for any of the five categories are not filled by 4-H members desiring to attend Southern Regionals, then additional exhibitors will be taken from each of the other categories.
  - G. If allocations still remain, then those members who qualified more than one horse may take a second horse based upon the highest to lowest point-earning members in that group.
  - H. Tie Breakers
    - (1) Points in most number of classes.
    - (2) Highest placing in showmanship class.
    - (3) Highest placing in equitation class.
    - (4) Age as of January 1 of the current year – priority to the older member.
  - I. **ALL YOUTH ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED WHILE MOUNTED** at the Southern Regional horse show.
- 11.4.** Tennessee 4-H members only qualify through this procedure.
- 11.5.** At the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show, each 4-H'er may enter **one** conformation class, **one** showmanship class, and as many other performance classes as they want.
- 11.6.** There are **NO** refunds once Southern Regional entries have been submitted by the State Specialist. If a 4-H member's horse dies, becomes sick or unsound before the Southern Regional Show, the member may substitute another 4-H member's horse or may purchase another horse. A veterinarian's certificate of the death, sickness or unsoundness of the horse must be filed with the state specialist not later than the Monday of the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show.

## SECTION 12: TRAIL CLASSES FOR ALL DIVISIONS

### 12.1. Classes

- A. Class 117, 449, 545, 606, 614, 715, 812 – Junior members
- B. Class 118, 450, 545, 606, 614, 719, 813 – Junior high members
- C. Class 119, 451, 546, 606, 614, 716, 814 – Senior members
- D. Class 120, 452, 819 – Walk/Trot Trail – beginner riders only

### 12.2. All Trail classes will be judged according to AQHA, AMHA and TWHBEA Versatility Rules.

12.3. This class will be judged on the performance of the horse over obstacles, with emphasis on manners, response to the rider, and attitude. Horse shall be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching the obstacles.

- A. Credit will be given to those horses negotiating the obstacles with style and some degree of speed, providing carefulness is not sacrificed. Credit will be given to horses showing capability of picking their own way through course when obstacles warrant it and willingly responding to rider's cues on more difficult obstacles.
- B. Horses with artificial appearance over obstacles should be penalized, as should be exaggerated standing in stirrups and leaning forward over horse's neck by rider.
- C. Six obstacles should be used. Gait between obstacles shall be at the discretion of the judge(s). Failure to follow course shall cause disqualification. Failure to complete obstacle shall not be a disqualification but is to be severely penalized. Three refusals or a maximum of one minute at an obstacle will result in a zero score for that obstacle.
- D. The course shall be reset as original after each horse has worked.
- E. The judge(s) will determine placing.

12.4. The following is a list of obstacles that may be used in the trail class. However, additional obstacles may be required by the judge or show management that will test the horse's ability to perform over trail obstacles.

- A. Opening, passing through and closing a gate. (Changing hands on gate or turning loose of a gate is to be penalized.)
- B. Ride over at least four poles, these being placed a minimum of 15 inches apart. The space between poles is measured. These can be in a straight line, curved, zigzagged, raised or combined with a trot or lope over (trot overs: 3 feet to 3 feet 6 inches apart, lope overs: 6 to 7 feet apart).
- C. Ride over wooden bridge. (Suggested minimum width shall be 36 inches wide and at least 6 feet long.)
- D. Water hazard (ditch or small pond). No metal or slick bottom boxes will be used.
- E. Carry object from part of arena to another. (Only objects that reasonably might be carried on a trail ride may be used.)
- F. Back horse through "L"-shaped course (for classes 117, 118, 119, 449, 450, 154, 545, 546, 614, 715, 716, 719, 812, 813, 814):
  - (1) On the ground: 28 inches minimum (space between poles).
  - (2) Elevated: 30 inches minimum (space between poles.)
- G. Put on and remove slicker.
- H. Remove and replace materials from mailbox.
- I. Side pass left or right.

- J. Back through and around three markers set either in a triangle or line.
- K. An obstacle consisting of four logs or rails, each 5 to 6 feet long, laid in a square. Each contestant will enter the square by stepping over log or rail at designated side. When all four feet are inside the square, rider will execute a 360-degree turn (right or left), pause and depart by stepping over log or rail immediately opposite side of entry.
- L. The following are obstacle requirements and dimensions for Class 606 Miniature Trail. Additional obstacles may be utilized as detailed in the American Miniature Horse Association Rulebook.
  - 1. Minimum of five obstacles and a maximum of eight.
    - Walk overs: minimum 12 inches up to a maximum of 16 inches apart
  - 2. Trot overs: minimum of 16 inches up to a maximum of 24 inches apart
  - 3. Walk/trot overs will be no more than 6 inches from the ground to the top of the pole. Back throughs (width) 24 inches.
  - 4. Cones should be set at least 6 feet apart.
  - 5. Measurements to be taken from the inside width of the poles, and on curved or fan type obstacles, the measurement should be taken from the approximate center of the poles.
  - 6. Obstacles may include
    - a. Back through or out of obstacle
    - b. Drive/Walk through water or simulated water
    - c. Put on and remove equipment (raincoat, saddle, etc.) from person or horse.
    - d. Drive/Walk through narrow passage
    - e. Pick up an object (letter, umbrella, bucket, flag, etc.) and place it at a designated location.
    - f. Drive/Walk across bridge or simulated bridge
    - g. Drive/Walk pattern created with poles, pylons, (figure 130 SHOW RULES 8, serpentine, cloverleaf, etc.)
    - h. Stand horse in circle, ground tie, walk around horse (Halter course only)
    - i. Side-pass (either or both directions) halter course only

**12.5.** Walk/Trot Trail classes (120 Western Division, 452 Hunter Division and 819 Ranch Division may be asked to complete any of the above obstacles at the walk or trot. These classes are for beginner riders only.

**12.6.** See specific division rules for tack and attire requirements:

- A. Western Division: Classes 116, 117, 118, 120
- B. Hunter Division: Classes 449, 450, 451, 452
- C. Gaited Divisions: Classes 545, 546
- D. Saddleseat Division: Class 612
- E. Ranch Horse Division: Classes 812, 813, 814, 819
- F. Miniature Division: Class 606 – attire and equipment appropriate for classes 604 and/or 605

## SECTION 13: WESTERN DIVISION

This division is designed for “stock-type horses” (Quarter Horse, Paints, etc.) and will be judged according to those standards and gaits. **All classes in this division, inclusive of Western Dressage, will count towards Western Division high point awards, with the exception of Ranch Reining classes 815 and 816.** Horses shown in the Western Division MAY NOT be shown in the Ranch Horse Division with the exception of Ranch Reining classes 815 and 816.

***ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.***

### 13.1. Gaits

**13.1.1.** The “walk” is a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait. The horse must move straight and true at the walk. The walk must be alert, with a stride of reasonable length in keeping with the size of the horse.

**13.1.2.** The “jog” is a smooth, ground-covering, two-beat diagonal gait. The horse works from one pair of diagonals to the other pair. The jog should be square, balanced and with a straight, forward movement of the feet. Horses walking with their back feet and trotting on the front are not considered performing the required gait. When asked to extend the jog, the horse moves out with the same smooth way of going.

**13.1.3.** The “lope” is an easy, rhythmical, three-beat gait. Horses moving to the left (counterclockwise) should lope on the left lead. Horses moving to the right (clockwise) should lope on the right lead. Horses traveling at a four-beat gait are not considered to be performing at a proper lope. The horse should lope with a natural stride and appear relaxed and smooth. The horse should be ridden at a speed that is a natural way of going.

**13.1.4.** Walk/Trot (Classes 120, 121, 122) – Only open to beginner riders (grades 4-12). Riders may not cross enter into any other class that allows for walk, jog, lope.

### 13.2. Attire

The 4-H members must be properly dressed.

A. Long-sleeved shirt, with collar (stand-up collars are permitted).

B. Long pants or riding skirt.

C. Belt.

D. Exhibitors are **REQUIRED** to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted. Cowboy hats are acceptable to wear during halter and showmanship classes **ONLY**.

E. Tie is optional.

F. Boots or hard shoes (no deck or tennis shoes) with a heel and high enough to cover the ankle.

G. Chaps and spurs are optional (prohibited in halter and showmanship).

### 13.3 Tack

**13.3.1.** In all western classes, horses will be shown in a western saddle. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. Horses 5 years old and younger may be shown in a snaffle bit, hackamore/bosal, curb bit, half-breed or spade bit. Horses 6 years old and older may only be shown in a curb bit, half-breed or spade bit. Horses shown in a curb bit, half-breed or spade bit **MUST** use split reins and be held with one hand. It is permissible to put the index finger between the reins. Romal reins are accepted. Chain chin straps are permissible, but must meet the approval of the judge, be at least 1/2 inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse. No gag bits. No twisted wire mouth pieces. No mouthpieces smaller than 3/8 of an inch are allowed.

### 13.3.2. Optional equipment

- A. Spurs, not to be used forward of the cinch. Spurs are prohibited in showmanship and halter classes.
- B. Chaps, except in showmanship and halter classes, where they are not allowed.

### 13.3.3. Prohibited equipment

- A. Wire chin straps, regardless of how padded or covered.
- B. Any chin strap narrower than 1/2 inch.
- C. Martingales and draw reins.
- D. Nosebands and tie-downs.
- E. Riders **MAY NOT** be secured to the saddle or stirrups in any way, including, but not limited to, the use of Velcro on the seat and/or rubber bands on the stirrups.
- F. Protective boots and leg wraps. Exception for Reining.
- G. Mechanical Hackamore.

## 13.4. Western Showmanship

### 13.4.1. Classes

- A. Class 101 – Junior members
- B. Class 102 – Junior high members
- C. Class 103 – Senior members

13.4.2. Horses and ponies are to be shown in hand at halter and will be judged according to AQHA guidelines.

## 13.5. Western Halter Mares

13.5.1. A. Class 104A Junior Mares (Age of horse, 5 years and under, yearling minimum age).

B. Class 104B Senior Mares (Age of horse, 6 years of age and over).

13.5.2. To be shown in hand at halter with natural, roached, pulled or banded mane. To be judged on conformation, soundness and condition.

13.5.3. Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.

13.5.4. Junior mares 5 years and under, yearling minimum age. Senior mares 6 years of age and older. **May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.**

## 13.6. Western Halter Geldings

13.6.1. A. Class 105A Junior Geldings (Age of horse, 5 years and under, yearling minimum age).

B. Class 105B Senior Geldings (Age of horse, 6 years of age and over).

13.6.2. To be shown in hand at halter with natural, roached, pulled or banded mane. To be judged on conformation, soundness and condition.

13.6.3. Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.

13.6.4. Junior geldings 5 years and under, yearling minimum age. Senior gelding 6 years of age and over. **May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.**

## 13.7. Western Halter Ponies

13.7.1. Class 106 Western Halter Pony Mares

Class 107 Western Halter Pony Geldings

13.7.2. To be shown in hand at halter with natural, roached, pulled or banded mane. To be judged on conformation, soundness and condition.

13.7.3. Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.

13.7.4. Open to mares and geldings of all ages. **May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.**

## 13.8. Western Pleasure – Horse

### 13.8.1. Classes

- A. Class 108 – Junior members
- B. Class 109 – Junior high members

C. Class 110 – Senior members

D. Class 122 – Walk/Trot – beginner riders only

**13.8.2.** To be judged on the performance and conformation of the horse at the discretion of the judge. To be shown at a walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint; wrong leads and excessive speed or slowness at all gaits will be penalized. Class 122 will be comprised of walk/trot only and is available for beginner riders only. Horses may be asked to extend the jog one direction of the arena. Horses are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). Horses may be required to reverse at the walk or jog, but not at the lope. Horse should stand quietly. Each horse in the finals will be asked to back. Where horses are ridden with a curb bit, one hand only must be used. When one hand is used, it is allowable to use the index finger between the reins.

**13.8.3.** Junior horses (3-, 4- and 5-year-olds): a snaffle or hackamore/ bosal may be used and these are to be ridden with two hands.

**13.8.4.** Spurs and chaps are optional. Nose bands and/or tie-downs are prohibited.

### **13.9. Western Pleasure – Pony**

#### **13.9.1.** Class

A. Class 111 – Western Pleasure Pony

**13.9.2.** To be judged on the performance and conformation of the pony at the discretion of the judge. To be shown at a walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint; wrong leads and excessive speed or slowness at all gaits will be penalized. Ponies may be asked to extend the jog one direction of the arena. Ponies are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). Ponies may be required to reverse at the walk or jog, but not at the lope. Ponies should stand quietly. Each pony in the finals will be asked to back. Where ponies are ridden with a curb bit, one hand only must be used. When one hand is used, it is allowable to use the index finger between the reins.

**13.9.3.** In junior ponies, (3-, 4- and 5-year-olds), a snaffle or bosal may be used and these are to be ridden with two hands. A hackamore/bosal or a curb, snaffle, half-breed or spade bit is permissible.

**13.9.4.** Spurs and chaps are optional. Nose bands and/or tie-downs are prohibited.

**13.9.5.** Open to junior, junior high and senior members. May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.

### **13.10. Western Horsemanship**

#### **13.10.1.** Classes

A. Class 112 – Junior members

B. Class 113 – Junior high members

C. Class 114 – Senior members

D. Class 121 – Walk/Trot – beginner riders only

#### **13.10.2.** General horsemanship

A. Riders will be judged on seat, hands and their ability to control and show the horse.

B. Results as shown by performance of the horse are NOT to be considered more important than the method used by the rider.

**13.10.3. Basic position**

- A. Rider should sit in the center of the saddle with legs under rider, forming a straight vertical line through ear, center of shoulder, center of hip and back of heel.
- B. Stirrup length should allow heels to be lower than toes, with a slight bend in knee and the toe directly under knee.
- C. Body should always appear comfortable, relaxed and flexible, and back should be nearly flat. Stiff and/or arched lower back should be avoided.
- D. Feet may be placed home in the stirrup, with boot heel touching the stirrup, or may be placed with ball of foot in the stirrup. Riding with toes only in the stirrup will be penalized.

**13.10.4. Hands**

- A. Both hands and arms shall be held in a relaxed, easy manner, with the shoulders back and down, and upper arm in a straight line with the body, the arm holding the reins bent at the elbow, forming a straight line from the elbow to the horse's mouth.
- B. When using a romal, the rider's off-hand shall be around the romal with a least 16 inches of rein between the hands.
- C. Wrists are to be kept straight and relaxed, with thumb on top and fingers closed around the reins. One finger between the reins is permitted when using split reins, but not romal. Some movement of the arm is permissible, but excessive pumping will be penalized.
- D. Reins are to be carried immediately above or slightly in front of the saddle horn. Only one hand is to be used for reining, and hand shall not be changed. Reins should be carried so as to have light contact with the horse's mouth, and at no time shall reins be carried more than a slight hand movement from the horse's mouth. Excessively loose reins will be penalized. In the event a horse (5 years of age or younger) is shown with snaffle bit or hackamore, it is legal for a rider to show with two hands on the reins.

**13.10.5. Position in motion**

- A. Rider should sit the trot and not post.
- B. At the lope he/she should remain seated.
- C. Rider should maintain a vertical position at all gaits.
- D. All movements of the horse should be governed by the use of imperceptible aids.  
Exaggerated shifting of the rider's weight is not desirable. Moving of the lower legs of riders who are short shall not be penalized.

**13.10.6. Mounting and dismounting**

- A. To mount, take up the reins in left hand and place hand on withers.
- B. Grasp stirrup with right hand and insert left foot in stirrup. Placing right hand on horn, mount.
- C. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down.
- D. The size of the rider must be taken into consideration.

**13.10.7. Class routine**

- A. Each rider will perform an individual pattern.
- B. Individual work may be comprised of any of the following:
  - (1) Walk, jog or lope in a straight line, curve or circle, or any combination of these gaits and patterns, such as a figure eight, etc. Class 121 will be comprised of walk/trot only and is available for beginner riders only.
  - (2) Stop.
  - (3) Back.
  - (4) Turn.
  - (5) Sidepass.
  - (6) Simple change of lead through the trot, walk or halt, in a straight line, figure eight or any other pattern.
  - (7) Flying change of lead in a straight line, figure eight or any other pattern.
  - (8) Counter canter.
  - (9) Dismount and mount.
  - (10) Ride without stirrups.
- C. Use of markers helps to standardize patterns and guide riders, but it also increases the degree of difficulty somewhat. Therefore, marker placement should be carefully planned and indicated in the posted pattern, and the placement in the arena well-supervised.
- D. Show management must post the pattern in ample time for each exhibitor to understand the pattern.
- E. Judging of individual work will begin and end at the indication of the judge. Exhibitors shall leave the arena at the signal, regardless of whether or not they have completed work prescribed.
- F. Failure to complete the pattern will not be a disqualification but shall be scored accordingly. The judge will use these individual works to determine the top riders to be called back for rail work, and those selected riders will be required to work on the rail. Horses need not be worked both directions on the rail.

## SECTION 14: SPEED EVENTS DIVISION

Program order for classes and rules **WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED**. Exhibitors who miss their runs will not be allowed to run at the end of the class. It is each exhibitor's responsibility to monitor class progression and be at the arena on time. DO NOT rely on the PA system to reach all areas of the show grounds.

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

### 14.1. Attire

**14.1.1.** The 4-H members must be properly dressed.

- A. Long-sleeved shirt, with collar (stand-up collars are permitted)
- B. Long pants
- C. Belt
- D. **Contestants are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**
- E. Boots or hard shoes (no deck or tennis shoes) with a heel and high enough to cover the ankle.
- F. Chaps and spurs are optional.

### 14.2. Tack

**14.2.1.** In all classes, horses will be shown in a western saddle. Horses may be shown in a snaffle bit, hackamore/bosal, curb bit, half-breed, or spade bit. Chain chin straps are permissible, but must be at least 1/2 inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.

**14.2.2.** Optional equipment

- A. Nosebands.
- B. Martingales and tie-downs (no bare metal or wire may be in contact with horse's head).
- C. Protective boots and leg wraps.

**14.2.3.** Prohibited equipment

- A. Wire chin straps, regardless of how padded or covered.
- B. Any chin strap narrower than 1/2 inch.
- C. Riders **MAY NOT** be secured to the saddle or stirrups in any way, including, but not limited to, the use of Velcro on the seat and/or rubber bands on the stirrups.
- D. NO metal, exposed or wrapped, should be used in the headstall, hackamore or tiedown.

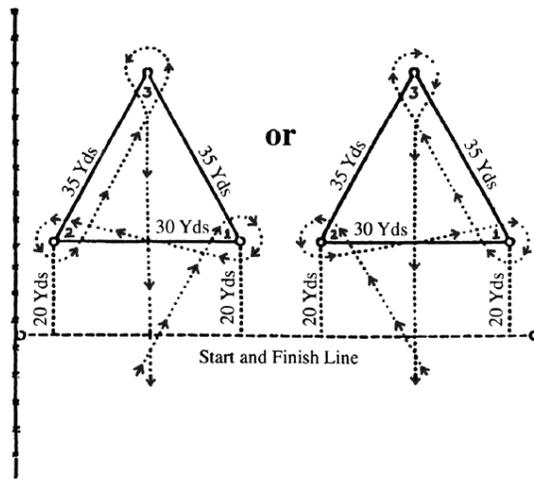
### 14.3. Barrel Racing

**14.3.1** Classes

- A. Class 201 – Junior members – Horse
- B. Class 202 – Junior high members – Horse
- C. Class 203 – Senior members – Horse
- D. Class 204 – Junior members – Pony
- E. Class 205 – Senior members – Pony

**14.3.2.** The course must be measured exactly. If the course is too large for the available space, the pattern should be reduced five yards at a time until the pattern fits the arena. Remember to leave adequate space between barrels and any obstacle. The distance from barrel number three to the finish line need not be reduced five yards at a time, if there is sufficient room for the horse to stop. Brightly colored 55-gallon steel drums with both ends in must be used. There shall be no rubber or plastic barrels or barrel pads used.

- 14.3.3.** When measuring the area for the barrel course, remember to leave ample room for horses to complete their turns and stop at the finish. It is recommended that there be at least 45 feet from the starting line to the end of the arena, at least 18 feet from barrels one and two to the fence, and 36 feet from barrel three to the end of the arena.
- 14.3.4.** Starting line markers or electric timers shall be placed, where possible, against the arena fence. Electric timer or at least two watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or average time of the watches used by official timers to be the official time. Barrel racing is a timed event.
- 14.3.5.** The contestant is allowed a running start. Timing shall begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose passes over the finish line.
- 14.3.6.** At a signal from the starter, the contestant will run to barrel number one, pass to the left of it, and complete an approximately 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel number two, pass to the right of it, and complete a slightly more than 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel number three, pass to the right of it, and do another approximately 360 degree turn around it; and then sprint to the finish line, passing between barrels number one and two. For example, the contestants will start to barrel number two, turning to left around this barrel, then to barrel number one, turning to the right, then to barrel number three, turning again to the right, followed by the final sprint to the finish line.
- 14.3.7.** Knocking over a barrel shall carry a five-second penalty. Failure to follow the course shall cause disqualification. A contestant may touch the barrel with his or her hands in barrel racing. Any contestant who goes on the wrong side of a barrel past the point of the horse's shoulder, runs on the outside of barrel one or two toward the finish line from barrel three, or adds an additional 360-degree turn other than those specified shall be disqualified.
- 14.3.8.** The judge, at his or her discretion, may disqualify a contestant for excessive use of a bat, crop, whip, or rope in front of the cinch.
- 14.3.9.** In the event of a tie, the horse declared the winner in the runoff must re-run the pattern within two seconds of its original time or the runoff must be held again. Penalty time will not apply to the two-second rule but will apply to the final runoff time.
- 14.3.10.** A contestant can not be assisted by anyone inside the arena; such action shall result in disqualification. Once a contestant breaks the "starting line" timer, that contestant MUST continue without a restart.

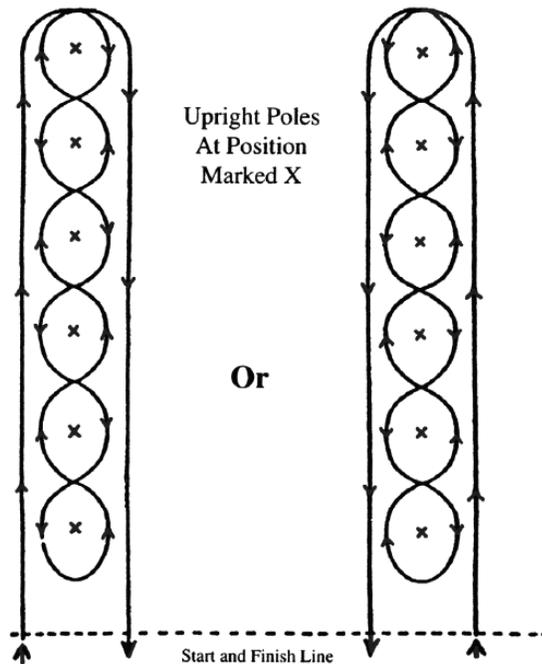


## 14.4. Pole Bending

### 14.4.1. Classes

- A. Class 206 – Junior members – Horse
- B. Class 207 – Junior high members – Horse
- C. Class 208 – Senior members – Horse
- D. Class 209 – Junior members – Pony
- E. Class 210 – Senior members – Pony

- 14.4.2.** Pole bending is a timed event. Each contestant will begin from a running start, and time shall begin and end as the horse's nose crosses the line. (A clearly visible starting line shall be provided). An electric timer or at least two watches shall be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or the average time of the watches used by official timers to be the official time.
- 14.4.3.** The pole bending pattern is to be run around six poles. Poles are to be 21 feet apart, and the first pole is to be 21 feet from the starting line. Poles shall be set on top of the ground, 6 feet in height, with no base more than 14 inches in diameter.
- 14.4.4.** A horse may start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly (see pattern). Any contestant going by a pole on the wrong side as far as the shoulder point of the horse shall be considered off course, even if the horse is corrected and continues properly.
- 14.4.5.** Knocking over a pole shall carry a five-second penalty. Failure to follow the course shall cause disqualification. A contestant may touch a pole with his or her hand in pole bending.
- 14.4.6.** The judge, at his/her discretion, may disqualify a contestant for excessive use of a bat, crop, whip, or rope in front of the cinch.
- 14.4.7.** In the event of a tie, the horse declared the winner in the runoff must re-run the pattern within two seconds of its original time, or the runoff must be held again. Penalty time will not apply to the two-second rule but will apply to the final runoff time.
- 14.4.8.** A contestant cannot be assisted by anyone inside the area; such actions shall result in disqualification. Once a contestant breaks the "starting line" timer, that contestant MUST continue without a restart.



## SECTION 15: ROPING DIVISION

No high point division awards will be calculated for the roping division. Points earned in roping division classes will NOT count for points in any other division. No cross-entry restrictions are placed on this division.

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

### 15.1. Attire

**15.1.1.** The 4-H members must be properly dressed.

- A. Long-sleeved shirt, with collar (stand-up collars are permitted)
- B. Long pants
- C. Belt
- D. **Contestants are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**
- E. For Ground/Dummy Roping classes, exhibitors must wear either a western hat or a properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved helmet.
- F. Boots or hard shoes (no deck or tennis shoes) with a heel and high enough to cover the ankle.
- G. Chaps and spurs are optional.

