

## 2024 VIRGINIA STATE 4-H HORSE AND PONY SHOW

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**\*\*\*ENTRIES ARE DUE BY JULY 31, 2024\*\*\***

**EXTENSION AGENTS – SUBMIT ORIENTATION REPORT FORM PACKET WITH ADDITIONAL PAPERWORK AND PAYMENT TO:** VA State 4-H Horse Show, Hunter Liles, 175 W. Campus Drive, 388 Litton Reaves, Blacksburg, VA 24061

**\*\*\*Questions on entries: Weekdays between 9:00 am - 5:00 pm\*\*\***

Katherine Carter, Extension Youth Animal Science Specialist, [carterke@vt.edu](mailto:carterke@vt.edu) or 540-231-2257

Hunter Liles, Extension Youth Animal Science Associate, [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) or 540-231-6345

This publication is designed to serve as the VA State 4-H Horse Show Rule Book and the catalog for the State 4-H Horse Show. **Submitted entry and signature on the Orientation Report Form indicates compliance and acceptance with all rules, the entry system, and the show personnel and judge’s final decisions without oral or written protest.**

Class specifications and general guidelines may be pulled and adapted for local classes, shows, events and District shows.

In general, **modified** United States Equestrian Federation Rules and American Quarter Horse Association Rules for class specifications have been applied to the appropriate classes.

**GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT**

The guides, including the entry system, are recommended by the state 4-H horse project advisory committee and will have the appropriate administrative approval. All systems of selection and eligibility procedures have been thoroughly reviewed and the committee recommends continuing the selection by quota and age. Emphasis should continue for all members to show at local, county and district shows. Please consult with your leaders and members well in advance of the events. The state show is one of the largest and best 4-H youth events in the nation. Our challenge and goal is to keep the show operating optimally for the benefit of the members.

**This show is an educational event centered around positive youth development. Anyone in attendance is expected to maintain the behavior standards set by show management. Anyone not meeting those standards will be subject to removal from the event.**

## **SHOW PERSONNEL**

**Show Manager:** Katherine Carter, Extension Youth Animal Science Specialist

**Co-Superintendents:** Bob & Julie Williamson, Reva, VA

**Show Operations Manager:** Thomas Agnew, Mechanicsville, VA

**Stable Management & Superintendent:** Kookie Ketron, Lebanon, VA

**Rescue Squad & First Aid:** Janet Smith, Bridgewater, VA

**Communications:** Thomas Agnew, Mechanicsville, VA

### **Division Managers**

**Hunter Pleasure Manager:** Julie Williamson, Reva, VA; Beth Jones, Mascot, VA

**Hunter O/F Manager:** Julie Williamson, Reva, VA; Beth Jones, Mascot, VA

**Ranch Manager:** Hannah McDonald, Cross Junction, VA

**Western Manager:** Hannah McDonald, Cross Junction, VA

**Saddle Seat Manager:** Beka Powers, Hubert, NC; Erin Edwards, Smyrna, GA

**Dressage Manager:** Leslie Prillaman, Ext. Agent, Roanoke, VA, Tammy Nichols, Blue Ridge, VA

**Gymkhana Manager:** Carrie Swanson, Ext. Agent, Charlottesville, VA; Ciera Davenport, Batavia, OH

**Mini Manager:** Pinky Dowdy, Richmond, VA, Jen Dowdy-Panten, Henrico, VA, Lisa Powers, Hanover, VA

**Trail Manager:** Hannah McDonald, Cross Junction, VA

**Show Secretary:** Hunter Liles, Extension Youth Animal Science Program Associate

**Points Secretary:** Bertha Durbin & Jen Daly, Free Union, VA

**Agent On Duty Supervisors:** Kaci Daniel and Jocelyn Pearson

### **Judges:**

**Gymkhana:** Vickey Dunn

**Western:** Cayce Miller and Vickey Dunn

**Ranch:** Cayce Miller

**Saddle Seat:** Ashley Tasco

**Hunter:** Meg Rhodes and Tracey Mullen

**Reining:** Cayce Miller

**Jr. and Sr. Hunter Showmanship:** 4-H Judging Team Alumni

**Trail:** Cayce Miller

**Stable Management:** VT Graduate Students

**Dressage:** Jessie Ginsburg and Beth Sproule

**Dressage Showmanship:** 4-H Judging Team Alumni

**Miniature Division:** Ashley Tasco

**Announcers:** Danny Pearce, Aylett, VA

Julie Williamson, Reva, VA

Lisa Arbogast, Rockingham, VA

Robin Wood, Ruckersville, VA

Rose McDonald, Cross Junction, VA

Lisa Powers, Hanover, VA

**Course Designer:** Robin Wood

**Jump Crew:** Beth Jones and crew, Mascot, VA

**Farrier:** Rex Brown, Roanoke, VA

**Show Photographer:** Amanda Lelia

**Alumni Coordinator:** Sue Rogowski, Suffolk, VA

**Art Show & Photography Contest:** Kim Mayo, Ext. Agent, Palmyra, VA

**Project Book and Portfolio Competition:** Jenny Thompson, Extension Agent, Louisa, VA

**Awards Committee:** Kelly Mallory, Madison, VA; Erin Berkery, Orange, VA; Caitlin

Knically

**Hospitality:** Kendell Kniseley, Unionville, VA

**Silent Auction:** Rose McDonald, Cross Junction, VA

<b>2024 State 4-H Horse Show Steering Committee</b>	<b>2024 State 4-H Equine Advisory Council</b>
<p>Chair: Katherine Carter, Ext Youth Animal Science Specialist  Thomas Agnew, Mechanicsville, VA  Erin Berkery, Orange County, VA  Jennifer Daly, Free Union, VA  Kaci Daniel, Ext. Agent, Orange, VA  Cieara Davenport, Batavia, OH  Pinky Dowdy, Richmond, VA  Bertha Durbin, Free Union, VA  Erin Edwards, Smyrna, GA  Sue Hecht, Brownsburg, VA  Beth Jones, Mascot, VA  John Jones, Mascot VA  Kookie Ketron, Lebanon, VA  Kendell Kniseley, Unionville, VA  Sam Leech, Ext. Agent, Albemarle, VA  Hunter Liles, Ext Youth Animal Science Associate  Kelly Mallory, Ext. Agent, Madison, VA  Darla Marks, Ext. Agent, Charlotte, VA  Kim Mayo, Ext. Agent, Fluvanna, VA  Hannah McDonald, Cross Junction, VA  Rose McDonald, Cross Junction, VA  Tarah Moorman, Hardy, VA  Jen Panten-Dowdy, Henrico, VA  Jocelyn Pearson, Ext. Agent, Chesapeake, VA  Beka Powers, Hubert, NC  Justin Powers, Hubert, NC  Lisa Powers, Hanover, VA  Leslie Prillaman, Ext. Agent, Roanoke, VA  Sue Rogowski, Suffolk, VA  Janet Smith, Bridgewater, VA  Carrie Swanson, Ext. Agent, Charlottesville, VA  Reanna Willey, Christiansburg, VA  Julie Williamson, Reva, VA</p>	<p><b>SOUTHWEST DISTRICT</b>  Leslie Prillaman, Extension Agent  Tammy Bishop-Sparks, Extension Agent  Mattie Ruth Graham  Cindy Stanley  Reanna Willey</p> <p><b>SOUTHEAST DISTRICT</b>  Jocelyn Pearson, Extension Agent  Sylvia Hofmann-Cole</p> <p><b>NORTHEAST DISTRICT</b>  Krista Gustafson, Extension Agent  Victoria Salmon, Extension Agent  Sandra Dowdy  Laura Beach  Lisa Powers</p> <p><b>NORTHWEST DISTRICT</b>  Sam Leech, Extension Agent  Kim Mayo, Extension Agent  Julie Williamson  Bertha Durbin  Rose McDonald</p> <p><b>CENTRAL DISTRICT</b>  Darla Marks, Extension Agent  Jeanne Morcom  Jo Anne Miller  Tracy Russler  Della Roberts</p> <p><b>AT LARGE</b>  Carrie Swanson, Extension Agent  Jennifer Daly  Hannah McDonald  Yvonne Miller</p> <p><b>STATE OFFICE</b>  Katherine Carter, Youth Animal Science Extension  Specialist, Blacksburg  Hunter Liles, Ext Program Associate, Youth Animal  Science, Blacksburg</p>

# **EXHIBITOR AND HORSE QUALIFICATIONS**

Extension Agents, 4-H Leaders, 4-H horse project members, and parents; please read these rules carefully. An adult should accompany each 4-H member to the show. The adult in charge will be held responsible for the veracity of the entry and the conduct of their 4-Hers who participate in the show. Failure to comply with the rules and regulations as set forth in this program will result in disqualification and forfeiture of prizes won. Disqualification will be determined by the Virginia 4-H Horse Program staff and show committee. Adult supervisor must be listed for each 4-H Member on the Orientation Report Form.

This event is open to all 4-H youth per the following show rules. **Submitted entry indicates compliance with all rules, the entry system, and the show personnel and judge's decisions without oral or written protest.** Educational emphasis is on stable management, showmanship, safety, equitation, horsemanship and sportsmanship.

## **General Exhibitor Qualification and Rules**

### **4-H Member Qualifications per 4-H year:**

1. The member must be enrolled in 4-H Online in the horse project in the unit from which entered by February 1 of the show year. Determination of enrollment is to be established and verified solely by the county selection committee and Extension agent and all decisions will be retained at that level.
2. Must submit an up-to-date Virginia Horse Project: Horse Management Record Book [[publication 4H694P \(junior\)](#) or 4H837P ([senior](#))], verified by the club project leader or by the Extension Agent at the time of entry for the State 4-H Horse Show.
3. Must Qualify in a 4-H district qualifying show, state approved 4-H qualifying clinic (member and horse), or other District Horse Council approved qualifying event in the current state show 4-H calendar year.
4. Must have passed levels 1&2 of the Horsemanship Skills if they have not previously shown at the state level, including walk/trot riders and walk/jog riders. Visit the Horsemanship Skills page for further information. <https://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/horse/events/horsemanship-skills.html>
5. Must participate in one Unit, area, or state 4-H event other than the 4-H district horse qualifying show or clinic in the same state show 4-H calendar year.
6. **4-H Age Qualifications.**
  - a. Junior exhibitors are ages 9-13 as of September 30 of the show year.
  - b. Senior exhibitors are ages 14-18 as of September 30 of the show year, with some 19 year olds being eligible. Virginia 4-H membership terminates December 31 of the calendar year the member has his/her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.
  - c. Unit selection chairperson and Extension agents will verify all ages by inspecting birth certificates before approving entry.
7. **Eligibility/Declaration Form.** Exhibitors must have completed the eligibility/declaration form for their project animal(s) through their own login account at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) no later than **July 1** of the current horse show year. Youth may declare more than one horse but the horse selected for the state show must have this form filed online **by July 1.**

8. **County/Districts may have extra qualifications above and beyond the ones listed in this rulebook. Please check with your county/district for specific requirements.**

**Senior Military Exemption** – This exemption allows qualifying seniors to enter the State Show without attending a qualifying event for the year. A senior 4-H member, 18 years or older, who will be going into active military duty or basic training, such that the 4-Her is unable to attend an official qualifying event will be allowed to enter the state show. Contact the show manager for details.

**Insurance** – Exhibitors must have an accident-medical insurance policy. The policy number and name should be listed on the Health History form. **The show will not provide insurance.**

### **4-H Member Rules**

1. **Dress.** Horse show participants and family members are expected to dress neat, appropriately and of a conservative nature in keeping with general 4-H expectations at all times. Anyone with the probability of handling or riding a horse should dress with safety in mind. When schooling, long pants are required and tops with enough coverage and support to withstand strenuous activity are required. Closed toed boots with a heel and approved safety helmet are required when riding. No open toed shoes, sandals/flip flops allowed when handling or assisting handling a horse, in the barn aisle, cleaning a stall, etc. Shirts are required at all times, and participants are not to wear clothing that allows undergarments to show.
  - a) The following dress items are considered inappropriate at all times during the show weekend: clothing with negative, indecent language or symbols, excessively tight or short garments, exposed undergarments, halter or tube tops, spaghetti straps, belly shirts exposing midriff and see through clothing.
  - b) When showing, show appropriate dress and safety attire is required based on the division rules. Please see show division for appropriate attire. All show personnel have the authority to enforce the dress code policies. Failure of any individual to comply with dress policy or change requests can result in disqualification from the show and eviction from the horse show grounds.
2. **The Virginia 4-H Code of Conduct/4-H Standards of Behavior which all members and adult volunteers have signed will be in effect.**
3. **Show Entry.** It is the responsibility of the 4-H member to obtain the rules and complete their own entry form. After the entry has been submitted, exhibitors may substitute one qualified horse for another horse they declared by the July 1 deadline, which must have met all other qualification criteria. The participant must submit a reason for the substitution to the Show Manager, along with the \$50 substitution fee. Show management will have discretion at the show to have the final say. If age of exhibitor is questioned, then the exhibitor must produce a birth certificate or be considered for disqualification for all classes in the current show.
4. **Insurance.** The policy number and name of the medical insurance policy for the exhibitor should be listed on the Health History form. The show will not provide insurance.
5. Parents, guardians, members and/or representatives agree to all rules and legal show decisions without appeal or legal action upon entry. Responsibility for preparation and safe participation in any class is the responsibility of the parent, guardian and/or representative and members.

### **General Horse Rules**

- 1) The horse must be the project animal of the 4-H member. It may be owned, leased, or rented.
- 2) The program is open to all breeds and types of horses, ponies, mules, and donkeys at least one year of age.
- 3) The equine must be healthy and serviceably sound. All horses may be subject to inspection by a veterinarian to comply with Federal, State and United States Equestrian Federation regulations concerning soring, drugs and drug testing, and cruelty to animals.

4) **It is strongly suggested all horses entering the horse show grounds be vaccinated in the last 6 months with the Flu/Rhino vaccine. Show management reserves the rights to mandate proof of vaccination should an outbreak of the disease occur or the facility rules require proof of vaccination.**

5) No stallions are allowed.

6) Equines must have a negative Coggins Test for EIA **within 12 months of State Show**. The most up to date Coggins must be uploaded in [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com). If the Coggins expires after July 31 and before September 6, the updated copy must be emailed to Hunter Liles at [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu).

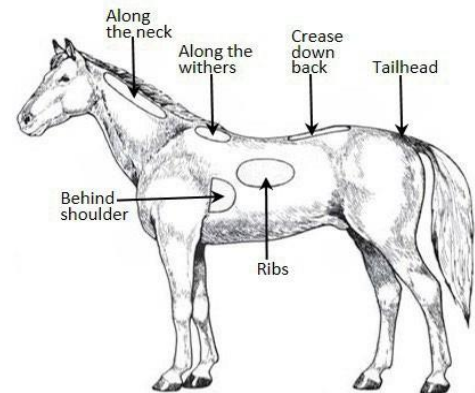
- a) The Coggins certificate must also be presented at the Stable Manager's Office upon arrival at the show before the horse may be assigned to a stall.
- b) **Bring two copies** to the show
  - i) You will be asked to turn in **one copy** to the show management and have one copy for the return trip home in case you are questioned.

7) A general health certificate will not be required except for animals shipped from out of state to show. Certificates must be dated within 30 days of the show.

8) Two members may show one animal, but this animal must be their 4-H Horse Project, and may be shown only one time in each class for which it is eligible. All entry, payment, qualifying, and declaration rules apply for each exhibitor. No more than two 4-H members may share a horse/pony at the State Show. It is up to the participants to enter and register for classes and manage class conflicts.

9) The 4-H Show will conduct a strict barn monitor system and any animal thought to present a health problem may be asked to go home. All exhibitors should check well in advance with own veterinarian for preventative medicine recommendations to protect their horses at the show. This protection will vary per veterinarian and responsibility is up to the owner.

10) Research has shown that health complications such as 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 4-H to educate and promote quality animal husbandry; horses, ponies and/or mules shall not be shown at the Virginia 4-H Horse Program State Show and/or Virginia 4-H State Fair Horse Show with body condition score of less than 4 based on the Henneke scale (ribs easily discernible, tops of spinous process easily discernible, tail-head prominent with hook bones easily discernible, withers accentuated and neck obviously thin). 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 Hunter Liles at 540-231-6345. The Virginia 4-H Horse Program staff will assess animals in question. If there is a thin animal, the committee will make a final decision whether or not to disqualify the animal.



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Horse Body Condition Scores and Descriptions <i>(Adapted from Henneke et al., 1983)</i>	
Score	Condition Description
1 - Poor	Animal 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.
2 - Very Thin	Animal emaciated. Slight fat covering over the 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
3 - Thin	Fat built up about halfway on the spinal vertebrae; transverse processes cannot be felt; slight fat cover over ribs; spinous processes and ribs easily discernible; tailhead prominent, but individual vertebrae cannot be identified visually; point of buttocks appear rounded but easily discernible; point of hip not distinguishable; withers, shoulders, and neck accentuated.
4 - Moderately Thin	Slight ridge along back; faint outline of ribs discernible; tailhead prominence depends on conformation, but fat can be felt around it; point of hip not discernible; withers, shoulders, and neck not obviously thin.
5 - Moderate	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.
6 - Moderate to Fleshy	May be slight crease down back; fat over ribs spongy; fat around tailhead soft; fat beginning to be deposited along the side of withers, behind shoulders, and along the sides
7 - Fleshy	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
8 - Fat	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.
9 - Extremely Fat	Obvious crease down back; patchy fat appearing over ribs; bulging fat around tailhead, along withers, behind shoulders, and along neck; fat along inner thighs may cause them to rub together; flank filled with fat.



## District Qualifying Shows and Clinics

- 1) Each horse/rider combination must qualify at a district qualifying show or clinic. Obtaining the dates, rules, entry, knowing which is their show, etc. is a responsibility of the exhibitor.
- 2) Rules, operations, etc. of the district qualifying show or clinic are handled entirely by the district under the ultimate supervision of the agent representative to the district horse council. The state committees and specialists will refer any inquiries and problems directly to the district.
- 3) The district show/clinic manager or secretary will complete the District Qualified Youth Registration Document and send it to the State Office within 2 weeks of the completion of the qualifying event. It can be found on the [4-H Horse Program Website](#).
- 4) Outside Qualifying Show Exceptions: Allowances have been made as follows:
  - Eligibility:
    - Any Qualified 4-H Member with a declared project animal
    - Class shown in must be at the equivalent or higher level division that they plan on competing in at the State Show.
  - Exhibitor Responsibilities:
    - Submit Qualifying Request to District Horse Council Prior to the Show – check with respective District Horse Council for submission guidelines and deadlines.
    - Receive approval from the District Horse Council.
    - Submit completed Qualifying form and fee to District Horse Council.
    - Upload Qualifying Form to their 4HOnline account.
  - District Horse Council Responsibilities:
    - Establish a Qualifying Fee and deadlines for exhibitors
    - Designate a contact for approvals and approve requests
    - Submit a list of qualified riders/shows to the State Office.

# Entry Procedure

## Entry System

- 1) Exhibitors will make entries using their own family login at the FairEntry website:  
<http://vastatehorseshow.fairentry.com/>
- 2) Exhibitors should use the Entry *Worksheet* found on page 99 and review it with their club leaders and Extension agents before making their entry in the FairEntry system. Review the FairEntry tutorial provided on the website State Show page under the Entry Forms tab.
- 3) Trail and Jumper exhibitors must submit/upload the required Qualifying Form(s) to the entry system. Extensions to this deadline may be requested. Trail forms are not required for those that have competed in Trail previously at the State Show. Jumper forms are required each year. Those entering two horses:
  - a) Both horses must meet all entry qualifications.
  - b) Youth may show different divisions or the same divisions, however they **MAY NOT show two horses in the same class.** Riders may only show once per class.
  - c) Youth may show in two equitation or showmanship classes, as long as they are not showing two horses in the same class.
  - d) If the youth qualifies two animals for the same Classic Class:
    - i) they may only show one animal
    - ii) A wait list will be posted for those who may become eligible when a rider chooses to show one horse. Riders will be notified as soon as possible if they become eligible.
  - e) All class conflicts will be the youth's responsibility! Classes will not be held!
    - i) Youth with two horses are expected to communicate with the division managers should there be a conflict between classes. It is the youth's responsibility to bring this to the division manager's attention and to work with them to find a solution. Classes will still not be held if a compromise cannot be attained.

- 6) Entries are considered complete upon full payment and the Unit Orientation Report Form listing all exhibitors and their designated parent/guardian, has been submitted. See the link at the end of this rulebook for all paperwork to be included. The Extension Agent or Club Leader should be the one to complete the Orientation Report Form.
- 7) **Entries must be submitted in <http://vastatehorseshow.fairentry.com/> no later than July 31.**
- 8) **Orientation Report Form and additional paperwork with payment(s) must be postmarked no later than August 10th.** Indicate on the Orientation Report Form if paying with Individual checks (made out to "Treasurer at Virginia Tech" with State Horse Show in memo line), Club Check via Hokie Mart or Journal Transfer from VTF, or a combination of the three. Do not send cash.

**Mail to:**

**Virginia 4-H State Horse Show  
Attn: Hunter Liles  
175 W. Campus Drive, 388 Litton Reaves, Blacksburg, VA 24061**

For entry questions please call Hunter Liles, Extension Youth Animal Science Associate at 540-231-6345 or by email at [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) between 8am – 5pm, weekdays.

- 9) The Orientation Report Form must be signed by the Extension Agent, 4-H Leader, 4-H member, and parent or guardian.
- 10) Entries should be reviewed to be sure horses are entered in the appropriate classes and divisions. Entries may be shown in the respective/appropriate classes for that Division and horse, but no rider shall be permitted to show in a single class more than once.

- 11) If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Hunter Liles at 540-231-6345 during business hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations by July 18<sup>th</sup> (or as soon as possible after this date). \*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.
  
- 12) Walk/Jog/Trot will be its own division and Championship Awards provided if there are donors. Walk Trot Classes, including Walk/Trot/Jog Trail classes will be offered. All qualification rules will remain the same for exhibitors in these classes. The classes will consist of 2 flat classes and an equitation class. Youth are able to enter the showmanship. Championships will include walk/jog/trot trail, horsemanship/equitation, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> go pleasure, and showmanship for the respective division. There are NO Classic classes for Walk/Jog/Trot. Managers may combine juniors and seniors if entries warrant. Those entering classes that include canter /loping may not enter these walk/trot/jog classes. Walk/Jog/Trot exhibitors may only bring one horse, with the exception of entering a W/J/T Horse and a miniature horse.
  - a) The classes will be split into Junior and Senior, however show management reserves the right to combine the classes into an all-age division.
  - b) Youth may not enter gymkhana if they are competing in the Walk/Trot Classes.
  - c) Youth that show in this division are **not** eligible to apply to show at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships.
  - d) The following Departments will offer walk/trot classes. More specific rules for each class will be in their department rules.
    - i) Dressage
    - ii) English Pleasure
    - iii) Hunter Pleasure
    - iv) Western Pleasure
  
- 13) There will be no refund for classes dropped, nor will there be a class change fee. There is no fee for Classic Entries and changes mandated by a division manager.
  
- 14) Classes of more than 18 shown collectively may be split by the management (with the exception of showmanship) and this will be decided by the show management prior to the start of the class. Making the workout is entirely up to the judge/division manager and is non-protetable.
  
- 15) Some classes will have entry number limits due to the time allowable to fit entries.

### **Entry Responsibility**

1. Errors or omissions in the entry will be verified by the Agent via communication from the Show Manager or Show Secretary.
  
2. The agent should appoint a local selection committee to assist in the screening process which may, at local option, decline any entry even if qualified in the district show. This is to be handled at the local level (state will not become involved) and is non-protetable. The committee should have a chairperson and it may establish eligibility criteria in addition to the basic state requirements. This should be done and published to all potential exhibitors prior to their district qualifying show.
  
3. The agent and Unit level show committee are responsible for entry, orientation and explanation of rules, including the entry system and age cuts. Signatures by exhibitor and parent on the Orientation Form and submission into the FairEntry system indicate that they have read the rules and understand them. This should include advice to the younger members about the age selection system - enter but be advised to double check with the secretary for cancellations resulting in replacements.
  
4. The show secretary will provide acknowledgment of receipt back to the agent. Orientation Form should be submitted by the Unit Extension agent via the link listed at the end of this rulebook and payment(s) should be mailed via USPS.