### 15.2. Tack

**15.2.1.** In all classes, horses will be shown in a western saddle. Horses may be shown in a snaffle bit, hackamore/bosal, curb bit, half-breed, or spade bit. Chain chin straps are permissible but must be at least 1/2 inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.

**15.2.2.** Optional equipment

- A. Nosebands.
- B. Martingales and tie-downs (no bare metal or wire may be in contact with horse's head).
- C. Protective boots and leg wraps.

**15.2.3.** Prohibited equipment

- A. Wire chin straps, regardless of how padded or covered.
- B. Any chin strap narrower than 1/2 inch.
- C. Riders **MAY NOT** be secured to the saddle or stirrups in any way, including, but not limited to, the use of Velcro on the seat and/or rubber bands on the stirrups.

### 15.3. Goat Tying

**15.3.1.** Classes

- A. Class 301 – Junior members
- B. Class 302 – Junior High members
- C. Class 303 – Senior members

**15.3.2.** Goat tying classes will follow National High School Rodeo Rules.

**15.3.3.** Starting lines in goat tying will be subject to ground rules. A clearly visible starting line of at least 15 yards will be provided.

**15.3.4.** The stake and the starting line will be permanently marked for the entire go-round.

**15.3.5.** Starting line will be 100 feet from stake.

**15.3.6.** The goat should be tied to a stake with a rope 10 feet in length. Stake should be completely under the ground so that no part of it is visible or above ground.

- 15.3.7.** A contestant may enter the arena at their speed of choice. The contestant must be mounted on a horse when entering the arena and must ride from the starting line to the goat, dismount from their horse, throw the goat by hand, cross, wrap and tie by hand, at least three feet together with a leather string, pigging string or rope. No wire is to be used in the goat string. If the goat is down when the contestant reaches it, goat must be elevated high enough that it has the opportunity to regain its feet and then stand clear of the goat when the tie is finished.
- 15.3.8.** Goats to be tied right, left, right and left. (This will be posted on the stock draw.) This will be reversed on next go. All goats used in the draw to be tied a maximum of five runs before another run on the goats can begin.
- 15.3.9.** Time will start when the horse's nose crosses the starting line. Time will stop when the contestant signals the completion of the tie.
- 15.3.10.** Legs must remain crossed and secure for 6 seconds after completion of tie. While the judge is performing the 6-second procedure, the contestant will make no gestures, motions or noises to distract the goat. This will be considered trying to take an unfair advantage and will result in a disqualification.
- 15.3.11.** The contestant must move back 3 feet from the goat before the judge will start the 6-second time limit on the tie for the goat's legs to remain crossed and tied. If contestant gets rope that is holding goat wrapped around their leg, he/she may ask the judge if she can remove it. After getting permission from judge, removing rope and moving back three (3) feet the contestant's six (6) second time limit will start.
- 15.3.12.** To qualify as a legal tie, there will be at least one complete wrap around at least three legs, and a half hitch, hooley or knot. The contestant must tie the goat by hand with no pre-made wraps, coils, knots, hooleys or half hitch.
- 15.3.13** During Goat Tying, the arena will be dragged at regular intervals, to be determined by the show management.
- 15.3.14.** Goat handlers must stand directly behind goat. Judges and directors will position themselves so they are able to have a clear view of the goat rope and horse.
- 15.3.15** There will be a one-minute time limit.
- 15.3.16.** Qualified persons other than goat tying contestants will be used as goat holders.
- 15.3.17.** If a goat is injured, the contestants involved with the injured goat will automatically be assigned the extra goat regardless of the possible difference in runs or ties on the goat.
- 15.3.18.** The tie will be passed on by a field judge and if it is not secure for six seconds, the contestant will receive no time.
- 15.3.19.** Contestant will receive a no time for touching the goat or tie string after signaling they are finished.
- 15.3.20.** If the contestant's horse crosses over the rope or goat, or if the contestant's horse comes in contact with the goat or rope prior to the contestant signaling for time, a ten (10) second penalty will be assessed.
- 15.3.21.** If the goat should break away because of the fault of the horse, the contestant will receive no time.
- 15.3.22.** If the goat should break away, it will be left to the judges' discretion whether the contestant will get a rerun.

#### **15.4. Ground/Dummy Roping**

- 15.4.1.** A. Class 304 – Junior members
- B. Class 305 – Junior High members
- C. Class 306 – Senior members

**15.4.2.** Equipment needed: A bale of hay or straw, a dummy calf head, a lariat, and roping glove (optional). Steer heads of any type are not allowed. The dummy calf head must be inserted in the front of the bale, not the top.

**15.4.3.** Class Procedure and Scoring

A. Each competitor may use the rope of his/her choice and has three (3) attempts to catch the dummy calf head.

B. Each attempt can receive up to 40 points with a maximum of 120 points for the three attempts.

C. Each attempt is scored in four (4) areas, from 0 to 10 points with ½ point increments allowed, as follows:

1. Building the loop: 0–10 points.
2. Swing (smoothness/fluidity): 0–10 points.
3. Delivery and accuracy of the loop: 0–10 points.
4. Pulling and pitching slack: 0–10 points.

**15.4.4.** A barrier line (board or chalk line) is placed on the ground 4 feet behind the bale. If the roper breaks the barrier (by stepping on or over it before the throw is complete), a 20-point penalty is incurred each time the barrier is broken. Ropers may lean or reach over the barrier without penalty. In case of ties, the barrier is backed up 2 feet at a time until the tie is broken.

**15.4.5.** No “fishing” is allowed. The roper has five (5) seconds from the time the rope is thrown to complete the catch, or it is considered a missed attempt. Fishing is defined as not immediately pulling the slack after the throw of the rope. The judge’s decision is final.

**15.4.6.** Illegal catches—A catch when the rope is not around the calf’s neck is considered an illegal catch, for example, roping the entire calf or the front portion of the calf.

**15.4.7.** If the loop makes a figure eight and one loop of the figure eight lands around the calf’s neck and the other loop of the figure eight catches on the back of the bale, it is considered a legal catch.

**15.4.8.** Ground/Dummy Roping Scorecard



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## GROUND ROPING Score Sheet

Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_  
Class: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Maneuver Scores:</b>	Each attempt will be scored from 0 to 10 pts, with ½ pt increments allowed, for each of the following:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Building the loop</li> <li>B. Swing – smoothness/fluidity</li> <li>C. Delivery of loop and accuracy</li> <li>D. Pulling and pitching slack</li> </ul>
<b>Penalty:</b>	A 20 point penalty is incurred each time the barrier is broken (stepping on or over it when throwing the rope)

Entry No.		First Attempt (40 points)				Second Attempt (40 points)				Third Attempt (40 points)				Maneuver Penalty Total	FINAL SCORE (out of 120 pts)
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D		
	Maneuver Score														
	Penalty														

Entry No.		First Attempt (40 points)				Second Attempt (40 points)				Third Attempt (40 points)				Maneuver Penalty Total	FINAL SCORE (out of 120 pts)
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D		
	Maneuver Score														
	Penalty														

Entry No.		First Attempt (40 points)				Second Attempt (40 points)				Third Attempt (40 points)				Maneuver Penalty Total	FINAL SCORE (out of 120 pts)
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D		
	Maneuver Score														
	Penalty														

Entry No.		First Attempt (40 points)				Second Attempt (40 points)				Third Attempt (40 points)				Maneuver Penalty Total	FINAL SCORE (out of 120 pts)
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D		
	Maneuver Score														
	Penalty														

Entry No.		First Attempt (40 points)				Second Attempt (40 points)				Third Attempt (40 points)				Maneuver Penalty Total	FINAL SCORE (out of 120 pts)
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D		
	Maneuver Score														
	Penalty														

Revised 1/25

Judges Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 16: HUNTER AND JUMPER DIVISION

All classes in this division will be judged by USEF rules and standards for the Hunter and Hunt Seat Equitation divisions. All classes in this division, inclusive of Dressage, will count towards Hunter Division high point awards, except Walk/Trot classes. However, Novice, Hunter Hack and Cross-Rails classes will not count towards Southern Regional qualifications.

Any classes in the Hunter Division may be split or combined by grade of exhibitor as entries warrant.

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

### 16.1. Attire

**16.1.1.** 4-H members should wear hunt coats of a conservative color, breeches (or jodhpurs), boots or jodhpur shoes, and a properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmet.

**16.1.2.** In excessively hot weather, with approval of the judge, hunt coats may be removed.

**16.1.3. Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**

### 16.2. Equipment

**16.2.1.** In all classes, an English snaffle (no shank), pelham (with two reins), kimberwick and/or a full bridle, all with cavesson nosebands and plain leather brow bands, must be used.

**16.2.2.** Saddles must be of black and/or brown colors and of the hunting or forward seat type, and may have an insert on the skirt.

**16.2.3.** Saddle pads to be of the classic style, composition, and color. Style may be either classic or easy-view with additional area designated for exhibitor number.

**16.2.4.** Optional equipment may consist of the following:

A. Spurs of the unrowelled type

B. Crops or bats

C. Gloves

D. English breast plate

E. Braiding of mane and/or tail in hunt style

F. Standing martingales are optional in Working Hunter and Equitation Over Fences classes.

Standing martingales are NOT permitted in Hunter Hack, Hunter Under Saddle, or Equitation on the Flat classes. Running Martingales are prohibited in ALL classes.

G. Boots and leg wraps may be used in Equitation Over Fences classes only.

**16.2.5.** Prohibited equipment includes the following:

A. Draw reins

B. Rowelled spurs

### 16.3. Showmanship

**16.3.1.** Classes

A. Class 401 – Junior members

B. Class 402 – Junior high members

C. Class 403 – Senior members

**16.3.2.** Horses and ponies are to be shown in hand at halter or bridle. Showmanship in the Hunter and Jumper Division will follow USEF guidelines.

### 16.4. Hunter Mares

**16.4.1.** Classes

- A. 404A Hunter in Hand Junior Mares – Horse (Age of horse, 5 years and under, yearling minimum age)
- B. 404B Hunter in Hand Senior Mares – Horse (Age of horse, 6 years of age and over)
- 16.4.2.** Mares to be shown in hand at halter or bridle with natural, roached, pulled, or braided mane. To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.
- 16.4.3.** Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.
- 16.4.4.** Junior mares: 5 years and under, yearling minimum age. Senior mares 6 years of age and over. ***May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.***
- 16.5. Hunter Geldings**
  - 16.5.1. Classes**
    - A. 405A Hunter in Hand Junior Geldings – Horse (Age of horse, 5 years and under, yearling minimum age)
    - B. 405B Hunter in Hand Senior Geldings – Horse (Age of horse, 6 years of age and over)
  - 16.5.2.** Geldings to be shown in hand at halter or bridle with natural, roached, pulled, or braided mane. To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.
  - 16.5.3.** Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.
  - 16.5.4.** Junior gelding: 5 years and under, yearling minimum age. Senior gelding: 6 years of age and over. ***May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.***
- 16.6. Hunter Ponies**
  - 16.6.1. Classes**
    - A. Class 406 – Mares
    - B. Class 407 – Geldings
  - 16.6.2.** To be shown in hand at halter or bridle with natural, roached, pulled, or braided mane. To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition. Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.
  - 16.6.3.** Open to ponies of all ages. ***May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.***
- 16.7. Hunter Divisions for Flat, Over Fences and Jumper Classes**
  - 16.7.1.** Walk/Trot Hunter – Only open to beginner riders (grades 4-12) in their first two years of showing across any breed, discipline or organization including Tennessee 4-H. Includes all ponies and horses. The maximum eligibility for the Walk/Trot Division is two years. Rider may not cross-enter any other division that allows for walk, trot, and canter. Fence height is cross-rails.
  - 16.7.2.** Novice Hunter – Open to riders who are in their first four years of showing across any breed, discipline or organization including Tennessee 4-H. Includes all ponies and horses. The maximum eligibility for the Novice Division is two years. Division winners from Novice A or B cannot return to the same division in their second year (ex. Novice A winner cannot re-enter Novice A in second year; must enter Novice B in year 2). Simple changes are allowed. Riders may not cross-enter into any Under Saddle, Equitation, Hack or Over Fence class other than Novice. Novice A and B exhibitors will compete in Hunter Under Saddle and Equitation Flat together.
    - 16.7.2.1.** Novice A – Fence height is cross-rails.
    - 16.7.2.2.** Novice B - Fence height is 2 feet.
  - 16.7.3.** 2-foot Hunter – Open to all riders (grades 4-12) and includes all ponies and horses. Flat classes are competed by Age division of the youth (Jr, Jr High, Sr) with fence height at 2 feet with flying changes optional.
  - 16.7.4.** 2-foot 3-inch Hunter – Open to all riders (grades 4-12) and includes all ponies and horses. Flat classes are competed by Age division of the youth (Jr, Jr High, Sr) with fence height at 2 feet, 3 inches with flying changes.

- 16.7.5.** 2-foot 6-inch Hunter – Open to all riders (grades 4-12) and includes all ponies and horses. Flat classes are competed by Age division of the youth (Jr, Jr High, Sr) with fence height at 2 feet, 6 inches with flying changes and oxers.

### **16.8. Hunter Under Saddle**

#### **16.8.1.** Classes

- A. Class 454 – Walk/Trot Hunter Under Saddle
- B. Class 408 – Novice Hunter Under Saddle
- C. Class 413 – Junior Hunter Under Saddle
- D. Class 414 – Junior High Hunter Under Saddle
- E. Class 415 – Senior Hunter Under Saddle

**16.8.2.** A horse/rider combination may show in only ONE Hunter Under Saddle class.

**16.8.3.** To be shown at walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring on a light contact, walk/trot only in class 454 (beginner riders only). The judge may request any or all horses or ponies to hand gallop in groups up to eight horses. Horses or ponies should perform without undue restraint but should be under control at all times.

**16.8.4.** The horse or pony must back easily and stand quietly.

**16.8.5.** To be judged 75 percent on manners, performance and way of going; 25 percent on suitability of horse or pony to rider and cleanliness/neatness of rider, horse or pony, and tack.

### **16.9. Hunt Seat Equitation – on Flat**

**16.9.1.** Classes – Rider may only show once in equitation classes

- A. Class 453 – Walk/Trot Hunt Seat Equitation – on Flat
- B. Class 416 – Novice Hunt Seat Equitation – on Flat
- C. Class 421 – Junior Hunt Seat Equitation – on Flat
- D. Class 422 – Junior High Hunt Seat Equitation – on Flat
- E. Class 423 – Senior Hunt Seat Equitation – on Flat

**16.9.2.** The rider only is being judged. Rider to show horse at a walk, trot and canter both directions of the ring, walk/trot only for class 453 (beginner riders only). Rider will be judged on his/her seat, hands, legs, feet, position, balance and control of mount. Suitability of horse to rider shall be considered. Rider may be asked to perform any of the individual tests following:

- A. Back up
- B. Gallop and pull up
- C. Perform figure eight at trot, demonstrating change of diagonals. At left diagonal, rider should be sitting the saddle when left front leg is on the ground; at right diagonal, rider should be sitting the saddle when right front leg is on the ground. When circling clockwise, rider should be on left diagonal.
- D. Perform figure eight at canter on correct lead, demonstrating simple change of lead. (This is a change whereby the horse is brought back into a walk or trot and restarted into a canter on the opposite lead). Figure eight to be commenced in center of two circles so that one change of lead is shown.
- E. Riding without stirrups.
- F. Figure eight at canter on correct lead, demonstrating flying change of lead.
- G. Change leads down center of ring, demonstrating simple change of lead.
- H. Execute serpentine at a trot and/or canter on correct lead, half circles off center of imaginary line where correct diagonal or lead change must be shown.
- I. Canter on the counter lead. No more than eight horses may counter canter at one time.
- J. Perform demonstration ride of approximately one minute on own mount. Rider must write down and give to judge beforehand what pattern he/she plans to demonstrate. To be used for close placing of top riders in class.

## **16.10. Hunter Hack**

### **16.10.1. Classes**

- A. Class 459 – Walk/Trot Hunter Hack
- B. Class 424 – Novice A Hunter Hack
- C. Class 425 – Novice B Hunter Hack
- D. Class 428 – 2-foot Hunter Hack
- E. Class 429 – 2-foot, 3-inches Hunter Hack
- F. Class 430 – 2-foot, 6-inches Hunter Hack

### **16.10.2. All entries will be required to jump two fences:**

- A. Walk/Trot: Cross-Rails
- B. Novice A: Cross-Rails
- C. Novice B: 2 feet
- D. 2-foot: 2 feet
- E. 2-foot, 3-inches: 2 feet and 3 inches
- F. 2-foot, 6-inches: 2 feet 6 inches

### **16.10.3. A horse/rider combination may enter only ONE hunter hack class.**

### **16.10.4. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter at least one direction of the ring, except for Walk-trot division when only the walk and trot will be called.**

### **16.10.5. Scoring fences shall be done according to Working Hunter rules.**

### **16.10.6. Class is to be judged 70% Fences and 30% Flat.**

### **16.10.7. MARTINGALES ARE PROHIBITED.**

## **16.11. Working Hunter**

### **16.11.1. Classes**

- A. Class 431 – Novice A Working Hunter Over Fences
- B. Class 433 – Novice B Working Hunter Over Fences
- C. Class 440 – 2-foot Working Hunter Over Fences
- D. Class 443 – 2-foot, 3-inches Working Hunter Over Fences
- E. Class 446 – 2-foot, 6-inches Working Hunter Over Fences

### **16.11.2. Height of Fences**

- A. Novice A: Cross-Rails
- B. Novice B: 2 feet
- C. 2-foot: 2 feet
- D. 2-foot, 3-inches: 2 feet and 3 inches
- E. 2-foot, 6-inches: 2 feet 6 inches

#### **16.11.2.1. Distances of in-and-outs:**

- (1) Small/medium ponies = 22 feet
- (2) Large ponies = 22 feet
- (3) Horses = 24 feet

### **16.11.3. A horse/rider combination may show in only ONE working hunter class.**

### **16.11.4. Scoring Working Hunter Classes**

- A. To be judged on manners, way of going, and style of jumping. Horses shall be credited with maintaining an even hunting pace that covers the course with free-flowing strides. Preference will be shown to horses with correct jumping style that meet fences squarely, jumping at the center of fence. For Novice and Green divisions, simple changes are not penalized. Judges shall penalize unsafe jumping and bad form over fence, whether touched or untouched, including twisting. Incorrect leads on turns or cross-cantering shall be penalized, as well as excessive use of crop. In-and-outs (one or two strides) shall be

taken in the correct number of strides or be penalized. Any error that endangers the horse and/or its rider, particularly refusals or knockdowns, shall be heavily penalized.

B. Scoring shall be on the basis of 0-100, with an approximate breakdown as follows:

- (1) 90-100 – an excellent performer and good mover that jumps the entire course with cadence, balance and style.
- (2) 80-89 – a good performer that jumps all fences reasonably well; an excellent performer that commits one or two minor faults.
- (3) 70-79 – the average, fair mover that makes no serious faults, but lacks the style, cadence and good balance of the scoper horses; the good performer that makes a few minor faults.
- (4) 60-6 – poor movers that make minor mistakes; fair or average movers that have one or two poor fences but no major faults or disobediences.
- (5) 50-59 – a horse that commits one major fault, such as a hind knockdown, refusal, trot, cross canter or drops a leg.
- (6) 30-49 – a horse that commits two or more major faults, including front knockdowns and refusals, or jumps in a manner that otherwise endangers the horse and/or rider.
- (7) 10-29 – a horse that avoids elimination but jumps in such an unsafe and dangerous manner as to preclude a higher score.

**16.11.5. Elimination**

- A. Third refusal, runout, bolting on course, extra circle, showing an obstacle to a horse, or any combination of these.
- B. Jumping an obstacle before it is reset.
- C. Bolting from ring.
- D. Failure to keep proper course.
- E. Jumping an obstacle not included on the course.
- F. Horse and/or rider falling. Horse is considered to have fallen when shoulder and haunch on the same side touch the ground, or the obstacle and the ground.

**16.11.6. General Information**

- A. Circling once upon entering the ring and once upon leaving is permissible unless otherwise noted on course diagram.
- B. After jumping the fence and prior to leaving the arena, the horse shall trot a small circle on a loose rein for soundness.
- C. All horses must be serviceably sound. Any horse showing lameness, broken wind or impairment of vision shall be refused an award.
- D. Horses shall not be requested to re-jump the course.
- E. Manners shall be emphasized.
- F. When an obstacle is composed of several elements, any disturbance of these elements will be penalized; however, only a reduction in height of the top element shall be considered a knockdown.
- G. In cases of broken equipment, the rider may either continue without penalty or stop and correct the difficulty and be penalized the same as any loss of forward impulsion.
- H. When an obstacle requires two or more fences (in-and-out), faults committed at each obstacle are considered separately. In case of a refusal or runout at one element, entry may re-jump the previous elements.
- I. The course must be posted at least one hour before scheduled time of class.
- J. Whenever possible, a schooling area should be provided with at least one practice jump.

**16.12. Handy Working Hunters**

**16.12.1. Classes**

- A. Class 441 – 2-foot
- B. Class 444 – 2-foot, 3-inches
- C. Class 447 – 2-foot, 6-inches

**16.12.2.** Fences shall simulate those found in trappy hunting country.

**16.12.3.** Horses are required to trot over one fence toward the end of the course and may be asked to lead over one fence.

**16.12.4.** Course will consist of eight jumps. Heights of the fences are as follows:

- A. 2-foot: 2 feet
- B. 2-foot, 3-inches: 2 feet and 3 inches
- C. 2-foot, 6-inches: 2 feet 6 inches

**16.12.5.** Distances of in-and-outs

- A. Small/medium ponies = 22 feet
- B. Large ponies = 22 feet
- C. Horses = 24 feet

**16.12.6. A horse/rider combination may enter only ONE Handy Hunter Class.**

### **16.13. Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences**

**16.13.1.** Classes

- A. Class 432 – Novice A Equitation Over Fences
- B. Class 434 – Novice B Equitation Over Fences
- C. Class 442 – 2-foot Equitation Over Fences
- D. Class 445 – 2-foot, 3-inches Equitation Over Fences
- E. Class 448 – 2-foot, 6-inches Equitation Over Fences

**16.13.2.** Height of Fences

- A. Novice A: Cross-Rails
- B. Novice B: 2 feet
- C. 2-foot: 2 feet
- D. 2-foot, 3-inches: 2 feet and 3 inches
- E. 2-foot, 6-inches: 2 feet 6 inches

16.13.2.1. Distances of in-and-outs:

(1) Small/medium ponies = 22 feet, (2) Large ponies = 22 feet, (3) Horses = 24 feet

**16.13.3. A horse/rider combination may enter only ONE Equitation Over Fences class.**

**16.13.3.** The rider only is being judged. Rider will be judged on his/her seat, hands, legs, feet, position, balance and control of mount. Suitability of horses shall be considered. Individual performance shall consist of riding over a course of at least six jumps at the recommended height. Rider shall have the animal under control at all times. Proper use of the hands is very important.

### **16.14 Jumper**

**16.14.1.** Classes

- A. Class 456 – 2-foot, 3-inches – 2 feet 6 inches (Optimum Time)
- B. Class 457 – 2-foot, 6-inches – 2 feet 9 inches (Optimum Time)

**16.14.2.** Optimum Time – The first round and first jump-off are decided by adding together the faults incurred over the course and any penalties for exceeding the Time Allowed, if any. {Note: The use of a time allowed is optional in the initial round.} If a competitor has gone clear in the first round, they will, upon crossing the finish line, commence the designated jump-off, with time starting as the horse crosses the finish line for the initial course. In the case of equality of faults in the jump-off, ties will be broken on the following bases: an “Optimum Time” will be posted on the course plan; the horse with the Time on the course closest to this Optimum Time

(over or under) will prevail in the tie, next closest next, etc. If there are no clear rounds, a jump-off scored as described USEF rulebook will take place among those tied for first place.

**16.14.3.** A horse/rider combination may enter only ONE Jumper Class.

**16.15.** Combined Training – will not count towards High Point Awards

**16.15.1.** Combined Training is an equestrian discipline that combines dressage and stadium jumping into a single competition. It is designed to evaluate both the horse's training and the rider's skill, emphasizing balance, accuracy, rhythm, and effective communication between horse and rider. In 4-H, Combined Training classes follow guidelines consistent with the (USEF) and the United States Eventing Association.

15.15.2. Riders compete in two phases:

A. Dressage – Demonstrates the horse's training, obedience, and way of going through a prescribed test.

B. Stadium Jumping – Tests the horse and rider's ability to jump a course of fences cleanly and efficiently, focusing on accuracy, control, and safe riding.

16.15.3. Classes

A. Class 459 – Starter (2'-2'3")

B. Class 460 – Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")

C. Class 461 – Novice (2'6"-3')

## SECTION 17: WALKING AND RACKING DIVISION

The Walking, Racking and Spotted Saddle Horse shows are affiliated with the WHOA HIO.

**Horses may not cross-enter between Walking Horse and Racking Horse classes.** Walking, Racking and Spotted Saddle Horses will show together in Showmanship. Walking and Racking Horses will show together In Hand, and Trail Classes ONLY.

**All horses shown in this division must pass inspection with the show's DQP prior to competing. First place winners in all classes must also be inspected at the conclusion of the class. Exception: horses are not required to be inspected before or after competing in the Trail classes.**

A 4-H member may show both a 2-gait (Specialty) horse and a 3-gait horse (canter required).