5. Any inquiries about entries will be honored only via the Unit Extension agent.

**Entry Fees:**

- 1) A \$75 office fee will be collected per horse/rider combination. An exhibitor bringing two horses will incur two separate office fees (ex. \$150). Class fees will be incurred at a rate of \$25/class.
  - a) Exhibitors can enter into any class, regardless of division. No rider may show in the same class twice, even if the rider is exhibiting two different horses.
  - b) Classes will not be held for any reason or the order of classes changed to accommodate any rider. We cannot advise or predict when or how long a class will run by the tentative schedule.
  - c) All classes entered will incur a \$25/class entry fee including:
    - Side Saddle
    - Jumpers
    - Driving
    - Reining
    - California Warm up
  
- 2) **Office and class fees do not include stabling or tack stalls.**
  - a) Stabling fee is \$25/horse/night.
  - b) Tack stalls are an additional \$25/night.
  
- 3) Tack Stall Fee is \$25/night. **There will be No Free Tack Stalls for Units. Exhibitors may share tacks stalls, but are responsible for determining how the cost will be split. Units are responsible for ensuring that tack stall is listed on ONE exhibitor's entry.**
  
- 4) **Entry Fees are non-refundable unless request is approved and scratch received and approved by the show manager by August 25, 2024. Refund should be requested by email by the Extension agent to Katherine Carter at [carterke@vt.edu](mailto:carterke@vt.edu) and Hunter Liles at [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu).**
  
- 5) Entry fee payment may be made via one check/exhibitor or family, one club payment check, journal transfer, or a Combination of the three – simply indicate the method of payment for each exhibitor on the Orientation Form.
  
- 6) All entry checks will be cashed upon receipt and entry may be returned or disqualified in the event of a returned check. There is a \$50.00 charge on all returned checks.

## Horse Show Hero District Challenge Program

4-Hers may solicit “Horse Show Heroes” to help sponsor the State Show.

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Scholarship Awarded</b>
\$300+	4-Her receives \$100 Scholarship toward entry fee
\$400+	4-Her receives \$200 Scholarship toward entry fee
\$800+	4-Her receives Scholarship value of \$400 toward entry fees

The Horse Show Hero District Challenge will allow 4-Hers to work together as a group within their district to raise funds for the State 4-H Horse Show. The “winning” district that raises the most funds for the State 4-H Horse Show will be recognized during the Ice Cream Social on Friday afternoon and every youth from that district showing at the State 4-H Horse Show will receive a “Horse Show Hero” t shirt.

The top ten INDIVIDUAL fundraisers will receive personalized plaques to adorn their stalls during the State 4-H Horse Show and recognize them as Horse Show Heroes!

All Hero money must be sent with the Orientation Report Form and/or received prior to the entry deadline to count towards the district challenge. Each 4-Her must summarize their Hero dollars in the provided Excel form to include the name and Unit of the 4-Her along with the Hero name and amount given, with a summary total. See the 4-H Horse Program Website for more information and forms. If a 4-Her with Hero sponsorships is unable to attend, Hero funds can be “transferred” to another 4-Her if done so before the scratch deadline. After the scratch deadline, Hero sponsorships can still be accepted but there will be no refunds of Horse Show Hero Monies. Hero checks are cashed upon receipt and are not refundable if the 4-Her is unable to attend the horse show. Horse Show Hero Sponsorships are NOT tax deductible, and that information should be shared with potential sponsors. Should an individual or business wish to make a tax deductible donation, please have them contact Hunter Liles at [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu).

### Late Entries

1. Entries made before or on the entry deadline of July 31, 2024, that are approved at the district/unit level, will be accepted without question.
2. No late entries will be accepted.

### Quota and Cancellations

1. The State Show secretary, having received all entries, shall accept 600 entries, submitted on a state-wide basis by the oldest 4-Hers. If, for any reason an entry accepted by the secretary must be cancelled prior to the show, the Secretary shall offer the opening to the next oldest 4-H'er having submitted entry. The Show Secretary will notify each agent per county of the names to be scratched by the quota system as well as advising agents if there are no scratches in their county. The Agent, in turn, must notify their exhibitors.
2. Parents and Leaders should inform local agent and show secretary if they become aware of scratched entries and must immediately notify the state office via e-mail or written notification, so the space can be assigned to other exhibitors who have submitted eligible entries. The secretary will notify and fill cancellations by rank order. All entries agree hereby to this system. Scratching without notification to secretary prohibits other members from showing.
3. All scratches must be made by 5:00 PM, August 25, 2024 by emailing [carterke@vt.edu](mailto:carterke@vt.edu) and [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) to be eligible for refund of Primary entry fee only. All scratches and no shows after this deadline automatically forfeit entry fees (regardless of reason). No refunds on any other additional class fees, early arrivals, etc.

### Horse Substitution Rule

The animal shown at the qualifying show or clinic must be the one shown at state.

After entries are submitted, exhibitors may substitute one qualified horse for another horse **they declared by the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline** which must have also met all other qualification criteria.

There is no longer a deadline for Horse Substitution, however, the Show Manager must verify the reason for substitution and the request must be accompanied by a \$50.00 substitution fee, to make the change.

**Show Management will have the discretion and final say at the show.**

## GENERAL HORSE SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1) **Rules**—it is the responsibility of the exhibitor and parents/guardians to read and understand the United States Equestrian Federation, American Quarter Horse Association **and 4-H Rules** for the classes in which they are exhibiting. In general, **modified** United States Equestrian Federation Rules and American Quarter Horse Association Rules for class specifications have been applied. **Exhibitors should note the differences in district and state rules and be apprised of respective rules per each class and division. Above all, the judge's decision is FINAL when a particular class is called into question. Signatures by exhibitor and parent indicate that they have read the rules and that they understand ALL rules and regulations and any penalty of disqualification or elimination.**
- 2) **Sportsmanship is the 4-H way.** Any discourtesy to a judge or show officials by an exhibitor, parent, or leader may cause an exhibitor to forfeit all ribbons and trophies and disqualify exhibitor from showing in future 4-H horse shows.
  - a) Questions and concerns about a class are to be discussed with the Show Manager or Agent on Duty and show committee **by the exhibitor only. Judges' placing cards will not be posted.** The judge's decision is final and the placings will not be changed due to questions that arise from a class.
  - b) Judges may be approached only by way of the Agent on Duty, show manager or designated office personnel. **Any question or concern should be written and submitted first to the Agent on Duty or show manager and next to the show managers for final action, which is final and non-appealable (oral or written).**
  - c) **Individually Scored** classes **MAY** have score cards posted if they are made available and the judge requests they be posted.
- 3) The show committee reserves the right to cancel, combine, or divide any class.
- 4) In all classes the exhibitor will not be allowed in the ring if they miss their gate call. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to be at the ring ready to show when their class is called.
- 5) Only authorized personnel will be allowed in the ring.
- 6) In order to be eligible to show in a classic championship class, animals must have been shown in a qualifying class for that division and be in the designated top placings for that classic class.

- 7) Suggestions following the show should be presented by letter or email through the respective local Extension agent and district horse councils, or through the show survey.
- 8) **No dogs allowed in the coliseum or on the show grounds.** Show staff reserves the right to have any dogs and the owners removed from the show grounds. Service dogs and emotional support animals are permitted. However, they are subject to removal if the animal is out of control, not house broken, or a direct threat to people or animals around them. The service animal should be under full control of the handler. The service animal should be on a leash or harness at all times, unless either the Handler is unable because of disability to use a leash, or the use of a leash would interfere with the Service Animal's safe, effective performance of required work.
- 9) Guns of any kind are **NOT** allowed on the show grounds, concealed or not. Anyone seen carrying a gun will be asked to leave the premises immediately.
- 10) The show is not responsible for chaperoning any participant. This is the responsibility of the Unit and parent/guardian.
- 11) Exhibitors must pick-up all awards at the show and are responsible for settling all claims for awards at the show only. Exhibitors winning monetary awards must submit a signed W-9 to the awards office prior to the conclusion of the horse show; payments will be processed after the show and mailed to the address on the W-9. W-9's may only be for the exhibitor, not a parent or other representative.
- 12) The show secretary will maintain an up-to-date record of all class placings. A detailed show report may be posted on the 4-H Horse Program website after the show.
- 13) All exhibitors and volunteers must have an equine release on file.

15) On the show grounds, care and preparation of the horse is the responsibility of the exhibitor with **minimal** assistance from other 4-Hers. Youth must also strictly adhere to stable management and exercise area regulations.

Preparation and care may include but is not limited to: stall cleaning, grooming, braiding, banding, tacking up, bathing, lunging, feeding or watering.

**16) Only the exhibitor of the horse entered in the show may mount and ride the horse during the course of the horse show which starts when the horse is checked in by the stable management crew. If another 4-Her, parent, coach, leader or other individual disrespects this rule and mounts the horse for schooling on the show grounds for any length of time, the exhibitor, the rider and horse will be disqualified from further participation in the horse show. The integrity of the 4-H premise is that the horse is the project of the 4-H Member and this must be upheld at this state event. No electronic devices may be used, including headsets or other communication devices to a mounted rider during a competitive class or while schooling. Disregard to this rule will result in the exhibitor being scratched from all subsequent classes and having any awards won with the head set in place being revoked and placing will be awarded to the next competitor in the lineup as pinned by the judge. Note: exceptions are made for adaptive riders with prior requests made per the deadline.**

## **Stabling and Check-in**

1. **Check In** will be available 5:00 – 9:00 PM, Wednesday. No one will be allowed to check in before 5:00pm or after 9:00pm on Wednesday.
    - a. If youth wish to check in on Wednesday, please designate this in FairEntry and the \$25.00 Nightly Horse Stall Fee and Tack Stall fee will be charged.
    - b. Riding is NOT allowed until the show office opens at 9:00am on Thursday. The arenas will not be open for use.
  2. The Show office will open 9:00am Thursday.
  3. All exhibitors must check out or make arrangements with stable superintendents to leave no later than Sunday by 3 hours following the finish of competition.
  4. All stalls will be assigned by random draw per size and fit of contingent. This is a non-protestable assignment. Extension agents will be given a stabling chart to assist with the placement of horses and participants, This will be returned to Hunter Liles at huntl97@vt.edu with stall assignments by August 26.
  5. Security and mechanics of stabling are the responsibility of the exhibitor. Buckets and decorations must be hung with ties or cords that can be easily applied and removed and are safe for the horse. **No nails, screws or staples can be used to attach decorations, buckets, hay nets, etc. to any stalls at the Virginia Horse Center.**
  6. Stalls will be assigned according to entry numbers per Unit groups. More than one club in a Unit will be grouped together without consideration of number of horses per club. The Unit Extension agent is responsible for making specific stall assignments. Management reserves the right to alter this if necessary. Shared horses that may require a stalling assignment other than the method previously described, should be communicated to [Hunter Liles](#) no later than August 26<sup>th</sup> for consideration of those requests. **Any changes to stall or tack stall assignments must be approved by stable management prior to any change. Any changes to stall assignments made without prior approval will result in disqualification from the show.**
8. 4-Hers are required to strip their stall prior to check out and leaving the grounds so that a more economical fee may be obtained for the use of the VA Horse Center. Violations of this rule will be charged \$25.00 to the 4-Her assigned the stall left not stripped at the end of the horse show.
9. All stabling problems should be directed to the Stable Superintendent's Trailer (where the Coggins is checked).
  10. Parking and camping procedures and facilities will be handled and enforced by Virginia Horse Center personnel and VA State Show volunteers. Vehicles parked improperly or unsafely may be towed!
  11. Exhibitors must attach a local show address (Hotel Name, Local Lodging Location) and phone number on their stall doors using the stall card provided at check-in.
  12. The Virginia Horse Center provides special containers for medical waste disposal in each barn for exhibitors use. Medical waste (needles, syringes) must not be discarded in stalls, manure pits, garbage cans or on the grounds. Needles, syringes and other medical supplies must be placed in the appropriate containers located in each barn. The Virginia Horse Center will inform show management of any abuse of this policy during and after the event. The show is charged if exhibitors are found to abuse this policy and this fee will be passed on to those found in violation.
  13. All electrical extension cords must be twelve (12) gauge, three (3) wire and prong negative ground type.
  14. All manure and used shavings removed from stalls or trailers must be placed in specific areas (between barn wall and



the manure pit, or other specified areas), not in garbage cans.

15. **NO** smoking (Tobacco products, vapes, etc) in or near any buildings, rest rooms, show rings, schooling rings, or stable area.
  16. Maintain clean facilities and grounds by placing litter in trash receptacles for removal by Virginia Horse Center personnel.
  17. All aisles and roadways around barns must be kept open to fire regulations. Owners will be asked to move vehicles or risk towing and/or fines. No vehicles are allowed in the barns at any time.
  18. Only licensed vehicles with licensed operators will be permitted on the lower Virginia Horse Center roadways only. Golf carts and mopeds are permitted if operated in a safe manner by licensed drivers, age 18 and over. Motorcycles, dirtbikes, hoverboards, and four-wheelers will not be permitted. Minors under 16 years of age must wear protective headgear when operating bicycles, skateboards, or rollerskates. Bicycles, skateboards, and rollerskates may not be ridden in the barns or any part of the coliseum or near show or schooling rings or around horses moving to rings. Failure to comply will result in the impounding of the bicycle until the close of the show.
  19. Golf carts are NOT to be parked around any arena due to safety concerns. Violators will be asked to move and may face a fine if not done in an appropriate amount of time.
  20. Gas, electric or propane heaters, and propane tanks are not permitted in the stall area, unless approved by the Virginia Horse Center management.
  21. No horse is permitted on the grounds unless it is participating in the scheduled show.
  22. All vehicles must be kept in designated parking areas. Trailers may be pulled to the barns to load and unload only, and then moved to designated areas.
  23. One equine will be allowed per stall. Equine must be assigned a stall to be eligible to show in any class.
  24. Horses are not to be exercised in the stable area. Horses may not be ridden under the barn roofing.
  25. Horses are to be groomed, tacked, and untacked in the stall and not in walkways/barn aisles.
  26. Bedding can be purchased on the grounds and by placing an order at the Stable Superintendent's Office. The Horse Center has exclusive contracts for bedding. Shavings or other bedding cannot be stockpiled on the grounds by exhibitors. Large orders of shavings can be made directly to the Horse Center prior to your arrival at the show. You will need your stall number from your Extension agent to call in pre-orders.
  27. The exhibitor is responsible for their stall and stable area. Proper feeding, care, and humane treatment must be supervised by the adults in charge from each unit.
28. Tack Stalls will be assigned by stable management based on the purchase of Tack Stalls during the entry process. 4-Her's may share tack stalls in groups or individually. Payment for shared Tack Stalls is to be negotiated among those sharing the stall, with **one payment submitted** to cover the cost of the stall. Tack stalls may be locked with a combination lock **only** if all the occupants are given the combination. **No change in stall assignment is allowed unless approved by stable management!**
29. Stalls from cancelled entries revert to the control of the stable management.
  30. Once a participant removes their horse from the show grounds, the horse will not be permitted to return.

31. No advance special requests for stalls are binding upon the Stable Superintendent.
32. Exhibitors must check in with the stable office and obtain a receipt to be presented to the show secretary before numbers and show packet will be released to the exhibitor.

## **STABLE MANAGEMENT**

Awards will be presented for excellence in Stable Management. Exhibitors are encouraged to read the [supplemental sheet](#) on "Stable Judging - State 4-H Horse Show". Judging will be conducted by a set of official judges. The judges may use the guidelines as an official scoring record or may use any other system as desired. Stall Decorations is a separate contest to be judged on Saturday at approximately 10 am. See rules for the Stall Decoration contest at the back of the rulebook.

- a) Stalls should be clean and well bedded.
- b) Horses should be cooled and brushed out before being left in their stall.
- c) Water and grain buckets should be placed in front of stall; hay should be fed in corner of stall. No nails, screws or staples can be used.
- d) Hay bags should be hung at least 3 feet off the grounds for ponies and at least 4 feet for horses.
- e) Tack should be safe, clean, oiled, and polished.
- f) Stables will be judged anytime between 7 AM Friday and 5 PM Saturday. Things to be considered include cooperation, cleanliness, appropriate stable equipment, and management program. Suggested equipment include feed and water buckets, tack boxes, first aid equipment, saddle racks, rakes, forks, and muck basket. Stall should be identified. In any situation where the aisles are too narrow to display tack and tack boxes in front of the stall, this equipment should be kept at the ends of the aisles. Safety is always the most important concern.
- g) Exhibitors or their designated representative may pick up stable management ribbons from the show secretary after 5 PM on Saturday or Sunday anytime if ribbons are not clipped to stall. Exhibitors are encouraged to be at their stalls as feasible and to visit with the judge about suggestions for improvements. The ribbon award will be final.
- h) All exhibitors will be awarded stable management ribbons on the Danish System (strip blue, red, or white) at the discretion of the judge. All ribbons must be picked up at the show by the exhibitor or a representative.
- i) Judging will not deduct for empty stalls due to late arrival or early departure.
- j) Judge is encouraged to deduct points for all observed safety rule infractions.
- k) **Exhibitor should assume primary role for stable management for their horse. Routine stable chores must be done by the exhibitor.**
- l) All stalls will be judged. The exhibitor does not enter this on the entry form.

## **EXERCISE AREAS**

1. Ring monitors will be present near the practice arenas to maintain safety. Respect must be given to the ring monitors when requests are made of 4-Hers, including all participants go in one direction or the other for a given time period. The rings may be used when not in show use or being readied. Horses are not to be lunged in main exercise area with or without mounted riders present. Any lunging should take place in designated areas, only. These areas, along with times will be posted in the show office during the show.
2. Horses must be saddled and bridled when being ridden. Any severe or very restrictive tie downs are not allowed in the show ring and are not allowed in the exercise area or other areas prior to entering the show pen. Bareback riding, double riding, riding with only a halter and/or rope, etc. are prohibited at all times and in all areas.
3. **All riders must wear protective headgear and their show number whenever mounted. No exceptions!**
4. Horses must be led in the barn area. No riding in the barn. It is recommended horses be led by an adult (with a

mounted rider), outside the barn. Parent/guardians or a designated adult supervisor from their Unit must be with their youth while mounted at all times (on their way to the ring and ringside). Pedestrians have the right-of-way in all areas outside the rings, and it will be the rider's responsibility to beware of pedestrians. Horses must be walked at all times outside the exercise area and rings.

5. Show rings may be used for exercising and schooling as announced. The area may be limited to exhibitors to one hour or more prior to their class.
  6. Horses and ponies are not to be led or ridden outside of the horse show area or past the flags on the cross country course, or in the trailer and car parking areas.
  7. Standard riding equipment and work-attire are required at all times in the exercise areas. **Exhibitors using exercise area must be directly supervised by an adult from their unit.**
  8. No one is permitted to go barefoot or wear open toed shoes in the stable or exercise areas.
  9. Ultimate responsibility for safety in the exercise area is up to the exhibitor, parent or guardian or leader in charge. If it is too crowded, do not use the area, etc. Exhibitors are responsible for the safe conduct and passage of their animals at all times in all areas.
10. EMT personnel will be on the grounds before, during, and after the show but when the announcement is made that they are leaving for the night and arena lights are turned out, **NO 4-Hers should be mounted for any reason. Parents and leaders must enforce this rule or risk disqualification from the horse show. Riders may only be mounted when it is announced that the EMT personnel is on the grounds.**

## **MEASUREMENT AND CERTAIN SHOEING REGULATIONS**

### **Measurement**

Measurement is to take place at district qualifying or local shows. Permanent United States Equestrian Federation cards may be accepted to verify height of horses or ponies. No animal will be measured at the show unless the height is questioned. District shows should check the 4-H cards for validity. Ultimate responsibility rests with the exhibitor. Heights are described on the [4-H Project Horse Eligibility/Declaration Form](#). Miniatures are classified as 40" or less and cannot be ridden.

An exhibitor only may question the height of any animal in the same class being shown but prior to the pinning of the champions and/or within one hour of the conclusion of the class. This is to be directed in writing (signed) to the Agent on Duty or show manager. This statement will be shown to the exhibitor in question, the animal measured (regardless of the kind of card), and the awards and points to be assigned per current United States Equestrian Federation Rules. No champions may be challenged after the awards are made.

### **Shoeing**

Any question about shoeing and pads should be directed to the Agent on Duty or show manager in writing and signed by the party concerned. The Agent on Duty or their representative may then check the entry and present the written question to the other party concerned. Pads and shoes may be checked by the Agent on Duty or their designee for English Pleasure Horses and gaited horses by DQP or at the in-gate prior to the class. Compliance is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor. Pads and Shoes cannot be questioned after a class is in progress except upon the initiation of the agent on duty and/or judge and cannot be questioned by anyone after the ribbon placing.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

A commercial photographer (listed under show personnel) will be available for photography throughout the show. Arrangements and payment are between the exhibitor and photographer. Group photographs may be available and it is suggested that arrangements be made in advance of the show directly with the photographer.

## **SAFETY AND SAFETY HEADGEAR**

### **Safety**

1. Horse work and use is a potentially dangerous activity and assumption of some risk is inherent. Safety is the responsibility of all participants.
2. Neither the show nor sponsors will be responsible for any accident or injury to the person or property of any exhibitor, spectator, attendant, or other person. The exhibitor agrees to indemnify the show and any sponsor against any claim or liability for damage caused by exhibitor or animal.
3. Any exhibitor involved in any activity endangering horse, rider, or spectator is subject to expulsion from the show. Riding double, bareback or without a bridle is not allowed!
4. Accidents should be reported immediately to the rescue squad and/or first aid (medical records), Agents on Duty, and the horse show office.

### **Safety Headgear**

Effective January 1, 2000, protective headgear is required for youth of 4-H age and younger in all mounted equine activities sponsored by VA Cooperative Extension. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) certified protective headgear for equestrian activities is **required**. Headgear must have a properly fitted and secured harness.

## **General Class Tack and Attire Rules and Regulations**

### **Hunter/Hunter Pleasure**

To included classes 1, 2, 21-28, 30-40 43-63, 69-90, 136, 139, 167-174, 187-190, 221-222, 240, 243

### **Tack General Rules**

- Saddles are hunt seat saddles.
- Bridles should be of snaffle and Pelham family only
- Breast plates are optional
- Boots and bandages are prohibited except in equitation over fences
- Draw reins are prohibited in all Hunter Classes
- Martingales of any type are prohibited in Under Saddle Classes
- Riders are not to tie the stirrup, stirrup leather or foot to any part of the horse or tack
- Standing martingales are the only ones permitted and must be used in Over Fence classes only

### **Attire General Rules**

- Clothing must be neat, clean and appropriate for Hunter Classes
- Riders should wear:
  - Traditional coats of dark color
  - Breeches of traditional shades of buff, gray, rust, beige or canary
  - Dress/Field boots or jodhpur boots
  - ASTM Certified Helmet
- Spurs of un-roweled type, crops or bats are optional
- Hair must be neat and/or contained (in a net or braid)
- Gloves are preferred

## Western

To include classes 3, 4, 9-13 108-112, 116-122, 137 140, 175-178, 244

### Tack General Rules

- Horses 5 years and younger are considered **junior horses** and may be shown in a snaffle bit, hackamore, curb bit, half breed or spade bit.
  - Snaffle Bits description:
    - Conventional O-ring, egg-butt, or D-ring with a ring no larger than 4” and no smaller than 2”.
    - The inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments which would provide leverage.
    - The mouthpiece should be round, oval or egg-shaped, smooth and free of wire. It may be inlaid, but smooth and/or latex wrapped. The bars must be a minimum of 5/16” in diameter, measured 1” in from the cheek with a gradual decrease to center of the snaffle.
    - Optional curb strap is acceptable however curb chains are not acceptable.
  - Hackamore descriptions is the use of a flexible, braided, rawhide, leather, or rope bosal, the core of which may be either rawhide or flexible cable with a maximum diameter of 3/4” at the cheek.
    - Absolutely no rigid material will be permitted under the jaws or on the noseband in connection with the bosal, regardless of how padded or covered. Horsehair bosals are prohibited.
- Horses 6 years and older are considered **senior horses** may only be shown in a curb bit, half breed or spade bit.
  - References to a curb, half breed or spade bit means the use of a curb bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage.
    - All curb bits must be free of mechanical device and should be considered a standard western bit. A standard western bit includes: 8 1/2” maximum length shank to be measured as indicated in the judge’s guide. Shanks may be fixed or loose.
    - Concerning mouthpieces, bars must be round, oval or egg-shaped, smooth and free of wire of 5/16” to 3/4” in diameter, measured 1” from the cheek. They may be inlaid, but must be smooth or latex wrapped. Nothing may protrude more than 1/8” below the mouthpiece (bar).
  - The port must be no higher than 3 1/2” maximum, with rollers and covers acceptable. Broken mouthpieces, half-breeds, and spades are standard.
  - When a curb bit is used, a curb strap or curb chain is required, which must be at least 1/2” in width, lie flat against the jaw, and be free of barbs, wire, and/or twists.
- Except for Snaffle Bit and Freestyle Classes, only one hand may be used on the reins, and the hand must not be changed. The hand is to be around the reins; index finger only between split reins is permitted. Violation of this rule results in a penalty score of zero (0).
- **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 is at least 16” of rein between the hands.