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

### 17.1. Qualifying Gaits for Walking Horses

#### 17.1.1. Flat Walk

A. The Flat Walk is a bold four beat step with each foot leaving and striking the ground separately at regular intervals. The pattern for this step is left hind foot, left front foot, right hind foot, right front foot, creating a square four beat step. The forelegs should move straight, breaking at the knees and reaching forward. The motion of the hind foot moving over the front track creates overstride. The rear legs should follow through close to the ground in a comfortable overstriding step. In the flat walk the horse should have a vertical head nod from the withers, nodding up and down where the neck and head moves, not just the head. The horse should carry his neck higher than his topline, but not so high that there is straining or hollowing out in the back.

- Minor Fault: Too slow, disinterested, not attentive, tongue flagging
- Major Fault: Nervous, trotting, pacing, tight rein, tongue over bit, wringing tail

#### 17.1.2. Running Walk

A. The Running Walk should have an increase in speed with the same motion of the legs and head as the description of the flat walk with minimal transition between the gaits. There should be no sacrifice of form with the increase of speed.

- Minor Fault: Too slow, too fast, tongue flagging
- Major Fault: Nervous, trotting, pacing, tight rein, tongue over bit, wringing tail

#### 17.1.3. Trail Walk

A. The Trail Walk is a relaxed walk with a loose or draped rein and no appearance of strain on the part of horse or exhibitor. The horse should be relaxed, manageable and smooth.

- Minor Fault: Transition from previous gait too abrupt, horse appears anxious, walking too fast
- Major Fault: Tight rein, straining, rough ride, forging, wringing of tail

#### 17.1.4. Canter

A. The Canter of the TWH is a forward 3-beat movement performed with a diagonal movement either to the right or left.

- a. It should be an easy forward rolling motion that is consistent and steady.

- b. If the movement is to the right the horse should start left hind leg, right hind leg and left foreleg together, the right foreleg. The movement to the left is right hind leg, left hind leg and right foreleg together, the left foreleg.
- c. To be performed correctly in the show ring the horse should lead with his foreleg to the inside of the ring.
- d. A horse that does not canter both ways of the ring cannot be placed above a horse that does canter both ways.
- e. A horse that is on the wrong lead or is cross-cantering MUST be penalized in final judging.
- f. If a western horse has a fast, uncontrollable lope or requires pumping or bumping, he must be penalized.
  - Minor Fault: Too slow or too fast
  - Major Fault: Hard or rough, wrong lead, cross-firing behind, tongue over the bit, excessive pumping of reins, wringing of tail

#### **17.1.5. Other Requirements**

##### **A. Backing**

- a. Horses are required to back out from the first line up. All Flat Shod horses must stand quietly, back willingly and readily. Exception: speed racking and style racking horse are not required to back.
- b. In Western classes horses must back with head in appropriate position with mouth closed.
- c. In Western classes at the discretion of the Judge, the horse may be asked to back clear of the line-up and do a 360-degree neck reined turn, either to the right or the left, at the exhibitor's discretion.

B. Halt – In Western Classes, the Judge may call for a halt on the rail to test for quietness. Horse must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back freely when asked.

C. Head Motion & Headset – The head motion of a Walking Horse is very important - if he isn't nodding, he isn't walking.

- Minor Fault: Poll too high or too low to throw horse out of balance.
- Major Fault: Failure to nod head, side to side head nod, throwing of head, bad mouth, gaping mouth, constant bumping.

D. The Walking Horse should move freely in each gait and proceed in a smooth, fluid, rhythmic manner.

E. At all gaits, the horse should be flexed at the poll with muzzle slightly tucked. Stiff front or rear leg motion; stumbling; bucking knees; lack of rhythmic timing; pointing or favoring a particular leg; the necessity for excessive pumping or bumping of the horse; or any tendency to rack, pace, or otherwise deviate from the true walk are not typical of the breed. The preceding mannerisms are not considered good form and shall be penalized in judging.

#### **17.2. Shoeing Requirements for Walking Horses**

A. Tungsten metal (in whole or part) is prohibited.

B. Insertion of Material Between the Hoof and the Shoe. Any object or material inserted between the shoe and the hoof is not permitted. All horses must be flat shod, or barefoot. Weanling's barefoot only.

C. Pressure Shoeing. Pressure shoeing a horse or trimming a horse's hoof in a manner that will cause such horse to suffer or can reasonably be expected to cause such horse to suffer pain or distress, inflammation, or lameness when walking, trotting, or otherwise moving is strictly prohibited. Shoes may be pulled at the discretion of show management.

D. Toe Measurement. Toe length must exceed the height of the heel by one inch or more. The length of the toe shall be measured from the coronet band (where hard and soft material meet), at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall to the end of the toe. The length of the toe, exclusive of the shoe, shall not exceed 5 inches measured from the coronet band, at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall.

E. Weight Bearing Surface. The weight bearing surface of the shoe that is in contact with the hoof must be level.

F. Lead or Other Weights. Lead or other weights are prohibited. Hollowed shoes or artificial extensions filled with mercury, tungsten or similar substances are prohibited.

G. Breakover. The breakover point of the shoe cannot be any further back than the tip of the toe on the natural hoof.

H. Rocker/Roller-toed shoes are prohibited.

I. Acrylic may be used to repair one hoof only to mend a hoof where the shoe has been thrown and the hoof has been damaged. Acrylic may be used to fill in around the nail holes or cracks on the side of the hooves. Acrylic or any other material may not be used for the purpose of extending the length of the natural hoof in any manner on both feet, which includes the toes or heels. "

**17.2.1. Country Pleasure (Classes 516, 517, 538)**

A. An unaltered, factory stamped keg shoe (poured or cast) hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum light horse breed (non-draft breed) non-toe-weighted shoe is allowed. Poured or cast clips if poured in the original cast (may not be welded on). Poured or cast heels/caulks if poured in the original cast (may not be welded on). Barium is allowed on the toe 1 ½" wide at the toe and spots on the heels no more than 1/8" thick.

B. Shoes must be attached only by nails. Bands and adhesives are not permitted.

C. All address lubricants, artificial appliances (including knee guards), boots, pads, action devices, tail braces and vet wrap around legs are prohibited.

**17.2.2. Trail Pleasure (Classes 524, 525, 541)**

A. The shoe must not exceed 3/8 inch in thickness or 3/4 inch in width and must be made of hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe. Clips are allowed when drawn from the original steel or poured.

C. The use of borium is permitted on the caulks of shoe but must not exceed 7/8 inch in thickness of shoe, caulk and borium.

D. Turnback shall not exceed 1.5 inches, and the shoe must not extend fore than 1/4 inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The shoe is not to extend beyond the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the horse's heel to the ground. The shoe must not excess 1 pound, 8 ounces, in weight.

E. Shoes must be attached only by nails. Bands and adhesives are not permitted.

F. All address lubricants, artificial appliances (including knee guards), boots, pads, action devices, tail braces and vet wrap around legs are prohibited.

**17.2.3. Lite Shod (Classes 529, 530, 542)**

A. The shoe must not exceed 1/2 inch in thickness or 1 inch in width and must be made of hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum.

B. A maximum 1 1/2" turn back (measured from front to back of the caulk) is allowed, and the shoe must not extend more than 1/4 inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The shoe is not to extend beyond the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the horse's heel to the ground. The shoe must not excess 1 pound, 8 ounces, in weight.

C. The use of borium is permitted on caulks, but the combined thickness of shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8 inches.

- D. Clips are optional and may be drawn from the original steel or poured.
- E. Shoes must be attached only by nails. Adhesives are not permitted. Bands may be used provided that they are placed at least 1 inch below the coronet band and are between 1/2 inch and 3/4 inch in width and made of 16 gauge or smaller flexible steel.
- F. All address lubricants, artificial appliances (including knee guards), boots, pads, action devices, tail braces and vet wrap around the legs are prohibited.

**17.2.4. Classic Park Pleasure (Classes 531, 532, 543)**

- A. A maximum 1/2" thick x 1 1/2" wide hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe. Borium is allowed on the caulks and toes of the shoe. The thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium together must not exceed 1 1/8" thick. A maximum 1 5/8" turn back (measured from the front to the back of the caulk) is allowed. Clips are optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.
- B. Shoes must be attached only by nails. Adhesives are not permitted.
- C. All address lubricants, artificial appliances (including knee guards), boots, pads, action devices, tail braces, bands and vet wrap around legs are prohibited.

**17.2.5. Showmanship, In Hand, Equitation, Trail and Dressage**

- A. Horses may be shown in any legal shoe as described in the rules above.

**17.2.6. TWHBEA Youth Medallion 3-gait, Flat Shod (Country Pleasure, Trail Pleasure, Lite Shod, Classic Park Pleasure shoeing rules apply)**

**17.3. Attire and Tack for Walking Horses**

**17.3.1. Bridles**

- A. Braids shall be worn in English and Halter classes, but not in Western.
- B. Rhinestone or sequined brow bands and cavesson fronts are allowed in English classes.
- C. In Western classes, silver-mounted equipment shall not count over good working equipment.
- D. Quick-change bridles and reins are not permitted except in Game and timed Versatility Events.
- E. Cavessons are not allowed in Western Classic Park, Western Lite Shod, Western Trail Pleasure. Cavessons are allowed in all other classes.
- F. Blinders of any type are not permitted on the show grounds at any time. Exception: Partial blinders are allowed in driving classes.
- G. Curb chains or straps must be flat against the jaw and be at least 1/2 inch wide. Cross chain cavesson is prohibited.
- H. Martingales and tie downs are prohibited. Exceptions: TWH Over Fences, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending and Driving classes.
- I. Halter /In-hand classes: Mares, stallions, and geldings may be shown in a bridle or halter. Weanlings and yearlings shall be shown in a show halter, snaffle bit optional on yearling.
- J. Model class, entries may wear a show bridle or a leather show halter.
- K. Showmanship must be shown in halter.

**17.3.2. Leg Appliances**

- A. Boots or Action devices are prohibited on show grounds or in the show ring.
- B. Lunging in leg wraps is permitted.
- C. Bell boots and leg wraps covering the leg down to the hoof are permitted for lunging but not riding while on the showgrounds.
- D. Splint boots, polo wraps and sports medicine boots that are confined to the cannon bone area are permitted when riding on the showgrounds but not permitted in show competitions.
- E. No wraps, splints or bell boots are allowed in the warm-up area once the horse has passed inspection.

F. Leg wraps may be used in the stalls on the showgrounds for protective purposes. No plastic wrap allowed on the showgrounds.

G. Wound medications may be applied on show grounds for medicinal purposes but must be removed before the horse goes through inspection.

**17.3.3.** Proper Walking Horse attire must be adhered to at all times. However, in excessively hot weather and with the approval of the judge, coats may be removed. Formal or semi-formal attire (i.e., tuxedo shirt and bow tie) should not be worn before 6 p.m.

**17.3.4.** Typical Walking Horse equipment and tack should be used at all times. Bit shanks may not exceed 9 1/2 inches in length (English or Western).

**17.3.5.** No tape, Velcro, or other non-typical horse show material or substance can be placed/put on any part of the horse while being presented in the show ring. Penalty is disqualification from the class.

**17.3.6.** The following is prohibited in flat shod classes: gag bits without shanks, cross chain cavesons and Australian Stock Saddles. In Flat Shod classes, lubricants, artificial appliances, tail braces, pads, boots and action devices are prohibited (including knee guards/knee boots). Whips or crops cannot exceed 4 feet. Braids shall be worn in English classes only.

A. Martingales and tie downs are acceptable in barrel racing and pole bending classes ONLY (no bare metal or wire may be in contact with horse's head).

**17.3.7.** See class descriptions for additional requirements/restrictions.

**17.3.8. Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**

#### **17.4. Gaits for Racking Horses**

**17.4.1.** The SHOW WALK is a smooth, collected, slow and easy gait. It is a distinctive four-beat gait displaying both style and grace. The horse is alert and mounted well in the bridle.

**17.4.2.** The SLOW RACK is a relaxed four-beat gait with both style and action, neither a pace nor a trot. The neck should be arched with the head and ears alert. This gait should be straight and square and in form at all times.

**17.4.3.** The FAST RACK is in the same form as the slow rack, displaying style, speed and action. The fast rack is faster than either of the other gaits, but at no time should the horse sacrifice form for speed.

**17.4.4.** The TRAIL PLEASURE WALK is a true walk in which the rider and his/her mount are at complete ease. The rein is light and there is no evidence of any strain on the part of horse or rider.

**17.4.5.** The TRAIL PLEASURE RACK is a true four-beat gait (very smooth). It is recognized as being the ultimate for a pleasure horse, in which ease of riding and comfort are paramount. There is no evidence of strain on the part of the horse or the rider, and the reins are lightly held in two hands. Speed shall not be considered a factor in judging.

**17.4.6.** The PARK PLEASURE WALK will be a snappy four-beat walk without the speed or animation of the Slow Rack. The rein is light and there is no evidence of any strain on the part of horse or rider.

**17.4.7.** The PARK PLEASURE SLOW RACK will be comfortable, easy-going rack in which speed is not a factor. The rein is light and there is no evidence of any strain on the part of horse or rider.

**17.4.8.** The PARK PLEASURE FAST RACK is a distinct extension of the Slow Rack. Form shall not be compromised for the sake of speed. The rein is light and there is no evidence of any strain on the part of horse or rider.

**17.4.9.** In each of the gaits, the horse must be collected and presented well and the rider must be relaxed and smooth in the saddle. **At no time should the horse display a gait with animated hock action.**

**17.4.10.** The Racking Horse must exhibit good conformation and be free of blemishes and unsoundness, other than healed permanent type scars.

**17.4.11.** Abusive treatment and/or training techniques to produce an alteration of the gaits shall not be condoned.

### **17.5. Shoeing Requirements for Racking Horses**

**17.5.1.** Flat Shod Classes – Trail Pleasure Racking and Country Pleasure Racking

A. Trail Pleasure Racking - Trail pleasure racking horses may wear any size shoe up to the lite shod (3/4 "x 3/8 inch maximum).

B. Country Pleasure Racking - The Country Pleasure Racking horse may wear any size shoe up to the plantation-sized (1 1/2 x 1/2 inch).

### **17.6. Tack and Attire for Racking Horses**

**17.6.1.** All tack must be neat and clean and fit the horse correctly. No tape, Velcro, vet wrap around legs or other non-typical horse show material or substance can be placed/put on any part of the horse while being presented in the show ring. Penalty is disqualification from the class.

**17.6.2.** No boots, set tails, or artificial appliances are permitted in any Racking Horse class.

**17.6.3.** Bridles

A. Hackamores, martingales and tie-downs are prohibited.

B. Bridles should be the type commonly used by Racking Horses, with single reins.

C. Bit shanks (ring to ring) can be no longer than 9 ½ inches, except in style and open racking where bit length is unrestricted.

**17.6.4.** Saddles

A. Saddles should be the flat English type.

B. Forward seat saddles are prohibited.

C. Western saddles are prohibited except in designated Western classes.

**17.6.5.** Braiding should be attached neatly at forelock and mane.

**17.6.6.** Dress

A. Following the tradition of the show ring, it is necessary that the exhibitors be neatly attired for competition.

B. The exhibitor will wear an English riding habit.

C. All riding attire shall be neat and properly fitted.

**D. Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**

**17.6.7.** Breast straps may be used and must be free of any imprinting of names or symbols.

### **17.7. Showmanship (Walking and Racking)**

**17.7.1.** Classes – shown with Walking and Racking Horse exhibitors

A. Class 501 – Junior members

B. Class 502 – Junior High members

C. Class 503 - Senior members

**17.7.2. Showmanship at Halter**

A. Class Procedures: All exhibitors may enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. When exhibitors are worked individually from the gate, a working order is required. The following maneuvers is considered acceptable: lead the horse at a walk, pleasure gait or back in a straight or curved line, or a combination of straight and curved lines; stop; and turn 90 (1/4), 180 (1/2), 270 (3/4), 360 (full turn) degrees or any combination or multiple of these turns. The pull turn is an unacceptable maneuver. The judge must have the exhibitors set the horse up parked out or square for inspection sometime during the class.

B. Showmanship whips (dressage whips, etc.), war bridles or like devices or any type of wire or rope over the horse's head are not permitted for showmanship purposes.

C. Scoring: Exhibitors are to be scored from zero to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Patterns will be divided into 6-10 maneuvers, as specified by the judge and each maneuver will be scored from plus 3 to minus 3 with ½ point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70. Maneuver scores should be determined independent of penalties and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and the horsemanship form and effectiveness of the exhibitor to result in the following scores: --3 extremely poor, -2 very poor, -1 poor, 0 average or correct, +1 good, +2 very good, +3 excellent. Exhibitors' overall horsemanship form and effectiveness should also be scored from 0-5 with 0 to 2 average, 3 good, 4 very good, 5 excellent.

D. Overall Presentation of Exhibitor and Horse: The exhibitors' overall poise, confidence, appearance and position throughout the class and the physical appearance of the horse will be evaluated. Presentation of Position of Exhibitor, appropriate western attire or saddle seat suit attire; a suit must have a matching coat and matching jodhpurs of the same material, saddle seat style boots, a coordinating vest, tie and collar shirt set, with a matching derby or homburg; but not a combination of western and English attire. Day coats do not constitute to a full suit and are considered illegal attire. Exception: 4-H specified classes may use day coats. Helmets are permitted. Gloves are optional for western and English attire. Spurs are not permitted. Clothes and person are to be neat and clean. The use of any type of artificial aid, but not limited to lighters, hay, dirt, sharp pins, magnetic device etc. will result in disqualification.

E. Exhibitors must be poised, confident, courteous and genuinely sportsmanship-like at all times, quickly recognizing and correcting faults, in the positioning of the horse. The exhibitor should continue showing the horse until the class has been placed or they have been excused, unless otherwise instructed by the judge. The exhibitor should appear business-like, stand and move in a straight, natural and upright manner, and avoid excessive natural or animated body positions.

F. The exhibitor must lead on the horse's left side holding the lead shank in the right hand near the halter with the tail of the lead loosely coiled or folded in the left hand. The exhibitor's hand must not be on the chain portion of the lead. When leading, the exhibitor should be positioned between the eye and midpoint or the horse's neck, referred to as leading position.

G. Both arms should be bent at the elbow with the elbows held close to the exhibitor's side and the forearms held in a natural position. Height of the arms may vary depending on the size of the horse and exhibitor, but the arms should never be held straight out with the elbows locked.

H. The position of the exhibitor when executing a turn to the right is the same as the leading position except the exhibitor should turn and face toward the horse's head and have the horse move away from them to the right.

I. When executing a back, the exhibitor should turn from the leading position to face toward the rear of the horse with the right hand extended in front of the exhibitor's chest still maintaining slight bend in the elbow and walk forward. The ideal position is for the exhibitors' left shoulder to be in alignment with the horse's front left leg.

J. When setting the horse up for inspection, the exhibitor should stand angled toward the horse in a position between the horse's eye and muzzle, and should never leave the head of the horse. The exhibitor is required to use The Quarter Method when presenting the horse. The exhibitor should maintain a position that is safe for themselves and the judge. (A minimum of one arms length to the judge, after the horse has been set up. The position of the exhibitor should not obstruct the judge's view of the horse should allow the exhibitor to maintain awareness of the judge's position at all times. The exhibitor should not crowd other exhibitors when setting up side-by-side or head-to-tail. When moving around the horse, the exhibitor should change sides

in front of the horse with minimal steps and should assume the same position on the right side of the horse that they had on the left side.

K. Leading, backing, turning and initiating the setup should be performed from the left side of the horse. At no time should the exhibitor ever stand directly in front of the horse. The exhibitor should not touch the horse with their hands or feet or visibly cue the horse by pointing their feet at the horse during set-up.

L. Presentation of the Horse: The horse's body condition and overall fitness should be assessed. Their hair coat should be clean, well-brushed and in good condition. The mane, tail, forelock and wither tuff may not contain ornaments (ribbons, bows, etc) but may be banded for western. Horses and exhibitors showing in saddle-seat attire must have traditional mane and forelock ribbons. The length of mane and tail may vary as long as they are near, clean and free of tangles. The bridle path, eyebrows and long hair on the head may be clipped, except where government regulations prohibit. Hooves should be properly trimmed and shod, the shoes should fit properly and clinches should be neat. Hooves must be clean and may be painted with clear hoof polish or shown naturally. Tack should fit properly and be neat, clean and in good repair.

M. Pattern Performance: The exhibitor should perform the work accurately, precisely, smoothly and with reasonable amount of speed. Increasing speed of the work, increases degree of difficulty, however, accuracy and precision should not be sacrificed for speed. The horse should lead, stand, back and turn should set-up willingly, briskly and readily with minimal visible or audible cueing.

N. The horse should be led directly to and away from the judge in a straight or curved line and track briskly and freely at the prescribed gait as instructed. The horse's head and neck should be straight and in line with the body.

O. The stop should be straight, prompt and smooth and responsive with the horse's body remaining straight.

P. The horse should back up readily with the head, neck and body aligned in a straight or curved line as instructed.

Q. On turns of greater than 90 degrees, the ideal turn consists of the horse pivoting on the right hind leg while stepping across and in front of the right front leg with the left front leg. An exhibitor should not be penalized if the horse performs a pivot on the left hind, but an exhibitor whose horse performs the pivot correctly should receive more credit.

R. A pull turn to the left is an unacceptable maneuver.

S. The horse should be set up quickly in a parked out or square manner.

T. Penalties: Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied for each occurrence and will be deducted from the final score:

1. Three (3) Points: Break of gait at the walk or pleasure gait up to two strides Over or under turning up to 1/8th of a turn Ticking or hitting cone Sliding a pivot foot Lifting a pivot foot during a pivot and replacing it in the same place Lifting a foot in the set-up and replacing it in the same place after presentation.
2. Five (5) Points: Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet Location. Break of gait at walk or pleasure gait for more than two strides Splitting the cone (cone between the horse and exhibitor) Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn Horse stepping out of a set-up after presentation Horse resting a foot or hipshot in a set-up 72 Over or under turning 1/8th to 1/4th of a turn.
3. Ten (10) Points: Exhibitor is not in the required position during inspection Exhibitor touching the horse or kicking or pointing their feet at the horse's feet during the

set-up Standing directly in front of the horse Loss of lead shank, holding chain, or two hands on shank Blatant disobedience including biting, kicking, rearing or pawing; horse continually circle exhibitor Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn more than one time

4. Disqualifications (should not be placed) including: Loss of control of horse that endangers exhibitors, other horses, or judge Horse becomes separated from exhibitor Failure to display correct number Willful abuse Excessive schooling or training; use of artificial aids Illegal tack, equipment or attire

5. Zero Score (not to be placed above a correct pattern): Going off pattern, Knocking over or being on the wrong side of the cone, Never performing specified gait, Over or under turning more than a 1/4th turn.

**17.7.3** To be shown in hand at halter

**17.7.4.** Judged according to 4-H Horse Project

**17.7.5.** English or Western tack and attire may be used for Showmanship.

**17.8. Walking and Racking Mares In-Hand** (all entries are flat shod)

**17.8.1.** Class 506A Walking/Racking Junior Mares In-Hand (Age of Horse, 5 years and under, yearling minimum age)

Class 506B Walking/Racking Senior Mares In-Hand (Age of Horse, 6 years of age and over) **May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.**

**17.8.2.** Mares to be shown in hand at bridle or halter.

**17.8.3.** To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.

**17.8.4.** The attire of exhibitor and tack of horse may be English or Western.

**17.9. Walking and Racking Geldings In-Hand**

**17.9.1.** Class 507A Walking/Racking Junior Geldings In-Hand (Age of Horse, 5 years and under, yearling minimum age)

Class 507B Walking/Racking Senior Geldings In-Hand (Age of Horse, 6 years of age and over)

Class 507C Non-Trotting In-Hand (Mares and Geldings) **May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.**

**17.9.2.** Geldings to be shown in hand at halter or bridle.

**17.9.3.** To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition. Every entry to be shown individually at the walk and running walk/slow rack.

**17.9.4.** The attire of exhibitor and tack of horse may be English or Western.

**17.10. Walking/Racking Equitation**

**17.10.1.** Classes

A. Class 509 – Junior members, Specialty (no canter)

C. Class 512 – Senior members, Specialty (no canter)

D. Class 514 – Junior and Senior members, 3-gait

**17.10.2.** General Information

A. The judge's opinion rests on a 50-50 analysis of the rail work and the individual tests.

B. Neat English or Western attire is required – a combination of both is not allowed

C. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, and the ability to control and show the horse. Results as shown by performance of the horse are NOT to be considered more important than the method used by the rider.

D. It should be stressed that the required Equitation is a natural, coordinated and comfortable riding position and should in no way be rigid or exaggerated.

E. A rider should convey the impression of effective and easy control, with the general appearance of being able to ride for a considerable length of time with pleasure.

F. To show a horse well, rider should show himself or herself to the best advantage. Ring generalship shall be taken into consideration by the judge. The appearance, presentation and alertness of the rider and his/her mount make the overall picture of utmost importance.

G. The fall of a rider is a disqualification from the class.

### **17.10.3. English Attire and Tack**

#### **17.10.3.1. Position:**

A. General: In Equitation, the rider as opposed to the horse is being judged. The walking horse's unique center of gravity and gaits require an Equitation Seat of its own. Judges should note the required seat should not be exaggerated but efficient, effective, and most comfortable for the type of horse ridden. The rider should convey effective and easy control. They should demonstrate the ability to show the horse to its best advantage, and this ring generalship should be considered by judges.