### Prohibited Equipment in western classes include:

- Jerk lines, tie down with bare metal in contact with the horse’s head
- Cavesson type nose bands
- Tack collars
- Mechanical hackamores
- Slip or gag bits, donuts or flat polo mouthpieces

**Protective Boots are only allowed in reining and gymkhana events.**

## Attire General Rules

- Pants (slacks, trousers, jeans, etc.)
- Long sleeves and collared shirt (band, standup, tuxedo, etc.)
- Western hat (showmanship only) or ASTM Approved helmet (required when mounted)
- Cowboy/western style boots
- Spurs and chaps are optional

If your specific class is not listed here, please check under that class section for pertinent rules first, then with your breed association for tack and attire rules.

## **FAIR ENTRY SYSTEM - SHOW DEPARTMENTS**

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| A. <a href="#">Equitation</a>                     | H. <a href="#">Hunter Pleasure</a> |
| B. <a href="#">Showmanship</a>                    | I. <a href="#">Miniature</a>       |
| C. <a href="#">Adaptive Rider</a>                 | J. <a href="#">Ranch</a>           |
| D. <a href="#">Dressage</a>                       | K. <a href="#">Walk/Jog/Trot</a>   |
| E. <a href="#">English Pleasure (gaited / SS)</a> | L. <a href="#">Western</a>         |
| F. <a href="#">Gymkhana</a>                       | M. <a href="#">Miscellaneous</a>   |
| G. <a href="#">Hunter O/F &amp; U/S</a>           | N. <a href="#">Drill Team</a>      |

### **A. EQUITATION**

Riders may enter into more than one Equitation and/or horsemanship class (Ex. A horse and rider combination may enter into both Dressage Equitation and Huntseat Equitation on the Flat). Horses and ponies to be ridden in separate classes; horses are over 14.2 and ponies are 14.2 and under. Riders to be separated into juniors and seniors by age; juniors are under 14 years of age and seniors are 14 years and older. Riders shall use appropriate tack and attire according to what is outlined below for their respective divisions.

#### **Class Selection**

Riders may enter into more than one equitation or horsemanship class (Ex. A horse and rider combination may enter into both Dressage Equitation and Huntseat Equitation on the Flat.) However, riders may only compete in a single class one time and may NOT enter two different horses into the same class.

#### **DIVISION A1 – DRESSAGE EQUITATION**

Exhibitors will show at a medium walk, working trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Movements shall be performed by the exhibitors simultaneously; however, the judge may ask for independent execution of certain tests. The rider's position, seat and specifically the correct use and effects of the aids required by the Training and First Level Dressage tests are to be judged. No change of horse by exhibitors. Class may be split if more than 15 riders are entered.

Riders may be asked to exhibit the following at the judge's discretion: free walk, transitions from all gaits exhibited in Training and First Level Test, change direction across the diagonal, across the arena, or half circle, sitting trot, extended/lengthened gaits, and halt, work with or without stirrups, leg yield, "stretching" on a 20 meter circle at the trot, serpentine at the trot, and shallow loop serpentine with counter canter.

Please refer to the Dressage Division section for equipment rules and regulations.

**Class No.**

41 Dressage Equitation – Senior Rider

42 Dressage Equitation – Junior Rider

195 Junior Walk/Trot Dressage Equitation (not eligible for classic or Southern Regionals)

196 Senior Walk/Trot Dressage Equitation (not eligible for classic or Southern Regionals)

205 **DRESSAGE EQUITATION CLASSIC** – Top fourteen scores combined from classes 41 and 42 are eligible to show in the Classic. This is the top 14 scores of juniors and seniors combined. Entries made at the show for no additional charge

### **Division A3 - GAITED EQUITATION**

**Eligible entries** include horses shown in Ambling, Racking, or Walking Horse and Pony Pleasure. Shoeing regulations will follow the rules previously set forth by those classes listed and will be in accordance with standard shoeing regulations set forth by the current WHOA rulebook

**1) Class Routine:** Test will be individually administered first, followed by rail work as a group. At the judge's discretion, further tests may be verbally given by the judge on the rail. During the rail work portion of the class, horses will be asked to perform a walk and a pleasure gait in order to check maneuverability, ring etiquette, and sportsmanship.

**2) Possible tests on the rail** include, but are not limited to, the following: Addressing the reins, backing on the rail, riding without stirrups, dropping and picking up stirrups either in motion or stopped, perform figure eights, serpentine, or circles of various size and speed.

**Seat:** Rider's seat should be a natural, coordinated and comfortable riding position and should in no way be rigid or exaggerated. 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. Ring generalship shall be taken into consideration by the judge. The appearance, presentation and alertness of the rider and mount make the overall picture of utmost importance.

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

Upper arms should fall naturally from the shoulders toward the hipbones and should be flexible. Elbows should not clutch the body, be extended forward or spread away from the body. Hands should be in comfortable waist-level position, depending on how and where the horse carries its head. The use of hands should be smooth and gradual without jerking or pumping at any of the gaits, or in the parked position.

**Basic Position:** To obtain proper position, the rider should sit comfortably in the middle of the saddle and find the 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.

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. Knee should rest against the saddle.

**Position in Motion:** The position in motion should be natural, coordinated and graceful, attained only with practice. From the side view a straight line can be drawn perpendicular to the ground through the rider's head, neck, shoulder, hip and ankle. The rider's toe should never be anymore forward than the knee, thereby keeping the center of balance directly above the feet and ankles. This basic recommended position should be maintained at all gaits.

**Suggested Scoring:** Scoring may be on a basis on 0-100 with 1/2 point increments acceptable, an approximate breakdown follows:

- 90-100: Excellent equitation including body position and use of aids. Pattern is performed promptly, precisely and smoothly.
- 80-89: Generally excellent performance with one minor fault in appearance and position of exhibitor or execution of pattern.
- 70-79: Generally good pattern execution and equitation with one minor fault in precision or execution of pattern (performance), or appearance and position of exhibitor.
- 60-69: Average pattern that lacks quickness or precision, or rider has obvious equitation flaws that prevent effective equitation, or commits two or three minor faults in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor.
- 50-59: One major fault or several minor faults in the performance and/or appearance and position of exhibitor that precludes effective communication with the horses.
- 40-49: Two major faults or many minor faults in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor.
- 30-39: Several major faults or one severe fault in the performance, or appearance and position of exhibitor. Exhibitor demonstrates a complete lack of riding ability or commits a severe fault in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor.
- 20-29: Exhibitor commits one or more severe faults in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor, but does complete the class and avoids disqualification.

**Class No.:**



- 17 Gaited Equitation Junior Rider  
 18 Gaited Equitation Senior Rider  
 202 **Gaited Equitation Classic** – Top seven ribbon winners from classes 17 and 18 will show in 202. Entries made at the show with no additional charge.

### **DIVISION A3 - HUNTER SEAT EQUITATION ON THE FLAT**

Rider should have a workmanlike appearance, seat and hands light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control. The eyes should be up and shoulders back. Heels should be down, calf of leg in contact with the horse and slightly behind the girth. Hands should be over and in front of the horse's withers and slightly apart making a straight line from horse's mouth to the riders elbow.

Horses not to jump. Hunter equitation on the flat will be a flat class with an optional pattern for the Classic class to be used at the Judge's discretion. Equitation only to count. Horse and Riders may be asked to walk, trot (rising and sitting), canter, halt and other tests at the judge's discretion, including but not limited to, simple change of lead, counter canter, two point, hand gallop, work without stirrups, etc.

#### **Class No.**

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 30 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Large Horse - Senior Rider (16-19) |
| 31 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Large Horse - Senior Rider (14-15) |
| 32 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Large Horse - Junior Rider         |
| 33 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Small Horse - Senior Rider (16-19) |
| 34 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Small Horse - Senior Rider (14-15) |
| 35 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Small Horse - Junior Rider         |
| 36 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Large Pony - Senior Rider (16-19)  |
| 37 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Large Pony - Senior Rider (14-15)  |
| 38 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Large Pony - Junior Rider          |
| 39 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Small/Medium Pony - Senior Rider   |
| 40 | Hunt Seat Equitation on Flat - Small/Medium Pony - Junior Rider   |

*First place winners show in the Equitation Classic respective to horse/pony size*

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 187 | Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Horse (not eligible for classic) |
| 188 | Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Pony (not eligible for classic)  |
| 189 | Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Horse (not eligible for classic) |
| 190 | Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Pony (not eligible for classic)  |

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 203 | <b>HUNT SEAT EQUITATION PONY CLASSIC</b> *Entries made at show- no additional charge.  |
| 204 | <b>HUNT SEAT EQUITATION HORSE CLASSIC</b> *Entries made at show- no additional charge.<br>*First place winners from each Hunt Seat Eq Class O/F and on the flat will compete in their respective horse or pony Equitation Classic class. |

### **DIVISION A4 - HUNTER SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES**

Rider should have a workmanlike appearance, seat and hands light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control. The eyes should be up and shoulders back. Heels should be down, calf of leg in contact with the horse and slightly behind the girth. Hands should be over and in front of the horse's withers and slightly apart making a straight line from horse's mouth to the riders elbow.

Horses to jump six fences. Judge may (not required) select the top riders to show at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of

the ring. May be asked to dismount and mount. Equitation only to count, jumping faults not to count. Fences will be set at about 2'6", 2'9", or 3' feet for Seniors riding horses, about 2'6" or 2'9" for Juniors riding horses, 2'6" for large ponies, and 2'0" for medium and small ponies.

### Class No.

21	Equitation over Fences (2'6", 2'9", or 3'), Horse, Senior Rider (16-19)
22	Equitation over Fences (2'6", 2'9", or 3'), Horse, Senior Rider (14-15)
23	Equitation over Fences (2'6" or 2'9"), Horse, Junior Rider
24	Equitation over Fences (2'6"), Large Pony, Senior Rider (16-19)
25	Equitation over Fences (2'6"), Large Pony, Senior Rider (14-15)
26	Equitation over Fences (2'6"), Large Pony, Junior
27	Equitation over Fences (2'0") Medium/Small Pony, Senior Rider
28	Equitation over Fences (2'0") Medium/Small Pony, Junior Rider

*First place winners show in the Equitation Classic respective to horse/pony size.*

203 **HUNT SEAT EQUITATION PONY CLASSIC** \*Entries made at show- no additional charge.

204 **HUNT SEAT EQUITATION HORSE CLASSIC** \*Entries made at show- no additional charge.

\*First place winners from each Hunt Seat Eq Class O/F and on the flat will compete in their respective horse or pony Equitation Classic class.

## **DIVISION A5 - Ranch Horsemanship**

1. Individual workouts/patterns will be used in all Ranch Horsemanship classes. May be asked to back and stand for dismounting and mounting. Horsemanship only to count. Horses and ponies (entire class or finalist) to be ridden at a walk, jog, and lope, at least one way of the ring. Chaps and spurs optional. The pattern will be posted at least one hour prior to the start of the class.
2. Seat & Hands
  - i. 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.
  - ii. 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.
  - iii. 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.
3. Class Routine
  - i. 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. 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.

- ii. 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.
- iii. 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.

**The judge and show management reserve the right to place only those individuals that complete the horsemanship pattern without disqualification. This is at the discretion of the judge and division manager.**

**Class No.**

229 Jr. Ranch Horsemanship  
230 Sr. Ranch Horsemanship

218 **RANCH HORSEMANSHIP CLASSIC** – Top 7 riders from classes 229 and 230 will be eligible to ride in the Ranch Horsemanship Classic.

**DIVISION A6 - SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION**

Horse and ponies must be shown in proper English tack and attire according to the current USEF rule book. Academy riders are permitted to follow Academy attire rules of the following: dark pants, long sleeve shirt with collar, tie, gloves, vest (sweater permissible in very cold weather). Riding suits and jackets, chaps, western hats, and roweled spurs are prohibited for Academy riders. Academy attire will not be discredited against full attire. Martingales are prohibited, unless the horse or pony is being shown by an Academy rider.

Entries shall be plain shod as for trail and pleasure riding, ¼" pad permitted. Pads should not exceed ¼" anywhere measured and no extra lead is allowed.

**1) Class Routine:** Test will be individually administered first, followed by rail work as a group. At the judge's discretion, further tests may be verbally given by the judge on the rail. During the rail work portion of the class, horses will be asked to perform a walk, trot, and canter in order to check maneuverability, ring etiquette, and sportsmanship.

**2) Possible tests on the rail** include, but are not limited to, the following: Addressing the reins, backing on the rail, riding without stirrups, dropping and picking up stirrups either in motion or stopped, perform figure eights, serpentine, or circles of various size and speed.

**3) Suggested Scoring:** Scoring may be on a basis on 0-100 with 1/2 point increments acceptable, an approximate breakdown follows:

90-100: Excellent equitation including body position and use of aids. Pattern is performed promptly, precisely and smoothly.

80-89: Generally excellent performance with one minor fault in appearance and position of exhibitor or execution of pattern.

70-79: Generally good pattern execution and equitation with one minor fault in precision or execution of pattern (performance), or appearance and position of exhibitor.

60-69: Average pattern that lacks quickness or precision, or rider has obvious equitation flaws that prevent effective

equitation, or commits two or three minor faults in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor.

50-59: One major fault or several minor faults in the performance and/or appearance and position of exhibitor that precludes effective communication with the horses.

40-49: Two major faults or many minor faults in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor.

30-39: Several major faults or one severe fault in the performance, or appearance and position of exhibitor. Exhibitor demonstrates a complete lack of riding ability or commits a severe fault in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor.

20-29: Exhibitor commits one or more severe faults in the performance or appearance and position of exhibitor, but does complete the class and avoids disqualification.

**SEAT:** The required Equitation Seat should in no way be exaggerated but be thoroughly efficient and most comfortable for riding the type of horse called for at any gait and for any length of time. In

Saddle Seat Equitation classes, riders should convey the impression of effective and easy control. To show a horse well, they should show themselves to the best advantage. Ring generalship must be taken into consideration by the judges. A complete picture of the whole is of major importance.

**HANDS.** Hands should be held in an easy position, neither perpendicular nor horizontal to the saddle and should show sympathy, adaptability and control. The height the hands are held above the horse's withers is a matter of how and where the horse carries its head. The method of holding the reins is optional however both hands must be used and all reins must be picked up at one time. Bight of rein shall be on the off (right) side. According to tradition, the "on side" is the side on which you mount and therefore, the "off side" is the opposite side. Riders shall be penalized for switching or carrying at any time the bight of the rein to the ("on" side) left side.

**BASIC POSITION.** To obtain proper position, rider should place themselves comfortably in the saddle and find their center of gravity by sitting with a slight bend at the knees but without use of irons. While in this position adjust leathers to fit. The rider should not be sliding off the back of the saddle nor should there be excessive space in the seat behind the rider's back. Irons should be placed under ball of foot (not toe nor "home") with even pressure on entire width of sole and center of iron. Foot position should be natural (neither extremely in nor out) with heels down.

**POSITION IN MOTION.** a. Walk: slight motion in saddle. b. Trot: slight elevation in saddle when posting; hips under body not mechanical up-and-down nor swinging forward and backward. c. rocking. d. Slow Gait: steady in saddle, no slap nor twist; legs straight down, intermittent calf pressure permissible; hands slightly raised, flexible contact, no sawing. e. Rack: seat smooth in saddle; legs down and slightly back, not thrust forward; hands low in motion with gait, not sawing but placement optional to individual rider and horse.

**Class No.**

15 Saddle Seat Equitation Horse and Pony – Senior Rider

16 Saddle Seat Equitation Horse and Pony - Junior Rider

193 W/T Saddle Seat Equitation – Junior Rider

194 W/T Saddle Seat Equitation – Senior Rider

201 SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION TROTting CLASSIC – Top seven ribbon winners from classes 15 and 16 will show in 201. Entries made at the show with no additional charge.

## **DIVISION A7 – WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP**

Western Horsemanship is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced and functional correct body position. The ideal horsemanship pattern is extremely precise with the rider and horse working in complete unison. The horse's head and neck should be carried in a relaxed, natural position with the poll level with or slightly above the withers.

The exhibitor should appear natural in the seat and ride with a balanced, functional and correct position regardless of the maneuver or gait being performed. Riders should sit in the center of the saddle with the legs hanging to form a straight line from the ear, shoulder and hip. The heels should be lower than the toes with a slight bend in the knee. The riders back should be flat and relaxed. The shoulders should be back, level and square. Both hands and arms should be held in a relaxed, easy manner. The free hand and arm may be carried bent at the elbow in a similar position as the hand holding the reins or straight down at the rider's side. The reins should be adjusted so that the rider has light contact with the horse's mouth. Excessively tight or loose reins will be penalized.

### **Scoring:**

Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance.

Patterns will be divided into 6 to 10 maneuvers, as specified by the judge, and each maneuver will be scored from +3 to -3 with 1/2 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 Excellent, +2 Very Good, +1 Good, 0 Average or Correct, -1 Poor, -2 Very Poor, -3 Extremely Poor.

Exhibitors overall horsemanship form and effectiveness should also be scored from 0 to 5 with 0 to 2 Average, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent. Exhibitors should also be judged on the rail, and their pattern score and/or ranking may be adjusted as appropriate.

### **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:

- **Three (3) points:**
  - Break of gait at the walk or jog up to 2 strides
  - Over or under turn from 1/8 to 1/4 turn
  - Tick or hit of cone
  - Obviously looking down to check leads
- **Five (5) points**
  - Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet (3 meters) of designated location
  - Incorrect lead or break of gait at the lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead)
  - Break of gait at walk or jog for more than 2 strides
  - Loss of stirrup
  - Bottom of boot not touching pad of stirrup at all gaits including backup
  - Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation
- **Ten (10) points**
  - Loss of rein
  - Use of either hand to instill fear or praise while on pattern or during rail work
  - Holding saddle with either hand
  - Cueing with the end of the romal

- Spurring in front of the cinch
- **Disqualifications (should not be placed) including:**
  - Failure to display correct number
  - Abuse of horse or schooling
  - Fall by horse or exhibitor
  - Illegal equipment or illegal use of hands on reins
  - Use of prohibited equipment
  - Off pattern, including: knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker; never performing designated gait or lead; over or under turning more than 1/4 turn

Individual workouts/patterns will be used in all Western Horsemanship classes. Patterns will be printed in the show program. May be asked to back and stand for dismounting and mounting. Horsemanship only to count. Horses and ponies (entire class or finalist) to be ridden at a walk, jog, and lope, at least one way of the ring.

**The judge and show management reserve the right to place only those individuals that complete the horsemanship pattern without disqualification. This is at the discretion of the judge and division manager.**

**Class No.**

9/10	Western Horsemanship - Senior Rider
13	Western Horsemanship - Junior Rider
191	Junior Walk/Jog Western Horsemanship (not eligible for classic)
192	Senior Walk/Jog Western Horsemanship (not eligible for classic)

200 **WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP CLASSIC** – Top seven riders from classes 9/10 and 13 will be eligible to ride in the Western Horsemanship Classic, with Division Managers and Show Management reserving the right to go beyond the top 7 riders to fill all available spots. Entries made at the show with no additional charge.

\*\*\*Management reserves the right to split large classes as needed\*\*

**B. SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND DIVISION**

**Purpose**

To demonstrate the handler’s ability to show a horse at halter.

**Horse**

The horse should be clean, well-groomed, and turned-out appropriately for his type.

Conformation of the horse is not to count in any judging criteria.

**Class Selection**

**Individuals may compete in multiple showmanship classes.** However, a single participant may not compete in the same class twice or enter two horses into the same class. Each exhibitor may only compete in a single class one time.

### **Exhibitor**

The exhibitor should be neat, clean, well-groomed, attentive, courteous and in appropriate attire. The exhibitor's overall poise, confidence, appearance and position throughout the class will be evaluated. Safety helmets or appropriate head gear for an industry show of the division is acceptable.

### **Western Division:**

Tack - Leather show halter and leather shank or any well-fitting halter with shank. Silver on halters will not serve as an advantage.

Exhibitor - Should be dressed in western suit or western style slacks and jacket or vest with long sleeve shirt. No chaps. Hat, tie, and western boots required. No whips or crops may be carried.

### **Hunter Division:**

Tack – **Bridle is required. No halters will be allowed!** Regulation snaffles, Pelhams, all with cavesson nosebands, are recommended types. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types of bits or nosebands.

**In junior exhibitor classes, braiding is optional but does enhance the “turn out” of the horse/pony. In senior exhibitor classes the mane and tail must be braided to be considered for placing.**

Exhibitor - Proper hunt attire should be worn, including properly fastened ASTM approved helmet. Whips or crops are optional.

### **Saddleseat Trotting/Non-Trotting Division:**

Tack - Suitable bridle or halter. Ribbons are optional and may be either clipped or braided into mane.

Exhibitor - Saddle suit or coat and jodhpurs with tie, gloves and hat/helmet or appropriate western attire of long sleeved shirt, jeans/trousers, boots, western hat/helmet and optional jacket/vest.

### **Dressage Division:**

Tack - **Bridle is required. No halters will be allowed!** Regulation snaffles with cavesson nosebands, are recommended types. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types of bits or nosebands.

**In junior exhibitor classes, braiding is optional but does enhance the “turn out” of the horse/pony. In senior exhibitor classes the mane must be braided to be considered for placing.**

Exhibitor - Dress Code for Training through Fourth Level Dressage is a short riding coat of conservative color, choker or stock tie, breeches or jodhpurs, boots, or jodhpur boots, and a properly fastened ASTM approved safety helmet. Half chaps are allowed. Gloves of conservative color are recommended. Whips or crops are optional.

### **Miniature Division:**

Tack – Appropriate western, english, or hunter tack should be utilized.

Exhibitor – Proper western, english, or hunter attire should be worn.

## **SHOWMANSHIP SYSTEMS**

Everyone is expected to show their horse on the “Quarter Method” where the horse is “divided” down the midline of the vertebrae and at the withers. The judge's position in the respective quadrant of the horse influences where the showman should stand to present the horse.

### **Quarter Method:**

- The showman must always have an unobstructed view of the judge, must always be presenting the horse and must always know what his horse is doing.
- If the judge is standing at the rear quarters of the horse, the showman must be on the same side of the horse as the

- judge.
- If the judge is standing at the front quarters of the horse, the showman is on the opposite side of the horse as the judge.
  - In either case, the showman must keep the judge within his field of vision at all times and should never stand directly in front of the horse.
  - 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.

Regardless of where the judge stands in the ring for traveling the horses to and away from him, the following principles shall apply: When moving the horse at a walk, jog, or favorite gait or turning, the handler should always be on the horse's left (near) side. All turns greater than 90 degrees must be to the right so that the horse is moving away from the handler.

Exhibitors should be poised, confident, courteous and genuinely sportsmanlike 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, unnatural or animated body positions.

### **Methods of Showing:**

The exhibitor should perform the work accurately, precisely, smoothly, and with a reasonable amount of speed. Increasing speed of the work increases the degree of difficulty, however, accuracy and precision should not be sacrificed for speed. The horse should lead, stop, back, turn and setup willingly, briskly and readily with minimal visible or audible cueing.

Leading, backing, turning and initiating the set-up should be performed from the left side of the horse. At no time should the exhibitor ever stand directly in front of the horse. When moving, keep your horse's neck, head and body in a straight line and maintain precise control.

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

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 the set-up.

On turns 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.

When leading, the exhibitor should be positioned between the eye and the mid-point of the horse's neck referred to as the leading position. 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.

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

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 exhibitor's left shoulder to be in alignment with the horse's left front leg.

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.



## **Scoring**

Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance.

Patterns will be divided into 6 to 10 maneuvers, as specified by the judge, and each maneuver will be scored from +3 to -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 form and effectiveness of the exhibitor and presentation of horse to result in the following scores: +3 Excellent, +2 Very Good, +1 Good, 0 Average or Correct, -1 Poor, -2 Very Poor, -3 Extremely Poor.

Exhibitors overall form and effectiveness should also be scored from 0 to 5 with 0 to 2 Average, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent.