B. Hands: Hands should be held in an easy position and show sympathy, adaptability, and control. The height held above the withers is a matter of where the horse ridden carries its head. Both hands must be used. The elbows should not be clamped down at the rider's side. The elbows should not be straight and the hands should not be down on the withers. Crossed or "closed" reins are encouraged.

C. Basic Position: The rider should sit comfortably in the saddle and have their center of gravity. The rider should not be sliding off the back of the saddle and nor should they be forward onto the crotch. The thighs are rolled inward for contact. The irons should be placed under the ball of the foot (not the toe or rammed home) with even pressure on the width of the sole. Foot position should be with heels down. If the rider drops their stirrups, the bottom of the stirrup should be just at or below the ankle bone. The legs should be held comfortably as permitted by the barrel of the horse and not held excessively out or "flared". The legs should not be held "toed out". Viewed from the side, a straight line should be drawn from the rider's ear, shoulder, to hip, to heel. This puts the rider's leg directly below the seat and is most balanced.

D. Position in Motion: The flat walk and running walk will have slight, natural motion. Excessive forward and backward motion in the saddle will be penalized. The canter should have a close seat moving with the horse and not rocking the torso or pumping with the arms and hands.

E. Reverse: English horses are reversed toward the rail.

F. The rider of Walking Seat Equitation is to be judged on his/her skill and form on a horse. The horse and rider should be groomed to meticulous perfection. The rider should exercise good taste right down to the smallest, most minute detail. The rider is required to choose a neat, well-fitted habit with accompanying accessories within guidelines based on tradition and present-day customs.

#### **17.10.3.2. Appointments:**

A. Personal: Riders are judged at all times on ability. However, neatness and professional turnout are a must. These requirements are based on tradition and present-day customs. Judges must penalize and may eliminate riders who do not conform.

B. Informal suit: Riding habit consisting of jacket with collars and lapels of the same conservative color with matching jodhpurs, a collared shirt, tie, vest, and complimentary gloves, jodhpur boots, derby or homburg hat. Conservative colors for informal riding habits include shades of blue, black, grey, burgundy, green, beige, or brown and may contain herringbone, pin stripes, and other combinations of colors that appear solid. Colors not included on this list are not acceptable and must be penalized. Day coats do not constitute a full suit and must be penalized. Tie downs on the pants are mandatory. 26

C. Formal Suit: Formal attire is even more conservative. Formal attire may only be worn after 6:00 pm. The formal riding habit will have a tuxedo type jacket with collars and lapels of the same color with matching jodhpurs, formal shirt, bow tie, vest or cummerbund, and a matching top hat. Men may wear homburg. Formal jodhpurs have a satin stripe of matching color down the lateral side. The formal suit is made of solid colors including dark grey, dark brown, dark blue, or black. The formal shirt is white or off white with a bow tie, vest and cummerbund matching the shirt or habit in color. Colors not included on this list are not acceptable and must be penalized. Riders may choose to wear dark or white gloves. Tie downs on the pants are mandatory.

D. Rider Turnout: The rider's hair must be neat and styled above the collar.

E. Communication devices: Electronic communication devices used for coaching between riders and individuals outside or inside the arena are strictly prohibited.

F. Numbers: Back numbers must be worn on the rider's back and clearly visible while competing.

G. Optional: English spurs and/or English saddle seat style whip may be used. Riders will not be penalized for using these aids to signal and/or correct the horse.

#### 17.10.3.3. Tack:

A. Bridle: A standard English Walking horse bridle with a single rein must be used. Rhinestone brow bands are not permitted. The horse shall wear a bit acceptable for his division.

B. Saddle: English cut back saddles are to be used. Dressage and forward seat saddles are prohibited. Cavessons and breast straps should be made of black or brown leather. Rhinestones are prohibited.

C. Braids: Braids should be traditional and straight plaited without butterflies or other ornamentation.

### 17.10.4. Western Tack and Attire

#### 17.10.4.1. Position:

A. General: The stirrups should be of length to allow the heels to be lower than the toes with a slight bend in the knee and calf close to the horse. Feet should be placed with the ball of the foot on the stirrups. The body should be comfortable, relaxed, and flexible. The arm holding the reins is bent at the elbow. Two hands may be used in western tack and attire. Both hands and arms should be held in a relaxed, easy manner with the upper arms in a straight line with the body. With a bend in the elbows, the hands should hold the reins such that they enter at the outside of the hand and depart through the thumb and forefinger crossed and pulled smoothly between hands. Position should be held such that there is a straight line from the rider's elbow to the horse's mouth.

#### 17.10.4.2. Hands:

A. Split reins – Reins may be held in either the right or left hand. Only the index finger is between the reins, and the remainder of the reins must fall on the same side as the hand the reins are in. The remainder of the reins must never be touched by the offhand during the class. The hand holding the rein should be placed just above level with the horn. The position of the hand not holding the rein is optional but should be kept free of the horse and equipment. This "off" hand may be held in a mirror position to the rein hand.

B. Romal reins – The right or left hand may hold the reins with the remainder the rein coiled neatly in the offhand. There should be approximately 16 inches between hands with the offhand behind the cinch. The rein hand can have no fingers between the reins and should be in a fist position with hands closed around the reins just in front of the horn.

C. Shanked/ Snaffle Bit: May be used with western flat shod pleasure horses.

D. Body: One should be able to draw a vertical line through the exhibitor's ear, shoulder, hip, and heel as this is the most balanced seat.

E. Position in Motion: There will be subtle movement at the trail walk as well as the flat walk and running walk. Excessive sliding back and forth in the saddle will be penalized. The lope should have a close seat moving with the horse. There should be no jerking or pumping of the arms and hands on the reins. Loping on the incorrect lead will be penalized. Riders are expected to correct an incorrect lead.

F. Reverse: stock horses are reversed away from the rail.

G. Halt: The judge may ask for a halt at any gait.

H. Communication Devices: Electronic communication devices used for coaching between riders and individuals outside or inside the arena are strictly prohibited.

#### 17.10.4.3. Appointments:

A. Personal: Riders are judged on ability, however, neatness and professional turn out is a must. These requirements are based on tradition and present customs. Judges must penalize and eliminate riders who do not adhere.

B. Riders must wear a western hat, long sleeved shirt with any type of collar, pants, chaps, and boots. A vest, jacket, or coat may also be worn. Gloves are optional.

C. The rider's hair must be neat and styled above the collar. Spurs are optional.

D. Tack: Western saddle sized to the rider. Buddy stirrups are prohibited. Australian stock saddles may not be used. Breast collars are optional.

E. Bridle: A western bridle with split or romel reins. Riders are allowed to use two hands.

F. Helmets: Riders are REQUIRED to wear ASTM/SEI Certified riding helmets

#### 17.10.5 Tests from Which Judges May Choose

A. Enter ring at the flat-walk, turning to right and proceeding in counterclockwise direction.

The class shall proceed at least once around the ring at each gait and, on command, reverse and repeat. Riders may reverse mounts either toward or away from the rail. The gesture of stopping, leaning forward in the saddle and feeling of the curb chain is permissible, if necessary, but certainly not desirable and should be avoided. **Riders in class 514 who do not canter/lope will not be placed regardless of number of entries.**

B. Entries shall line up on command and any or all riders may be required to execute any test(s) listed.

C. Test may be performed either individually or as a group and may be asked for before or after rail work.

D. Tests: Tests may be performed either individually or collectively but no other tests may be used. A pattern consists of two or more ridden tests. These are to be selected at the Judge's discretion. Classes specified as "No Canter" may not be asked to canter during a test. Tests from which judges must choose to create their pattern:

1. Back

2. Individual Performance on the Rail: Any or all gaits.

3. Circle: Perform a circle at any or all gaits.

4. Straight Line: Performed at any or all gaits.

5. Figure Eight: Performed at any or all gaits.

6. Serpentine: performed at any or all gaits.

7. Riding Without Stirrups: Performed at any or all gaits.

8. Lead Change: Canter lead change on a straight line (simple change of lead).

#### 17.10.6. Mounting and Dismounting

A. To mount, take up reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right hand and insert left foot in stirrup and mount.

B. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down.

#### 17.10.7. English Hand Positioning

- A. The hands should be held in an easy position, waist or elbow high; over pommel, with palms downward and slightly turned toward body; wrist rounded slightly.
- B. The hands should be in unison with the horse's mouth, showing adaptability as well as control. How and where the horse carries its head determines the height the hands are held above the horse's withers.
- C. Hands and wrists should be flexible and not held extremely separated. (From the rider's view, the hands should be in a "V" shape, close enough for thumbs to touch.) The fingers should be closed over reins, firm but not rigid. Pressure between thumb and index fingers to secure ends. Closed (or crossed) reins shall be used, with both hands on the reins, and the bight of the rein should be on the offside.

**17.10.8. Basic English Position**

- A. To obtain proper position, rider should sit comfortably in the middle of the saddle and find his/her center of gravity by sitting with a slight bend at the knees, without use of the stirrups. While in this position, have stirrup leathers adjusted to fit so that irons will be under ball of foot with even pressure on entire width of sole and center of iron.
- B. The foot position will be natural and comfortable if the knee and thigh are rolled inward and the heel is slightly lower than the toes. From the front or rear view, the lower leg will be held naturally away from the horse, depending on the anatomy of the rider and the size of the horse.
- C. The knee should rest against saddle.

**17.10.9. Position in Motion for English Riders**

- A. The position in motion should be natural, coordinated and graceful, which is attained only with practice.
- B. From the side view a straight line can be drawn perpendicular to the ground through the rider's head, neck, shoulder, hip and ankle.
- C. The rider's toe should never be any more forward than his/ her knee, thereby keeping his/her center of balance directly above the feet and ankles.
- D. Upper arms should fall naturally from the shoulders toward the hip bones, and should be flexible, never clutched to the body, extended forward or spread away from the body.
- E. Hands should be in a comfortable waist-level position, depending on how and where the horse carries its head. The use of the hands should be smooth and gradual, without jerking or pumping at any of the gaits, or jerks on the reins parked.

**17.10.10. Basic Western Position**

- A. Rider should sit in center of saddle with legs under rider forming a straight vertical line through ear, center of shoulder, center of hip and back of heel.
- B. Stirrup length should allow heels to be lower than toes, with slight bend in knee and toe directly under knee.
- C. Body should always appear comfortable, relaxed and flexible. The back should be nearly flat. Stiff and/or arched lower back should be avoided.
- D. Feet may be placed home in the stirrup, with boot heel touching the stirrup, or may be placed with ball of foot in the stirrup. Riding with toes only in stirrup will be penalized.

**17.10.11. Western Hand Positioning**

- A. Riders are permitted to show with two hands on the reins.
- B. Both hands and arms shall be held in a relaxed easy manner, with the shoulders back and down, and upper arm in a straight line with the body.
- C. The arm holding the reins should be bent at the elbow, forming a straight line from the elbow to the horse's mouth.

- D. When using a romal, the rider's off-hand shall be around the romal with a least 16 inches of rein between the hands.
- E. Wrists are to be kept straight and relaxed, with thumb on top and fingers closed around the reins. One finger between the reins is permitted when using split reins, but not romal.
- F. Some movement of the arm is permissible, but excessive pumping will be penalized.
- G. Reins are to be carried immediately above or slightly in front of saddle horn. Only one hand is to be used for reining, and that hand shall not be changed.
- H. Reins should be carried so as to have light contact with the horse's mouth and at no time shall reins be carried more than a slight hand movement from the horse's mouth.
- I. Excessively loose reins will be penalized.

**17.10.12. Position in Motion for Western Riders**

- A. At the lope, the rider should remain seated.
- B. Rider should maintain a vertical position at all gaits.
- C. All movements of horse should be governed by the use of imperceptible aids.
- D. Exaggerated shifting of the rider's weight is not desirable.
- E. Moving of the lower legs of riders who are short shall not be penalized.

**17.11. Country Pleasure**

**17.11.1. Classes**

- A. Class 516 – TWH English Country Pleasure, Junior members, Specialty (no canter)
- B. Class 517 – TWH English Country Pleasure, Senior members, Specialty (no canter)
- C. Class 538 A – TWH Western Country Pleasure Junior, Specialty (no canter)  
Class 538 B – TWH Western Country Pleasure Senior, Specialty (no canter)

**17.11.2. Judging Standards:**

- A. The Country Pleasure horse must display a true four beat gait at the flat walk and running walk.
- B. The Country Pleasure horse should display slightly less shoulder lift and animation with its front legs than the Trail Pleasure horse.
- C. This horse should be balanced with a pronounced and cadenced head nod when considering gait, form and rhythm.
- D. The Country Pleasure horse should be manageable on a light rein.
- E. Horses may be asked to trail walk and to halt and stand quietly on a relaxed rein at the judges' discretion. Keeping in mind this is a horse in the show ring, therefore neatness and manners are paramount.

**17.11.3.** The Country Pleasure horse shall break less than 45 degrees with the knees and lack the lift of the shoulders seen in more animated classes.

**17.11.4.** The overstride naturally may be shorter in this class but should never appear "trotty" or stiff. The head nod must truly be an up and down nod (never side to side) but may lack some of the depth needed in other classes.

**17.11.5.** The Country Pleasure horse must be alert and well-behaved, stand quietly, and back readily.

**17.11.6.** Neat English or Western attire is required – a combination of both is not allowed. Ring snaffles are allowed on any age of horse whether shown Western or English. Cavesons are allowed with both Western and English attire, but cross chain cavesons are prohibited.

**17.11.7.** Maximum 3/8 inch thick by 3/4 inch wide factory-stamped (poured or cast) hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum keg shoe on both the front and hind feet.

**17.12. Trail Pleasure** (when showing in Western Tack and Attire, reins may be held with two hands)

**17.12.1. Classes**

- A. Class 524 – TWH English Trail Pleasure, Junior members, Specialty (no canter)

- B. Class 525 – TWH English Trail Pleasure, Senior members, Specialty (no canter)
- C. Class 541 – TWH Western Trail Pleasure, Junior and Senior members, Specialty (no canter)

**17.12.2. Judging Standards:**

- A. The Trail Pleasure horse must display the true four beat gaits at the flat walk and running walk.
- B. The Trail Pleasure horse should move in an alert, determined and forward manner with an ample and cadenced head shake.
- C. The Trail Pleasure horse should move with ease, overstride and lift of the shoulders on a light rein.
- D. The Trail Pleasure horse should canter in a relaxed manner with no sign of effort from the exhibitor.
- E. Trail Pleasure horses may be asked to trail walk and halt while exhibiting at the judges' discretion.

**17.12.3.** Neat English or Western attire is required unless class name specifies English or Western – a combination of both is not allowed. Ring snaffles are allowed on any age of horse whether shown Western or English.

**17.12.4.** The Trail Pleasure horse must be alert and well-behaved, stand quietly, and back readily.

**17.13. Lite Shod** (when showing in Western Tack and Attire, reins may be held in two hands)

**17.13.1. Classes**

- A. Class 529 – TWH English Lite Shod, Junior members, Specialty (no canter)
- B. Class 530 – TWH English Lite Shod, Senior members, Specialty (no canter)
- C. Class 542 – TWH Western Lite Shod, Junior and Senior members, Specialty (no canter)

**17.13.2. Judging Standards:**

- A. The Lite Shod horse must display a true four beat gait at the flat walk and running walk.
- B. The Lite Shod horse should be light and airy with its front legs and exhibit a long gliding over stride with a defined flat walk and running walk.
- C. The Lite Shod horse should display a cadenced headshake in rhythm with its legs.

**17.13.3.** Neat English or Western attire is required unless class name specifies English or Western – a combination of both is not allowed. Ring snaffles are allowed on any age of horse whether shown Western or English.

**17.13.4.** All entries will be asked to back individually in the lineup. Any entry that leans back on its haunches and/or drags both front feet instead of picking them up individually must be heavily penalized.

**17.14. Classic Park Pleasure** (when showing in Western Tack and Attire, reins may be held in two hands)

**17.14.1. Classes**

- A. Class 531 – TWH English Classic Park Pleasure, Junior members, Specialty (no canter)
- B. Class 532 – TWH English Classic Park Pleasure, Senior members, Specialty (no canter)
- C. Class 543 – TWH Western Classic Park Pleasure, Junior and Senior members, Specialty (no canter)

**17.14.2.** The Classic Park Pleasure horse is significantly more animated than the Lite Shod horse, with a more pronounced head shake. This horse should roll out of its shoulders with a natural reach with its front legs. It should have a long, gliding overstride and be slightly elevated.

**17.14.3.** The horse should never appear artificial or cramped in its way of going. The Classic Park Pleasure horse should perform the flat walk, running walk, and canter (in 3-gait class) effortlessly. The horse should display a true, four-beat gait and never show any tendency to trot, rack, or pace. Form is never to be sacrificed for speed.

**17.14.4.** The horse should be high-headed, alert, and a show horse at all times. Manners are paramount.

**17.14.5.** Neat English or Western attire is required unless class name specifies – a combination of both is not allowed. Ring snaffles are allowed on any age of horse whether shown Western or English.

**17.14.6.** All entries will be asked to back individually in the lineup. Any entry that leans back on its haunches and/or drags both front feet instead of picking them up individually must be heavily penalized.

**17.15. Trail Pleasure Racking** (when showing in Western Tack and Attire, reins may be held in two hands)

**17.15.1.** Classes

- A. Class 520 – English Trail Pleasure Racking - Junior members
- B. Class 521 – English Trail Pleasure Racking - Senior members

**17.15.2.** Judging Standards

- A. Horses shall enter the ring at a trail rack. The judge will call for a trail walk and trail rack in both directions of the ring.
- B. Trail Racking Horses should exhibit a true 4 beat gait with an effortlessness geared toward encouraging stamina and longevity on the trails.
- C. Horses must walk and rack on a loose rein and be extremely well mannered, responsive and quiet. Horses must stand quietly and back readily.
- D. Animation and action are not desired in a trail racking horse.
- E. Trail Pleasure Racking Western classes must reverse away from the rail (to the inside).
- F. Reins may be held in two hands.
- G. cavessons are allowed
- H. The Judge may call for a halt on the rail to test for quietness.
- I. Horse must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back freely when asked.

**17.15.3.** Horses may NOT cross enter in Country, Plantation OR Show Pleasure Racking classes

**17.16. English Country Pleasure Racking**

**17.16.1.** Classes

- A. Class 527 – Junior members
- B. Class 528 – Senior members

**17.16.2.** Horses may be shown in either English or Western appointments. (See section 6 for description of English appointments and Western Division for description of Western appointments.) A combination of both English and Western appointments is not permitted.

**17.16.3.** Judging Standards

- A. Horses shall enter the ring at a slow rack. The Judge will call for a show walk, slow rack, and a fast rack (country pleasure rack) both directions of the ring.
- B. Country Pleasure Racking Horses should exhibit a true 4-beat gait with slightly more animation than the trail racking horse.
- C. Horses should be well mannered and responsive.
- D. Quality of gait shall not be sacrificed for speed.
- E. Horses must stand quietly and back readily.
- F. Country Pleasure Racking Western classes must reverse away from the rail (to the inside).
- G. Reins may be held in two hands.
- H. Cavessons are allowed
- I. The Judge may call for a halt on the rail to test for quietness.
- J. Horse must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back freely when asked. If a Western horse does not stand quietly, it shall be penalized.

**17.16.4.** Horses shown in Country Pleasure and/or Trail Pleasure classes MAY NOT also be shown in Park Pleasure or Show Pleasure classes.

**17.16.5.** Horses may NOT cross enter in Trail, Park OR Show Pleasure Racking classes

**17.17. Western Racking Flat Shod**

**17.17.1.** Class – 537 Western Racking Flat Shod

A. Junior and Senior members

**17.17.2.** Shoeing requirements are the same as all other flat shod racking. Any padded horse entered will be disqualified.

**17.17.3.** Tack and Attire

A. Western tack and attire, chaps and spurs are optional.

B. The horse shall wear a western bridle. Cavessons are allowed.

C. No whips are allowed.

D. At no time should silver mounted or embossed equipment count over good working equipment.

E. Braids, martingales, nose bands and tie downs are not allowed.

**17.17.4.** The Western Pleasure horse should exhibit qualities needed for ranch or farm work. The horse should work quietly in a smooth gait without excessive action. The head should be a natural set. The horse should be ridden with a loose rein. Reins may be held in one or both hands, but cannot be changed during performance. When the horse is moving, the rider's hands are clear of horse and saddle.

**17.17.5.** Two gaits will be called: Pleasure Walk and Slow Rack. The Western Pleasure Walk is a true walk in which the rider and his mount are at complete ease. The rein is loose and there is no evidence of any strain on the part of horse or rider. The Western Pleasure Slow Rack is considered to be a true 4 beat gait (very smooth). It is recognized as being the ultimate for a pleasure horse in which ease of riding and comfort is paramount.

**17.17.6.** The judge may call for a halt on the rail. The horse will stand quietly. On the judge's command, each horse may be asked to back clear of the line-up and execute a 360-degree turn.

**17.18. Walking/Racking Costume**

**17.18.1.** Class

A. Class 549 – All members

**17.18.2 Please use caution and good judgment when creating costumes and keep safety in mind. Show committees must monitor and confirm that costumes are safe, even if it means excusing exhibitors from a class due to unsafe costumes for themselves or other horses and youth.**

A. Entries can be shown in hand or on horseback. Lead-line style entries will not be accepted.

B. Costumes should show imagination, ingenuity and clearly represent the exhibitor's efforts.

C. All entries should be accompanied by a 3-inch by 5-inch card which contains the name of the exhibitor, county and region, and the theme of the costume or an explanation of the purpose or intent.

D. No skits or acts will be accepted.

E. All exhibitors must design costumes in such a manner as to permit movement at the walk and to be safe.

F. No costume will be permitted to enter or remain in the ring if, in the opinion of the judge, ringmaster or show committee, the costume is deemed to create a hazardous situation for the exhibitor or any other exhibitor, the horse is unruly to the point of being unmanageable or as a result of activity during the class the costume is seriously damaged or deteriorated.

G. Evaluation and placing shall be at the discretion of show management and/or the judge.

H. More than ten consecutively placed ribbons may be awarded for this class (i.e., special recognition, funniest, prettiest, most creative, etc.).

**17.19. Non-Trotting Classes**

17.19.1. Horses entered in Walking, Racking or Spotted Saddle Horse classes may NOT cross enter into Non-Trotting classes.

17.19.2. Classes include:

- A. Class 507C – Non-Trotting In-Hand
- B. Class 510 – Non-Trotting Equitation
- C. Class 533 – Non-Trotting Pleasure – 2-gait

17.19.3. The above Non-Trotting classes will not count towards High Point awards.

**17.20. Score Sheets**

**17.20.1. Showmanship**

**Showmanship Score Sheet**

**Showmanship Score Sheet**

Class #: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pattern \_\_\_\_\_

Show: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Minor Penalties (-3 Points):**

- Break of gait up to 2 strides
- Over or under turning up to 1/8 of a turn
- Ticking or hitting cone
- Sliding pivot foot
- Lifting a pivot foot and replacing it in the same place

Scoring: 0 to infinity with 70 denoting the average. Exhibitor automatically begins run with a score of 70. Maneuvers are scored +3 to -3.

**Maneuver Scores:**

- +3 Excellent
- +2 Very Good
- +1 Good
- 0 Average
- 1 Below Average
- 2 Poor
- 3 Very Poor

**Major Penalties (-5 Points):**

- Not performing gait or stopping within 10' of designated area
- Break of gait for more than 2 strides
- Splitting cone between horse and exhibitor
- Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn
- Horse stepping out of set-up after presentation
- Horse resting a foot or hipshot in a set-up
- Over or under turning between 1/8 and 1/4 turn

**Form & Effectiveness: 0 to +5**

- +5 Excellent
- +4 Very Good
- +3 Good
- +2 Average
- +1, 0 Below Average

**Severe Penalties (-10 points):**

- Exhibitor not in required position during inspection
- Exhibitor touching horse, kicking or pointing feet at horse's feet during set-up
- Standing directly in front of horse
- Loss of lead shank, holding chain, or two hands on shank
- Blatant disobedience including biting, kicking, rearing or pawing, or horse continuously circling exhibitor
- Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn more than once

**Zero-Score:**

- Going off pattern
- Knocking over or being on wrong side of cone
- Never performing specified gait
- Over or under turning more than 1/4 turn
- Zero-scores may be placed below entries with a correct pattern
- Touching chain
- Disqualifications:
- Failure to display correct number in a visible manner
- Willful abuse of horse
- Excessive schooling
- Loss of control or disobedience that endangers the exhibitor, other exhibitors, or judge
- Horse becoming separated from exhibitor
- Illegal equipment

W.O.	Entry #	Maneuver	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	F & E	Total Penalty	Total Score	Comments
		Maneuver Description														
	1	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	2	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	3	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	4	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	5	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	6	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	7	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	8	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	9	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
	10	Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														

Revised: July 15, 2021

17.20.2. Equitation

**EQUITATION PATTERN CREDITS & PENALTIES**

<p><b><u>Excellent +3</u></b>          -Excellent maneuver with horse and rider in unison          -Excellent position working with horse for ideal performance          -Smooth transitions and outstanding ring showmanship</p>	<p><b><u>Poor -1</u></b>          -Below average maneuver          -Rough transitions; deviation of straight lines          -Uneven geometry of circles or half circles          -Obvious looking to recognize canter lead</p>
<p><b><u>Very Good +2</u></b>          -Good maneuver          -Good form with effective transitions          -Shows horse to his best ability</p>	<p><b><u>Very Poor -2</u></b>          -1-2 steps on wrong lead but corrected          -Break of gait for more than 2 strides          -Missed halt or pivot          -drops a rein or loses stirrup(s)          -Lopsided circles and half circles, zig zags serpentine</p>
<p><b><u>Good +1</u></b>          -Satisfactory maneuver          -Maintains rhythm, tempo, and impulsion          -Good position with slight deviations of hands, seat, body</p>	<p><b><u>Extremely Poor -3</u></b>          -Unable to back the horse          -Fails to recognize and correct a wrong lead          -Touching the horse or saddle to prevent loss of balance          -Off pattern: failure to perform a maneuver</p>
<p><b><u>Correct 0</u></b>          -Average maneuver          -Loss of rhythm, impulsion          -Loses form at times but able to accomplish movement</p>	<p><b><u>Disqualification - DQ</u></b>          -fall from the horse          -Loss of control endangering safety of self or others          -Abuse of horse</p>

## Equitation Score Sheet

CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SHOW: \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**LEGEND:** Excellent +3 Very Good +2 Good +1. 0 Correct. Poor -1 Very Poor -2 Extremely Poor -3  
*(Each exhibitor starts with base score of 70. Points per maneuver are added or subtracted to obtain final score.)*

Entry #	Description of Maneuver	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total Score	Comments
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												

## SECTION 18: SADDLESEAT/PLEASURE TYPE DIVISION

This division is designed for Saddleseat or “pleasure type” horses and will be judged according to USEF rules and standards. Horses and riders in this division are to be turned out in traditional Saddleseat attire (see USEF rules for specific guidelines). Exception: In Hunter Pleasure, Hunt Seat Equitation, Stock Seat Equitation and Western Pleasure classes, attire traditional for the discipline is required. Proper attire must be maintained at all times. However, in excessively hot weather, with the approval of the judge, coats may be removed.

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

Horses shown in this division should conform to breed-specific requirements for shoeing. Horses that appear labored or forced in their movement shall be penalized in all classes. The use of chains, rollers, stretchers, shackles or similar devices while on the competition grounds is strictly prohibited.

### **18.1. Saddleseat Showmanship**

**18.1.1.** Class 601 – Junior and senior members

**18.1.2.** Horse and ponies are to be shown in hand at halter or bridle at a walk, trot, and pose.

**18.1.3.** To be judged according to 4-H Horse Project Showmanship and Grooming Scorecard.

### **18.2. Saddleseat Mares in Hand**

**18.2.1.** Class 602

**18.2.2.** Mares to be shown in hand, at halter or bridle.

**18.2.3.** To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.

**18.2.4.** Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.

**18.2.5.** Open to 4-H members in all grades showing horse or pony mares of all ages.

**18.2.6.** Class may be split by age of horse and exhibitor age if justified by entry numbers.

### **18.3. Saddleseat Geldings in Hand**

**18.3.1.** Class 603

**18.3.2.** Geldings to be shown in hand at halter or bridle.

**18.3.3.** To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.

**18.3.4.** Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.

**18.3.5.** Open to 4-H members in all grades showing horse or pony geldings of all ages.

**18.3.6.** Class may be split by age of horse and exhibitor age if justified by entry numbers.

### **18.4. Saddleseat Equitation**

**18.4.1.** Class 606 – Junior and senior members

**18.4.2.** The rider only is being judged.

**18.4.3.** Rider to show horses at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring.

**18.4.4.** Rider will be judged on his/her seat, hands, legs, feet, position, balance, and control of mount.

**18.4.5.** Suitability of horse to rider shall be considered.

**18.4.6.** Rider should maintain a seat that is thoroughly efficient and in balance with the horse for riding at any gait. Rider should convey the impression of effective and easy control.

**18.4.7.** Riders may be asked to back their horses or perform any of the individual tests which follow:

A. Address the reins (pick up reins).

B. Back up for not more than eight steps.

C. Perform on rail.

- D. Perform around ring.
- E. Execute figure-eight at trot, demonstrating change of diagonal. Unless specified, it may be started either facing the center or away from the center. If started facing the center, it must be commenced from a halt.
  - (1) At left diagonal, rider should be sitting the saddle when left front leg is on ground.
  - (2) At right diagonal, rider should be sitting saddle when right front leg is on the ground.
  - (3) When circling clockwise, rider should be on left diagonal.
  - (4) When circling counterclockwise, rider should be on right diagonal.
- F. Execute figure-eight at canter on correct lead, demonstrating simple change of lead. (This is a change whereby the horse is brought back into a walk and restarted into a canter on the opposite lead.) Unless specified, it may be started either facing the center or away from the center. If started facing the center, it must be commenced from a halt. Figure-eight commenced in center of two circles so that one lead change is shown.
- G. Execute serpentine at a trot and/or canter on correct lead, demonstrating simple change of lead. Administer a series of left and right half circles off-center of imaginary line where correct diagonal or lead must be shown.
- H. Change leads down center to ring or on the rail, demonstrating simple change of lead. Judge to specify exact lead changes to be executed as well as to specify the beginning lead.
- I. Ride without stirrups for a brief period of time. No more than one minute at the trotting phase.

#### **18.5. Bridle Path Hack**

- 18.5.1.** Class 607 – Junior and senior members riding horses or ponies
- 18.5.2.** Horses must be shown in either a single curb, double bridle or pelham. Junior horses (5 years of age and younger) may be shown in a snaffle. Martingales and tiedowns are prohibited. Spurs and/or a whip or crop are optional at the rider's discretion.
- 18.5.3.** Horses will be shown at a walk, trot, extended trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses are required to hand gallop in at least one direction. Horses may be reversed by turning either towards or away from the rail. Only a safe number (maximum of eight) horses should hand gallop at a time.
- 18.5.4.** All horses should stand quietly and back readily.
- 18.5.5.** Horses should display a quiet, willing nature and good manners conducive to a pleasurable ride in the country.

#### **18.6. English Pleasure**

- 18.6.1.** Class 608 – Junior or senior members riding horses or ponies
- 18.6.2.** Horse may be shown in a snaffle, pelham, single curb, or double bridle. Light contact must be maintained at all gaits. Martingales and tiedowns are prohibited. Spurs and/or a whip or crop are optional at the rider's discretion.
- 18.6.3.** It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and display a pleasurable attitude. All gaits must be performed with willingness, obvious ease, cadence, balance, and smoothness.
- 18.6.4.** Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Horses should stand quietly and back readily.
  - A. Walk: A four-beat gait that should be brisk, true and flat-footed, with good reach.
  - B. Trot: To be performed at medium speed with moderate collection. The trot should be mannerly, cadenced, balanced and free-moving. Posting is required.

C. Canter: A three-beat gait that should be smooth and unhurried, with moderate collection. Horses should be straight on both leads

**18.6.5.** Class to be judged on manners, performance, attitude, quality, suitability of horse to rider, and conformation.

**18.6.6.** Cross-entry is prohibited between English Pleasure (class 608) and Country English Pleasure (class 609).

### **18.7. Country English Pleasure**

**18.7.1.** Class 609 – Junior or senior members riding horses or ponies

**18.7.2.** Horse may be shown in a snaffle, pelham, single curb or double bridle. Light contact must be maintained at all gaits. Martingales and tiedowns are prohibited. Spurs and/or a whip or crop are optional at the rider's discretion.

**18.7.3.** It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride. The horse should be a safe, pleasant and mild-mannered mount. A quiet, responsive mouth is paramount. All gaits must be performed with willingness, obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness. All signs of resistance, resentment or aggressiveness must be severely penalized.

**18.7.4.** Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses may be asked to back.

A. Walk: A four-beat gait that should be true, flat-footed and ground-covering.

B. Trot: A two-beat gait that should be balanced, relaxed, and easy-going with elasticity and freedom of movement. High action **MUST** be penalized. Posting is required.

C. Canter: A three-beat gait that should be smooth, unhurried, straight and correct on both leads.

**18.7.5.** It is mandatory that horses be asked to halt on the rail, stand quietly, back and walk off on a loose rein at least one direction of the ring.

**18.7.6.** Class to be judged on attitude, manners, performance, quality, conformation and suitability of horse to rider.

**18.7.7.** Cross-entry is prohibited between Country English Pleasure (class 609) and English Pleasure (class 608).

### **18.8. Hunter Pleasure**

**18.8.1.** Class 610 – Junior or senior members riding horses or ponies

**18.8.2.** Horse must be shown in traditional Hunter-style tack and appointments. Snaffle, pelham, full (double) bridle or kimberwick bit acceptable. Martingales, tiedowns, Saddleseat style colored browbands/cavessons, and/or figure eight, drop, or flash nosebands are not permitted. Direct but light contact must be maintained at all gaits. Spurs and/or a crop are optional at the rider's discretion.

**18.8.3.** It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and display a pleasurable and relaxed attitude. The Hunter Pleasure horse should be shown in a longer, more rectangular frame than the Country English Pleasure horse, with the neck carried lower and in a more relaxed manner, with less arch in the neck and less flexion at the poll. The stride at every gait should be long, ground-covering, and efficient. A stride that is short, high and round is **NOT** appropriate. Horses that are, for more than a few strides, high headed, ridden on a draped rein, not in an appropriate frame, on the forehand, short-strided, or behind the vertical must be severely penalized.

**18.8.4.** Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot, canter and hand gallop both directions of the ring. All horses are to stand quietly and back readily.

A. Walk: A four-beat gait that should be straight, true and flat-footed. The walk should be regular and unconstrained, with good reach.

- B. Trot: A two-beat gait that is straight and regular. The trot should be mannerly, cadenced and balanced. To be performed at a medium speed with a free moving, long, ground-covering, efficient stride that is not short, high, round or choppy. Rider to post the trot.
- C. Canter: A three-beat gait that should be even, smooth, unhurried, correct and straight on both leads.
- D. Hand gallop: The hand gallop is performed with a long, free, ground-covering stride. The amount of ground covered may vary between horses due to differences in natural length of stride. A decided lengthening of stride from the canter should be shown while the horse remains controlled, mannerly, correct and straight on both leads.

**18.8.5.** Class to be judged on manners, performance, suitability as a Hunter, quality and conformation.

### **18.9. Hunt Seat Equitation**

**18.9.1.** Class 611 – Junior and senior members riding horses or ponies

**18.9.2.** See Hunter Division rules and rules for Hunter Pleasure (class 610) for tack, attire and class requirements.

**18.9.3.** Horses are to be shown at the walk, trot, and canter both direction of the ring. Judge, at his/her discretion, may require additional testing to determine class placings.

### **18.10. Western Pleasure**

**18.10.1.** Class 612 – Junior and senior members riding horses or ponies

**18.10.2.** See Western Division rules for tack and attire guidelines. Junior horses (5 years old and younger) may be shown in a snaffle or bosal with two hands on the reins. All other horses must be shown in a curb bit with only one hand on the reins. Light contact with the horse's mouth must be maintained at all gaits. An excessively draped rein is just as undesirable as an extremely tight rein.

**18.10.3.** A good Western Pleasure horse has a comfortable, free-flowing stride of reasonable length in keeping with individual conformation. It should cover a reasonable amount of ground with little effort. Ideally, the horse should have a balanced, sweeping motion that requires no more than light contact by the rider. The head and neck serve as a balance arm and are carried in a relaxed, natural position appropriate for each individual's own conformation. Maximum credit should be given to the responsive, confident, willingly guided horse that performs the required gaits correctly and with strength and finesse.

**18.10.4.** Horses are to be shown at a walk, jog and lope in both directions of the arena. Horses should stand quietly and back readily.

A. Walk: A four-beat gait that should be true, flat-footed and ground-covering.

B. Jog: A two-beat gait that should be free, square, slow and easy.

C. Lope: A true three-beat gait that should be smooth, slow, easy and straight on both leads.

**18.10.5.** Class to be judged on manners, performance, suitability of horse to rider, substance, quality and conformation.

### **18.11. Stock Seat Equitation**

**18.11.1.** Class 613 – Junior and senior members riding horses or ponies

**18.11.2.** See Western Division rules and rules for Western Pleasure (class 612) for tack, attire and class requirements.

**18.11.3.** Horses are to be shown at a walk, jog and lope in both directions of the arena. Riders may be asked to perform additional testing/pattern as deemed appropriate by the judge.

## SECTION 19: SPOTTED SADDLE HORSE DIVISION

The Walking, Racking and Spotted Saddle Horse shows are affiliated with the WHOA HIO.

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

***Spotted Saddle, Walking and Racking Horse WILL show together in showmanship classes.***

### 19.1. General Rules

**19.1.1.** This division is designed for Spotted Saddle Horses. A solid horse with Spotted Saddle Horse breeding (sire and dam) may compete but will be judged according to Spotted Saddle Horse standards.

**19.1.2.** A 4-H member may show both a 2-gait (Specialty) horse and a 3-gait horse.

**19.1.3. All horses shown in this division must pass inspection with the show's DQP prior to competing. First place winners in all classes must also be inspected at the conclusion of the class. Exception: horses are not required to be inspected before or after completing the Trail classes.**

### 19.2. Equipment for Riders and Horses for Show Purposes

**19.2.1.** Rider's attire – It is the tradition of the show ring that riders, drivers and handlers be correctly attired for the classes in which they compete; that attendants be neatly dressed; and that horses be properly presented. The exhibitor of each entry shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. A show committee or judge shall excuse any entry or person from showing if not properly attired as shown below. **Exhibitors will show in WESTERN attire in all classes EXCEPT designated ENGLISH classes.** The attire of the rider must correspond with the type of equipment used on the horse. **Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**

A. Correct attire for English presentation:

- (1) English riding habit.
- (2) Polished shoes or boots (worn with jodhpur tie-downs)
- (3) Jodhpur pants, clean shirt (long-sleeved) and tie
- (4) Matching vest
- (5) Gloves (optional)
- (6) English Spurs (optional)
- (7) Properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmet.**

B. Correct attire for Western presentation (not specifying English)

- (1) Western shirt
- (2) Western pants and/or clean jeans
- (3) Western boots
- (4) Properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmet.**
- (5) Western tie (optional)
- (6) Western spurs (optional)
- (7) Western chaps (optional)
- (8) Western skirts and gauchos (optional)
- (9) A Western dress coat or jacket will be optional.

**19.2.2.** Horses – All entries shall be clean, neatly trimmed, and in good flesh, presenting a healthy appearance. Horses should be outfitted in clean and appropriate tack.

A. Correct tack for English presentation

- (1) English saddle, show, cutback or park type
- (2) English bridle and bit
- (3) Braids
- (4) Breast strap (optional)
- (5) Whip (optional)
- (6) Prohibited equipment:
  - (a) Artificial Appliances
  - (b) Western saddles
  - (c) Side saddles

B. Correct tack for Western presentation

- (1) Western saddle
- (2) Western bridle
- (3) Western saddle pad
- (4) Western breast strap (optional)
- (5) Western leather show halter with matching lead (silver optional)
- (6) Prohibited equipment:
  - (a) Hackamores
  - (b) Vinyl and patent leather
  - (c) Running or standing martingales
  - (d) Tie-downs
  - (e) Braids
  - (f) Cross-chain cavesson
  - (g) Training devices such as cables, pulleys, chains, ropes, etc., which are strictly prohibited.

**19.2.3.** Name plates or names of horses, stables, trainers or exhibitors are prohibited on show equipment or attendant's attire (caps, shirts, jackets, etc.) in the show ring. Failure to observe this rule is cause for dismissal from the show ring of the entry in violation or of the entry of the stable whose name is observed in the ring (except name plates on saddles).

**19.2.4.** In all Spotted Saddle Horse performance classes, an exhibitor may show with one or two hands, but must maintain the same "hand hold" throughout the class.

**19.2.5. Whips** – No item may be used inside or from outside the ring while showing a horse, either in performance or in model classes, except one whip per handler no longer than 4 feet, including the snapper. No lashes or appendages or any other appliances of any kind are permitted to be attached to the whip. A whip of this kind is not permitted in the warm up ring or show ring.

**19.2.6.** Shoeing: Shoes must not exceed the maximum 3/8" thick x 3/4" wide, with up to a 1/16" variance, hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe (both front and hind feet) is required. Borium is allowed on the caulks and toe of the shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 7/8" in thickness. Maximum 1 1/2" turn back (Measured from front to back of caulk). Clips are optional when drawn from the original steel or poured. Proper heel to-toe ratio must be followed.

**19.2.7.** Bits – Severe bits will be penalized in the final judging. Bits with shanks of more than 10 inches must be eliminated from the show ring. Shanks are measured from the top of the metal of the top ring to bottom of the metal of the bottom ring, if the ring is welded to the bridle. If the bottom ring is broken or will twist or turn, then it is not considered a part of the shank and should not be measured as such; however, the top ring will always be included in the measurement of the shank.

- A. If the bottom ring is welded to the shank, then it shall be considered a part of the shank and the measurement should include all of the bottom ring.
- B. If the bottom ring of the shank is “broken” so that this bottom ring will turn or twist in any way, it is not considered a part of the shank and should not be included in the shank measurement.
- C. If the bottom ring of the shank is not broken, that is the bottom ring is welded or joined to the shank so that this bottom ring will not turn or twist, then it is a part of the shank and must be included in the shank measurement.
- D. Curb chains or straps must lie flat against the jaw and be at least 1/2-inch wide.

### **19.3. Artificial Markings and Appliances**

- 19.3.1.** Any change in color of markings other than hoof is prohibited. Only clear grooming materials are allowed on the hide and hair. Materials may be used to remove stains.
- 19.3.2.** All artificial appliances are prohibited. No chains or action devices shall be used on any horse. Chains on the show grounds are basis for expulsion from the show grounds.
- 19.3.3.** Gingering – The gingering of tails is prohibited and any horse suspected of having a gingered tail will be asked to leave the show ring.
- 19.3.4.** Lubricants – The placing of lubricants and foreign substances of any kind in the pastern area is prohibited on Spotted Saddle Horses.

### **19.4. Gaits**

- 19.4.1.** Show walk – The show walk is a smooth, easy gait, smooth back end, with the horse under control and the head set. Stiff-legged front or rear leg motion and an irregular gait, especially when entering the ring, are typical of the movement of a sore horse and the judge must immediately excuse any horse exhibiting this type of motion from the ring.
- 19.4.2.** Show gait – An increase in speed from the show walk still being under control with the head set. Head shake or nodding of the horse’s head is acceptable and will not be penalized. The back end should be smooth and the rider should exhibit an easy comfortable ride. A good show gait should never sacrifice form for speed.
- 19.4.3.** Canter/Lope – The canter or lope is basically a collected gallop. It should be smooth and naturally rolling. Excessive pumping will be penalized. A collected movement is enjoyable to ride. The horse should be under control and on the correct lead when cantering. Horses not on the correct lead will be penalized.

### **19.5. Showmanship**

- 19.5.1.** Classes – shown with Walking and Racking Horse exhibitors

- A. Class 501 – Junior members
- B. Class 502 – Junior High members
- C. Class 503 - Senior members

#### **19.5.2. Showmanship at Halter**

- A. Class Procedures: All exhibitors may enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. When exhibitors are worked individually from the gate, a working order is required. The following maneuvers is considered acceptable: lead the horse at a walk, pleasure gait or back in a straight or curved line, or a combination of straight and curved lines; stop; and turn 90 (1/4), 180 (1/2), 270 (3/4), 360 (full turn) degrees or any combination or multiple of these turns. The pull turn is an unacceptable maneuver. The judge must have the exhibitors set the horse up parked out or square for inspection sometime during the class.
- B. Showmanship whips (dressage whips, etc.), war bridles or like devices or any type of wire or rope over the horse’s head are not permitted for showmanship purposes.

C. Scoring: Exhibitors are to be scored from zero to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Patterns will be divided into 6-10 maneuvers, as specified by the judge and each maneuver will be scored from plus 3 to minus 3 with ½ point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70. Maneuver scores should be determined independent of penalties and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and the horsemanship form and effectiveness of the exhibitor to result in the following scores: --3 extremely poor, -2 very poor, -1 poor, 0 average or correct, +1 good, +2 very good, +3 excellent. Exhibitors' overall horsemanship form and effectiveness should also be scored from 0-5 with 0 to 2 average, 3 good, 4 very good, 5 excellent.

D. Overall Presentation of Exhibitor and Horse: The exhibitors' overall poise, confidence, appearance and position throughout the class and the physical appearance of the horse will be evaluated. Presentation of Position of Exhibitor, appropriate western attire or saddle seat suit attire; a suit must have a matching coat and matching jodhpurs of the same material, saddle seat style boots, a coordinating vest, tie and collar shirt set, with a matching derby or homburg; but not a combination of western and English attire. Day coats do not constitute to a full suit and are considered illegal attire. Exception: 4-H specified classes may use day coats. Helmets are permitted. Gloves are optional for western and English attire. Spurs are not permitted. Clothes and person are to be neat and clean. The use of any type of artificial aid, but not limited to lighters, hay, dirt, sharp pins, magnetic device etc. will result in disqualification.

E. Exhibitors must be poised, confident, courteous and genuinely sportsmanship-like at all times, quickly recognizing and correcting faults, in the positioning of the horse. The exhibitor should continue showing the horse until the class has been placed or they have been excused, unless otherwise instructed by the judge. The exhibitor should appear business-like, stand and move in a straight, natural and upright manner, and avoid excessive natural or animated body positions.

F. The exhibitor must lead on the horse's left side holding the lead shank in the right hand near the halter with the tail of the lead loosely coiled or folded in the left hand. The exhibitor's hand must not be on the chain portion of the lead. When leading, the exhibitor should be positioned between the eye and midpoint or the horse's neck, referred to as leading position.

G. Both arms should be bent at the elbow with the elbows held close to the exhibitor's side and the forearms held in a natural position. Height of the arms may vary depending on the size of the horse and exhibitor, but the arms should never be held straight out with the elbows locked.

H. The position of the exhibitor when executing a turn to the right is the same as the leading position except the exhibitor should turn and face toward the horse's head and have the horse move away from them to the right.

I. When executing a back, the exhibitor should turn from the leading position to face toward the rear of the horse with the right hand extended in front of the exhibitor's chest still maintaining slight bend in the elbow and walk forward. The ideal position is for the exhibitors' left shoulder to be in alignment with the horse's front left leg.

J. When setting the horse up for inspection, the exhibitor should stand angled toward the horse in a position between the horse's eye and muzzle, and should never leave the head of the horse. The exhibitor is required to use The Quarter Method when presenting the horse. The exhibitor should maintain a position that is safe for themselves and the judge. (A minimum of one arms length to the judge, after the horse has been set up. The position of the exhibitor should not obstruct the judge's view of the horse should allow the exhibitor to maintain awareness of the judge's position at all times. The exhibitor should not crowd other exhibitors when setting up side-by-side or head-to-tail. When moving around the horse, the exhibitor should change sides in front of the horse with minimal steps and should assume the same position on the right side of the horse that they had on the left side.

K. Leading, backing, turning and initiating the setup should be performed from the left side of the horse. At no time should the exhibitor ever stand directly in front of the horse. The exhibitor should not touch the horse with their hands or feet or visibly cue the horse by pointing their feet at the horse during set-up.

L. Presentation of the Horse: The horse's body condition and overall fitness should be assessed. Their hair coat should be clean, well-brushed and in good condition. The mane, tail, forelock and wither tuff may not contain ornaments (ribbons, bows, etc) but may be banded for western. Horses and exhibitors showing in saddle-seat attire must have traditional mane and forelock ribbons. The length of mane and tail may vary as long as they are near, clean and free of tangles. The bridle path, eyebrows and long hair on the head may be clipped, except where government regulations prohibit. Hooves should be properly trimmed and shod, the shoes should fit properly and clinches should be neat. Hooves must be clean and may be painted with clear hoof polish or shown naturally. Tack should fit properly and be neat, clean and in good repair.

M. Pattern Performance: The exhibitor should perform the work accurately, precisely, smoothly and with reasonable amount of speed. Increasing speed of the work, increases degree of difficulty, however, accuracy and precision should not be sacrificed for speed. The horse should lead, stand, back and turn should set-up willingly, briskly and readily with minimal visible or audible cueing.

N. The horse should be led directly to and away from the judge in a straight or curved line and track briskly and freely at the prescribed gait as instructed. The horse's head and neck should be straight and in line with the body.

O. The stop should be straight, prompt and smooth and responsive with the horse's body remaining straight.

P. The horse should back up readily with the head, neck and body aligned in a straight or curved line as instructed.

Q. On turns of greater than 90 degrees, the ideal turn consists of the horse pivoting on the right hind leg while stepping across and in front of the right front leg with the left front leg. An exhibitor should not be penalized if the horse performs a pivot on the left hind, but an exhibitor whose horse performs the pivot correctly should receive more credit.