## **Showmanship Penalties**

**Three Point Penalties** (- 3 points for every time they happen)

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

**Five Point Penalties** (-5 points for every time they happen)

- Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet of designated location
- Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 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 set-up after presentation
- Horse resting a foot or hips in a set-up
- Over or under turning 1/8 to ¼ turn

**Ten Point Penalties** (-10 points every time they happen)

- 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
  - Pawing
- Horse continually circling exhibitor

**Disqualifications** (This horse receives a 0 and should not be placed)

- Loss of control of horse that endangers exhibitor, 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 equipment
- Off Pattern including:
  - Knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker
  - Never performing designated gait
  - Over or under turning more than ¼ turn

### **Judging Criteria and Class Procedure for Hunter and Dressage Showmanship Divisions:**

Showmanship classes are to be judged 60% on showmanship and 40% on appearance of exhibitor in the ring. Conformation of the horse is not to count but horse and equipment must be clean and optimum in appearance. Contestants will be evaluated on an individual basis using the Danish System. Upon exiting the ring, they will be given a Danish ribbon. Blue ribbons will be called back for finals.

### **Class Procedure**

Each exhibitor will individually enter the ring and perform the pattern as shown in the show program. Exhibitors will work in the order of go that is posted and confirmed by the paddock master. The following maneuvers are considered acceptable: leading the horse at a walk, jog, trot or extended trot or favorite 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. Exhibitors must also set the horse up squarely for inspection or hind feet offset in Hunter or Dressage Showmanship.

Be sure to check in with the paddock master prior to your class. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to be on time for their go. If you miss your go in order you will not be allowed to go at the end of class. Special cases will be considered if arrangements are made at least one hour prior to the class. Scores in the Western Division will be posted at the entry gate after approximately each 5-10 horses work their pattern.

### **Awards**

Junior and Senior classes with 50 or more exhibitors will be split into equal divisions to be judged and placed separately. Once the placings have been awarded, the **Top 5 exhibitors from each split** will return for a final pattern where Champion and Reserve champion will be placed. Scores from the first run are not to count. The class will be dual judged and the 1st place individual will receive Champion and the 2nd place individual will receive Reserve Champion.

### **Classes that are not split will have the Top Five return for a final pattern where Champion and Reserve Champion will be decided. Scores will not carry over from the first run.**

The single Champion in each Junior and Senior Showmanship division will receive a \$150.00 award. Reserve Champion for each age bracket will receive a \$75.00 award. A W-9 form and monetary award form will be given out at the show and should be returned to the awards office during the show. If mailed after the show, then the original signature, and completed forms must be postmarked by October 1 in order for the awards to be processed to the winner.

### **DIVISION B1 – ADAPTIVE HANDLER SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND**

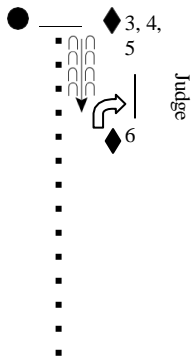
**Class No.**

162

**Adaptive Handler Showmanship – Junior and Senior**

*The 4-H member will be judged based on knowledge of basic control and safe handling of their horse at the walk. Handler should be able to halt, walk, circle, turn and back. Additional elements may be added at the discretion of the judge and with approval of show management. Entry into any class must be carefully considered by the parent, leader, county selection committee and agent. Safety is the primary consideration; Adaptive handlers are required to wear Safety Headgear. Attire should follow the standards for the respective discipline showmanship classes.*

**ADAPTIVE HANDLER PATTERN**



**Adaptive Handler Exhibitors –**

1. Be set up and waiting at the first marker for judge to indicate he is ready for you to begin your pattern
2. Walk to second marker
3. Stop
4. Back four steps
5. Perform a 90 degree turn to the right
6. Stop and set up for close inspection

Start

**DIVISION B2 - DRESSAGE SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND**

**Class No.**

- 7 Senior Dressage Showmanship
- 8 Junior Dressage Showmanship

**DIVISION B3 - HUNTER SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND**

**Class No.**

- 1 Senior Hunter Showmanship
- 2 Junior Hunter Showmanship

**DIVISION B4 - MINIATURE SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND**

**Class No.**

- 163 Junior Miniature Showmanship
- 164 Senior Miniature Showmanship

## **DIVISION B5 - RANCH GROUND HANDLING**

(See [Ranch Department](#) for Rules and Procedures)

### **Class No.**

227	Jr. Ranch Ground Handling
228	Sr. Ranch Ground Handling

## **DIVISION B6 – SADDLESEAT TROTTING/NON-TROTTING SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND**

### **Class No.**

5	Senior Saddleseat Trotting/Non-Trotting Showmanship
6	Junior Saddleseat Trotting/Non-Trotting Showmanship

## **DIVISION B7 - WESTERN SHOWMANSHIP IN HAND**

### **Class No.**

3	Senior Western Showmanship
4	Junior Western Showmanship

## **TRAIL Classes:**

Each horse/rider combination is eligible to compete in a trail class, provided they have qualified as required and submitted the required Trail Qualifying Form. A single rider may only compete in a single trail class one time and may not enter two horses into the same class with the same rider.

Open to all horses and ponies in the show. Riders must participate in a trail class prior to the state show entry deadline. This is to be verified with use of the Trail Pre-Qualifying Form found in this rulebook. Standard tack and proper show attire per respective division that is appropriate for a trail class. **For Ranch Trail rules and scoring, refer to the Ranch section (Department J).** Two hands may be used on the reins when riding in a snaffle or bosal only for Western horses 5 years and younger (No tied split reins are permitted). Other disciplines may use both hands on all appropriate bits and reins as outlined on page 32-33.

All entries will work individually, no rail work. Credits will be given to those horses negotiating the obstacles cleanly, smoothly, and alertly with style in prompt response of the rider's cues, providing carefulness is not sacrificed. Horses shall be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching or negotiating the obstacles. Horses with artificial appearance over the obstacles should be penalized.

**Scoring is on a basis of 0-infinity with 70 denoting an average score.** Each obstacle will receive an obstacle score that should be added and subtracted from 70 and is subject to a penalty that should be subtracted. Each obstacle will be scored from -1 ½ to + 1 ½ with -1 ½ being extremely poor, -1 very poor, - ½ poor, 0 correct, + ½ good, +1 very good and +1 ½ being excellent.

### **Penalties will also be assessed per occurrence as follows:**

**½ pt. penalty:** each tick or contact of a log, pole, cone, plant or any component of an obstacle

**1 pt. penalty:** hit, bit or stepping on a log, pole, cone, plant or any component of an obstacle, incorrect or break of gait at a walk or jog for two strides or less, both front or hind feet in a single stride slot or space at walk or jog, split pole in lope over, incorrect number of strides if specified

**3 pt. penalty:** incorrect or break of gate at the walk or jog for more than 2 strides, out of lead or break of gait at lope, knocking down an elevated pole, cone, barrel, plant, obstacle or severely disturbing an obstacle, falling or

jumping off or out of a bridge with one foot, stepping outside the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (back through, box, side pass), missing or evading a pole with one foot

**5 pt. penalty:** dropping an object required to be carried on course, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> cumulative refusal, letting go or dropping rope gait, falling or jumping off of bridge with more than one foot, stepping outside the confines of an obstacle with more than one foot, missing or evading a pole with more than one foot, blatant disobedience (bucking, rearing, striking, kicking out)

**Disqualified:** use of two hands (except in snaffle or hackamore), switching hands except when working an obstacle that requires the switch of hands, performing obstacle incorrectly or other than in specified order, no attempt to perform obstacle, equipment failure, excessively or repeatedly touching the horse on the neck to lower the head, exiting or entering obstacles from the incorrect side or direction, over turn of more than ¼, 3 cumulative refusals, failure to ever demonstrate correct lead and/or gait as designated, failure to follow correct line of travel between obstacles, excessive schooling, pulling, turning, stepping or backing anywhere on course.

At least six obstacles are to be used. Mandatory obstacles include opening, passing through, and closing a gate; walk, trot, and/or lope over four poles; and backing around cones or between poles. Other obstacles *may* include combinations of walking over a bridge, put on/remove raincoat, mailbox, side pass, carrying an object, and serpentine obstacles at a walk, trot/jog (pleasure gait), and or canter/lope between obstacles. Course will be posted at the show.

If the judge imposes a time limit for the course, the time limit will be announced. If time is called during the course, the entry is excused and their score to that point will stand or count. Finishing within the time limit is not necessarily a criterion for placing; however an entry that does not complete the course within the time limit cannot place over an entry that completed the entire course correctly. The judge may, at his/her discretion, ask the entry to proceed or bypass any obstacle not negotiated promptly or properly. The judge has the discretion to excuse an entry for any combination of three refusals, balks, evading an obstacle, and/or blatant disobedience (kicking out, backing, rearing, and striking) anywhere on course. Once excused, that entry will immediately leave the arena.

**The judge and show management reserve the right to place only those individuals that complete the trail pattern without disqualification. This is at the discretion of the judge and division manager.**

For Ranch Trail rules and scoring, refer to the Ranch section (Department J).

**Trail Practice Friday 4:00-7:30 PM only (excluding Ranch Trail classes)**

Participation will require signing up for time slots and riders will have a 10 minute time limit for a fee of \$5.00. Pay at the show for a time slot and ticket. 4-Hers, as always, must wear their back number.

**ENGLISH TRAIL**

138 English Trail – Senior  
141 English Trail – Junior

**HUNTER TRAIL**

136 Hunter Trail – Senior\*  
139 Hunter Trail – Junior\*

*\*If you are in the Dressage division and wish to enter the Trail Class, please make sure that you enter the Hunter Trail Classes based on your age division.*

### **RANCH TRAIL**

- 235 Ranch Trail – Junior\*\*  
236 Ranch Trail – Senior\*\*

*\*\*See Ranch Department for specific Ranch Trail Rules. NOTE: This class is run on Thursday with all other the Ranch classes.*

### **WESTERN TRAIL**

- 137 Western Trail - Senior  
140 Western Trail – Junior  
244 Western Trail – W/T

### **W/T/J TRAIL**

- 242 English Trail – W/T  
243 Hunter Trail – W/T  
244 Western Trail – W/T

## **C. ADAPTIVE RIDER**

### **Class No.**

- 29 Adaptive Hunt Seat or English - *For hunt seat, dressage, or saddle seat riders*  
105 Adaptive Stock Seat– *For Western attired riders regardless of breed*  
113 Adaptive Open (*both Stock Seat and Hunt Seat riders compete in an open class*)

To qualify for this division the participant must meet all 4-H project requirements, seizures must be under control, a doctor's certificate is required that indicates participant has none of the following medical/health problems: (a) no disk problems, (b) not be a hemophiliac, (c) not be severe osteoporotic, (d) must have head control and (e) must have some trunk control.

Classes to be performed while mounted with the assistance of a leader and sidewalker(s). The course will consist of maneuvers through a prescribed pattern marked with cones. The 4-H member will be judged based on knowledge of the basic riding position he/she is striving for and an ability to maintain position at the halt and walk. Rider should be able to halt, walk on, circle, turn and reverse. Additional elements may be added at the discretion of the judge and with approval of show management. Properly fitted headgear is required while riding in designated schooling and exercise areas, the show ring and while riding anywhere on the show grounds. All riders must wear appropriate safety headgear.

Entry into any class must be carefully considered by the parent, leader, county selection committee and agent. Safety is the primary consideration; disabled riders are required to wear safety headgear. Unsafe tack, equipment or actions on the part of any rider or handler is grounds for elimination from any event. The judge's decision is final.

Classes will be placed 1 – 10 with points awarded as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place, 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 points; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8 points; 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 points; 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 point; 6<sup>th</sup>, 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 points; 8<sup>th</sup>, 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 points; 10<sup>th</sup>, 1 point. Champion Trophy will be awarded after the final class in the division based on points in class 162 (showmanship), 29, 105 and 113.

## **D. DRESSAGE**

- Dressage Champion High Score Award: awarded to the high score of the day. Awarded at the beginning of the evening program on Friday. Perpetual Award sponsored by Fox Den Equine.
- Dressage Senior Champion: awarded to the Senior Dressage horse/rider combination who earns the most points through placings in both dressage classes and the dressage equitation class. Audrey Howard Perpetual Trophy sponsored by friends of 4-H.
- Dressage Junior Champion: awarded to the Junior Dressage horse/rider combination who earns the most points through placing in both dressage classes and the dressage equitation class. Audrey Howard Perpetual Trophy sponsored by friends of 4-H.

**Ride times will be emailed approximately one week prior to the show.**

**Entry changes that need to be made after September 1, 2024 must be made with the Dressage secretary by phone or Friday at the dressage arena on the hill.**

Tests may be read to rider. Tests will be ridden in dressage arenas “on the hill.”

### **Attire**

The dress code for all Dressage tests and classes is a short riding coat of conservative color, with tie, choker, stock tie or integrated stand-up collar, white or light-colored breeches or jodhpurs, boots or jodhpur boots, and ASTM approved protective headgear. Riders may wear half-chaps, gaiters or leggings in solid black or brown, without fringe, matching the color of their boots, and made of smooth leather or leather-like material. Gloves of conservative color are recommended. Only English-style spurs are permitted, must be made of metal, and the shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the center of the spur when on the rider’s boot. If shank is curved it must be directed downward.

### **Object and General Principles**

1. The object of dressage is the development of the horse into a happy athlete through harmonious education. As a result, it makes the horse calm, supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the rider.
2. These qualities are demonstrated by:
  - a. The freedom and regularity of the gaits;
  - b. The harmony, lightness and ease of the movements;
  - c. The lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters, originating from a lively impulsion;
  - d. The acceptance of the bit, with submissiveness/thoroughness without any tension or resistance.
3. The horse thus gives the impression of doing, of its own accord, what is required. Confident and attentive, submitting generously to the control of the rider, remaining absolutely straight in any movement on a straight line and bending accordingly when moving on curved lines.
4. The walk is regular, free and unconstrained. The trot is free, supple, regular and active. The canter is united, light and balanced. The hindquarters are never inactive or sluggish. The horse responds to the slightest indication of the rider and thereby gives life and spirit to all the rest of its body.
5. By virtue of a lively impulsion and the suppleness of the joints, free from the paralyzing effects of resistance, the horse obeys willingly and without hesitation and responds to the various aids calmly and with precision, displaying a natural and harmonious balance both physically and mentally.
6. In all the work, even at the halt, the horse must be “on the bit.” A horse is said to be “on the bit” when the neck is more or less raised and arched according to the stage of training and the extension or collection of the gait, accepting the bridle with a light and consistent soft submissive contact. The head should remain in a steady position, as a rule slightly in front of the vertical, with a supple poll as the highest point of the neck, and no resistance should be offered to the rider.
7. Cadence is shown in trot and canter and is the result of the proper harmony that a horse shows when it moves with well-marked regularity, impulsion and balance. Cadence must be maintained in all the

different trot or canter exercises and in all the variations of these gaits.

8. The regularity of the gaits is fundamental to dressage.

### **The Position and Aids of the Rider**

1. All the movements should be obtained with imperceptible aids and without apparent effort of the rider. The rider should be well-balanced, elastic, sitting deep in the center of the saddle, smoothly absorbing the movement of the horse with his loins and hips, supple thighs with the legs steady and stretched well down. The heels should be the lowest point. The upper part of the body should be tall and supple. The contact should be independent from the rider's seat. The hands should be carried steadily close together, with the thumb as the highest point and a straight line from the supple elbow through the hand to the horse's mouth. The elbows should be close to the body. All of these criteria enable the rider to follow the movements of the horse smoothly and freely.
2. Not only are the aids of the hands and the legs but also of the seat of great importance in dressage. Only the rider who understands how to contract and relax his loin muscles at the right moment is able to influence his horse correctly.
3. The effectiveness of the rider's aids determines the precise fulfillment of the required movements of the tests. There shall always be the impression of a harmonious cooperation between horse and rider.
4. Riding with both hands is obligatory.
5. The use of the voice in any way whatsoever or clicking the tongue once or repeatedly is a serious fault involving the deduction of at least 2 marks from those that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred.
6. When rising trot is permitted in a test or class, the rider should change the diagonal when changing directions except during a lengthening. The correct diagonal is considered to be when the rider is sitting when the outside front foot and inside hind foot are on the ground. In general, rising on the outside diagonal correctly influences the horse's balance in movements other than straight lines. A change of direction in rising trot implies a change of diagonal, but it is up to the rider to determine where that change should occur. If no change is made, there is no error and no deduction is made unless the balance of the horse is adversely affected, as it might be, for example, in a turn, circle or leg yield. In that case, the movement is judged accordingly and the collective marks for "Submission" and "Effective Use of the Aids" could be negatively impacted.

### **Tack, Turnout and Equipment**

1. An English type saddle with stirrups is compulsory for all tests. Stirrups must have closed branches. An English type saddle may be constructed with or without a tree but cannot have a horn, swell, gallerie, or open gullet. Australian, Baroque, Endurance, McClellan, Spanish, Stock, or Western saddles are not permitted nor are modified versions of these saddles. A Dressage saddle which must be close to the horse and have long, near-vertical flaps and stirrups. Saddle pads are optional, but should be white or of conservative color. English-style stirrups, without attachments, or safety stirrups are compulsory. Safety stirrups must have closed branches of metal or other breakaway material.
2. For Training, First and Second Level tests, a plain snaffle bridle is required with a regular cavesson, a dropped noseband, a flash noseband (a combination of a cavesson noseband and a dropped noseband attachment) or a crossed noseband. A crescent noseband is also permitted. Except for the crescent noseband, buckles and a small disk of sheepskin, which may be used in the intersection of the two leather straps of a crossed noseband, the headstall and cavesson/noseband of the bridle, must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material. A padded cavesson/noseband and crownpiece are allowed. A browband is required, and except for the parts that attach to the crownpiece or headstall, is not required to be made of leather or leather-like material. A throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridles are used.
  - a. Snaffle bits must be smooth with a solid surface. Twisted and wire bits are prohibited. A



mouthpiece with more than one rolling part is prohibited. Bits may be made with a rubber or plastic covering, but the bit may not be modified by adding latex or other material. Bits with mouthpieces made of synthetic material are permitted. Flexible rubber or synthetic mouthpieces are permitted. A double jointed bit or snaffle with rotating mouthpiece may be shaped to allow tongue relief.

- b. The mouthpiece of a snaffle may have up to two joints. The surface of the center piece must be solid with no moveable parts and may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece but must have rounded edges.
3. Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running, balancing reins, 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, are strictly forbidden in the show ring.
4. Fly hoods (ear covers) are permitted for all classes in order to protect horses from insects. The fly hoods should be discreet in color and design and should not cover the horse’s eyes.
5. A breastplate and/or crupper may be used.
6. A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Rein additions or attachments are not permitted. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to bits.
7. Any decoration of the horse with extravagant items, such as ribbons or flowers, etc. in the mane, tail, etc., is strictly forbidden. Braiding of the horse’s mane and tail, however, is permitted. False tails are permitted and if used may not contain any metal parts.
8. Running martingales (only with snaffle rein of plain snaffle bridle), boots and bandages (without magnets) **are permitted in warm-up**. A running martingale consists of a divided strap attached to the girth or breastplate (at the front of the horse’s chest); the extension of each strap must be connected from the point of division only to the rein on the same side and must be free to slide.
9. One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120 cm), including lash, may be carried by the rider when mounted.

### **Scoring:**

Refer to each USEF dressage test to know about its purpose and movement requirements. Each movement is scored according to its stated directive on a scale of zero (0) to ten (10). Half marks from 0.5-9.5 may be used both for movements and collective marks. The rider must enter the arena within 45 seconds of the sound of the bell and if not, may result in elimination. Using voice during the test may result in a deduction of two points. The judge will sound the bell at an “error of the course” and instruct the rider where to pick up the test again. An error incurs a two point penalty. Fall of a rider or horse results in elimination. If the horse leaves the arena with or without the rider (all four feet outside the fence or line marking the arena perimeter) between the beginning and end of the test, the competitor is eliminated. The judge may eliminate a rider if the horse is resistant for more than 20 seconds or if it determined to be endangering the rider, horse, judges or the public for safety reasons. Lameness may also result in elimination as determined by the judge.

Please refer to: [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) or contact Leslie Prillaman at [lesliep@vt.edu](mailto:lesliep@vt.edu) with questions.

Dressage Tests may be obtained by contacting United States Equestrian Federation at (859) 258-2472. United States Equestrian Federation’s website is: [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org). Tests may also be obtained by contacting your local Dressage Association or by emailing Leslie Prillaman at [Lesliep@vt.edu](mailto:Lesliep@vt.edu).

*You may select 2 Dressage Tests per horse/rider combination. Youth may not enter into a single class more than once.*

### **DIVISION D1 – DRESSAGE JUNIORS**

#### **Class No**

- 142 Junior Intro Test C
- 143 Junior Training Level Test 1 (\*\*\*)This test is required for consideration of the Combined Test Championship, Class 241)
- 144 Junior Training Level Test 2
- 145 Junior Training Level Test 3
- 151 Junior Test of Choice\*

### **DIVISION D2 – DRESSAGE SENIORS**

#### **Class No**

- 146 Senior Training Level Test 1(\*\*\*)This test is required for consideration of the Combined Test Championship, Class 241)
- 147 Senior Training Level Test 2
- 148 Senior Training Level Test 3
- 149 Senior First Level Test 1
- 150 Senior Test of Choice\*

### **DIVISION K1 – W/T DRESSAGE**

#### **Class No**

- 183 Junior Intro Test A – Dressage W/T
- 185 Junior Intro Test B – Dressage W/T
- 184 Senior Intro Test A – Dressage W/T
- 186 Senior Intro Test B – Dressage W/T

\*Senior and Junior Test of Choice – Riders must choose to ride a test that is a different test than the test ridden in the classes above. **Riders must specify which test they will be riding for the Test of Choice on supplemental dressage entry form.**

## **E. ENGLISH PLEASURE (Gaited/SS)**

Horse and ponies must be shown in proper English tack and attire according to the current USEF rule book. Academy riders are permitted to follow Academy attire rules of the following: dark pants, long sleeve shirt with collar, tie, gloves, vest (sweater permissible in very cold weather). Riding suits and jackets, chaps, western hats, and roweled spurs are prohibited for Academy riders. Academy attire will not be discredited against full attire. Martingales are prohibited, unless the horse or pony is being shown by an Academy rider.

Entries shall be plain shod as for trail and pleasure riding, ¼" pad permitted. Pads should not exceed ¼" anywhere measured and no extra lead is allowed.

English Pleasure Horses are over 14.2 hands and English Pleasure Ponies are 14.2 hands and under.

The judge will call for the walk, trot, and canter both directions of the ring. Horses and Ponies need to stand quietly and back readily. English Pleasure Horses and Ponies should give the distinct impression of being a pleasure to ride with easy, ground-covering action desired. Whips/Crops are optional.

### **DIVISION E1 - ENGLISH PLEASURE HORSE & PONY**

#### **Class No.**

- 91 English Pleasure, Junior and Senior Rider
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Go:
- 98 English Pleasure, Junior and Senior Rider
- 214 **ENGLISH PLEASURE HORSE AND PONY CLASSIC – Top Seven Highest Riders First & Second Go Combined Score. Judged the same as Class 91. Entries are made at the show at no additional charge.**

## **DIVISION K2 – W/T ENGLISH PLEASURE**

### **Class No.**

179	Walk/Trot English Pleasure, Junior and Senior Rider (not eligible for classics) – 1 <sup>ST</sup> Go
180	Walk/Trot English Pleasure, Junior and Senior Rider (not eligible for classics) – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Go

## **GAITED DIVISION**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

All tack, bits, equipment, shoeing regulations and attire that are accepted in the respective breed association and/or USEF will be permitted.

ALL GAITED (Non-trotting) entries in this division MUST pass inspection with the show DQP prior to competing in each mounted class. All 1st place winners must pass inspection with the show DQP after each mounted class's conclusion. THIS SHOW WILL FOLLOW THE CURRENT WALKING HORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION (WHOA) GUIDELINES FOR SHOEING AND INSPECTION. As such:

- Hoof bands are prohibited in all classes.
- The maximum hoof toe length will be five inches, exclusive of the shoe, measured from the coronet band, at the center of the hoof along the front of the hoof wall to the bottom of the hoof.
- The maximum shoe size is 1 ½" x ½" (classic park shoe) for any class.
- Tungsten metal (in whole or in part) is prohibited.

### **Division E2 - Ambling Pleasure – Horse and Pony**

This division will include but is not limited to non-trotting breeds such as the Rocky Mountain Horse, Missouri Fox Trotter, Paso Fino, Standardbred, etc. who perform a gait other than a walking or racking gait. Please refer to your breed's specific rulebook for guidelines for appropriate tack and attire, English, western, or period. Horses in this class may not cross enter into the Walking or Racking Pleasure classes.

1. Horses shall be shown at the walk and pleasure gait as appropriate for the breed.
2. Entries should be the paramount of a pleasure horse and shall have a smooth, comfortable way of going.
3. Horses must back easily and stand quietly.
4. Horses will be judged on manners, suitability and performance.
5. Horses are to be reversed at the walk.
6. Form should not be sacrificed for speed.