R. A pull turn to the left is an unacceptable maneuver.

S. The horse should be set up quickly in a parked out or square manner.

T. Penalties: Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied for each occurrence and will be deducted from the final score:

1. Three (3) Points: Break of gait at the walk or pleasure gait up to two strides Over or under turning up to 1/8th of a turn Ticking or hitting cone Sliding a pivot foot Lifting a pivot foot during a pivot and replacing it in the same place Lifting a foot in the set-up and replacing it in the same place after presentation.
2. Five (5) Points: Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet Location. Break of gait at walk or pleasure gait for more than two strides Splitting the cone (cone between the horse and exhibitor) Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn Horse stepping out of a set-up after presentation Horse resting a foot or hipshot in a set-up 72 Over or under turning 1/8th to 1/4th of a turn.
3. Ten (10) Points: Exhibitor is not in the required position during inspection Exhibitor touching the horse or kicking or pointing their feet at the horse's feet during the set-up Standing directly in front of the horse Loss of lead shank, holding chain, or two hands on shank Blatant disobedience including biting, kicking, rearing or pawing; horse

continually circle exhibitor Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn more than one time

4. Disqualifications (should not be placed) including: Loss of control of horse that endangers exhibitors, other horses, or judge Horse becomes separated from exhibitor Failure to display correct number Willful abuse Excessive schooling or training; use of artificial aids Illegal tack, equipment or attire

5. Zero Score (not to be placed above a correct pattern): Going off pattern, Knocking over or being on the wrong side of the cone, Never performing specified gait, Over or under turning more than a 1/4th turn.

**19.5.3** To be shown in hand at halter

**19.5.4.** Judged according to 4-H Horse Project

**19.5.5.** English or Western tack and attire may be used for Showmanship.

### **19.6. Spotted Saddle Horse Mares**

**19.6.1.** Class 504A SSH Model Junior Mares (Age of Horse, 3 years and under, yearling minimum age)  
Class 504B SSH Model Senior Mares (Age of Horse, 4 years of age and over)

**19.6.2.** To be shown in hand at halter or bridle with natural or roached mane.

**19.6.3.** To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.

**19.6.4.** Each entry will be shown individually.

**19.6.5.** Junior mares: 3 years and under, yearling minimum age. Senior mares: 4 years of age and over. ***May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.***

### **19.7. Spotted Saddle Horse Geldings**

**19.7.1.** Class 505A SSH Model Junior Geldings (Age of Horse, 3 years and under, yearling minimum age)  
Class 505B SSH Model Senior Geldings (Age of Horse, 4 years of age and over)

**19.7.2.** To be shown in hand at halter or bridle with natural or roached mane.

**19.7.3.** To be judged on conformation, soundness, and condition.

**19.7.5.** Each entry will be shown individually.

**19.7.6.** Junior gelding: 3 years and under, yearling minimum age. Senior gelding: 4 years of age and over. ***May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.***

### **19.8. Spotted Saddle Horse Western Horsemanship**

**19.8.1.** Classes

A. Class 508 – Junior members, 2-gait (no lope)

B. Class 511 – Senior members, 2-gait (no lope)

C. Class 513 - SSH Stock Seat Equitation 3-gait, Junior and Senior members

**19.8.2.** General Information

A. Class to enter the ring at a show walk turning to the right and proceeding in that direction.

B. All horses will show at the show walk, show gait, and lope (class 513 only) each direction of the ring. Riders in class 513 who do not canter **will not be placed** regardless of number of entries.

C. Riders must always be on the correct lead while loping. When reversing to go the other direction, horses must turn away from the rail.

D. When lined up, horses are to stand quietly and back readily on command.

E. Senior riders may be asked to mount and dismount.

F. The judge may deem necessary to judge the rider's ability by having them work individually.

**19.8.3.** Rider's Position

A. Hands – In repose, arms are to be in a straight line with the body.

B. The rider should sit the saddle in a balanced, relaxed manner, with his/her back straight and shoulders even, and arms close to the body.

- C. The stirrup should be just short enough to allow the heels to be lower than the toes.
- D. Knees should be slightly bent and weight be directly over the balls of the feet.
- E. Body always should appear comfortable, relaxed and flexible.
- F. Feet should be placed in the stirrups, which vary on Western saddles.
- G. The leg must maintain contact with the horse, to give aids to the horse.

**19.8.4.** Riders are to be judged on seat and hands and on their ability to ride and control a horse properly. Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method used in obtaining them. Good hands are paramount.

**19.8.5.** To be shown in Western tack and attire.

### **19.9. Spotted Saddle Horse Western Pleasure**

#### **19.9.1. Classes**

- A. Class 537 – Junior members, 2-gait (no lope)
- B. Class 540 – Senior members, 2-gait (no lope)

**19.9.2.** Horses shall enter the ring at a show walk. Horses shall be shown both directions of the ring at the show walk, show gait, and lope (class 711 only). Horses in class 711 who do not canter **will not be placed** regardless of the number of entries.

**19.9.3.** Horses will then reverse directions and repeat the same.

**19.9.4.** Horses will be asked to back when lined up.

**19.9.5.** While the horse is in motion, the rider's hands shall be clear of horse and saddle.

**19.9.6.** Western tack including a Western saddle and a Western leather bridle will be used.

### **19.10. Spotted Saddle Horse English Pleasure**

#### **19.10.1. Classes**

- A. Class 517 – Junior members, 2-gait (no canter)
- B. Class 520 – Senior members, 2-gait (no canter)
- C. Class 524 – Junior and senior members, 3-gait

#### **19.10.2. Class procedure:**

A. Horses shall enter the ring at a show walk. Horses will be shown both directions of the ring at the show walk, show gait, and canter (class 524 only). Horses in class 524 who do not canter **will not be placed** regardless of the number of entries.

B. Horses shall be worked both ways of the ring.

C. Horses are to back easily and stand quietly.

D. Workouts may be held.

E. English tack and attire are mandatory in this class. Snap brim or derby hats may be worn at the option of the exhibitor. Neatness and taste in attire is encouraged and should be a consideration of the judge in the final judging.

F. Whips or crops not to exceed 4 feet are permitted in English Pleasure.

**19.11. Score Sheets**  
**19.11.1. Showmanship**

**Showmanship Score Sheet**

**Showmanship Score Sheet**

Class #: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pattern \_\_\_\_\_

Show: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Minor Penalties (-3 Points):**

- Break of gait up to 2 strides
- Over or under turning up to 1/8 of a turn
- Ticking or hitting cone
- Sliding pivot foot
- Lifting a pivot foot and replacing it in the same place

Scoring: 0 to infinity with 70 denoting the average. Exhibitor automatically begins run with a score of 70.

Maneuvers are scored +3 to -3.

**Maneuver Scores:**

- +3 Excellent
- +2 Very Good
- +1 Good
- 0 Average
- 1 Below Average
- 2 Poor
- 3 Very Poor

**Major Penalties (-5 Points):**

- Not performing gait or stopping within 10' of designated area
- Break of gait for more than 2 strides
- Splitting cone between horse and exhibitor
- Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn
- Horse stepping out of set-up after presentation
- Horse resting a foot or hipshot in a set-up
- Over or under turning between 1/8 and 1/4 turn

**Form & Effectiveness: 0 to +5**

- +5 Excellent
- +4 Very Good
- +3 Good
- 2 Average
- 1, 0 Below Average

**Severe Penalties (-10 points):**

- Exhibitor not in required position during inspection
- Exhibitor touching horse, kicking or pointing feet at horse's feet during set-up
- Standing directly in front of horse
- Loss of lead shank, holding chain, or two hands on shank
- Blatant disobedience including biting, kicking, rearing or pawing, or horse continuously circling exhibitor
- Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn more than once

**Zero-Score:**

- Going off pattern
- Knocking over or being on wrong side of cone
- Never performing specified gait
- Over or under turning more than 1/4 turn
- Zero-scores may be placed below entries with a correct pattern
- Touching chain
- Disqualifications:
- Failure to display correct number in a visible manner
- Willful abuse of horse
- Excessive schooling
- Loss of control or disobedience that endangers the exhibitor, other exhibitors, or judge
- Horse becoming separated from exhibitor
- Illegal equipment

W.O.	Entry #	Maneuver	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	F & E	Total Penalty	Total Score	Comments
		Maneuver Description														
		Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
		Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
		Penalty														
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		Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														
		Penalty														
		Maneuver Score														
		Totals														

Revised: July 15, 2021

19.11.2. Equitation

**EQUITATION PATTERN CREDITS & PENALTIES**

<p><b><u>Excellent +3</u></b>          -Excellent maneuver with horse and rider in unison          -Excellent position working with horse for ideal performance          -Smooth transitions and outstanding ring showmanship</p>	<p><b><u>Poor -1</u></b>          -Below average maneuver          -Rough transitions; deviation of straight lines          -Uneven geometry of circles or half circles          -Obvious looking to recognize canter lead</p>
<p><b><u>Very Good +2</u></b>          -Good maneuver          -Good form with effective transitions          -Shows horse to his best ability</p>	<p><b><u>Very Poor -2</u></b>          -1-2 steps on wrong lead but corrected          -Break of gait for more than 2 strides          -Missed halt or pivot          -drops a rein or loses stirrup(s)          -Lopsided circles and half circles, zig zags serpentine</p>
<p><b><u>Good +1</u></b>          -Satisfactory maneuver          -Maintains rhythm, tempo, and impulsion          -Good position with slight deviations of hands, seat, body</p>	<p><b><u>Extremely Poor -3</u></b>          -Unable to back the horse          -Fails to recognize and correct a wrong lead          -Touching the horse or saddle to prevent loss of balance          -Off pattern: failure to perform a maneuver</p>
<p><b><u>Correct 0</u></b>          -Average maneuver          -Loss of rhythm, impulsion          -Loses form at times but able to accomplish movement</p>	<p><b><u>Disqualification - DO</u></b>          -fall from the horse          -Loss of control endangering safety of self or others          -Abuse of horse</p>

## Equitation Score Sheet

CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SHOW: \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**LEGEND:** Excellent +3 Very Good +2 Good +1. 0 Correct. Poor -1 Very Poor -2 Extremely Poor -3  
*(Each exhibitor starts with base score of 70. Points per maneuver are added or subtracted to obtain final score.)*

Entry #	Description of Maneuver	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total Score	Comments
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												
	Maneuver												

## SECTION 20: DRESSAGE

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

Dressage classes will count toward high point calculations for Hunter, Ranch, Western and Walking/Racking/SSH divisions.

USEF Dressage Reference Sheet can be found at:

<https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/96D17ISsaCo/annex---bits-saddlery-equipment>

### 20.1. Classes

Exhibitors are encouraged to show in two dressage classes within their respective divisions however, only one class will count toward high point calculations. Points from the Gaited Division classes (907 and 908) will be awarded to the specific high point that the horse/rider is designated (Walking High Point for walking horse in walking classes, etc.). Points from the class where the exhibitor earned the highest test score will be used for high point calculations.

Class 901 Introductory level test X (Hunter Division)

Class 902 Training level test X (Hunter Division)

Class 909 First level test X (Hunter Division)

Class 903 Introductory level test X (Western Division)

Class 904 Basic level test X (Western Division)

Class 910 First level test X (Western Division)

Class 905 Introductory level test X (Ranch Division)

Class 906 Basic level test X (Ranch Division)

Class 911 First level test X (Ranch Division)

Class 907 Introductory Dressage (Saddle Seat Tack/Attire; Gaited Divisions)

Class 908 Western Introductory Dressage (Western Tack/Attire; Gaited Divisions)

**20.1.2.** Exhibitors may show in two of the three dressage classes within Hunter, Western and Ranch Divisions respectively. They may show in Introductory and Training or Training and First Level but not in Introductory and First Level.

**20.1.3.** Dressage classes will follow USEF, WDA and National Walking Horse Association rules. If a situation arises where this rulebook is stricter than USEF, WDA or National Walking Horse Association rules, this rulebook will take precedence.

### 20.2. Object and General Principles

The object of dressage is the harmonious development of the physique and ability of the horse. The result is a horse that is more supple, calm, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and alert, thus developing perfect union between horse and rider.

The object of Western Dressage is to develop a partnership between a happy equine athlete working in harmony with his rider. A Western Dressage horse achieves this goal by using the principles of classical Dressage training while emphasizing the lightness and harmony with the rider which is a hallmark of a Western Dressage Horse.

### 20.3. Appointments

**20.3.1.** Personal – Classes 901, 902, 909

- A. Suitable attire would include, but would not be limited to, a short riding coat of a dark color, white shirt, choker or stock tie, white or light-colored breeches or jodhpurs, tall boots or paddock boots.
- B. Clothing must be neat, clean and appropriate for hunter or dressage classes.
- C. **Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.** Blunt (unrowelled) spurs *(5.08 cm or 2 inches)* and a whip that does not exceed **47.2** inches including lash are allowed.
- D. Gloves are preferred.

Personal – Classes 903, 904, 905, 906, 910, 911, 908

Suitable attire would include, but would not be limited to:

- A. Long-sleeved shirt, with collar (stand-up collars are permitted)
- B. Long pants or riding skirt
- C. Belt
- D. **Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**
- E. Tie is optional
- F. Boots or hard shoes (no deck or tennis shoes) with a heel and high enough to cover the ankle.
- G. Chaps and spurs are optional

**20.3.2.** Tack – 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910

- A. Horses are to be ridden in a snaffle bit (meeting USEF guidelines), with or without a drop, flash, or figure-eight noseband, combined noseband, or Micklem noseband
- B. Tack may be inspected prior to each ride.
- C. ***Martingales; bit guards; any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running, balancing reins, neck straps, nasal strips, tongue tied down, etc.); any kind of boots (including “easy-boots”) or bandages (including tail bandages); and any form of blinkers, earmuffs or plugs, nose covers, seat covers, hoods are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden.***
- D. Any English type saddle may be used (i.e., dressage, forward seat, flat or cutback).
- E. No curb bits of any fashion will be allowed, including Kimberwick. All bits must be smooth without corkscrew or twisted wire. Roller bits are prohibited.

Tack – Classes 903, 904, 905, 906

- A. In all western classes, horses will be shown in a western saddle. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit.
- B. Reins
  - 1. Horses of any age may show in a snaffle, hackamore/bosal for Western Dressage ONLY. Other acceptable bits include a curb bit, half-breed or spade bit.
    - a. Chain chin straps are permissible, but must meet the approval of the judge, be at least 1/2 inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.
    - b. If a snaffle bit is used, the rider must hold one rein in each hand.
    - c. If the rider is riding with a curb bit, he or she has the option of using Romal reins or Spilt reins.
      - 1. In the case of Romal reins, the Romal is held in one hand with no fingers between the individual reins. The end of the Romal may be held in the hand not used for reining to keep the Romal from swinging and to adjust the position of the rein. The reins must be held so that there are at least 16 inches of rein between the hands.

2. If the rider uses split reins they can be held in one or two hands; the rider may not switch back and forth during a test. The rider is allowed to have one finger only in between the reins when one hand is used, and the tails of reins must fall on the same side of the horse as the hand holding the reins.

C. Optional equipment

1. Spurs, not to be used forward of the cinch.
2. Chaps.
3. Whips no longer than 47.2 inches including lash.

D. Prohibited equipment

1. Wire chin straps, regardless of how padded or covered.
2. Any chin strap narrower than 1/2 inch.
3. Martingales and draw reins.
4. Nosebands and tie-downs.
5. Riders **MAY NOT** be secured to the saddle or stirrups in any way, including, but not limited to, the use of Velcro on the seat and/or rubber bands on the stirrups.
6. Protective boots and leg wraps

## 20.4. The Gaits and Movements

Classes 901, 902, 909

### 20.4.1. Halt

- A. Horse stands obediently quiet with equal weight on all four legs.
- B. The horse should maintain soft contact with the rider without allowing its poll to drop below its withers nor its nose to fall behind the vertical.

### 20.4.2. Working Walk – A marching four-beat rhythm on light contact with the rider.

### 20.4.3. Free Walk on a Long Rein

- A. A four-beat rhythm with the horse stretching his topline and stride.
- B. The rider still maintains contact with the horse, but the horse must stretch its nose ahead of the vertical.

### 20.4.4. Working Trot – A forward two-beat rhythm that maintains a consistent tempo while remaining on the bit.

### 20.4.5. Working Canter – A forward three-beat rhythm with a quiet consistent tempo while remaining on the bit.

Classes 903, 904, 905, 906, 910, 911

**20.4.6.** Halt – Horse should stand attentive, engaged motionless, straight and square with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs. The neck should be raised with the poll as the highest point and the head slightly in front of the vertical. While remaining “on the bit” and maintaining a light soft contact with the rider’s hand, the horse may quietly mouth the bit and should be ready to move off at the slightest indication of the rider.

**20.4.7.** Working Walk – Four-beat, active energetic walk with resolutely forward-reaching steps and confident stretch to the bit. Head and neck should swing naturally as a result of a relaxed back and free shoulders. The nose must be in front of the vertical. The hind feet should touch the ground into or beyond the prints of the forefeet.

**20.4.8.** Free Walk – Relaxed walk with unconstrained, forward reaching steps where hind feet touch the ground clearly in front of the footprints of the forefeet. The horse must be relaxed and be allowed complete freedom to lower his head and neck to stretch forward and down and out. The length of stride, rhythm, the relaxation and swing through his back are of great importance.

**20.4.9.** Working Jog – An energetic, regular, two-beat jog; the horse must go forward with even and elastic steps. The back must be relaxed and the shoulders free, while under the horse. The

horse must show proper balance and maintain light contact with the bit. The horse's nose must be in front of the vertical. The working jog may be ridden either posting or sitting.

**20.4.10. Working Lope** – While maintaining the three beat cadence, the horse must go forward with even and elastic steps. The back must be relaxed and the shoulders free; there is an obvious push from the hindquarters and the hind legs step actively up under the horse. The horse must maintain light contact with the bit and his nose must be in front of the vertical.

**20.4.11. Faults of gaits** include crookedness, loss of rhythm; tight and tense back with short stiff neck; horse of forehand and/or leaning on the bit; nose consistently behind the vertical; changing tempo; and evasion of contact.

**20.4.12. Gaited Dressage Tack and Bit Requirements** - English type saddle with stirrups is compulsory at all levels. Cut-back saddles are allowed if the horse is exhibited in Saddle Seat attire.

a. A plain snaffle bridle must be used. Micklem bridles are permitted.

- Training, First and Second Level tests, a plain snaffle bridle is required with a cavesson.

b. The following cavessons are permitted as long as the inside of the cavesson and/or noseband must be smooth leather or leather like material.

- Regular cavesson
- Dropped noseband
- Flash noseband (a combination of a cavesson and a dropped noseband attachment)
- Crossed/Figure 8 noseband are permitted.

c. Third-level tests and above may be ridden in either a snaffle or a double bridle.

**20.4.12. Reference USEF Dressage Division rules for regulations of bridles and bits.** The following equipment is forbidden:

- Martingales.
- Bit guards.
- Any kind of gadgets (bearing, side, running, balancing reins, tongue tied down, etc.).
- Boots or bandages.
- Blinkers.
- Earmuffs, ear plugs, or nose covers.
- Seat covers.
- Hoods.
- Ribbons, flowers, etc. in the mane or tail.
  - Exception: Traditional braided forelock and mane ribbons are permitted in Saddle Seat attire and tack presentations.

**20.4.13. Use of any of the above equipment will result in the elimination of the competitor.**

a. A breastplate and/or crupper may be used.

b. Braiding of the horse's mane and tail is encouraged. Ring Stewards will spot-check equipment either before the horse enters or immediately as it leaves the arena. The responsibility for the correct attire and equipment rests with the Competitor.

**20.4.14. Bits Permitted in Dressage Snaffle bits** are required through Second Level and optional at Third and Fourth levels. Snaffle bits are required when competing in traditional Saddle Seat attire. All bits must be smooth and solid. Twisted, wire, and certain roller bits are prohibited.

## **20.5. Tests**

**20.5.1.** Tests for the current year will be announced at an appropriate time.

**20.5.2.** Times will be scheduled approximately seven minutes apart.

**20.5.3.** Rider may begin schooling around the dressage arena when the rider before him/her has received a final salute from the judge and begins to exit the arena.

**20.5.4.** Upon audible signal (whistle or bell) from the judge, the competitor has 45 seconds to enter the dressage arena.

**20.5.5.** The dressage tests may be called by someone standing behind the letter E or B, or else the test may be ridden from memory.

- A. Should a rider go off course, the judge will sound an audible sound.
- B. The rider should stop and allow the judge to instruct him/ her how to proceed. The rider then proceeds from memory, or the caller starts calling the test from the point instructed by the judge.
- C. Being off course constitutes an error. However, if the caller aids the rider in any fashion other than calling the test, the rider is eliminated.
- D. Errors and points
  - (1) 1st error – 2 points
  - (2) 2nd error – 4 points
  - (3) 3rd error – elimination

**20.6. Elimination**

**20.6.1.** Automatic elimination occurs if the rider fails to enter dressage arena within 45 seconds of the judge’s audible signal.

**20.6.2.** All four of the horse’s feet leave the arena after the test has begun.

**20.6.3.** Unauthorized assistance, obvious lameness or use of illegal equipment.

**20.6.4.** Elimination of the exhibitor will occur if there are three errors of the course/test, if the horse’s tongue is tied down, cruelty determined at the judge’s discretion, resistance of longer than 20 seconds, and fall of the horse and/or rider.

**20.6.5.** If a rider has missed their ride time, the rider will be eliminated from placing in the class. An opportunity to ride for remarks only will be permitted at the discretion of the judge and/or show staff. Note: Riders should check in 10 minutes prior to their ride time for bit check and to ensure they do not miss their ride time.

**20.7. Scoring**

10 Excellent	5 Sufficient
9 Very Good	4 Insufficient
8 Good	3 Fairly Badly
7 Fairly Good	2 Bad
6 Satisfactory	1 Very Bad
	0 Not performed

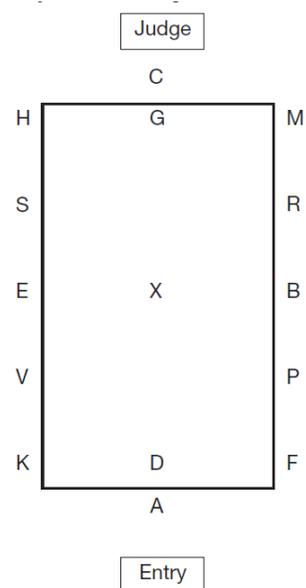
**20.8. Schedules**

**20.8.1.** A schedule denoting the time an exhibitor must perform the dressage class will be available and posted at office at the Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships.

**20.8.2.** An exhibitor may not change his/her scheduled time of performance.

**20.9. Arena**

A small or large dressage arena may be used. The letters set around the arena are placed as pictured on the right.



## SECTION 21: ROGER ELDER RANCH DIVISION

*Horses may NOT cross enter into Western division classes.*

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED.**

Unless specifically stated in this rulebook, the Roger Elder Ranch Division will follow AQHA Ranch Versatility Rules.

### 21.1. Tack and Attire

**21.1.1.** Working Western attire required for all classes: long-sleeved shirt, cowboy hat or helmet, and boots. Chaps and spurs optional. **Exhibitors are REQUIRED to wear properly fitted and fastened ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times while mounted.**

**21.1.2.** Plain attire suitable for ranch work is desired; flashy show-type attire is discouraged and will be penalized by the judge.

**21.1.3.** Western working tack should be used. Silver conchos are accepted, but excessive silver on tack is discouraged and will be penalized by the judge.

**21.1.4.** No gag bits. No twisted wire mouth pieces. No bits smaller than 3/8 inch are allowed.

**21.1.5.** Exhibitors must show in either split reins or a Romal Rein.

### 21.2. Classes

**21.2.1.** Showmanship (will follow AQHA rules)

- A. Class 801 – Junior members
- B. Class 802 – Junior high members
- C. Class 803 – Senior members

**21.2.2.** Conformation

- A. Class 804A Ranch Conformation Junior Mares (Age of horse, 5 years of age and under, yearling minimum age)
- B. Class 804B Ranch Conformation Senior Mares (Age of horse, 6 years of age and over)
- C. Class 805A Ranch Conformation Junior Geldings (Age of horse, 5 years of age and under, yearling minimum age)
- D. Class 805B Ranch Conformation Senior Geldings (Age of horse, 6 years of age and over)  
Junior mare/gelding 5 years of age and under, yearling minimum age. Senior mare/gelding 6 years of age and over. **May be split by grade of exhibitor if entries warrant.**

**21.2.3.** VRH Ranch Riding

- A. Class 806 – Junior members
- B. Class 807 – Junior high members
- C. Class 808 – Senior members
- D. Class 817 – Walk/Trot – beginner riders only

**21.2.4.** Ranch Horsemanship (will follow AQHA rules)

- A. Class 809 – Junior members
- B. Class 810 – Junior high members
- C. Class 811 – Senior members
- D. Class 818 – Walk/Trot – beginner riders only

**21.2.5.** Trail

- A. Class 812 – Junior members
- B. Class 813 – Junior high members

- C. Class 814 – Senior members
- D. Class 819 – Walk/Trot – beginner riders only

**21.2.6. VRH Ranch Reining**

- A. Class 815 – Junior members
- B. Class 816 – Senior Members

**21.2.7 Walk/Trot (Classes 817, 818, 819) – Only open to beginner riders (grades 4-12). Riders may not cross enter into any other class that allows for walk, jog, lope.**

**21.3. VRH Ranch Riding**

**21.3.1.** The purpose of the ranch riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal VRH ranch riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

**21.3.2.** Horses shall be shown individually, and the class may be conducted inside or outside of an arena. The pattern may be started either to the right or left direction. Show management has the option to set markers to designate gait changes. If the class is held inside an arena, the course shall be set up to make approximately one pass of the arena in each direction. The optional ranch riding pattern may be used or another pattern may be used as long as all elements of the class are fulfilled as follows:

- A. Horses will be shown individually at three gaits; walk, trot and lope in each direction of the arena. Horses in the Walk/Trot class will be shown individually at two gaits; walk and trot/extended trot in each direction of the arena.
- B. Horses will also be asked to reverse, stop and back.
- C. The judge must ask for an extended trot and extended lope at least one direction of the ring.