### **Division E2 – Ambling Pleasure Class**

#### **No.**

93	Ambling Pleasure Horse and Pony – Junior and Senior Rider 2nd
Go:	
100	Ambling Pleasure Horse and Pony – Junior and Senior Rider
209	<b>AMBLING PLEASURE CLASSIC</b> – Top Seven Highest Riders First & Second Go

Combined Score. Judged the same as Class 93. Entries are made at the show at no additional charge

### **DIVISION E3 –RACKING PLEASURE**

Open to any suitable racking type mount, horses or ponies. Please refer to your breed's specific rulebook for guidelines for appropriate tack and attire, English, western, or period. Horses in this class may not cross enter in to Walking or Ambling Pleasure classes.

1. Horses shall be show at the walk, slow rack, and trail/fast rack.
2. Horses must back easily and stand quietly. The Judge may call for the halt on the rail at his/her discretion.
3. Horses will be judged on manners, suitability and performance.
4. Form should not be sacrificed for speed.

#### **Class No.**

94 Racking Pleasure Horse and Pony – Junior and Senior

2nd Go:

101 Racking Pleasure Horse and Pony – Junior and Senior Rider

210 **Racking Pleasure CLASSIC** – Top Seven Highest Riders First & Second Go Combined Score. Judged the same as Class 94. Entries are made at the show at no additional charge.

### **Division E4 – Three Gaited Non-Trotting, Horse and Pony**

**All horses must pass DQP before entering the ring to be judged. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. All first place horses must return to DQP after completion of the class.**

Open to horses and ponies

Any breed appropriate tack and attire, English, Western or Period. Please refer to your specific rulebook for guidelines. Severe bits are discouraged and shanks in excess of 9 ½ inches and gag bits with no shanks are prohibited.

Open to any shoe, however the shoe must not exceed 1 ½ inch in width, ½ inch in thickness and the caulk must not exceed a 1-inch turnback. The shoe must not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the hoof at the toe.

Horses will enter the ring at the walk. The judge will call for the walk, pleasure gait, and canter. Horses will be judged as a pleasure horse and on quality of movement. The canter should be smooth and straight on both leads and any exaggerated pumping of the horse by the exhibitor shall not be considered good form.

Whips/Crops are optional

#### **Class No.**

- 158 Three Gaited Non-Trotting (Canter Class) Horse and Pony – Junior and Senior Rider  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Go:**  
 160 Three Gaited Non-Trotting (Canter Class) Horse and Pony – Junior and Senior Rider  
 219 **THREE GAITED NON-TROTTING CLASSIC** – *Top Seven Highest Riders First & Second Go Combined Score. Judged the same as*

### **Division E5 - Walking Horse and Pony Pleasure**

This class is limited to horses who perform the flat walk and running walk. All horses must be shown in accordance with standard shoeing, tack, and attire regulations, as set forth by the current WHOA rulebook. Horses in this class may not cross enter in to the Ambling or Racking class.

1. Horses shall be required to perform 2 gaits: flat walk and running walk as appropriate for breed.
2. Horses must back easily and stand quietly.
3. Horses will be judged on manners, suitability and performance.
4. Form should not be sacrificed for speed. Horses and ponies shall be a pleasure to ride and show a true, four beat walking gait with a cadenced head nod/shake.
5. Whips/Crops are optional

### **Class No.**

- 96 Walking Horse and Pony Pleasure – Junior and Senior Rider 2nd  
 Go:  
 103 Walking Horse and Pony Pleasure – Junior and Senior Rider  
 212 **WALKING HORSE AND PONY PLEASURE CLASSIC** – *Top Seven Highest Riders First & Second Go Combined Score. Judged the same as Class 96. Entries are made at the show at no additional charge.*

## **F. GYMKHANA**

All Gymkhana riders must wear properly fitted protective and secured headgear (passing or surpassing current ASTM standards) at all times while mounted. It is the responsibility of the rider, or the parent or guardian of the exhibitor to see to it that the headgear worn complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use.

These are timed events. Horses are over 14.2 hands. Large ponies are over 12.2 hands and not exceeding 14.2 hands and small ponies are 12.2 hands and under. Horses and ponies shall be of any breed or combination of breeds, serviceably sound and in good condition. Ponies must be suitable to rider.

### **Tack and Attire**

To be ridden and shown with stock-type tack and attire. Proper attire consists of collared, long sleeve, button/snap down shirts with jeans, boots and fastened safety helmet. Belts, chaps, tapaderos and spurs are optional. Split or closed reins may be used with one or two hands on the reins. Rider may hold onto saddle with hands. Tie downs and standing martingales are optional, but there may be no bare metal in contact with the horse's head. **Whipping is allowed only by the use of a bat, crop, whip or rope and the judge at his**

**discretion, may disqualify a contestant for excessive use of either (especially in front of the cinch). Whipping with reins, hands, etc. is prohibited.** Stock-type saddle and bridle is required. The use of a hackamore (including mechanical hackamores) or other types of bridles is the optional choice of the rider, however, **the judge may prohibit the use of bits of equipment he may consider severe. Tying of feet to stirrups with any material is prohibited.**

### **General Rules**

The judge and only the judge must inspect mounts in the ring before running and may disqualify or prohibit any entry with unduly severe type equipment or for unsoundness. If during or after running, an equipment or attire violation is identified, the Division Manager, Agent on Duty, or Judge may disqualify the rider. During and after running the judge and only the judge may disqualify any entry for unduly severe treatment (no time penalty, just disqualification). There is no appeal upon decisions in regard to disqualification.

If a rider falls of their horse at any point during a run, they are disqualified. To include, but not limited to, the holding pen before a run, during the run and after the run.

**The arena will be set up so that riders will enter the arena and start and finish their run in the arena. Panels will be set up in one end of the arena with two holding pens. Riders will enter the arena into the primary holding pen in a small group and wait until their number is called. Horses may be led or ridden into this primary holding pen by the exhibitor only. Horses must remain under control in the holding pen. No one is allowed to stay in the holding pen except the riders and horses. See diagram within this rulebook.**

**Once it is a rider's turn, they will enter the opposite holding pen alone and wait until the gate to the alley way is opened and they are given the go ahead from the show personnel to run. Once it is opened, the rider must proceed directly to the course. Riders who take an excessive amount of time (> 3 minutes) to enter the arena will be disqualified at the discretion of the judge and committee. Riders may run up the alleyway into the pattern. Once the run is over, riders must stop and dismount their horses in the arena and lead them out. Show Management reserves the right to change the arena set up as deemed necessary.**

Off course constitutes elimination. Knocking over a barrel race barrel or a pole will not result in elimination but will constitute a (5) second penalty. Touching a barrel, bucket, or pole by the hand of the rider shall not cause a disqualification or penalty. There will be no time-outs or re-runs in case of broken equipment, thrown shoes, etc. All timing will be done by the average of two stop watches and/or electric timer and exact ties will be re-run one time or until broken in like manner. Cutting the timer by circling wide while on course may result in no time. Timing will be supervised by the judge. Standard distances will be observed but management reserves the right to vary the distances if necessary. The general rules in this catalog also apply, however, no rules except these listed in this division shall apply in gymkhana events.

Pole bending poles will be set at 21' for horse and pony classes. Stake Race: The start and finish line is 20 feet wide and marked by 2 cones, each 10 feet from the center line. The poles marking the center line are each 40 feet from the start and finish line, making them 80 feet apart. Exhibitors will run a figure 8 pattern, starting from either the right or left of the center line as shown in the following pattern.

Championships determined by points earned in three classes: 1<sup>st</sup> place, 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 points; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8 points; 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 points; 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 point; 6<sup>th</sup>, 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 points; 8<sup>th</sup>, 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 points; 10<sup>th</sup>, 1 point. All ties on points will be broken first by fastest time on barrels, (if still tied - go to fastest time on poles).

- High Point Gymkhana Champion, Large Pony: Awarded after all Gymkhana Classes. Perpetual Award donated by Virginia Farm Bureau and by Mt. Trails 4-H, Mike Talbert, Pulaski County.
- High Point Gymkhana Champion - Small Pony: Awarded after all Gymkhana Classes. Perpetual Award sponsored by the Bevins Family, Single Tree Farm, Abington, VA.
- High Point Gymkhana Champion Horse, Senior Rider: Awarded after all Gymkhana Classes. Challenge Award sponsored by the Melton Family, Gloucester
- High Point Gymkhana Champion Horse, Junior Rider: Awarded after all Gymkhana Classes. Perpetual Award sponsored by TNT Livestock, Mike Talbert/Talbert Family, Pulaski Co.
- Fastest Pole Bending Pony Trophy in Memory of Prince
- Fastest Pole Bending Horse Perpetual Award
- Fastest Pony Barrel Race Remington Perpetual Award
- Fastest Barrel Race Overall Perpetual Award
- Fastest Overall Stake Race in memory of Showdown Perpetual Award

**If there is a failure for electric time, then the contestant shall have the option of performing a rerun at the end of the class.**

### **DIVISION F1 – CLOVERLEAF BARREL RACE**

#### **Class No**

123	Cloverleaf Barrel Race - Pony, Junior Rider
124	Cloverleaf Barrel Race – Pony, Senior Rider
125	Cloverleaf Barrel Race – Horse, Junior Rider
126	Cloverleaf Barrel Race – Horse, Senior Rider

### **DIVISION F2 – POLE BENDING**

#### **Class No**

127	Pole Bending - Pony, Junior Rider
128	Pole Bending - Pony, Senior Rider
129	Pole Bending – Horse, Junior Rider
130	Pole Bending – Horse, Senior Rider

### **DIVISION F3 – STAKE RACE**

#### **Class No**

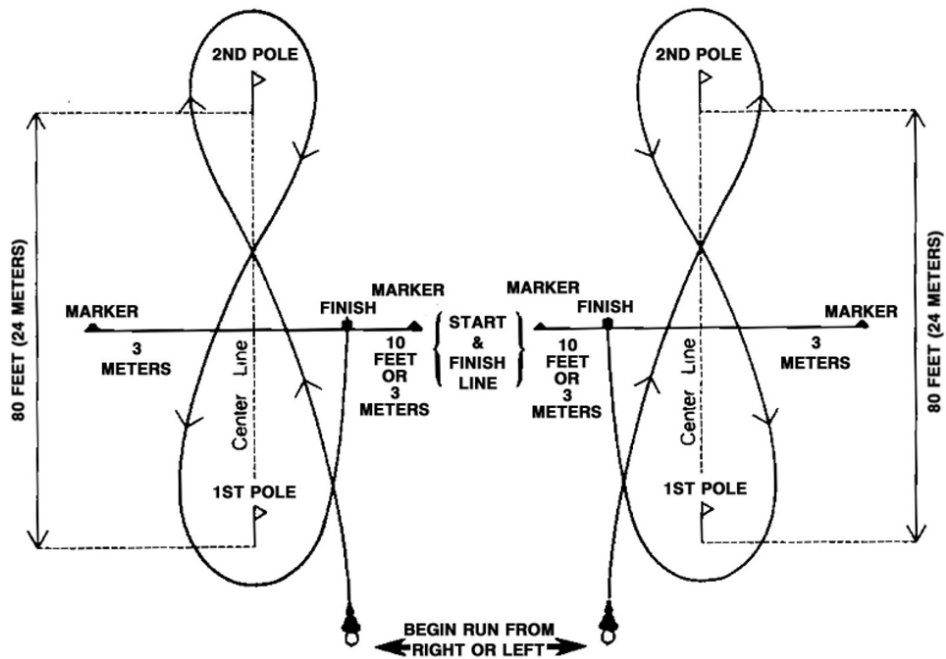
131	Stake Race - Pony, Junior Rider
132	Stake Race – Pony, Senior Rider
133	Stake Race – Horse, Junior Rider
134	Stake Race – Horse, Senior Rider

*Champion and Reserve Champion Gymkhana (Do not enter)*

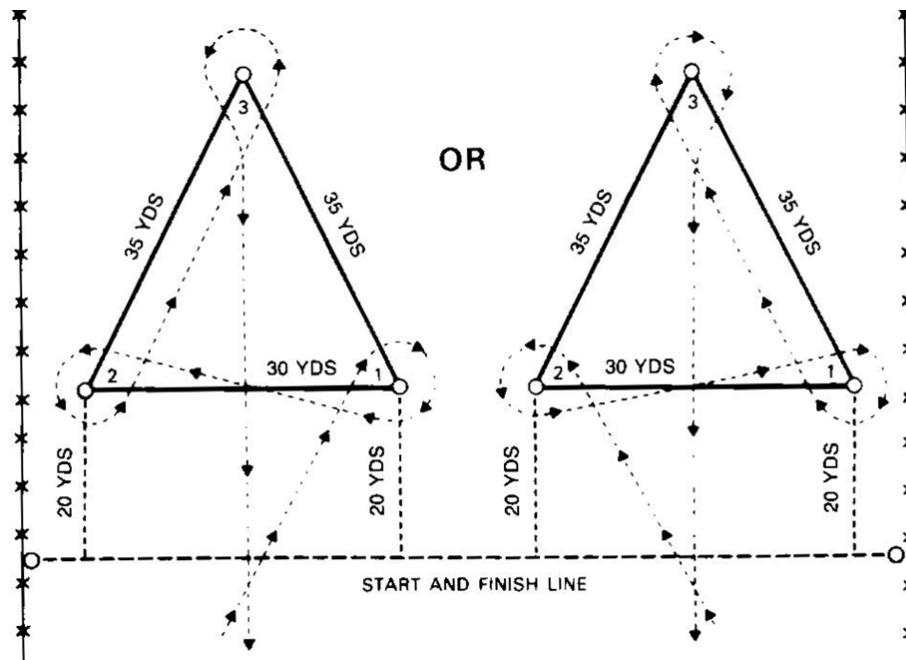
- a. *Pony – Junior Rider*
- b. *Pony – Senior Rider*
- c. *Horse - Junior Rider*
- d. *Horse - Senior Rider*

*\*The Challenge trophy will go to the fastest single time in classes 127 and 1*

### **Stake Race Pattern**

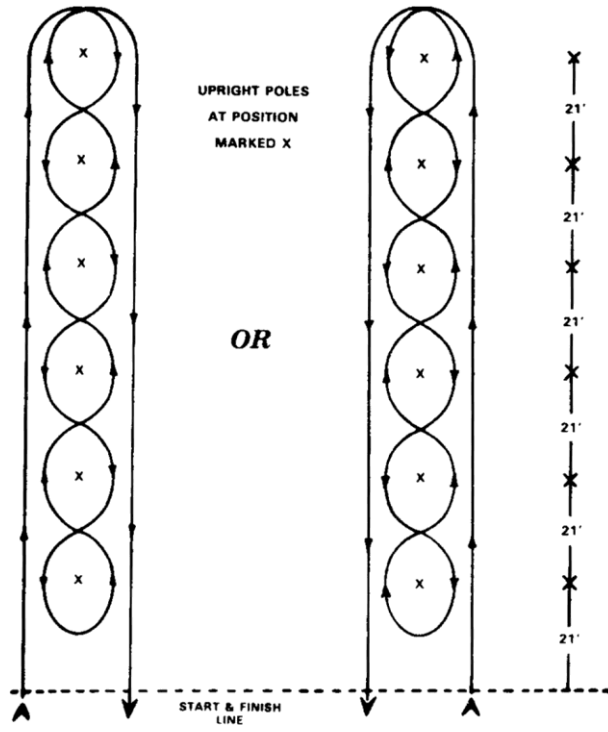


## Barrel Racing Pattern

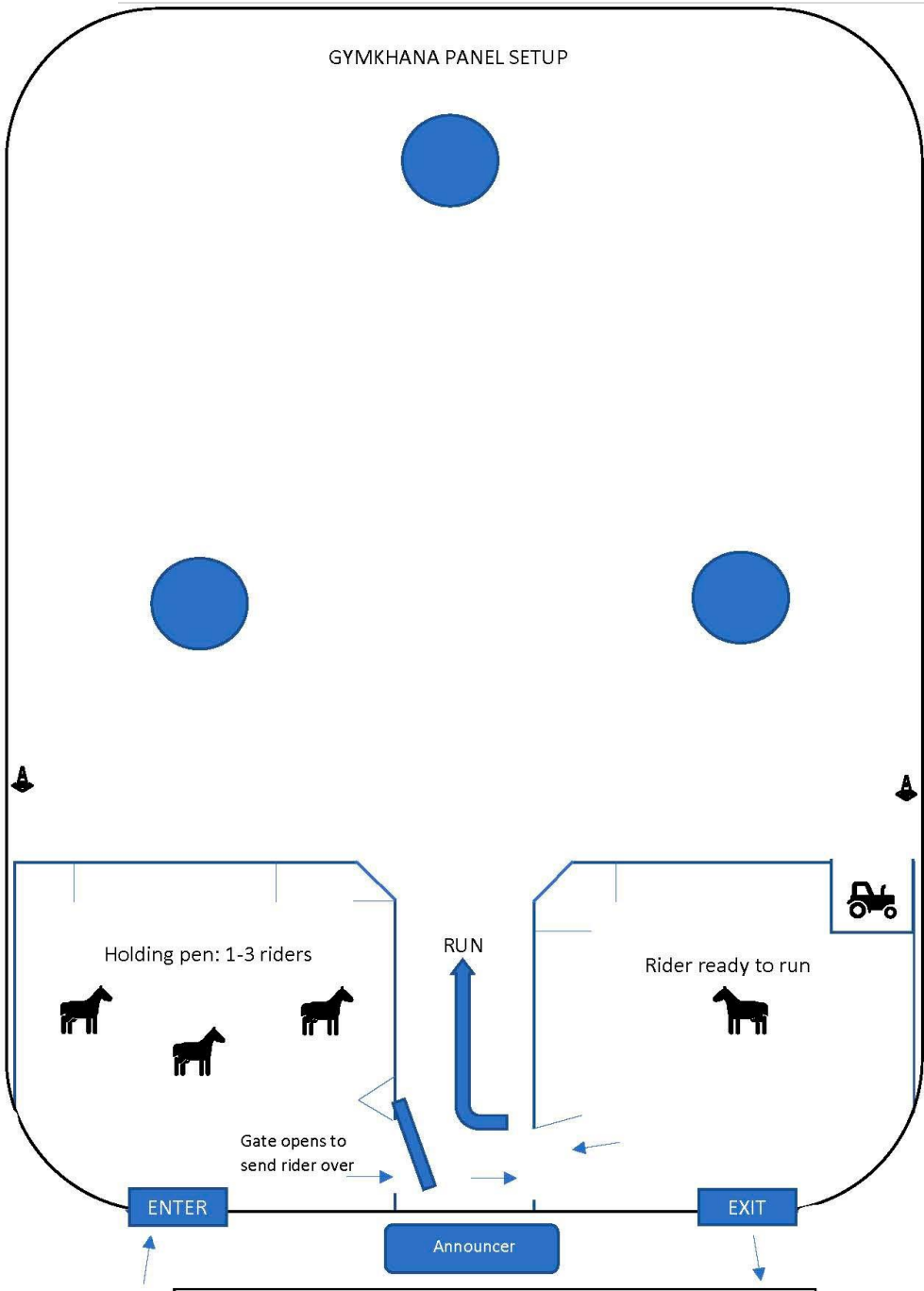


## Pole Bending Pattern





GYMKHANA PANEL SETUP



For actual pictures please visit this link:  
<https://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/horse/events/state-horse-show.html>  
See Misc Tab

## **G. HUNTER O/F & U/S**

Hunter type horses and ponies are to be shown in proper hunter tack and attire according to the rules **outlined on page 31-32. *No sidesaddle attire or tack allowed in the hunter division.*** Approved safety headgear (fastened) is required for all classes. Proper soundness required. Conformation not considered.

Classes judged on manners, suitability, performance, and way of going. In Under Saddle Classes (on the flat) horses are to be shown at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses may be asked to hand gallop one direction of the ring and may also be asked to back. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required and horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely.

Obstacles in jumping courses may consist of brush, gates, pickets, aikens, post and rail, and white board fences.

Championship trophies will be awarded to regular hunter horses over 14.2 hands, intermediate hunter horses over 14.2, large hunter ponies over 13.2 hands and not exceeding 14.2 hands and jointly to small (not to exceed 12.2 hands) and medium ponies (over 12.2 and not exceeding 13.2 hands). Each horse/rider combination may enter in only one section with no cross-entering between sections. For horse sections, the choice is entirely up to the exhibitor.

The Points system that will be used: 1<sup>st</sup> place, 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 points; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8 points; 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 points; 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 point; 6<sup>th</sup>, 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 points; 8<sup>th</sup>, 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 points; 10<sup>th</sup>, 1 point. In the Hunter O/F Division, only the four horses with the most points over fences are eligible for the champion and reserve awards.

- **High Point Hunter Award- Senior:** to include points from Hunter Showmanship, Equitation (Only points from one Hunter Equitation class will count, if multiple are entered. The equitation class entered with the highest placing will be counted toward this award.), and Hunter Classes. Awarded after all Hunter Classes are completed on Sunday after Class 63. **Patrick Powers Perpetual Award sponsored by the Joe Powers Family.**
- **High Point Hunter Award – Junior:** to include points from Hunter Showmanship, Equitation (Only points from one Hunter Equitation (O/F, US) class will count, if multiple are entered. The equitation class entered with the highest placing will be counted toward this award.), and Hunter Classes. Awarded after all Hunter Classes are completed on Sunday after Class 63. **Velvet Moon Perpetual Award sponsored by Betty and David Dye.**

### **DIVISION G1 - REGULAR WORKING HUNTER HORSES (OVER 14.2 HANDS) (3'0") Junior and Senior Rider**

#### **Class No**

57	Regular Working Hunter Horses under Saddle (On Flat)
43	Regular Working Hunter Horses, Course A ( <i>Fences about 3'0"</i> )
44	Regular Working Hunter Horses, Course B ( <i>Fences about 3'0"</i> )
	Champion and Reserve Regular Hunter Horse Awards (Do not enter)

### **DIVISION G2 - REGULAR HUNTER HORSES (OVER 14.2 HANDS) (2'9") Junior and Senior Rider**

#### **Class No**

58	Regular Hunter Horse under Saddle (On Flat)
45	Regular Hunter Horse 3'0" – Course A ( <i>Fences about 2'9"</i> )
46	Regular Hunter Horse 3'0" – Course B ( <i>Fences about 2'9"</i> )
	Champion and Reserve Regular Hunter Horse Awards (Do not enter)

**DIVISION G3 - INTERMEDIATE HUNTER HORSES (OVER 14.2 HANDS) (2'6")**

**Senior Rider**

**Class No**

- 59 Intermediate Hunter Horse under Saddle (On Flat), Senior Rider  
47 Intermediate Hunter Horse, Senior Rider, Course A (*Fences about 2'6" feet*)  
48 Intermediate Hunter Horse, Senior Rider, Course B (*Fences about 2'6" feet*)

Champion and Reserve Intermediate Hunter Horse Awards (Do not enter)

**DIVISION G4 - INTERMEDIATE HUNTER HORSES (OVER 14.2 HANDS) (2'6") Junior Rider**

**Class No**

- 60 Intermediate Hunter Horse under Saddle (On Flat), Junior Rider  
49 Intermediate Hunter Horse, Junior Rider, Course A (*Fences about 2'6"*)  
50 Intermediate Hunter Horse, Junior Rider, Course B (*Fences about 2'6"*)  
Champion and Reserve Intermediate Hunter Horse Awards (Do not enter)

**DIVISION G5 - LARGE HUNTER PONIES (OVER 13.2 HANDS, NOT EXCEEDING 14.2 HANDS) (2'6") Junior and Senior Rider**

**Class No**

- 61 Large Hunter Pony under Saddle (On Flat), Junior and Senior Rider  
51 Large Hunter Pony, Junior and Senior Rider, Course A (*Fences about 2'6"*)  
52 Large Hunter Pony, Junior and Senior Rider, Course B (*Fences about 2'6"*)  
Champion and Reserve Large Hunter Pony Awards (Do not enter)

**DIVISION G6- MEDIUM (2'3") (OVER 12.2 HANDS, NOT EXCEEDING 13.2 HANDS) & SMALL (2'0") (NOT EXCEEDING 12.2 HANDS) HUNTER PONIES**

**Junior and Senior Riders**

**Class No**

- 63 Medium & Small Hunter Pony under Saddle (On Flat)  
55 Medium & Small Hunter Pony, Course A\* (*Fences about 2'0" for small and 2'3" for medium*)  
56 Medium & Small Hunter Pony, Course B\* (*Fences at 2'0" for small and 2'3" for medium*)  
Champion and Reserve Medium and Small Hunter Pony Awards (Do not enter)  
\*Show management reserves the right to split these classes into Senior and Junior as warranted.