**21.3.3. CREDITS AND PENALTIES.** Part of the evaluation of this class is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected from the extended trot as the horse moves into the lope. The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is a transition to the seated trot not the extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this total transition within three strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded. Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior to trotting will be penalized. Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues. To see these cues applied discretely and the horse responding correctly could be a credit-earning situation. Maneuver evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently. The following penalties will be applied to each occurrence and be deducted from the final score:

- A. 1 Point: Over-bridled (per maneuver); out of frame (per maneuver); too slow; break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less; wrong lead or out of lead for two (2) strides or less.
- B. 3 Point: Wrong lead or out of lead for more than two (2) strides; draped reins; break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead; break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides; out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing

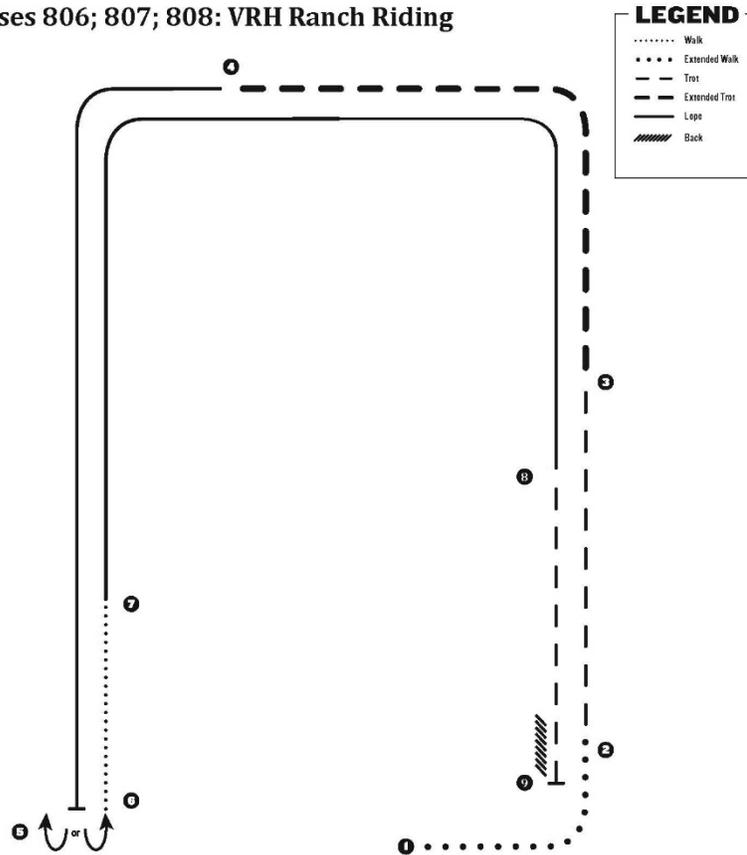
leads; trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change; trotting for more than three (3) strides in lope departures or when exiting a rollback.

C. 5 Point: Spurring in front of cinch; blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear.

D. Off-Pattern (OP): Repeated blatant disobedience; breaking pattern; incomplete maneuver; eliminating or adding maneuvers; use of two hands (except junior and Level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore); more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein). Exhibitors cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

E. Disqualification (DQ): Lameness; abuse; illegal equipment; disrespect or misconduct; leaving working area before pattern is complete; improper western attire; fall of horse/rider.

### Classes 806; 807; 808: VRH Ranch Riding



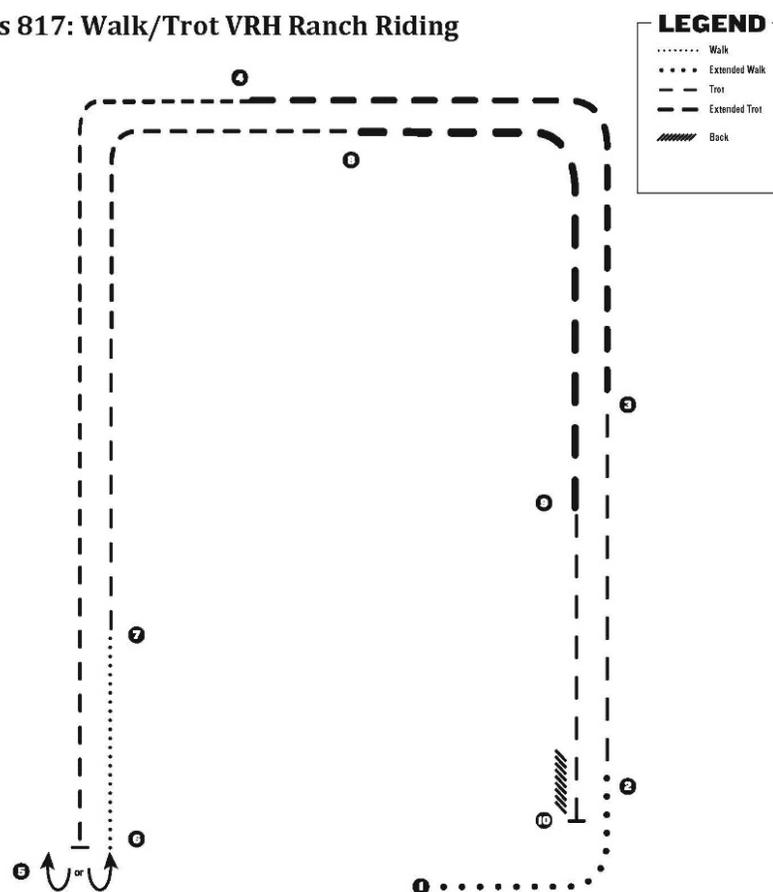
When establishing the course, the following distances are suggested. Patterns may begin in either direction and markers are optional.

1. Extended Walk from 1 to 2 - 75 feet
2. Trot from 2 to 3 - 120 feet
3. Extended Trot from 3 to 4 - 240 feet
4. Lope from 4 to 5 - 150 feet
5. Stop at 5; reverse (either direction)
6. Walk from 6 to 7 - 30 feet
7. Lope from 7 to 8 - 350 feet
8. Trot from 8 to 9 - 90 feet
9. Stop and Back at 9 - approximately one horse length

Note: The drawn description of this pattern is only intended for the general depiction of the pattern. Exhibitors should utilize the arena space to best exhibit their horses.

Revised 05-2021

## Class 817: Walk/Trot VRH Ranch Riding



When establishing the course, the following distances are suggested. Patterns may begin in either direction and markers are optional.

1. Extended Walk from 1 to 2 - 75 feet
2. Trot from 2 to 3 - 120 feet
3. Extended Trot from 3 to 4 - 240 feet
4. Trot from 4 to 5 - 150 feet
5. Stop at 5; reverse (either direction)
6. Walk from 6 to 7 - 30 feet
7. Trot from 7 to 8 - 150 feet
8. Extended Trot from 8 to 9 - 200 feet
9. Trot from 9 to 10 - 90 feet
10. Stop and Back at 10 - approximately one horse length

Note: The drawn description of this pattern is only intended for the general depiction of the pattern. Exhibitors should utilize the arena space to best exhibit their horses.

Revised 05-2021

## 21.4. Ranch Horsemanship

### 21.4.1. Seat and hands

- A) Exhibitor will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control and show horse, and suitability of horse to rider. Results as shown by performance of horse are not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider to obtain them.
- B) Upper arms to be in a straight line with body; hand(s) holding reins should be bent at the elbow. Only one hand on the reins may be used on horses shown in a curb bit. If showing a horse (5 years of age or younger) in a snaffle or bosal, two hands may be used to hold the reins.
- C) Exhibitor should sit in the saddle either with legs hanging straight and slightly forward to the stirrups or with knees bent slightly and weight directly over the balls of the feet. In either position the stirrups should be just short enough to allow the heels to be lower

than the toes. Body should always appear comfortable, with heels relaxed and flexible. Feet should be placed in stirrups with weight on the balls of the feet. Consideration should be given to width of stirrups, which may vary on Western saddles. If stirrups are wide, foot may give the appearance of being “home” when in reality the weight is being carried properly on the ball of the foot.

- D) Exhibitor should sit the jog and not post. At the lope, rider should be close to the saddle. All movements of the horse should be governed by imperceptible use of the aids. Exaggerated shifting of the rider’s weight is not desirable.

#### **21.4.2. Class routine**

- A) The judge must first ask each exhibitor to work individually using a designated pattern. The pattern may include any maneuvers that are normally required in any stock horse class, such as figure eights and square stops. Individual pattern work must include all three gaits. Class 818 will be comprised of Walk/Trot only and is available for beginner riders only. Exhibitors must also be required to back in a straight line. It must be remembered that, above all, a stock horse is expected to respond instantly and smoothly to all aids.
- B) After each exhibitor has been worked individually, the judge may recall all exhibitors or finalists to work on the rail, or the class may be placed.
- C) Exhibitors recalled for rail work shall enter the arena at a walk and be judged on the rail at a walk, jog, and lope. They shall be worked both ways of the ring and should always be on the correct lead at the lope. The reverse is to be executed by turning away from the rail. The horse should be in perfect balance at all times, working entirely off of its haunches. The head and neck should be in a direct line with the body, with the mouth closed and the head at a natural height for the horse’s conformation.

#### **21.5. Ranch Reining**

**21.5.1.** Any one of the five ARHA reining patterns may be used. One of these patterns is to be selected by show management and used by all contestants in the class.

**21.5.2.** Each contestant will perform the required pattern individually and separately. All horses will be judged immediately upon entering the arena and judging will cease after the last maneuver. To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willfully guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely. Horses should be able to complete all maneuvers within the reining pattern. Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control and therefore faulted according to severity of deviation. Credit will be given for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority in performing the various maneuvers while using controlled speed.

**21.5.3.** Scoring will be on the basis of 0 – Infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance.

A. The following will result in no score:

1. Abuse of an animal in the show arena and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition.
2. Use of illegal equipment, including wire on bits, bosals or curb chains. Use of illegal bits, bosals or curb chains; when using a snaffle bit, optional curb strap is acceptable; however, curb chains are not acceptable.
3. Use of tack collars, tie downs or nose bands;
4. Use of whips and/or bats;
5. Use of any attachment which alters the movement of or circulation of the tail;
6. Failure to provide horse and equipment to the appropriate judge for inspection;
7. Disrespect or misconduct by the exhibitor.
8. Closed reins are not allowed except as standard romal reins.

- a. Excess rein may be straightened at any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern; rider's free hand may be used to hold romal in the normal fashion.
- B. The following will result in a score of 0:
- 1. Use of more than index or first finger between reins
  - 2. Use of two hands (exception in Junior or Snaffle Bit) or changing hands;
  - 3. Improper use of the romal
  - 4. Failure to complete pattern as written
  - 5. Performing the maneuvers other than in specified order
  - 6. The inclusion of maneuvers not specified, including, but not limited to:
    - a. Backing more than 2 strides
    - b. Turning more than 90 degrees
  - 7. Equipment failures that delay completion of pattern; including dropping a rein that contacts the ground while horse is in motion.
  - 8. Balking or refusal of command where pattern is delayed.
  - 9. Running away or failing to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether the entry is on pattern
  - 10. Jogging in excess of one-half (1/2) circle or one-half (1/2) the length of the arena.
  - 11. Over spins of more than 1/4 turn
  - 12. Fall to the ground by a horse or rider
- C. The following will result in a reduction of five points:
- 1. Spurring in front of cinch
  - 2. Use of either hand to instill fear or praise
  - 3. Holding saddle with either hand
  - 4. Blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing and striking
- D. The following will result in a reduction of two points:
- 1. Breaking of gait
  - 2. Freeze up in spins or rollbacks
  - 3. On walk-in patterns, failure to stop or walk before executing a lope departure
  - 4. On run-in patterns, failure to be in a lope prior to the first marker
  - 5. If a horse does not completely pass the specified marker before initiating a stop position
- E. Starting or performing circles or figure-eights out of lead will be judged as follows:  
Each time a horse is out of lead, a judge is required to deduct one point. The penalty for being out of lead is accumulative and the judge will deduct one penalty point for each quarter of the circumference of a circle or any part thereof that a horse is out of lead. A judge is required to penalize a horse one-half (1/2) point for a delayed change of lead by one stride.
- F. Deduct 1/2 point for starting circle at a jog or exiting rollbacks at a jog up to two strides.
- G. Deduct 2 points for jogging beyond two strides, but less than 1/2 circle or 1/2 the length of the arena.
- H. Deduct 1/2 point for over or under spinning up to one-eighth (1/8) of a turn.
- I. Deduct 1 point for over or under spinning from one-eighth to one-fourth (1/8 to 1/4) turn.
- J. A 1/2 point penalty deduction will be given for failure to remain a minimum of 20 feet (6 meters) from the wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or rollback.
- L. In patterns requiring a run-around, failure to be on the correct lead when rounding the end of the arena will be penalized as follows: for 1/2 the turn or less, one point; for more than 1/2 turn, two points.

M. Penalties against the horse to be scored accordingly, but not to cause disqualification:

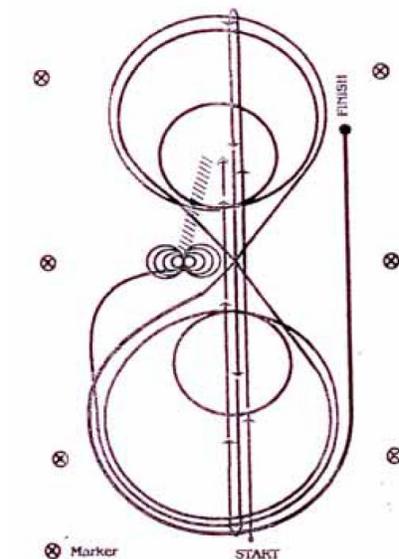
1. Opening mouth excessively when wearing bit
2. Excessive jawing, opening mouth or head raising on stop
3. Lack of smooth, straight stop on haunches-bounding or side-ways stop
4. Refusing to change leads
5. Anticipating signals
6. Stumbling
7. Backing sideways
8. Knocking over markers

N. Faults against the rider to be scored accordingly, but not to cause disqualification:

1. Losing stirrup
2. Failure to run circles of figure eights within the markers is not considered a fault depending on arena conditions and size; however, failure to go beyond markers on rollbacks and stops is considered a fault.

O. While horse is in motion, rider's hands shall be clear of horse and saddle.

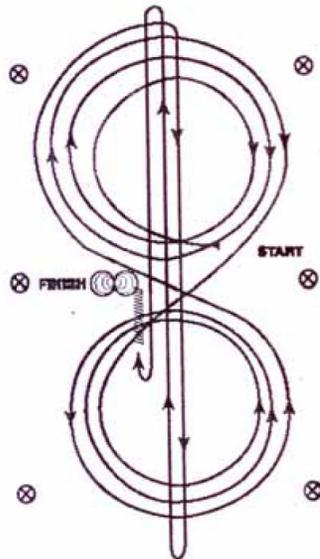
## Ranch Reining Pattern 1



1. Run at speed to the far end of the arena past end markers and do a left rollback – no hesitation
2. Run to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
3. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to center of the arena or at least ten feet (3 meters). Hesitate.
4. Complete 4 spins to the right.
5. Complete 4  $\frac{1}{4}$  spins to the left so that the horse is facing left wall or fence. Hesitate.
6. Beginning on the left lead, complete 3 circles to the left, the first circle large and fast, the second small and slow, the third large and fast. Change leads in the center of arena.
7. Complete 3 circles to the right, the first circle large and fast, the second small and slow, the third large and fast. Change leads in the center of arena.
8. Begin a large fast circle to the left but do not close this circle. Run straight up the right side of the arena past the center marker and do a sliding stop at least 20 feet (6 meters) from wall or fence. Hesitate to demonstrate the completion of pattern.

Rider may drop bridle to designated judge.

## Ranch Reining Pattern 2

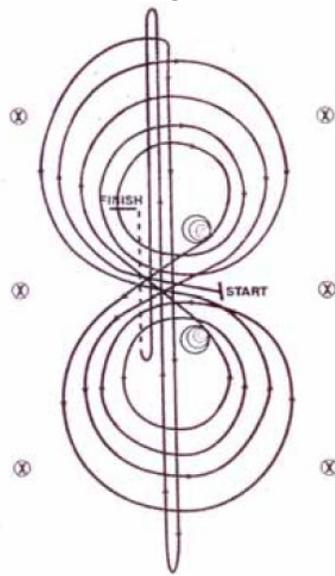


**Horse must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence.**

1. Beginning on the right lead, complete 3 circles to the right, the first circle small and slow, the next 2 circles large and fast. Change leads at the center of the arena.
2. Complete 3 circles to the left, the first circle small and slow, the next 2 circles large and fast. Change leads at the center of arena.
3. Continue around previous circle to the right. At the top of the circle, run down the middle to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation.
4. Run up the middle to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation.
5. Run past the enter marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to the center of the arena or at least 10 feet (3 meters). Hesitate
6. Complete 4 spins to the right.
7. Complete 4 spins to the left. Hesitate to demonstrate the completion of pattern.

Rider may drop bridle to the designated judge.

### Ranch Reining Pattern 3

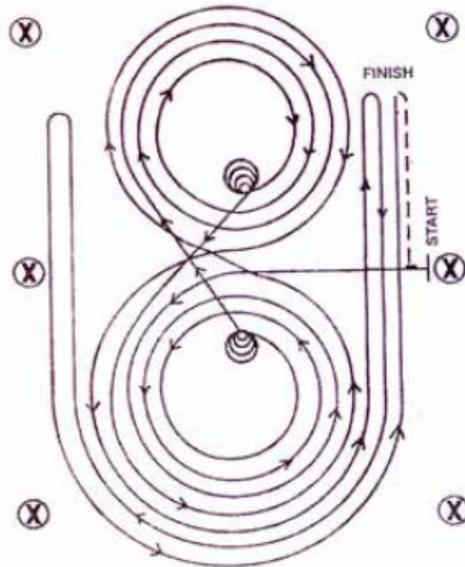


**Horse must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence.**

1. Beginning on the right lead, complete 3 circles to the right, the first 2 circles large and fast, the third circle small and slow. Stop at the center of the arena.
2. Complete 4 spins to the right. Hesitate.
3. Beginning on the left lead, complete, complete 3 circles to the left, the first 2 circles large and fast, the third circle small and slow. Stop at the center of the arena.
4. Complete 4 spins to the left. Hesitate.
5. Beginning on the right lead, run a large fast circle to the right, and change leads at the center of the arena, run a large fast circle to the left, and change leads at the center of the arena (figure 8).
6. Continue around the previous circle to the right. At the top of the circle, run down the middle to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation.
7. Run up the middle to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation.
8. Run past the center marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to the center of the arena or at least 10 feet. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of the pattern.

Rider may drop bridle to designated judge.

### Ranch Reining Pattern 4

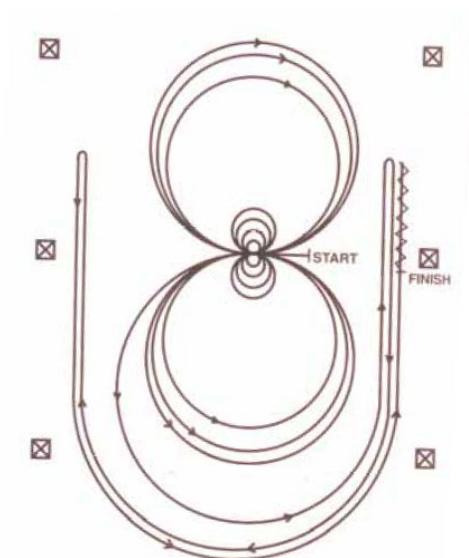


**Horse must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence.**

1. Beginning on the left lead, complete 3 circles to the left, the first two circles large and fast, the third circle small and slow. Stop at center of the arena.
2. Complete 4 spins to the left. Hesitate.
3. Beginning on the right lead, complete 3 circles to the right, the first two circles large and fast, the third small and slow. Stop at the center of the arena.
4. Complete 4 spins to the right. Hesitate.
5. Beginning on the left lead, run a fast circle to the left, change leads at the center of the arena, run a large fast circle to the right, change leads at the center of the arena (figure 8).
6. Continue around the previous circle to the left but do not close the circle. Run up the right side of the arena past the center marker and do a right rollback at least 20 feet from the wall or fence – no hesitation.
7. Continue around the previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up the left side of the arena past the center marker and do a left rollback at least 20 feet from the wall or fence – no hesitation.
8. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of the arena past the center marker and do a sliding stop at least 20 feet from wall or fence. Back up at least 10 feet. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern.

Rider may drop bridle to designated judge.

### Ranch Reining Pattern 5



**Horse may walk or trot to the center of arena. Horse must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Beginning at the center of the arena facing the left wall or fence.**

1. Complete 4 spins to the right. Hesitate.
2. Complete 4 spins to the left. Hesitate.
3. Beginning on the left lead, complete 3 circles to the left; the first two circles large and fast, the third circle small and slow. Change leads at the center of the arena.
4. Complete three circles to the right; the first two circles large and fast, the third circle small and slow. Change leads at the center of the arena.
5. Begin a large fast circle to the left but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of the arena past the center marker and do a right rollback at least twenty feet from the wall or fence— no hesitation.
6. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up the left side of the arena past the center marker and do a left rollback at least twenty feet from the wall or fence.
7. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of the arena past the center marker and do a sliding stop at least twenty feet from the wall or fence. Back up at least 10 feet. Hesitate to demonstrate the completion of the pattern.

Rider may drop bridle to designated judge.

## SECTION 22: MINIATURE HORSE DIVISION

Unless specifically stated in this rulebook, the Miniature Horse Division will follow American Miniature Horse Registry (AMRH) guidelines.

**ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR PROPERLY FITTED ASTM/SEI-CERTIFIED HELMETS WITH CHIN STRAPS PROPERLY FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE EXHIBITING.**

Miniature horses MAY NOT show in ANY other classes at the Tennessee 4-H Horse Championships.

### **22.1. Miniature Horse Classes**

**22.1.1.** Class 604 – Miniature Showmanship – Junior and Senior members

**22.1.2.** Class 605 – Miniature Halter Mares and Geldings – All ages – Junior and Senior members

**22.1.3.** Class 606 – Miniature Trail (Obstacle) – Junior and Senior members (see section 12: Trail)

**22.1.4.** Class 607 – Miniature Hunter (Jumper) – Junior and Senior members (see section 16: Hunter for proper attire and equipment)

A. To be shown in hand at halter or bridle with natural, roached, pulled or braided mane.

Hunters are to be judged on a style, manners and way of going with preference given to those horses who cover the course at an even pace, with free owing strides, as in a brisk trot or canter, but must maintain same gait throughout course. Circling once upon entering the ring and once upon leaving the ring is permissible. Hunters must demonstrate at least one, but no more than four changes of direction. Sample courses are to be provided to show management. Charging fences or not maintaining the same gait throughout the entire course shall be penalized. Upon completion of the entire class over jumps, finalists will be trotted past the judge(s) for soundness check. Horses shall not be required to re-jump the course. Each entry will be shown individually at the walk and trot.

B. Jumps must be a minimum height of 18 inches and maximum of 24 inches. Ground poles are required. There will be a minimum of four obstacles, and horses are to make a minimum of six jumps and a maximum of eight jumps. Jumps must simulate those found in the hunting field, such as brush, stone wall, gate, white fence, chicken coop, over and in and out. In and out is considered one obstacle and scored as such. Refusal of one element of an in and out requires the retaking of both elements. In and out must never be placed at the beginning of the course. Courses should be tried out so as not to make turns too sharp for an exhibitor or horse. Major faults to be considered are knockdowns, touches, refusals, bucking or kicking, spooking or shying, showing obstacle to horse, or wringing tail.

1. Causes for elimination:

- A. Three refusals
- B. Off course
- C. Crossing your own path
- D. Fall of horse or exhibitor
- E. Jumping of obstacle by exhibitor
- F. Carrying of whip
- G. An unsound horse
- H. Jumping of obstacle before being reset
- I. Failure to pass through the start and/or finish cones and/or knocking such cones over.

**22.1.5. Class 608 – Miniature Driving – Junior and Senior members**

A. The class will be shown as individual performances exhibiting the walk, trot, and extended trot in both directions of the arena with a reverse on the diagonal and a stop and back.

B. To be shown both ways of the arena at a walk, trot, and extended trot. To stand quietly and to rein back. To be judged 60 percent on performance, manners, and way of going; 30 percent on the condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle; and 10 percent on neatness, appropriateness of attire, and overall impression. Excessive speed will be penalized.

1. Walk: A free, regular and forward moving four beat gait. The horse should walk energetically, but calmly, with even and determined pace.

2. Trot: The horse should maintain forward impulsion while showing submission to the bit. The trot is slower and more collected, but the horse should indicate a willingness to be driven on the bit while maintaining a steady cadence.