**DIVISION G7- LIMIT HUNTER HORSES AND PONIES**

**Junior and Senior Riders**

**Class No**

- 62 Limit Hunter Horse and Pony under Saddle (On Flat)  
64 Limit Hunter Horse and Pony, Course A\* (*Fences about 2'0"*)  
65 Limit Hunter Horse and Pony, Course B\* (*Fences at 2'0"*)  
Champion and Reserve Limit Hunter Horse and Pony Awards (Do not enter)  
\*Show management reserves the right to split these classes into Senior and Junior as warranted.

## **H. HUNTER PLEASURE**

The Points system that will be used: 1<sup>st</sup> place, 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 points; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8 points; 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 points; 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 point; 6<sup>th</sup>, 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup>, 4 points; 8<sup>th</sup>, 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup>, 2 points; 10<sup>th</sup>, 1 point. Walk/Trot classes are not awarded points.

### **DIVISION H1, H3 - HUNTER PLEASURE HORSE**

Horse must be shown in proper hunter tack and attire according to the guidelines addressed on page 32. (No English tack and attire permitted). Small hunter pleasure horses are over 14.2 hands and not exceeding 15.2½ hands. Large hunter horses are over 15.2½ hands. To be shown at a free walk, easy trot, long striding easy canter both ways of ring and may be asked to stand quietly and back readily. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and suitability to rider. Approved ASTM safety headgear (fastened) is required in all classes and when mounted.

#### **Class No.**

69	Small Hunter Pleasure Horse - Junior Rider
70	Small Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (14 - 15)
71	Small Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (16 - 19)
72	Large Hunter Pleasure Horse - Junior Rider
73	Large Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (14 - 15)
74	Large Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (16 - 19)

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Go:***

80	Large Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (16 - 19)
81	Large Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (14 - 15)
82	Large Hunter Pleasure Horse - Junior Rider
83	Small Hunter Pleasure Horse - Senior Rider (16 - 19)
84	Small Hunter Pleasure Horse – Senior Rider (14 - 15)
85	Small Hunter Pleasure Horse - Junior Rider

#### **207 HUNTER PLEASURE HORSE CLASSIC**

*\*Top Two High Point riders from each age bracket (Champion and Reserve Champion from each age bracket) will compete in class 207 - Classic classes are entered ONLY at the show with no additional charge.*

### **Division K3 – W/T Hunter Pleasure Horse**

#### **Class No**

167	Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Horse (not eligible for classics)
171	Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Horse (not eligible for classics)

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Go***

168	Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Horse (not eligible for classics)
172	Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Horse (not eligible for classics)

### **DIVISION H2, H4 - HUNTER PLEASURE PONY**

To be shown at a free walk, easy trot, long striding easy canter, head down, relatively loose rein, both ways of ring and may be asked to stand quietly and back readily. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and suitability to rider. Large hunter ponies are over 13.2 hands and not exceeding 14.2 hands. Small hunter ponies do not exceed 12.2 hands and medium hunter ponies are over 12.2 and not exceeding 13.2 hands. Approved ASTM safety headgear (fastened) is required in all classes and when mounted.

**Class No.**

75	Small/Medium Hunter Pleasure Pony - Junior Rider
76	Small/Medium Hunter Pleasure Pony - Senior Rider
77	Large Hunter Pleasure Pony - Junior Rider
78	Large Hunter Pleasure Pony - Senior Rider (14 - 15)
79	Large Hunter Pleasure Pony - Senior Rider (16 - 19)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Go:**

86	Large Hunter Pleasure Pony - Senior Rider (16 - 19)
87	Large Hunter Pleasure Pony - Senior Rider (14 -15)
88	Large Hunter Pleasure Pony - Junior Rider
89	Small/Medium Hunter Pleasure Pony - Senior Rider
90	Small/Medium Hunter Pleasure Pony - Junior Rider

208      **HUNTER PLEASURE PONY CLASSIC**

*\*Top Two High Point riders from each age bracket (Champion and Reserve Champion from each age bracket) will compete in class 208 - Classic classes are entered ONLY at the show with no additional charge.*

**Division K3 – W/T Hunter Pleasure Pony**

**Class No**

169	Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Pony (not eligible for classics)
173	Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Pony (not eligible for classics)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Go**

170	Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Pony (not eligible for classics)
174	Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure – Pony (not eligible for classics)

**I. MINIATURE HORSE (40” and under)**

Miniature horses are to be shown in proper tack and attired: this can be Western, English or Hunter. Approved ASTM safety headgear (fastened) is required for all classes; Western Hats are allowed to be worn in Showmanship classes. Soundness is required. Conformation is not considered. Classes judged on manners, suitability, performance and way of going. These rules are combination of several miniature horse associations and 4-H rules. Classes are open to any miniature horse meeting the height requirement, regardless of registration status. Horses must be not less than two (2) years of age for obstacle, hunter and versatility classes. Horses under two (2) years of age can do Miniature Showmanship. Miniature horses cannot be ridden in other classes.

**Champion & Reserve Champion Division Awards**

Champion & Reserve for minis will be awarded in both the Junior and Senior divisions. The mini showmanship class will have perpetual trophies for the winning Junior and Senior but will not be included in the division points.

The classes that determine the Division Champion and Reserve are **obstacle, hunter and versatility classes**.

Championships determined by points earned in four classes: 1<sup>st</sup> place – 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9 points; 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8 points; 4<sup>th</sup> – 7 points; 5<sup>th</sup> – 6 points; 6<sup>th</sup> – 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup> – 4 points; 8<sup>th</sup> – 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup> – 2 points; 10<sup>th</sup>– 1 point.

- **Mini Senior Division Champion:** Horse/Exhibitor combo with most points to include points from all classes except driving. Awarded after all Miniature Classes are completed, on Saturday after Class 135. Sponsored by DBR Creations.
- **Mini Senior Reserve Division Champion:** Horse/Exhibitor combo with most points to include points from all classes except driving. Awarded after all Miniature Classes are completed, on Saturday after Class 135. Sponsored by DBR Creations.
- **Mini Junior Division Champion:** Horse/Exhibitor combo with most points to include points from all

classes except driving. Awarded after all Miniature Classes are completed, on Saturday after Class 135. Sponsored by Dowdy's Well and Septic Service, Inc.

- **Mini Junior Reserve Division Champion:** Horse/Exhibitor combo with most points to include points from all classes except driving. Awarded after all Miniature Classes are completed, on Saturday after Class 135. Sponsored by Dowdy's Well and Septic Service.

### **Miniature Hunter**

Hunters: Hunters are not scored mathematically by faults nor by time. Hunters are judged on style and form over fences, manners, way of going and pace in that order. Judge must penalize unsafe jumping (i.e. charging, refusals) and poor form over fences. Circling once upon entering the ring and once upon leaving the ring is permissible.

The following faults are minor faults and are scored by the judges based on severity: light touches against an obstacle, hesitation before jumping (not a refusal), excessively slow or fast pace, changes of gait for 1–2 strides, kicking, spooking or shying.

The following faults are major faults: circling while on course, knockdown of any part of an obstacle, and refusals. Horses with major faults are not to be placed above horses with clean rounds or minor faults only. Causes for Elimination in Hunter Classes • Three (3) refusals • Off Course • Fall of horse or exhibitor • Jumping of obstacle by exhibitor • Carrying a whip

All jumps will be set based on the course provided, jumps will be set a minimum of 20 feet apart. Jumps will be set at a height no greater than 24" at the discretion of the judge and management based on ring conditions. Exhibitors will be allowed to wear tennis shoes in this class due to footing in the ring for safety reasons.

### **DIVISION I1 – Miniature Hunter Class**

#### **No**

165	Junior Miniature Hunter
166	Senior Miniature Hunter

### **Miniature Obstacle**

The obstacle class will require horses to navigate through 5-8 obstacles. It can include backing, jumping and walking over tarps, etc.

Any type of halter can be used, either leather or nylon.

Class to be judged on performance and way of going with emphasis on manners throughout course. Entries will be evaluated on responsiveness and willingness, plus general attitude.

The handler can use two (2) hands to help the horse negotiate an obstacle, but would not receive as much credit as a handler that only used one (1) hand. No disqualification for use of two (2) hands.

Maximum time 60 seconds per obstacle, judges are encouraged to advance on to the next obstacle any horse taking excessive time at an obstacle. Horses to be penalized for any unnecessary delay or excessive time at an object. Refusals do not constitute class disqualifications.

Horses will be required to walk and or trot

The following will result in the exhibitor being excused from the course and disqualified from the class:

- Carrying a whip or crop
- Handler physically moving or coercing the pony/ horse by touching.
- Refusals of three (3) obstacles
- Parents or attendants interfering with the performance of the individual or equine.
- Off course or horse leaving the obstacle course. Off course is defined as: Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction, Negotiating an obstacle from the wrong side, Skipping an obstacle unless directed by the judge, Negotiating obstacles in the wrong sequence, Off pattern.

**Obstacle requirements:**

- Must be a minimum of five (5) obstacles and a maximum of eight (8).
- Care must be used to avoid setting any obstacle in a way so as to be hazardous to the horse or exhibitor.
- Tires and stair steps are prohibited.
- Jumps, if used, must be a maximum of twelve (12) inches high and minimum length of five (5) feet.
- Jumps must use ground poles.

**Obstacle Guidelines:**

The course designer will be readily available to answer questions regarding the course and be available for a walk through the course with exhibitors as well as the judge.

Judge shall walk course with designer and exhibitors. Judge has the right to alter the course for time and/or safety.

Ingenuity and originality in adapting and combining various obstacles both to demonstrate a horse's willingness and ability to please exhibitors and audience are encouraged. However, unnatural or "horror" obstacles should be avoided and all obstacles should be safe for exhibitors as well as horses.

Obstacles may range from backing up, jumps, bridges, 360-degree box, side passing, use of hula hoop, serpentine, umbrellas, or any other obstacles the course designer deems appropriate.

**DIVISION I2 – Miniature Obstacle**

**Class No**

197	Junior Miniature Obstacle
198	Senior Miniature Obstacle

**Versatility Class:**

Versatility class will consist of jumps and obstacle. It can include any of above obstacles and jumps. Will be judged the same as hunter and obstacle.

**DIVISION I3 – Miniature Versatility Class**

**No**

225	Junior Miniature Versatility
226	Senior Miniature Versatility

**\*\*Miniature Driving has been moved to Miscellaneous Division\*\***



## **J. RANCH**

### **Tack & Attire**

Working Western attire required for all classes: long-sleeved shirt, helmet, and boots. Chaps and spurs are optional. Exhibitors must wear properly fitting ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets at all times when mounted. Helmets **WILL NOT** be discriminated against in ANY class.

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

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

**IN PATTERN BASED CLASSES: The judge and show management reserve the right to place only those individuals that complete the pattern without disqualification. This is at the discretion of the judge and division manager.**

### **DIVISION J1 - Ranch Rail**

#### **Class No.**

233 Jr. Ranch Rail

234 Sr. Ranch Rail

251 **RANCH RAIL CLASSIC** – Top 7 riders from classes 233 and 234 will be eligible to ride in the Ranch Horsemanship Classic.

The Ranch Rail class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride and should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse. The horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The movement of the ranch rail horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. Maximum credit should be given to the horse that has a natural flowing stride and consistent, ground covering gaits. Transitions should be performed when requested, with smoothness and responsiveness. The ideal ranch rail horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait. The horse should be ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint while being responsive to the rider and making timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be soft in the bridle, yield to contact and shall not be shown on a full drape of rein. Riders are encouraged to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working pace while under control by the rider. The horse shall be balanced and appear willing and a pleasure to ride in a group situation.

#### **Class Requirements:**

1. All exhibitors will work as a group. Individuals working off the rail will not be penalized and passing is permissible.
2. Horses must work both ways of the ring at the walk, trot, and lope. Horses must work at least one way of the ring at the extended trot. At the option of the judge, horses may be asked to extend at the walk and lope.
3. There is an emphasis on forward, free-flowing, and ground-covering movement.
4. At the extended trot and lope, the exhibitor may post or stand in the stirrups.
5. Touching or holding the saddle horn during any extended gait is acceptable.
6. Horses are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). They may be required to reverse at the walk or trot at the discretion of the judge but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope.

7. Horses are required to back easily and stand quietly. Horses may be brought to the center or backed on the rail.
8. The rider shall not be required to dismount except in the event the judge wishes to check equipment

Faults scored according to severity:

1. Too slow (any gait) Excessive speed (any gait) Over-bridled (nose behind the vertical)
2. Head carried too low such that the poll is below the withers
3. Out of frame
4. Head carried too high
5. Break of gait
6. Wrong lead or out of lead
7. Failure to take the appropriate gait when called
8. Opening mouth excessively
9. Draped reins
10. Use of spurs forward of the cinch
11. Canted at the lope
12. Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)

Faults which will be cause for disqualification:

- 182 Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical excessively and consistently while the horse is in motion, or otherwise showing the appearance of intimidation.

**Class No. DIVISION J2 - Ranch Riding**

**Class No**

- 231 Jr. Ranch Riding  
232 Sr. Ranch Riding

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.
2. One of the 15 American Quarter Horse Association approved patterns will be selected. Some patterns include walking through, near, or around a pen of live cattle.
3. Ranch Riding Gaits: In all gaits, movement of the ranch riding horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. The following terminology shall apply:
  - A. Walk-The walk is a natural, flat footed, four-beat gait. The gait is rhythmic and ground-covering. As in all gaits, the horse should display a level, or slightly above level topline with a bright, attentive expression.
  - B. Trot - The trot is a natural two-beat gait demonstrating more forward motion than the western jog.
  - C. Extended Trot- The extended trot is an obvious lengthening of the stride with a definite increase in pace. The horse should be moving in a manner as if it were covering a large area on a ranch with an above level topline. Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable at the Extended Trot.

- D. Natural Gait and Extended Natural Gait – Non-trotting horses should perform their natural gait where a trot is indicated and show a distinctive difference in speed of that gait where an extended trot is asked. The natural gait should be smooth and appear effortless for riding long distances.
- E. Lope- The lope is a three-beat gait. The lope should be relaxed and smooth with a natural, forward moving stride.
- F. Extended Lope- The extended lope is not a run or a race but should be an obvious lengthening of the stride, demonstrating a forward, working speed. The horse should display an above level topline with a bright, attentive expression.
- G. Extended Walk – The extended walk is an obvious lengthening of stride that will naturally increase the pace. The horse should move in a natural manner (not a running walk) as if it were moving across an open pasture.
4. Sitting the regular trot and lope is recommended; though standing in the stirrups at the extended trot and extended lope, or posting the extended trot is acceptable.
5. Scoring will be on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance. The individual maneuvers are scored in ½ point increments from a low of -1½ to a high of +1½ with a score of 0 denoting a maneuver that is correct with no degree of difficulty. Class consists of pattern work that is ridden individually. For each maneuver the horse is judged on quality of gaits, response to the rider, manners and disposition.
- Penalty points and/or certain maneuvers will be designated as tie breakers and shall be selected prior to the beginning of the competition.
- A. One (1) point penalties:
- (1) Too slow (per gait)
  - (2) Over-bridled (per maneuver)
  - (3) Out of frame (per maneuver)
  - (4) Break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less
- B. Three (3) point penalties:
- (1) Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides
  - (2) Break of gait at lope
  - (3) Wrong lead or out of lead
  - (4) Draped reins (per maneuver)
  - (5) Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads
  - (6) Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change
  - (7) Severe disturbance of any obstacle
- C. Five (5) point penalties:
- (1) Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.) for each refusal
- D. Ten (10) point penalty,
- (1) Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)
- E. (OP) Placed below horses performing all maneuvers;
- (1) Eliminates maneuver
  - (2) Incomplete maneuver
  - (3) Repeated blatant disobedience
  - (4) Use of two hands (except junior and level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore)
- F. Zero (0) score:

- (1) Illegal equipment
- (2) Willful abuse.

**DEPARTMENT A – DIVISION 5 - Ranch Horsemanship (this Division’s Equitation Class)**

**Class No**

229 Jr. Ranch Horsemanship  
 230 Sr. Ranch Horsemanship

218 **RANCH HORSEMANSHIP CLASSIC** – Top 7 riders from classes 229 and 230 will be eligible to ride in the Ranch Horsemanship Classic.

1. Individual workouts/patterns will be used in all Ranch Horsemanship classes. May be asked to back and stand for dismounting and mounting. Horsemanship only to count. Horses and ponies (entire class or finalist) to be ridden at a walk, jog, and lope, at least one way of the ring. Chaps and spurs optional. The pattern will be posted at least one hour prior to the start of the class.
2. Seat & 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.
3. 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. 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.

**DEPARTMENT B – DIVISION 5 - Ranch Ground Handling (this division’s Showmanship class)**

**Class No**

227 Jr. Ranch Ground Handling  
 228 Sr. Ranch Ground Handling

1. 4-H member and equipment:
  - A. Personal appearance of 4-H member: neat, clean, well-groomed, attentive, and courteous. Shirts with collar and long sleeves are required, along with western boots and western hat or approved

helmet.

B. Equipment:

Halters only. Halters and leads may be rope, nylon, or plain leather (no silver). Lead ropes may not have chain. No training sticks or aids are permitted.

2. This class tests the handler's ability to communicate with the horse from the ground by judging a series of maneuvers that require the horse to yield to pressure – forward, backward, and laterally. Maneuvers are selected to be realistic in their application to everyday training. Exhibitor movements should be workmanlike and efficient, and the horse should be obedient and cooperative. Evaluating safe and effective ground handling will take priority to the quality of attire or tack.
3. Each exhibitor will perform a pattern that will consist of no less than seven (7) of the maneuvers listed below. Exhibitors may be asked to work from both the left and right side of the horse during any of the listed maneuvers (switching hands on the lead is permitted).
  - A. Square horse for inspection; judge will only walk in front of the horse.
  - B. Lead the horse at a walk, jog/trot (or favorite gait for gaited horses only), or back in a straight or curved\* line, or a combination of straight and curved\* lines.
  - C. Extension of walk or trot.
  - D. Stop
  - E. Answer questions from the judge
  - F. Pivots, moving the forehand up to 270°
  - G. Move the hindquarters, up to 270° (turn on forehand)
  - H. Step away from the horse to the end of the lead while horse remains still
  - I. Lower the horse's head (pulling down on the lead or pressure on the poll)
  - J. Demonstrate a sidepass
  - K. Back the horse while handler remains stationary
  - L. Send horse in a circle (either direction), around a marker, or over a pole.

(\*Curve = any non-straight line including, but not limited to: any change of direction from gradual turns to distinct turns, circles or portions of circles, or multiple curves to create a shape.)

4. Poles, barrels, and cones may be used as markers to define maneuver locations and/or parameters. However, the pattern should not take on the appearance of an "In-hand Trail" class. Hitting/touching/moving these objects will not be scored as penalties, but taken into account when scoring the handler's abilities.
5. Exhibitors may be asked to work from both the left and right side of the horse during any of the listed maneuvers (switching hands on the lead is permitted). Exhibitors may touch the horse to initiate any lateral movement and when asked to lower the horse's head. The judge will recognize added degree of difficulty of not touching the horse and this will be reflected in the maneuver score.
6. Scoring will be on the basis of 0 to 100 with 70 denoting an average performance. Judges will assess each maneuver on a scale from -3 to +3 with ½ point increments in between. In addition to the maneuver score, exhibitors can incur penalty points as listed below.
7. Penalties
  - A. One-half (½) point
    - (1) Break of gait (walk or trot) up to 1 full stride
  - B. One (1) point
    - (1) Touching horse other than when allowed. It is acceptable to touch the horse to sidepass, move the hindquarters, and lower the head.
    - (2) Horse moving 1 step during any portion when it should be standing still

C. Two (2) points

- (1) Freeze up: complete loss of forward, backward or lateral movement within a maneuver
- (2) Break of gait (walk or trot) for more than 1 full stride
- (3) Horse moving more than 1 step during any portion when it should be standing still
- (4) Stepping out of obstacle or over any unintended pole (or other obstacle marker) with one foot, accruing with each additional step
- (5) Use of hand on halter in any manner
- (6) Touching horse with lead (first offense)
- (7) Incorrect or incomplete answer to the judge's question
- (8) Artificial or overdone showing

D. Five (5) points

- (1) Inappropriate Body condition score: Clearly below a 4 or clearly above a 7
- (2) Balking, continued spooking, kicking, biting, rearing, striking
- (3) Failure to complete a maneuver
- (4) Touching horse with end of lead (second offense)

E. Zero (0) score

- (1) Off pattern
- (2) Consistent lameness
- (3) Illegal attire
- (4) Illegal tack
- (5) Abuse
- (6) Off Pattern

**Awards – Placings to top 10 in each class. Top 5 exhibitors in both Junior and Senior** will return for a final Ground Handling pattern where Champion and Reserve champion will be placed. Scores from the first run are not to count.

**High Point Junior & Senior Ranch Exhibitor: High point horse and rider combination with most points in Ranch classes to include points from Ranch Ground Handling, Ranch Horsemanship, and Ranch Riding. Awards Sponsored by Jody & Richard Toms.**

**Points earned: 1<sup>st</sup> place – 10 points; 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9 points; 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8 points; 4<sup>th</sup> – 7 points; 5<sup>th</sup> – 6 points; 6<sup>th</sup> – 5 points; 7<sup>th</sup> – 4 points; 8<sup>th</sup> – 3 points; 9<sup>th</sup> – 2 points; 10<sup>th</sup> – 1 point.**

**Trail - Ranch Trail**

**Class No:**

233                    Jr. Ranch Trail  
234                    Sr. Ranch Trail

1. This class is designed to show the horse's ability to navigate and cope with the various situations and obstacles encountered in everyday ranch work. It is designed to show a horse's ability to perform these obstacles with a willing attitude. The horse is judged on cleanness and promptness with which the obstacles are negotiated, ability to negotiate obstacles correctly, and attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse while negotiating the course.
2. Whenever possible, realistic or natural obstacles should be used. The course can be laid outside of the arena using natural terrain. However, if a ground tie is specified in the course, the course must be set up in an enclosed arena.

3. The judge must walk the course and has the right and duty to alter the course in any manner. The judge may remove or change any obstacle he deems unsafe or non-negotiable prior to the start of the class. If at any time a trail obstacle is deemed to be unsafe by the judge, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous works for that class.
4. At least two or three obstacles and/or penalty points will be designated as tie breakers and shall be selected prior to the beginning of the competition. One of the mandatory obstacles should be used as the first tie breaker.
5. Live will not be used at this show.
6. Tack and Equipment:
  - A. Wearing gloves, leather or fabric, is optional. Roping gloves may be worn for the duration of the class or may be worn only for the roping and log drag obstacles.
  - B. Roping reins or reins with romal are permitted, but must be used with a snap attachment if a ground tie is in the course.
7. Use of hands: Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed, except to work with an obstacle. Reins may be held in any manner. Two hands may be used when using a snaffle bit or bosal on a horse or pony 5 years of age or younger.
8. The horse will be shown at a ground-covering walk, trot (or natural gait), and lope between the obstacles and credit will be given for performing these gaits on the correct lead with an alert attitude. The walk may be judged as part of an obstacle. Between obstacles, at least 30 feet should be allowed for the trot, and at least 50 feet for the lope. Gaits between obstacles will be scored as part of the next obstacle.
9. Extending the trot or natural gait may also be asked. The extended trot may be ridden with the rider either posting or standing in the stirrups to the front of the saddle. Holding the saddle horn is permissible, at this gait, as might be done in open terrain.
10. No additional credit will be given for unnecessary/additional maneuvers (such as sidepassing to and from an obstacle).
11. The judge may ask a rider to move on to the next obstacle if the horse/rider is unable to complete the maneuver in a reasonable time or if the judge deems that the rider is, or will be, in an unsafe situation.
  - A. A rider will lose 15 points if an obstacle is attempted and not completed.
12. A judge may excuse a rider from the arena after 2<sup>nd</sup> obstacle with three refusals.
13. Scoring will be on the basis of 0-infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each obstacle will receive an obstacle score that should be added or subtracted from 70 and is subject to a penalty that should be subtracted. Each obstacle will be scored on the following basis, ranging from plus 1 ½ to minus 1 ½: -1 ½ extremely poor, -1 very poor, -½ needs improvement, 0 correct, +½ good, +1 very good, +1 ½ excellent. Obstacle scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points. Penalties should be assessed per occurrence as follows:
  - A. 1 Point Penalties:
    - (1) over-bridled (per maneuver)
    - (2) out of frame (per maneuver)

- (3) each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone, plant or any component of the obstacle
- (4) incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less
- (5) both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot
- (6) skipping over or failing to step into required space
- (7) split pole in lope-over
- (8) incorrect number of strides, if specified
- (9) one to two steps on mount/dismount or ground tie except shifting to balance

B. 3 Point Penalties:

- (1) wrong lead or out of lead
- (2) draped reins
- (3) break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead
- (4) break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides
- (5) three to four steps on mount/dismount on ground tie

C. 5 Point Penalties:

- (1) Spurring in front of cinch
- (2) blatant disobedience
- (3) use of either hand to instill fear/praise
- (4) knocking over, stepping out of or falling off an obstacle
- (5) dropping an object required to be carried
- (6) Each refusal, balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing.
- (7) letting go of gate
- (8) five or more steps on mount/dismount or ground tie

D. 10 point Penalty:

- (1) Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)

E. 15 point Penalty:

- (1) Failure to complete an obstacle once attempted.

F. Off-Pattern (OP) - exhibitors cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly

- (1) Breaking pattern (including performing the obstacle or essential element incorrectly or other than in specified order, and incorrect line of travel)
- (2) Incomplete, eliminating, or adding a maneuver
- (3) Repeated blatant disobedience
- (4) Use of two hands (except for Junior shown in snaffle bit/hackamore)
- (5) Failure to open and shut gate, or failure to complete gate

G. Disqualified 0 – Score

- (1) 2<sup>nd</sup> Occurrence of failing to complete an obstacle (a judge may excuse a rider from the arena after 2<sup>nd</sup> obstacle with three refusals)
- (2) Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern.
- (3) lameness
- (4) abuse



- (5) leaving working area before pattern is complete
  - (6) illegal equipment
  - (7) disrespect or misconduct
  - (8) fall of horse/rider
14. Six to ten obstacles will be used. Three will be mandatory, and the remaining will be selected from the optional list.
- A. Mandatory Obstacles:
- (1) Opening, passing through, and closing a gate. This gate may not be a rope gate.
  - (2) Log Drag – Horse must be willing to drag a log for a short distance in a straight line or a curve to the right. The curve may range from a gradual curve to a complete circle or portion of a circle. Rider to pick up rope while mounted at point A, and drop rope at point B. Rope may not be tied hard and fast to the saddle horn; dallying is optional. Log size should be roughly the size of a small fence post, suggested maximum weight ~30 lbs. Rope should be securely attached to one end of the post by either drilling a hole through the post and tying a bowline (or other non-slip knot), or attaching an O-ring and tying a non-slip knot through the ring.
  - (3) Stationary Steer – This obstacle is used to show the willingness of the horse to have a rope thrown from its back. The judge will give credit to the horse that stands quietly while the contestant makes the swing and throw at the stationary steer. Shying from the rope will be penalized, but missing the stationary steer will not be penalized. Rider must provide the rope for this obstacle; rope may be carried in hand, over saddle horn, or affixed to saddle. At the completion of this obstacle, contestant may coil rope and keep for remainder of class, or drop rope at obstacle without penalty.
- B. Optional Obstacles:
- (1) Mailbox – Rider will open and close a mailbox when mounted.
  - (2) Bridge – Horse should walk willingly over a bridge. The bridge may be stationary or “teeter-totter” with a 4” maximum rocker pole.
  - (3) Slicker – The rider shall show the ability to handle the horse while simulating putting on a slicker. The rider may also be asked to carry the slicker from point A to point B.
  - (4) Walk-over log-L obstacle – Walk over 90° log “L”. Log should be no less than 6” and no more than 12” in diameter. Riders should negotiate this obstacle in a straight line.
  - (5) Step-overs at a walk, trot, or lope – Natural branches, logs, fence posts, etc. which are laid out in seemingly random angles and distances. Distances should be measured only so the set-up is repeatable, but not for uniform spacing or stride length. Obstacles may not be raised and the maximum height of any step-over is 18”.
  - (6) Water hazard – The horse should enter and exit the water hazard in a quiet manner.
  - (7) Back through obstacle – Straight, “L”, or into/out of a marked location.
  - (8) Sidepass – Straight, one direction, may or may not be elevated.
  - (9) Ground Tie – Rider must be able to dismount and walk a minimum of 5 paces away with the horse in a designated spot. If used, this must be the last obstacle of the course (no remount) and class must be held in an enclosed arena. If a rider is using a one-piece rein (romal, roping rein, etc.), it should be unsnapped from the bit on one side while ground-tying.
  - (10) Pick up front feet – The rider must be able to dismount and pick up both front feet in an easy, time efficient manner. If used, this must be the last obstacle of the course (no remount). May be used in succession with ground tie so rider only dismounts once per course.
  - (11) Live cattle – walk through, near, or around pen of live cattle. The use of cattle could be any degree from a cattle pen set up as a presence on the course to an interactive obstacle.
  - (12) Any other safe and negotiable obstacle which could reasonably be found in everyday ranch work and meets the approval of the judge.
- C. If disrupted, the course shall be reset. In the case that an obstacle is used in combination, the obstacle

cannot be reset until the contestant finishes the entire combination.

**The judge and show management reserve the right to place only those individuals that complete the trail pattern without disqualification. This is at the discretion of the judge and division manager.**

## **K. WALK/TROT/JOG**

Walk/Jog/Trot will be its own division and Championship Awards provided if there are donors. Walk Trot Classes, including Walk/Trot/Jog Trail classes will be offered. All qualification rules will remain the same for exhibitors in these classes. The classes will consist of 2 flat classes and an equitation class. Youth are able to enter the showmanship. Championships will include walk/jog/trot trail, horsemanship/equitation, 1st and 2nd go pleasure, and showmanship. There are NO Classic classes for Walk/Jog/Trot. Division Managers may combine juniors and seniors if entries warrant. Those entering classes that include canter / loping may not enter these walk/trot/jog classes. Walk/Jog/Trot exhibitors may only bring one horse.

- a. The classes will be split into Junior and Senior, however show management reserves the right to combine the classes into an all age division.
- b. Youth may not enter gymkhana if they are competing in the Novice Walk/Trot Classes.
- c. Youth may not bring two horses.
- d. Youth that show in this division are not eligible to apply to show at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships.
- e. The following Departments will offer walk/trot classes. More specific rules for each class will be in their department rules.
  - i. Dressage
  - ii. English Pleasure
  - iii. Hunter Pleasure
  - iv. Western Pleasure

### **Class No. DIVISION K1 – Dressage Walk/Trot**

183	Jr. Intro Level Test A
184	Sr. Intro Level Test A
185	Jr. Intro Level Test B
186	Sr. Intro Level Test B

### **Class No. DIVISION K2 – English Pleasure Walk/Trot**

179	W/T English Pleasure – Jr & Sr Riders, 1 <sup>st</sup> Go
180	W/T English Pleasure – Jr & Sr Riders, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Go

### **Class No. DIVISION K3 – Hunter Pleasure Walk/Trot**

167	W/T Hunter Pleasure Horse – Jr Rider, 1 <sup>st</sup> Go
168	W/T Hunter Pleasure Horse – Jr Rider, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Go
169	W/T Hunter Pleasure Pony – Jr Rider, 1 <sup>st</sup> Go
170	W/T Hunter Pleasure Pony – Jr Rider, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Go
171	W/T Hunter Pleasure Horse – Sr Rider, 1 <sup>st</sup> Go
172	W/T Hunter Pleasure Horse – Sr Rider, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Go
173	W/T Hunter Pleasure Pony – Sr Rider, 1 <sup>st</sup> Go
174	W/T Hunter Pleasure Pony – Sr Rider, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Go

<u>Class No.</u>	<u>DIVISION K4 – Western Pleasure Walk/Trot</u>
175	W/J Western Pleasure – Jr Rider, 1st Go
176	W/J Western Pleasure – Jr Rider, 2nd Go
177	W/J Western Pleasure – Sr Rider, 1st Go
178	W/J Western Pleasure – Sr Rider, 2nd Go

<u>Class No.</u>	<u>DIVISION K5 – W/T/J Trail</u>
242	W/T English Trail – Jr and Sr Riders
243	W/T Hunter Trail – Jr and Sr Riders
244	W/J Western Trail – Jr and Sr Riders

## L. WESTERN

Horses and ponies shall be of any breed or combination of breeds, serviceably sound, in good condition and of stock horse type. Horses are over 14.2 hands. Large ponies are over 12.2 hands and not exceeding 14.2 hands. Small ponies are 12.2 hands and under. Ponies must be suitable to rider. It is suggested that participants have a number on each side of their horse when showing. Horses and ponies shown in this division cannot enter other divisions except in Horsemanship (equitation), showmanship, trail, and miscellaneous. The general tack and attire rules are listed on page 32-33.

All Western Pleasure classes are to be shown at a walk, jog, and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint. The judge may ask for extended gaits. To be judged on performance, smoothness of gaits, manners and overall ability of the horse to perform.

- **High Point Western Award - Junior or Senior:** Horse and rider combination earning the most points in the following classes: Western Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Working Western, Pleasure Events, and Classic Classes. Points from Trail or Side Saddle are not included. Award sponsored by Harris Leather
- **High Point Senior Western Exhibitor:** Horse/rider combination earning the most points in the following classes: Western Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Working Western, Western Pleasure and Trail. Award sponsored by Integrity Home Mortgage- Faye Strickler
- **Reserve High Point Senior Western Exhibitor:** Horse/rider combination earning the most points in the following classes: Western Showmanship, Horsemanship, Working Western, Western Pleasure and Trail. Award sponsored by Integrity Home Mortgage- Faye Strickler
- **High Point Junior Western Exhibitor:** Horse/rider combination earning the most points in the following classes: Pleasure and Trail. Award sponsored by Integrity Home Mortgage- Faye Strickler
- **Reserve High Point Junior Western Exhibitor:** Horse/rider combination earning the most points in the following classes: Western Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Working Western, Western Pleasure and Trail. Award sponsored by Integrity Home Mortgage- Faye Strickler

**IN PATTERN BASED CLASSES: The judge and show management reserve the right to place only those individuals that complete the pattern without disqualification. This is at the discretion of the judge and division manager.**

### DIVISION L1 - WESTERN PLEASURE

<u>Class No</u>	
108/109	Western Pleasure - Senior Rider
112	Western Pleasure - Junior Rider
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Go:</b>	
116/117	Western Pleasure - Senior Rider

120 Western Pleasure - Junior Rider

216 **WESTERN PLEASURE CLASSIC** – Junior and **Senior Rider** (*Top Seven Highest Riders in each age bracket First and Second Go Combined Score*) Entries made at show with no additional charge.

\*\*\*Management reserves the right to split large classes as needed\*\*

## **L2: WORKING WESTERN**

The purpose of the working western 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 task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse riding outside or inside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal working western 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 working western horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. This class will be scored similar to a Ranch Riding class based on AQHA rules. Rider may be excused at judge's discretion. Pattern will be posted at the show.

### **Class Procedure**

Each horse will work individually. Horses will be scored on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each maneuver will receive a score that should be added or subtracted from 70 and is subject to a penalty that should be subtracted. Each maneuver will be scored on the following basis, ranging from plus 1 1/2 to minus 1 1/2: -1 1/2 extremely poor, -1 very poor, -1/2 poor, 0 correct, +1/2 good, + 1 very good, + 1 1/2 excellent. Maneuver scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points.

Posting at the extended trot **is** acceptable.

Touching or holding the saddle horn **is** acceptable.

### **One (1) point penalties**

Too slow (per gait)

Over-bridled (per maneuver)

Out of frame (per maneuver)

Break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less

### **Three (3) point penalties**

Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides

Break of gait at lope

Wrong lead or out of lead

### **Three (3) point penalties(continued)**

Out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads

Trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change

Severe disturbance of any obstacle

### **Five (5) point penalties**

Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.) for each refusal

### **Placed below horses performing all maneuvers**

Eliminates maneuver  
Incomplete maneuver  
Use of two hands (except junior shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).

**Zero (0) score**

Willful abuse  
Major disobedience or schooling  
Lameness

No specific penalties will be incurred for nicks/hits on logs but deduction may be made in maneuver score. No specific penalties will be incurred for over/under spins but deduction may be made in maneuver score.

**DIVISION L2 – WORKING WESTERN**

**Class No**

121 Working Western Horse and Pony, Senior Rider  
122 Working Western Horse and Pony, Junior Rider

**M. MISCELLANEOUS CLASSES**

**Class conflicts** are the responsibility of the exhibitor. No refunds will be issued for missed classes due to schedule conflicts.

**California Warm-Up:** Unjudged and for Hunter Over Fences Division ONLY

**Combined Test Championship:** Junior and Senior Divisions – Exhibitors must participate in the appropriate Training Level Test 1 and the Jumper Class for their age division

**Driving:** A **MANDATORY** tack check will be required of all driving participants (horses, ponies, and minis). The tack check will be Friday at a time announced in the schedule. Approved ASTM safety headgear (fastened) is required for all classes. Participants in the Driving Classic classes will have a designated schooling time for minis and horses that are competing in the driving classes only. This schooling time will be announced in the schedule.

**Jumpers:** All jumpers must pre-qualify and submit a Jumper Qualifying Form during the entry process.

**DIVISION M1: California Warm-Up**

Unjudged warm up for Hunter Over Fences Division ONLY

**Class No**

240 California Warm-up

**DIVISION M2: Combined Test**

Combined Test Championship for Junior and Senior Riders that combine the Training Level Test 1 class with the Jumper Class. Participants must have qualified for the Jumper Class and submit the Jumper Qualifying Form at the time of Entry. Only pre-entries allowed. No additions of this class at the show. \*\*\*Participants must also enter either class 143 or 146 AND 221 or 222.

**Class No**

241 Combined Test

**DIVISION M3 –DRIVING REINSMANSHIP**

## Junior and Senior Riders

**Driving Reinsmanship** is to be judged on the ability and skill of driver. A pattern will be used. To be judged 75% on handling of reins and whip, control, posture, and overall impression of driver; 25% on the condition of harness and vehicle and neatness of attire. Drivers should follow their breed rules regarding the use of side or overchecks.

### Class No

102	Junior Miniature Driving Reinsmanship
104	Senior Miniature Driving Reinsmanship
157	Driving Reinsmanship, Horse and Pony (not eligible for miniatures)

## DIVISION M4 - FREESTYLE REINING

### Class No

153	Freestyle Reining – combined Juniors and Seniors
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Reining is a western riding discipline in which riders guide their horses willingly through a precise pattern of circles, spins, and stops. All work is done at the lope and gallop. It is often described as the western form of dressage riding, as it requires the horse to be responsive and in tune with its rider, whose aids should not be easily seen, and judges the horse on its ability to perform a set pattern of movements.

Reining Champion awarded a perpetual award sponsored by Diamond S Ranch and the Stinson Family.

### **A. General rules**

1. Reining maneuvers originated from moves that a cow horse must use in performing its duties and have been refined to the high level of competition existing today. Freestyle Reining not only provides an opportunity to use these maneuvers creatively, but also to expand them to music by means of choreography. Riders are encouraged to use musical scores that permit them to show the athletic ability of the horse in a crowd appealing way.

*Music:* Music of choice. Must provide music on a **flash thumb drive by Thursday of the show**. No other music should be on the flash thumb drive. Music must be in .mp3 audio file format. Music will not be accepted if it is on a cell phone, tablet, email etc. or in YouTube, music video or any other format

2. 4-H rules will apply except where the following rules pre-empt same.
3. **Required Maneuvers will be defined as follows:**
  - a. A minimum of 4 consecutive spins to the right
  - b. A minimum of 4 consecutive spins to the left
  - c. A minimum of 3 stops
  - d. A minimum of 1 lead change at the canter from right to left
  - e. A minimum of 1 lead change at the canter from left to right
  - f. A minimum of 1 rollback in each direction.
4. Exhibitors will only be judged astride.
5. Exhibitors are allowed to use one or two hands and any bit approved by the NRHA Handbook, including snaffle bits and bosals approved for use in the Snaffle Bit or Hackamore classes.
6. Failure to perform all the required maneuvers or failure to complete the performance within the time limit will result in a score of 0.

7. Additional maneuvers such as backups, speed variations, and non-classical reining maneuvers such as half pass and side pass are appropriate in Freestyle and shall be given appropriate credit. Additional repetitions of required maneuvers are appropriate, but will only add or subtract from the existing scores already given for the required maneuvers, not as additional scores.
8. Equipment used in Freestyle must adhere to the following standards:
  - a. All equipment must be non-abusive and humane based on NRHA Rules and Guidelines.
  - b. Any equipment not specifically covered by or in conflict with standard equipment guidelines must be non-abusive to the horse.
9. Time Limit. A maximum of 3 1/2 minutes including any introductions. The time limit will be from the beginning of the music or from the beginning of the introduction (whichever is first) and will end with the music.
10. Costumes: Permitted but not required. Emphasis is placed on performing the reining maneuvers to music.
11. Props: Permitted but at no time may hinder the judges' view of the horse. The use of props will not add to the score.

### **B. Judging of freestyle reining**

1. Required maneuvers in Freestyle will receive a score based on technical merit from the technical judges utilizing judges score sheets specifically designed for the Freestyle.
2. Transitional maneuvers and other maneuvers not specified as reining maneuvers will be evaluated and scored accordingly in a specified box and counted as a single maneuver score.
3. In the case of one or two judges being used, they would judge the technical merit of the ride. As part of the overall score, each judge would weigh the artistic impression of the ride as 10 percent of the overall ride.
4. In the event a tie occurs, the technical merit scores will be tallied to break the tie. In the event a tie remains, the exhibitors tied will be declared co-champions.
5. Validating required maneuvers will be the responsibility of the judges. However, at least one scribe will be used to assist in verifying the required maneuvers for each horse as they are completed in the pattern.
6. Artistic impression judge or applause meter should not represent more than 20 percent of the combined score and should only be used in conjunction with (minimum) two approved judges. When used in scoring, the following formulas should be applied to properly weigh the scores according to the above percentage and still produce a comparable numerical score as when three judges are used.
  - a. Score for Judge 1 should be multiplied by 1.2
  - b. Score for Judge 2 should be multiplied by 1.2
  - c. Score for the Applause Meter should be multiplied by .6.
  - d. All three scores should then be added to determine the final score for placing.
7. Show management will reserve the right to rule on music or dress that may be inappropriate or offensive to the spirit and nature of the show. Show management may also determine the use of special lighting.

## **DIVISION M5 – JUMPERS**

Junior and/or Senior Jumper Champion Perpetual Trophy donated by Janet Quaintance. If classes are combined Perpetual Trophy goes to the Junior or Senior.

### **Class No**

221	Junior Jumpers
222	Senior Jumpers

Riders wishing to compete in this class must successfully complete a similar class in a recognized event (examples: VHSA, BHSA, USEF, USEA, CDCTA, BREA, SWVAHJA). Proof of this must be submitted with

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entry into the show through the Jumper Qualifying Form found in this rulebook This form must be fully filled out and signed by the show manager.

**Successful completion** is defined as a horse and rider that completes all jumping efforts **without disqualification** in the class for any reason. **This qualifying form applies to those youth that are entering the Jumper Classes annually. This form is not required for youth solely entered in Hunter Classes.**

**If either class in this section has less than 8 entries, the classes will be combined and run as one class.**

Schooling for youth in this class (and not another hunter class) will take place on Thursday in East Arena. Schooling will NOT be allowed on Friday for exhibitors in the class. There will be warm up fences but no other schooling other than the time outlined above.

**Rider Attire:** Riders shall wear formal show attire for Jumping.

**Tack:** Tack can include an ear bonnet and square show pad. Figure 8 nosebands and martingales (standing or running) are allowed.

### **Class Rules**

1. Jumpers are scored and placed on a mathematical basis and penalty faults, which includes disobediences, falls and knock-downs.
2. **Horses and ponies will compete in the same class.**
3. Both a starting line at least 12 feet in front of the first obstacle and a finish line at least 24 feet beyond the last obstacle must be indicated by markers (at least 12 feet apart) at each end of the lines. Time shall be taken from the instant the horse's chest reaches the starting line until it reaches the finish line. Time shall be taken out while a knocked down jump is being replaced - that is, from the moment the rider gets his mount in a position to retake the jump until the proper authority signals that the jump has been replaced. It shall be the rider's responsibility to be ready to continue the course when the signal is given.
4. **Class Procedure:**
  - A. Class will be scored as written in Table II, section 2(b) of the USEF Rules for Jumpers.
  - B. The first round and first jump-off, if any, are decided by adding together the faults incurred over the course and any penalties for exceeding the Time Allowed. If a competitor has gone clean in the first round, the competitor will, without leaving the ring, upon an audible signal, commence the designated jump-off course. A competitor with a clear round may dismount, and with assistance if necessary, adjust tack and/or equipment; however, upon the audible signal to begin his/her round, the competitor is responsible to adhering to the 45 seconds rule. A competitor who leaves the arena after a clear round (before or after the tone) will be considered to have retired from the jump-off. If there are no clean rounds and a tie exists for first place, there will be one jump-off in which time will decide in the event of equality of faults.
  - C. All class entries will participate over the posted course.
  - D. Fences will be set at a **minimum of 2'6" and a maximum of 2'11"**. Fences must be set at the required height indicated, within a two-inch variance.
5. **Jumper Courses:**
  - A. All courses must be set according to USEF standards.
  - B. Obstacles should be attractive, varied and appropriate to their setting. They and/or their components



must be capable of being knocked down and should be neither so light or poorly supported that they fall at a slight touch, nor so heavy or firmly supported that they can hardly be dislodged.

C. All suspended elements (i.e., gates, panels, etc) must be hung not more than 4" from their top edges.

D. At least 3 out of the first 10 efforts must be spreads.

E. There must be at least one change of direction in every course, including jump-off courses.

6. **Scoring:**

A. Jumpers are scored on penalties incurred between the starting line and finish line. A competitor, after receiving the signal to begin his/her round, is not being scored until crossing the starting line in the proper manner.

B. Penalty faults include disobediences, falls, knockdowns, touches and time penalties.

C. In cases of broken equipment or loss of shoe, the rider must continue if he wishes to avoid penalty, or may retire.

D. If a competitor jumps an obstacle that has not been reset, or has been reset improperly, due to it being downed by a previous competitor, the weather, or some other factor, the competitor receives no penalty. However, if the competitor knocks down the obstacle he will be penalized accordingly.

E. Failing to complete-A competitor failing to complete a particular round shall have the reason recorded as follows:

(1) Withdrew (WD) or did not start (DNS) indicated that the competitor failed to enter the arena within one minute of being called. The time for entering the ring must be enforced by management. To prevent unfairness to an exhibitor, management may extend the time for entering the ring.

(2) Retired (RT) indicates the competitor voluntarily retired prior to completing the round.

(3) Eliminated (E or EL) indicates that during his/her round the competitor was eliminated by the judge for any of the various reasons indicated in these rules.

7. **Starting and Finishing:** In order to receive a score other than "Withdrew (Did not start)", "Retired", or "Eliminated":

A. The horse must cross the start line between the markers in the proper direction with the rider mounted. Passing through the starting markers in the improper direction before starting does not incur penalty.

B. The horse must cross the finish line between the markers in the proper direction and with the rider mounted.

C. The horse must jump all of the required fences between the start and finish markers.

D. The horse must not resist for 45 consecutive seconds or take more than 45 seconds to jump the first obstacle after the time of the round has begun or take more than 45 seconds to jump the next obstacle on course.

8. **Entering the Arena:** Failure to enter the arena within one minute of being called incurs elimination. The time limit for entering the ring must be enforced by management. Management may extend the time limit for entering the ring.

9. **Time to Start:** An exhibitor will have 45 seconds from the time the judge(s) sound an audible signal to cross between the start markers in the proper direction and start on course. If a competitor does not cross through the start line within the allotted time, the time on course will start when the allotted time expires.