3. Extended Trot: This is a clear, but not excessive, increase in gait and length of stride. The horse goes forward freely, engaging the hind legs, on a taut but light rein, the position balanced and unconstrained.

C. There are a variety of different styles of driving, and the driver's attire should coordinate with the driving style. Driving aprons and gloves are permitted but optional. Closed toe shoes or boots are required. Attire should be conservative. Sleeves (short,  $\frac{3}{4}$  or long) are required on shirts/blouses/dresses for ladies. Skirts/Dresses if worn should end below the knee. Jackets are allowed. Gentlemen should wear long sleeves. Jackets or vests are optional. Additional information on attire can be found on pg. 253 of the American Miniature Horse Registry (AMHR) Rule Book.

**22.1.6. Class 609 – Miniature Reinsmanship – Junior and Senior members**

A. This class is designed to test the knowledge and ability of the driver. To be shown at a walk, trot, and extended trot. To be judged primarily on the ability and skill of the driver. To be judged 75 percent on the handling of the reins and whip, control, posture and overall appearance of the driver and 25 percent on the condition of the harness and vehicle and the neatness of attire.

The class will be completed as a rail class. Show management reserves the right to split the class into heats.

1. Unsafe animals or equipment can be disqualified from the class at the judge's discretion.

**22.1.7. Class 610 – Miniature Versatility – Junior and Senior members**

A. The horse will be shown as a driving horse, in halter, and as a hunter, in that order.

B. Grooms/headers allowed in at end of driving.

C. For purposes of safety the cart must be removed from the horse before the horse is unbridled.

D. Before un-tack and grooming it shall be announced that horses are to remain in the same order for the rest of the class as they go on the rail, both for Halter and Hunter portions.

E. At the end of the two-minute un-tack grooming period, grooms shall leave the arena with the carts and all tack.

F. Exhibitors are to follow the direction of the Ringmaster and line up for inspection at halter.

G. After halter inspections are completed, exhibitors are to follow the Ringmaster and proceed to the hunter course.

H. The hunter requirements for judging are the same as specified under the AMHR "Hunter" Rules.

I. There shall be a minimum of 2 (two) but not more than 4 (four) fences.

J. When all have completed the hunter course, they must trot for soundness before the Judges.

K. Horses do not leave the arena between divisions.

- L. All three divisions to count equally.
  - M. Horses must complete all three divisions, without disqualification, to be eligible for a ribbon.
  - N. Open to Pleasure, Country Pleasure, Western Country Pleasure and Park Harness horses.
- 22.1.8.** Class 611 – Miniature Costume – Junior and Senior members
- A. Costume classes are to be judged 75 percent on originality of costume and 25 percent on presentation.
  - B. To be shown at a walk both ways of the arena and lined up in the middle of the arena for final judging.
  - C. Costume entries may be led or driven.
  - D. For safety reasons, attendants 16 years of age and older may be allowed in the ring during Youth Costume. Attendant must not interfere with or influence the individual's or equines performance.
  - E. Costumes must be considered safe.

## SECTION 23: STATE COMMUNICATIONS CONTESTS

### 24.1. ELIGIBILITY

**24.1.1. The TN State 4-H Communications Contest is open to junior, junior high and senior 4-H Members.**

Senior members MAY NOT compete in a contest in which they have previously won FIRST place. Senior Division winners have the opportunity to compete at the Southern Regional Horse Show and the Eastern National Horse Roundup Communication Contests, while the second place senior division winners may compete at the Southern Regional Horse Show. Any 4-H member who competes in the communications contest at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup **will not** be eligible to compete in that same contest at the state level.

***Contestants can only enter ONE state communications contest.***

***The State 4-H Horse Communications Contests will be held in late spring or summer. Specific details will be announced in early spring.***

**24.1.2.** Participants in the Public Speaking and Individual Demonstration contests may only compete as individuals (1 person). Participants in the Team Demonstration contest may only compete as a two-member team (2 people), within the same division.

### 24.2. Horse Public Speaking Contest General Contest Rules

**24.2.1.** Subject must pertain to the horse industry. Speeches not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s)

**24.2.2.** No visual aids may be used.

**24.2.3.** Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge(s).

**24.2.4.** A public address system will not be used during the contest, but a lectern will be provided.

**24.2.5.** During the event, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and speech topic.

**24.2.6.** Speech length will vary by the age of the 4-H member. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the time range for each age.

– Junior members: 3-5 minutes

– Junior High members: 5-7 minutes

– Senior members: 7-10 minutes

**24.2.7.** Contestants should cite their major reference after the conclusions of their speech. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.

**24.2.8.** After the speech is finished, judges may question the contestant. Each judge shall ask each contestant a minimum of one question. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question, then answer it.

**24.2.9.** Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and at the coaches' meeting.

**24.2.10.** Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges' accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy scores.

### 24.3. Scoring of Public Speaking Contest

**24.3.1.** Introduction (10 Points)

A. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?

B. Was the introduction short and to the point?

**24.3.2. Organization (15 Points)**

- A. Were the main points easy to follow?
- B. Were the main points arranged in the best order?
- C. Were the sentences short and easy to understand?
- D. Was the speech interesting?

**24.3.3. Contest and Accuracy (20 Points)**

- A. Were the facts and information accurate?
- B. Was there enough information concerning the subject?
- C. Was credit given to the sources of information, if appropriate?
- D. Was the content appropriately related to the horse industry?
- E. Was the content of the presentation technical, scientific or complex in nature?

**24.3.4. Stage Presence (15 Points)**

- A. Was the speaker neat and appropriately dressed?
- B. Did the speaker talk directly to and look at the audience?
- C. Was the speaker's posture erect, but not stiff?
- D. Did the speaker refrain from leaning on the lectern?
- E. Did the speaker seem relaxed and at ease?

**24.3.5. Delivery (20 Points)**

- A. Did the speaker have appropriate voice control?
- B. Were all the words pronounced correctly?
- C. Did the speaker's facial expressions reflect the mood of the speech?
- D. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the speech?
- E. Did the speaker seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized or ready-type delivery?

**24.3.6. General (10 Points)**

- A. Did the speaker convey to the audience a sense of wanting to communicate?
- B. Did the speech reflect the thoughts and personality of the speaker?

**24.3.7. Conclusion (10 Points)**

- A. Was the conclusion short and interesting?
- B. Did the conclusion properly wrap up the speech?
- C. Could the speaker handle questions easily?

**24.4. State Horse Individual Presentation Contest General Contest Rules**

**24.4.1.** The subject must pertain to the horse industry. Presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s).

**24.4.2.** This may be a demonstration or an illustrated presentation. No live animals may be used.

**24.4.3.** Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge(s).

**24.4.4.** A public address system will not be used during the contest.

**24.4.5.** Contestants must supply their own easels, but tables will be available.

**24.4.6.** Creative audiovisual aids may be used, but the contestant must be involved in making or designing them.

**24.4.7.** During the contest, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and presentation topic.

**24.4.8.** Speech length will vary by the age of the 4-H member. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the time range for each age.

- Junior members: 3-6 minutes
- Junior High members: 6-9 minutes
- Senior members: 9-12 minutes

**24.4.9.** Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation. This will not be counted in the allotted time.

**24.4.10.** Following the presentation, judges may question the contestant. Each judge shall ask each contestant a minimum of one question. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question, then answer it.

**24.4.11.** Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced before the start of the contest.

**24.4.12.** Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.

**24.4.13.** Judges will consider the questions listed under each section.

#### **24.5. Scoring the Individual Presentation Contest**

##### **24.5.1. Introduction (10 Points)**

- A. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
- B. Was the introduction short and to the point?

##### **24.5.2. Organization (25 Points)**

- A. Was only one main idea demonstrated or presented?
- B. Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
- C. Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation or was an explanation given for any discrepancies?
- D. Could the audience see each step?
- E. Were the materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
- F. Were charts and posters used if and when they were needed?
- G. Were the key points for each step stressed?

##### **24.5.3. Content and Accuracy (25 Points)**

- A. Were the facts and information presented accurate?
- B. Was there enough information presented about the subject?
- C. Were approved practices used?
- D. Was credit given to the sources of information, if appropriate?
- E. Was the content of the presentation technical, scientific or complex in nature?

##### **24.5.4. Stage Presence (10 Points)**

- A. Was the presenter neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the demonstration?
- B. Did the presenter speak directly to and look at the audience?
- C. Was the presenter too fast or too slow?

##### **24.5.5. Delivery (15 Points)**

- A. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving a demonstration?
- B. Did the presenter have good voice control?
- C. Were all words pronounced correctly?
- D. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the presentation?
- E. Did the presenter seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized presentation?

**24.5.6. Effect on the Audience (5 Points)**

- A. Did the audience show an interest in the presentation?
- B. Could the audience go home and carry out the idea?

**24.5.7. Summary (10 Points)**

- A. Was the summary short and interesting?
- B. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
- C. Did the summary properly wrap up the presentation?
- D. Could the presenter handle questions easily?

**24.6. State Horse Team Presentation Contest General Contest Rules**

**24.6.1.** The subject must pertain to the horse industry. Presentations not appropriately related to the horse industry can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s).

**24.6.2.** This may be a demonstration or an illustrated presentation. No live animals may be used.

**24.6.3.** Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge(s).

**24.6.4.** A public address system will not be used during the contest.

**24.6.5.** Participants must supply their own props. Tables will be available for contestants.

**24.6.6.** Creative audiovisual aids may be used, but the contestants must be involved in making or designing them.

**24.6.7.** During the contest, the contestants may introduce themselves by name, state and presentation topic.

**24.6.8.** Speech length will vary by the age of the 4-H member. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) over or under the time range for each age.

- Junior members: 6-9 minutes
- Junior High members: 9-12 minutes
- Senior members: 10-15 minutes

**24.6.9.** Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their presentation. This will not be counted in the allotted time.

**24.6.10.** At the end of the presentation, judges may question the team members. Each judge shall ask each team a minimum of one question. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestants should repeat the question, then answer it.

**24.6.11.** Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and will be announced at the specialist meeting.

**24.6.12.** Ties will be broken first by the judges' accumulated delivery score, second by the judges accumulated organization score and third on content and accuracy score.

**24.7. Scoring the Team Demonstration**

**24.7.1. Introduction (10 Points)**

- A. Did the introduction serve to create interest in the subject?
- B. Was the introduction short and to the point?

**24.7.2. Organization (25 Points)**

- A. Was only one main idea presented?
- B. Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
- C. Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation or was an explanation given for any discrepancies?
- D. Could the audience see each step?
- E. Were the materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well organized?
- F. Were charts and posters used if and when they were needed?
- G. Were the key points for each step stressed?

**24.7.3. Content and Accuracy (25 Points)**

- A. Were the facts and information presented accurate?
- B. Was there enough information presented about the subject?
- C. Were approved practices used?
- D. Was credit given to the sources of information, if appropriate?
- E. Was the content of the presentation technical, scientific or complex in nature?

**24.7.4. Stage Presence (10 Points)**

- A. Were the presenters neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of the demonstration?
- B. Did the presenters speak directly to and look at the audience?
- C. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?

**24.7.5. Delivery (15 Points)**

- A. Did the presenters appear to enjoy giving a demonstration?
- B. Did the presenters have good voice control?
- C. Were all words pronounced correctly?
- D. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the presentation?
- E. Did the presenters seem to choose words at the time they were spoken as opposed to a memorized presentation?

**24.7.6. Effect on the Audience (5 Points)**

- A. Did the audience show an interest in the presentation?
- B. Could the audience go home and carry out the idea?

**24.7.7. Summary (10 Points)**

- A. Was the summary short and interesting?
- B. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
- C. Did the summary properly wrap up the demonstration?
- D. Could the presenters handle questions easily?

## SECTION 24: TENNESSEE STATE 4-H HORSE JUDGING CONTEST

**Individuals are NOT to use any outside resources during the state contest. Any patterns or scorecards will be provided.**

### 25.1. State 4-H Horse Judging contest

**25.1.1. Eligibility:** The top four senior 4-H horse judging teams from each of the three regions are eligible. Previous Tennessee State 4-H Horse Judging Senior Division Champions **will not** be eligible to compete in future horse judging contests (regional or state). Any 4-H member who competes in the Horse Judging Contest at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup **will not** be eligible to compete in future 4-H horse judging contests (regional or state).

**25.1.2. Teams:** Teams will consist of three to four members. The three highest overall scores will be used to compute the team score. This includes all scores for three-person teams and the three highest overall scores for four-person teams.

**25.1.3. Classes:** Classes will be indicative of the varied horse population in Tennessee.

**25.1.3.1.** Halter classes can include, but are not limited to, Quarter Horses, Tennessee Walking Horses, Arabians, Hunters, Saddlebreds, and Spotted Saddle Horses.

**25.1.3.2.** Performance classes can include, but are not limited to, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, two-gait flat shod, Western Riding, English Pleasure, Reining, Hunter Hack, Western Horsemanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Ranch Riding, and Trail.

**25.1.4. Reasons:** Oral reasons will not exceed two halter and two performance classes. A minimum of three sets of reasons will be given.

### 25.1.5. Out-of-State Trips

**25.1.5.1.** The first-place team will represent Tennessee at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Judging Contest in Louisville, KY.

**25.1.5.2.** The first and second place team will represent Tennessee at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship Judging Contest held annually in the South or Southwest. No expenses provided.

**25.1.5.3.** It is possible that lower-placing teams can represent Tennessee at other contests (Congress, AQHYA World, Paint Nationals, Arabian Nationals, etc.). However, higher-ranking teams will receive priority.

### 25.2. Open Horse Judging Contest

**25.2.1. Eligibility:** Any 4-H member (grades 4-12) is eligible for the Open Judging Contest. Divisions will be Junior (grades 4-5), Junior High (grades 6-8) and Senior (grades 9-12).

**25.2.2. Teams:** Teams will consist of three to four members. The three highest overall scores will be used to compute the team score. This includes all scores for three-person teams and the three highest overall scores for four-person teams.

**25.2.3. Classes, Reasons and Questions:** The same classes from the State 4-H contest will be used for the Open contest. Questions/Reasons: Junior: 2 sets of questions; Junior High: 2 sets of questions and 1 set of oral reasons; and Senior: 2 sets of questions and 2 sets of oral reasons.

## SECTION 25: TENNESSEE STATE 4-H HORSE BOWL

### 26.1. Eligibility

The top four teams in each age division from each regional contest may participate in the state contest. Previous Tennessee State 4-H Horse Bowl Senior Division Champions **will not** be eligible to compete in future horse bowl contests (regional or state). Any 4-H member who competes in the Horse Bowl Contest at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup **will not** be eligible to compete in future 4-H horse bowl contests (regional or state).

### 26.2. Age divisions

There will be three age divisions:

- Junior (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Junior High (6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Senior (9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades)

### 26.3. Study material

#### 26.3.1. Junior Division

- A. Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms by New Horizons Education Center, Inc.
- B. Horse Industry Handbook and all associated updates by the American Youth Horse Council
- C. Equine Science by Jean T. Griffiths
- D. Horse Smarts: An Equine Reference and Youth Activity Guide by the American Youth Horse Council
- E. Dover Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the English Rider. To request a free catalog, visit [doversaddlery.com](http://doversaddlery.com)
- F. Schneider Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the Western Rider. To request a free catalog visit [sstack.com](http://sstack.com).
- G. The Horse, Third Edition.

#### 26.3.2. Junior High Division

- A. All Junior Division references

#### 26.3.3. Senior Division

- A. All Junior Division references
- B. The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy by Robert A. Kainer and Thomas O. McCracken.
- C. Feeding and Care of the Horse by Lon D. Lewis

#### 26.3.4. Knowledge Areas

- A. Juniors will be responsible for studying the following topics from all sources listed above:
  1. Introduction to Horse Ownership (including breeds, colors, history, etc.)
  2. Selection and Use (including judging, basic conformation, etc.)
  3. Hoof Care
  4. Equine Health Management
  5. Tack and Equipment
  6. Nutrition and Feeding
- B. Junior High members will be responsible for studying all Junior Division topics PLUS:
  1. Equine Diseases
  2. Facilities/Waste Management
- C. Senior members will be responsible for studying all Junior and Junior High Division topics PLUS:
  1. Exercise Physiology
  2. Genetics
  3. Reproduction

#### 4. Training/Horse Behavior

##### 26.4. Contest Rules

**26.4.1.** A team **must** consist of at least three and no more than four members. Three-member teams will be at a disadvantage, particularly in the Senior division. A three-member team **may not** compete in national competitions.

**26.4.2.** Team members and leaders are allowed to observe contest rounds.

**26.4.3.** Random drawings will determine brackets in each age division. Teams from the same county will not compete head-to-head in the first round of the contest.

**26.4.4.** County names must precede team names for all teams. (Example: Lamb County Black Sheep A; Crockett County Pioneers)

**26.4.5. All decisions of the judge, scorekeepers, timer and moderator are final.**

**26.4.6.** *Holding rooms will be for team members and coaches only during the contest.*

**26.4.7.** Spectators, parents, and visitors may not protest any questions, answers, or procedures during the course of play. They may, however, submit in writing to the contest officials any suggestions, complaints, or protests at the conclusion of the contest. Unseemly behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any actions which are generally accepted as detrimental to the contest by any person associated with a particular team (i.e., parent, agent, team member, volunteer leader, etc.) will disqualify that entire team from the contest.

**26.4.8.** There will be ABSOLUTELY NO audio or video recording of any round of the contest. Additionally, no one (including but not limited to spectators, parents, coaches, visitors and agents) may write down questions and/or answers during the contest. The use of cellphones (including texting) is also forbidden in the contest room(s). Anyone found in violation of this rule will be removed from the contest room(s) for the duration of the contest.

**26.4.9.** There will be **NO** travel money available for the State-winning Senior Horse Bowl team to compete in the national contest. Members of the champion team are eligible to compete in the national contest at their own expense.

##### **26.4.10.** Contest Procedure

A) Each round will consist of 20 questions (8 one-on-one questions followed by 12 toss-up questions).

B) One-on-one and toss-up questions are worth +10 points for correct answers and -5 points for incorrect answers. Bonus questions are worth +15 points for correct answers, with no penalty for incorrect answers.

C) During the one-on-one questions, Player 1 from Team A competes against Player 1 from Team B, Player 2 from Team A competes against Player 2 from Team B, etc. Each player will have the opportunity to answer two one-on-one questions.

D) In cases where a three-member team is competing against a four-member team:

1) The three-member team will get a bonus question after all three team members give a correct answer, while the four-member team will get a bonus question after only three members give a correct answer.

2) During the one-on-one questions, the four-member team will have the option of either answering without buzzing in or declining to answer the question posed to the fourth member (the team member who is opposite the vacant chair on the three-member team). A wrong answer will still be penalized; declining to answer will not be penalized.

E) In cases where two three-member teams are competing against one another, the rules will be the same as when two four-member teams are competing.

F) A "Quiz-A-Tron" will be used. The first member to "buzz" in may answer the question.

- G) The first person whose light flashes must answer the question within 10 seconds or lose 5 points. The first answer given by the contestant will be the ONLY answer accepted. If this answer is incorrect, the other team may have the question re-read and then answer.
- H) When a buzzer is pushed before the question is completely read, the moderator shall stop reading the question at the sound of the buzzer. If the answer given is incorrect, the other team may answer immediately or ask to hear the entire question.
- I) A bonus question will be given to a team when all members have answered a question correctly. (See 4.8.D above for exceptions.) Discussion is allowed on bonus questions only. The answer must come from the team captain, only the first answer given will be accepted, and the answer must be started within 30 seconds or no points will be awarded.
- J) Ties will be broken by a short round consisting of five (5) toss-up questions.

## SECTION 26: TENNESSEE STATE 4-H HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

### 27.1. Eligibility

The top four (4) teams in each age division from each regional contest may participate in the state contest. Previous Tennessee state-winning 4-H Hippology Senior Division teams will **not** be eligible to compete in future Hippology contests (regional or state). Any 4-H member who competes in the Hippology Contest at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup **will not** be eligible to compete in future 4-H Hippology contests (regional or state).

### 27.2. General Rules

**27.2.1.** Teams will consist of three or four members. The top three individual scores from each phase will be used to compute the team score. All four team members will be eligible for individual awards.

**27.2.2.** There will be three age divisions: Junior (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades), Junior High (6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades), and Senior (9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades).

**27.2.3.** The Junior and Junior High division contests will consist of three separate parts, while the Senior division contest will consist of five separate parts.

**27.2.4.** There is **NO** travel money available for the Champion Senior division team to compete at national-level contests. The Senior division Champion team is eligible to compete at national-level contests at its own expense.

**27.2.5.** Spectators, parents, and visitors may not protest any question, answer, or procedure during the course of the competition. They may, however, submit in writing to the contest officials any suggestions, complaints, or protests at the conclusion of the event. Unseemly behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, or any actions which are generally accepted as detrimental to the contest by any person association with any team (i.e., volunteer leader, agent, parent, team member, visitor, etc.) will disqualify that entire team from the contest.

**27.2.6. All decisions of the judge(s), scorekeepers, timer, and/or moderator are final.**

**27.2.7.** References:

#### **27.2.7A** Junior Division

- A. Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms by New Horizons Education Center, Inc.
- B. Horse Industry Handbook and all associated updates by the American Youth Horse Council
- C. Equine Science by Jean T. Griffiths
- D. Horse Smarts: An Equine Reference and Youth Activity Guide by the American Youth Horse Council
- E. Dover Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the English Rider. To request a free catalog, visit [doversaddlery.com](http://doversaddlery.com)
- F. Schneider Saddlery: Apparel, tack, and horse care items for the Western Rider. To request a free catalog visit [sstack.com](http://sstack.com).
- G. The Horse, Third Edition.

#### **27.2.7B** Junior High Division

- A. All junior division references

#### **27.2.7C** Senior Division

- A. All junior division references
- B. The Coloring Atlas of Horse Anatomy by Robert A. Kainer and Thomas O. McCracken.
- C. Feeding and Care of the Horse by Lon D. Lewis

#### **27.2.8** Study Materials

**27.2.8A Junior Division**

- A. Introduction to Horse Ownership (including breeds, colors, history, etc.)
- B. Selection and Use (includes judging, basic conformation, etc.)
- C. Hoof Care
- D. Equine Health Management
- E. Tack and Equipment
- F. Nutrition and Feeding

**27.2.8B Junior High Division**

- A. All Junior Division topics
- B. Equine Diseases
- C. Facilities/Waste Management

**27.5.8C Senior Division**

- A. All Junior High Division topics
- B. Exercise Physiology
- C. Genetics
- D. Anatomy
- E. Reproduction
- F. Training/Horse Behavior

**27.3. Contest Procedures**

**27.3.1. Part I: Written Test**

- A. Junior High/Senior divisions: 50 questions worth 2 points each (100 points total)
- B. Junior division: 35 questions worth 2 points each (70 points total)
- C. Written exams will no longer be released at the state contest.

**27.3.2. Part II: Identification**

- A. Junior High/Senior divisions: 50 questions worth 2 points each (100 points total)
- B. Junior division: 25 questions worth 2 points each (50 points total)
- C. Will consist of multiple-choice PowerPoint Slide questions covering any of these subjects:
  - 1) Feeds
  - 2) Breeds and colors
  - 3) Health
  - 4) Tack and equipment
  - 5) Anatomy and physiology
- D. Identification could include (but is not limited to):
  - 1) Parts of the horse's anatomy
  - 2) External parts (points) of the horse
  - 3) Different breeds of horses
  - 4) Different colors/patterns of horses
  - 5) Different uses of the various breeds
  - 6) Parts of a saddle (English or Western)
  - 7) Tack identification and/or use
  - 8) Grains/hays for horses (I.D. and/or nutritional content)
  - 9) Protein sources for rations (I.D. and/or nutritional content)
  - 10) Various dewormers/vaccines and their uses
  - 11) Veterinary tools and equipment
  - 12) Farrier tools and equipment/horse shoes
- E. This is a section to test both knowledge and "horse sense" of the 4-H member.

**27.3.3. Part III: Horse judging**

- A. Two classes of horses worth 50 points per class (100 points total)
- B. Classes may come from videos, photographs, models, or live horses.
- C. Halter and/or performance classes may be judged.

**27.3.4. Part IV: Stations**

- A. Junior and Junior High will complete four to five stations as a team. Teams will rotate from station to station.
- B. Senior will complete 5-10 stations individually.
- C. Material for stations will be similar to that tested in Part II (Identification) – See 27.3.2.
- D. All teams/individuals will be provided 2 minutes per station.

**27.3.5. Part V: Team problem (Senior division only)**

- A. Two questions/problems will be provided, a prepared-type and an impromptu-type. The prepared-type problem is worth 50 points, and the impromptu-type is worth 50 points (totaling 100 points).
- B. Prepared and Impromptu Team Problems, All teams will be presented with the same problems. Each team will have equal time to discuss the problem among themselves, immediately after which they will present their response. The prepared team problem format is as follows: teams will be given 10 minutes to review the question and prepare their response; immediately after preparation, teams will be given 7 minutes to present their response, and 3 minutes for questions from the judge(s). The impromptu format is as follows: teams will be given 7 minutes to review the question, prepare and deliver their response, followed immediately by 3 minutes of questions from the judge(s). Team problem scores will not be included in the individual score calculation.