10. **Use of Audible Signal:** An audible signal (bell, horn, whistle, gong or buzzer) is sounded for the following purposes:

A. To give the signal to start

B. To stop a competitor in the event of an unforeseen incident

C. To interrupt the 45-second period which a rider has to begin the course in the event of an unforeseen incident

D. To indicate that an obstacle has to be reset before being retaken after it has been knocked down during a refusal

E. To give the signal for a competitor to continue his/her round after an interruption

F. To indicate by repeated and prolonged ringing that the exhibitor has been eliminated

11. **Timing**

- A. **Starting and Stopping**-time is taken from the instant the horse's chest reaches the start line, or upon the expiration of 45 seconds following the sounding of the audible tone, until it reaches the finish line. The judge may interrupt the 45-second countdown if unforeseen circumstances occur. Disobediences, falls, etc., occurring between the signal to start and the moment the competitor crosses the starting line in the correct direction are not penalized.
  - B. **Time out**-If as a result of a disobedience a competitor knocks down or dislodges an obstacle or a flag marking the limits of an obstacle, the clock is stopped immediately and remains stopped while the obstacle or flag marking the limits of an obstacle is rebuilt. Regardless of which fence on the course this occurs at, a penalty of four seconds will be added to the time the horse takes to complete the course.
  - C. **Time out at combinations**-If a competitor knocks down or dislodges one of the parts of a combination or a flag marking the limits of an obstacle, and then refuses or runs out at the next park without knocking it down, the clock is stopped as for a knockdown resulting from a disobedience. Regardless of at which fence on the course this occurs, and for each time it occurs on the course, a penalty of four seconds will be added to the time the horse takes to complete the course. Elements knocked down preventing a horse from jumping the next obstacle must be removed.
  - D. **Time Faults**-One (1) time fault will be charged for each commenced second by which the time allowed is exceeded in any class for which time is a factor in scoring.
  - E. **Exceeding the time limit**-Any competitor whose time including penalty seconds which might have been assessed for time-out(s), as described above, exceeds the time limit is eliminated. The time limit is defined as double the time allowed.
12. **Disobediences:**
- A. **Refusal:** Stopping in front of an obstacle to be jumped, whether or not the horse knocks it down or displaces it, is penalized as a disobedience. Stopping at an obstacle without knocking it down and without backing, followed immediately by jumping from a standstill, is not penalized. However, if the halt continues, or if the horse backs even a single step or circles to retake the course, a refusal is incurred.
  - B. **Run-out:** Evading or passing the obstacle to be jumped or the finish line or jumping an obstacle outside its limiting markers is penalized as a disobedience.
  - C. **Resuming the Course:** After a run-out or refusal, the competitor must, before proceeding on course, re-jump the obstacle at which the disobedience occurred or be eliminated. If the flag, standard, wing, or obstacle has not been reset when the competitor is ready to jump, he/she must await the signal to start or be eliminated.
  - D. **Loss of Forward Movement:** Halting or stepping backward after crossing the start line will be penalized as a disobedience.
  - E. **Circling on Course:** Any form of circle or circles whereby the horse crosses its original track between two consecutive obstacles (start and finish included), or stops advancing toward or turns at least 180 degrees away from the next fence, or finish line, except to retake an obstacle after a disobedience, is considered a disobedience. This is a judgment call.
13. **Falls:**
- A. The first fall of horse or rider results in elimination.
  - B. A rider is considered to have fallen when he/she is separated from this horse, which has not fallen, in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle.
  - C. A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground or an obstacle and the ground.

- D. A courtesy fence is not permitted following the fall of the horse or rider.
14. Knockdowns: An obstacle is considered knocked down when in jumping an obstacle, a horse or rider by contact:
- A. Changes any part thereof which establishes the height of the obstacle or the height of any element of a spread obstacle, even when the falling part is arrested in its fall by some other portion of the obstacle, OR
  - B. Moves any part thereof which establishes the height of the obstacle so that it rests on a different support from the one on which it was originally placed.
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15. Off Course: A competitor is considered off course when he deviates from the course as shown by the diagram and jumps an obstacle prior to rectifying the deviation.
16. Table of Jumping Faults
- 1. Knockdown of obstacle or standard with any portion of the horse, rider or equipment, when jumping an obstacle .....4 faults
  - 2. Knockdown of automatic timing equipment, other designated markers on start and finish lines, or flags standing alone marking the limits of banks, ditches and water jumps .....4 faults
  - 3. First disobedience (anywhere on course).....4 faults
  - 4. Second cumulative disobedience (anywhere on course).....Elimination
  - 5. Exceeding time allowed (for each second over time allowed)..... 1 Fault
  - 6. A horse resisting for 45 seconds, taking more than 45 seconds to jump the first obstacle after the time of the round has begun, or taking more than 45 seconds to jump the next obstacle on course ..... Elimination
  - 7. Fall of the horse and/or rider.....Elimination
  - 8. Jumping obstacle before it is reset or without waiting for signal to proceed.....Elimination
  - 9. Starting before judge’s audible signal to precede .....Elimination
  - 10. Jumping an obstacle before crossing the start line unless said obstacle is designated as a practice obstacle or after crossing the finish line, whether forming part of the course or not  
Elimination
  - 11. Off course .....Elimination
  - 12. Leaving the enclosure of a closed obstacle incorrectly .....Elimination
  - 13. Rider and/or horse leaving the arena before finishing the course.....Elimination
  - 14. Any competitor at the end of his/her round who does not leave the arena through the designated gate .....Elimination
  - 15. Actions against a horse deemed excessive (for example: excessive use of whip or spurs at any time within the arena) .....Elimination

## **DIVISION M6 – MINIATURE DRIVING**

**Miniature Driving** will be shown in an easy entry or a pleasure cart. Approved ASTM safety headgear (fastened) is required for all classes. Horses will be shown at the walk, collected trot and the working trot, going in both directions of the ring. May also be asked to back and perform other tasks as asked by the judge. Horse will be judged on the way of going, manners, and presence. Conformation **WILL NOT BE JUDGED**. Handler to be judged on attire, tack should be clean, cart should be in good repair, and horse should be well groomed.

Proper attire includes: long-sleeve shirt or blouse, show pants, driving skirt, dress, driving apron, gloves, boots, and safety helmet. Driving whip optional. Drivers should follow their breed rules regarding the use of side or over checks.

### Class No

155	Junior Miniature Driving
159	Senior Miniature Driving
220	<b>Mini Driving Classic</b> – Top 5 entries in classes 102, 104, 155, and 159 will be eligible to show in the Classic. Entries will be made at the Show at no additional cost.

## **DIVISION M7 – PLEASURE DRIVING**

### **Junior and Senior Riders**

**Pleasure Driving** is to be shown to any suitable vehicle (wooden wheels or bicycle type). Approved ASTM safety headgear (fastened) is required for all classes. To be shown at a walk, slow trot/slow pleasure gait, working trot/intermediate pleasure gait and extended trot/fast pleasure gait and may be asked to halt and stand quietly, to back up. Judged on manners and performance. For safety reasons headers will be allowed in the ring during the lineup, but should not touch the horse unless there is a safety issue. An experienced adult may ride as a passenger, for safety reasons; however they may not talk to or give instructions to the driver while in the ring. All exhibitors should carry a whip, wear gloves and wear an apron. Drivers should follow their breed rules regarding the use of side or over checks.

### Class No

64	Pleasure Horse Driving Class (over 14.2 hands)
65	Pleasure Pony Driving Class. Pony not to exceed 14.2 hands. (not eligible for miniatures)

*Pleasure Pony Driving Champion Perpetual Trophy is sponsored by Powerhouse Sportponies.*

206	<b>PLEASURE HORSE AND PONY DRIVING CLASSIC</b> – Top five entries in classes 64 and 65 will be eligible to show in the Classic. <u>*Entries made at show-no additional charge.</u>
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## **DIVISION M8 – SIDE SADDLE**

### **Junior and Senior Riders**

**Side Saddle Classes**- a 4-H Horse and Rider combination may show only in side saddle classes that are appropriate for their type of horse and equipment. Side Saddle attire and tack is not permitted in any other division or class except for the ones listed. This class is judged on manners and performance.

### Class No

66	Side Saddle – Western
67	Side Saddle – Hunter
68*	Side Saddle English- <i>Gaits walk, trot and canter, easy gait.</i> *

\*This class will only be split into trotting and non-trotting if the numbers warrant.

## **DIVISION M9 – WESTERN DRESSAGE**

The following rules are based upon USEF and WDAA rules. Please see the USEF Rulebook ([www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)) and the Western Dressage Association of America (<https://westerndressageassociation.org/>) for further explanations of the general principals of Western Dressage competition and the correct gaits and movements.

The Western Dressage Test will be **Basic Level Test 1**

**If either class has less than 8 entries, the classes will be combined and run as one class.**

All exhibitors are required to wear boots and a properly fitted ASTM/SEI approved equestrian helmet with a fastened harness the entire time the exhibitor is in the arena. Shirts with a collar and long sleeves are required. Spurs are optional and may be of Western style, with or without blunt tines, or English Dressage style. Other optional attire includes: chaps, gloves, neck tie or similar tie/pin, vest, jacket, coat, or sweater.

Please see rules for western tack in this rulebook. The following exceptions and/or additions are allowed in Western Dressage:

1. Western cavesson on the bridle (braided or plain) with space for two fingers between the cavesson and horse's jowl. No metal, studs, or rigid material may be part of the cavesson. No flash, figure-8, or dropped nose bands.
2. Bits/bridles that may be used on horses of any age:
  - A. Snaffle bit (as defined in Western Appointments).
  - B. Hackamore (Bosal, as defined in Western Appointments).
  - C. Bitless bridle. Must be Western style made of leather or leather like material.
3. Breastplate and/or crupper.
4. One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120cm) including lash.
5. Reins:
  - A. With snaffle bit: loop/connected reins, split reins, buckled reins, mecate reins, or Romal reins without a popper; two hands must be used with any of these combinations.
  - B. With bosal: Horsehair, rope reins and mecate reins; two hands must be used. The mecate can be tied to the saddle horn or held by the rider.
  - C. With curb: Romal reins or Split reins. When using a curb with Romal reins, only one hand is allowed; when using split reins, one or two hands are allowed.
6. Hand position on reins:
  - A. At the end of the Free Walk or Free Jog, riders using split reins held in one hand may use the free or offhand to pull the reins back to the desired length. Riders using Romal reins may use the hand using the Romal to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the reining hand.

In addition to what is described in Appointments for the Western Division, the following are not allowed in Western Dressage:

1. Full cheeks, half cheeks, kimberwicks, roping bits with both reins attached to a single ring, or any type of rein or attachment which increases the effective length of the bit's shank or creates additional leverage.
2. Round, rolled, braided, or rawhide curb straps.
3. Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running, balancing reins, nasal strips, tongue tied down, etc.), any kind of boots (including "easy-boots," splint/hock/bell boots, etc.), tail bandages, any form of blinkers, ear muffs or plugs, and nose covers.

The above restrictions apply to warm-up and other training areas; however, running martingales (only with snaffle rein or plain snaffle bridle), boots, and bandages (without magnets) are permitted.

**EXECUTION AND JUDGING OF TESTS:**

Western Dressage integrates the historically validated principles of dressage with the best of western stock horse tradition, with the purpose of enjoying a safe, pleasurable, versatile, and useful working horse. The hallmarks of the Western Dressage Horse are usefulness, rideability, willingness, safety, pure gaits, lightness, calmness, and steadiness. A Western Dressage Rider should use clear, effective, subtle aids coupled with a confident seat and light, responsive hands in communication with the horse.

A Western Dressage Partnership should exhibit impulsion originating from deeply engaged hindquarters transmitted without resistance through a supple topline to a light, soft contact with the rider's hand(s). The horse should move freely forward via a willingness to work off the hindquarters which enables the western horse to be a useful working partner.

**Class No**

223 Junior Western Dressage – Basic Level Test 1  
224 Senior Western Dressage – Basic Level Test 1

**N. DRILL TEAM FREESTYLE SHOWCASE**

**Class No**

**DIVISION N1 – Drill Team Freestyle Showcase**

250 Drill Team Freestyle Showcase – juniors and seniors combined

**Coaches must submit the separate entry form found within this rulebook**, designating all riders for the team. Substitution riders are allowed as designated by the coach after the entry deadline, so long as the rider has already been entered in the show by the entry deadline. Music must be emailed as soon as possible to [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) but no later than Thursday of the show, or hand deliver a thumb drive to the show office by Thursday of the show.

Teams of riders (may be juniors and seniors combined) will execute a creative presentation utilizing drill maneuvers. There will not be a required number or type of elements for this drill. However, teams are encouraged to utilize a variety of drill maneuvers which display different degrees of difficulty. The drill will be executed at a trot/jog/pleasure gait only. Teams will be judged on creativity, costumes, execution of drill and audience appeal. Teams must consist of at least 6 members and no more than 16.

**Drill Team Requirements:**

1. Size of team: Minimum of 6, maximum of 16.
2. Time: Minimum of 5 minutes and a maximum of 7 minutes.
3. Music: Music of choice. Must be 4-H age appropriate, Teams must provide music:
  - a. by email to [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) by August 31 in .mp3, or .wav file format
  - b. or club leader provides flash drive (USB thumb drive) at check-in at the state show office.No other music should be on the flash drive.
4. Maneuvers: Emphasis on safety and appropriate to ability of drill riders and horses.
5. Class team fee is **\$150**.
6. There is no limit to the number of teams from each District. Teams may be comprised of mixed Units. **Team entry form must be submitted via email to [Hunter Liles](#) no later than July 31, 2024, along with directions for who should be invoiced for the entry fee. Sponsorship of teams is encouraged and will cover drill team fee if amount donated is over \$200. Please include the sponsorship form with a check payable to Treasurer, Virginia Tech with State 4-H Horse Show in the "For" Section.**
7. All rider/horse combinations **must be entered in this State Show** in order to participate in this Showcase Event even if this is the only class in which they ride and **are required to pay the office fee of \$75 and stabling fees of \$25/night**. They will also be assigned a stall. **Riders will designate their intention to ride with the drill team on the entry form.**
8. Teams must enter full team using entry form in this rulebook.
9. See scorecard below. All participants will receive Drill Team Recognition Awards with perpetual trophy going to the top team as determined by the judges. Judge's decision is final.

## DRILL TEAM JUDGING SCORE CARD

### CREATIVITY AND APPEARANCE:

Tack and Attire 15 points  
Costumes safe and matched to drill theme

Appearance of Horses 15 points  
Clean and well groomed, properly fitted tack

Music 10 points  
Appropriate to audience, properly cadenced

### TECHNICAL:

Suitability 10 points  
Riders ability matched to horse

Spacing 20 points  
Correct spacing maintained between horses in a column, between pairs in a column, etc. throughout drill

Maneuvers 20 points  
How well maneuvers were executed and were suited to riders abilities

Overall Impression 10 points  
Music matched maneuvers, overall entertainment value

### Penalties:

Broken Equipment or uniforms (-5 points)  
Fall of horse and/or rider (-20 points)  
Over or under allotted time (-20 points)  
Use of crop (-20 points)

TOTAL SCORE

### RESOURCE FOR TEAMS:

101 Drill Team Exercises for Horse and Rider, by Debbie Sam, Storey Publishing

## 4-H ALUMNI SHOWMANSHIP FUNDRAISER CLASS

### Rules & Entry Form

1. Must be a 4-H horse project alumni, parent/guardian, or club leader
2. Entry fee \$50 separate check payable to "Treasurer, Virginia Tech" with Alumni Showmanship in memo line. Make entry at show prior to Saturday night closing ceremony at the show office, using this form.
3. Fund raising is highly encouraged and must be collected separate of the entry fee and must be submitted Saturday night closing ceremony at the show office, using this form.
4. Horse used for this class must already be on the show grounds with a participating 4-H member.
5. Show clothes are encouraged but not required. Boots are required.
6. Class will be judged by state show rules and will use a pattern posted prior to the start of the class.
7. Submit entry form, equine waiver, and media release, if not already on file with your Unit.

### Awards:

1<sup>st</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> place ribbons

Highest Sponsorship

Most Outstanding (judged on creativeness of outfit and pattern)

**Alumni Exhibitor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Horse name / owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Alumni from what club / Unit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Alumni Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Alumni email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**List sponsorships and amounts:**

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*Checks (beyond the entry fee) in the amount of \$25 or greater will receive a donation acknowledgement only to the name and address on the check. Cash entry fees are accepted however, donation acknowledgements cannot be processed. Please put on check memo "Alumni Showmanship". Make checks payable to "Treasurer, Virginia Tech".*



## **VIRGINIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW DISTRICT HORSE CHALLENGE**

The District Horse Challenge is a competition designed to encourage and reward excellence in the Horse Knowledge Competitions at the State 4-H Horse Show. Through the competition we hope to generate awareness of individual accomplishments and foster enthusiasm and cooperation of 4-Hers within each district. During the State 4-H Horse Show the four districts will be awarded points in three competition areas. In addition, 5 points is added to the District that provides the largest collection in their designated District Silent Auction Tub (due by Thursday, Show Office). Points earned for these activities will count toward the awarding of the **District Challenge Trophy**. The name of the winning district will be engraved on the trophy which will go home to the winning District Office where it will reside until the next State 4-H Horse Show. Contest age is as of January 1.

### **COMPETITION AREAS AND POINT AWARDS**

A. **Horse Bowl**: 10 points will be awarded to the district of each of the top 10 junior and top 10 senior individuals. It is not necessary to come as a team. Contestants will be seated for play as soon as we have the necessary number of juniors or seniors signing in to play. In the case that more than one game is played, the individual's highest score will count.

B. **Hippology**: The top 10 individuals in both the Junior and Senior contests will earn 10 points for their district. Test will consist of Multiple Choice and Matching questions, True False, Grain and Equipment ID's, Breeds, Colors & Markings, Anatomy, and a picture horse judging class.

C. **Horse Judging**: Four classes, either picture or video will be presented for judging. The top 10 junior and the top 10 senior individuals will earn 10 points each for their district.

### **COMPETITION TIMES – East Arena** (hippology and horse judging will run concurrently)

**Hippology - Friday 9 AM – 4 PM**. Exhibitors may come at any time to take a short test (approximately 20 minutes).

**Horse Judging** (4 picture, slide or video classes) – **Friday 9 AM – 4 PM**

**Horse Bowl - Saturday 9 AM - 4:00 PM** (Individuals or teams may come at any time during this period. Bringing 4-H enrolled friends is encouraged, you do not have to have a horse to compete!)

**The knowledge competitions will be open to any 4-Her presenting an eligibility or membership card regardless of whether they are showing or not.**

## **STALL DECORATION COMPETITION**

Units/Clubs are invited to decorate their stalls and compete for awards. A Unit (Official 4-H County or Independent City) may decorate their stalls all together, or as separate clubs within that unit. In order to compete as a unit, all clubs and individuals in that unit must utilize the same decoration style or format. A “Lonestar” or “Individual Participant” from a Unit is eligible to compete in the Small Division Unit with either one or two stalls, depending on the number of horses entered.

Safety and workability around the stall decorations must be taken into consideration by the competitors and judges. No electrical devices (including lights) should be used because of the fire hazards, and no decorations should hang over the alley ways.

Your size is determined by the number of horse stalls decorated by your Unit/Club.

Small: 1-5 Stalls  
Medium: 6-11 stalls  
Large: 12+ stalls

Judging of the stall decorations will take place on Saturday at approximately 10:00 AM. Units/Clubs must declare their desire to be judged by Friday evening at 5:00 PM. A signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the show office will be provided for competitors to designate their stalls and division of competition.



## LEG UP AWARD

### **Horse Cooler sponsored by In Stitches/Upton Embroidery, Cheryl Falvella**

First awarded in 2002, the VA State 4-H Horse Show is proud to offer the Leg Up Award annually. The Show Committee is committed to bringing recognition to an outstanding and inspirational 4-Her in the horse project that attends the 2024 State 4-H Horse Show.

What makes an outstanding candidate for this award? Qualities such as dedication, leadership, high personal standards, and the internal drive to make themselves and their horse the best they can be. *Equally important* are their demonstrated efforts to help others “make the best better”. Perhaps this person has faced challenges in life and risen above the hardships in an admirable fashion. Their involvement in the horse project is important but they do not have to have an extensive show record. The committee seeks to honor a 4-Her who has become a role model among their peers and betters everyone around them.

Each county may nominate one 4-Her they feel is a deserving individual. The nominee does not have to have a horse showing on the grounds but should be on the grounds serving in some capacity. Complete this form by August 31, 2024. The winner will be announced at the Saturday Evening Closing Ceremonies.

### **Nomination Form for the Leg Up Award – due online by August 15, 2024**

**Link:** [https://vce.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0DprUJnvgjsaC0K](https://vce.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0DprUJnvgjsaC0K)

#### **Past Award Winners**

<b>2002</b>	Alysa Bolton, Craig County	<b>2012</b>	Cortney McDonald, Shenandoah County
<b>2002</b>	Celeste Coulter, Roanoke County	<b>2013</b>	Michelle Wright, Hanover County
<b>2003</b>	Paige Hardy, Pittsylvania County	<b>2014</b>	Gretchen Ashauer, Hanover County
<b>2004</b>	Kelly Smith, Warren County	<b>2015</b>	Elana Marie Wilson, Northumberland County
<b>2005</b>	Victory“Torey” Lockwood, Clarke County	<b>2016</b>	Colleen Chaplin, Fauquier County
<b>2006</b>	Charles Tribble, Highland County	<b>2017</b>	Kacey Goodson, Chesapeake County
<b>2007</b>	Victoria Grey, Henry County	<b>2018</b>	Maggie Kelley, Chesapeake County
<b>2008</b>	Brittany Nicole Carr, Dinwiddie County	<b>2019</b>	Emily Sears, Albemarle County
<b>2009</b>	T. Daniel Odum, Hanover County	<b>2020</b>	Lainey Butler, Albemarle County
<b>2010</b>	MacKenzie Bise, Smyth County	<b>2021</b>	Mattie DeBord, Washington County
<b>2011</b>	Susan Johnson, Hanover County	<b>2022</b>	Sydney Waldrop, Hanover County

**SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDE**  
Judging Virginia State 4-H  
Stable Management Competition  
(These are guides and rules)

The Virginia State 4-H Horse Show and other 4-H activities offer awards for excellence in Stable Management. The exhibitor should bear in mind that *competition on this level demands more than what would normally be considered good day-to-day stable management*. With hundreds of 4-Hers competing for these awards, and the majority seriously competing, the winners will always be those who maintain an "inspection-ready" stable 24 hours a day during competition. This demands a great deal of plain hard work, organization, cooperation, and pre-planning. It also requires a keen spirit of competition in order to maintain such a demanding level of stable management.

Exhibitors will be judged between 7am and 5pm on both Friday and Saturday. Judges will leave a score card on each stall that marks areas of deficiency (comments may also be left). These marks do not denote what your final score is- judges also keep a score card with point values. If you have a mark, then you have automatically lost at least one point. More points may be taken off depending on the level of the deficiency (i.e. a mark next to dirty bedding may lose 1 point if you only need to pick, while it may lose 3 points if it is obvious you have not yet cleaned your stall). The amount of points deducted is left to the judges' discretion; however, any item may have a maximum of 4 penalty points. Judges' scores will be totaled and the sum used to determine blue (top prize), red (second prize) and white (participation) ribbon winners. Therefore, all participants will be awarded a ribbon; with the exception that *any horse found without water will automatically disqualify that participant* from the stable management competition unless a written explanation is posted for judge on the stall door.

Bearing this "general philosophy" in mind, let's go over the general elements of individual stall inspection: organization of the stall front area, safety, and cleanliness of the stall. Additionally, the health and condition of your horse will be assessed, but because it is impossible to track down every horse that is not in its stall at the time of inspection only comments will be left unless the judges have a serious concern about the health and safety of the animal- judges reserve the right to disqualify any participant from the stable management competition that endangers or neglects their animal.

**A. Stall front areas should be kept neat and well organized.**

The entire area in front of the stall should be kept clean and neat at all times, equipment should be well organized and nothing should be directly in front of the stall door- thus the door should be able to slide completely open and have nothing in front of the open area. The ground in front of the stall should be raked or swept clean of shavings. You will not be judged on the type, size, or color of the equipment that you use but instead on the functional usefulness and the neatness with which they are maintained. There are several options for keeping equipment neat and out of the way when not in use: you may use a tack box, saddle rack, and/or utilize an extra stall as a tack room.

**Tack Boxes:** Tack boxes are almost a necessity owing to the nearly nonexistent storage space. Real tack or harness boxes or trunks are very expensive to buy. However, old army trunks, forgotten camp trunks, foot lockers, etc., make very useful and efficient tack boxes. You must consider the size and type of your saddle before acquiring such a trunk. Western saddles require much larger trunks than do English. If the trunk is the proper size, it will accommodate your saddle, bridles, girths, blankets, halters, leads, etc., in the bottom portion, and grooming tools, etc., in the upper tray. Besides keeping your equipment safe during transportation, it also provides an excellent means of storage during the show and a place in which you can lock up your equipment at night. No one can easily sneak away with a loaded tack trunk. For added security, the trunk may be chained to

the stall if desired. A tack box is not required, however if this option is not utilized it is still imperative that all saddles, bridles, and blankets be neatly organized and stowed out of the way.

**Saddle Racks:** If tack boxes are used, saddle racks are not necessary although they make tack more readily accessible and lend much to the appearance of the stable. Saddle racks and tack boxes are best, but under no circumstances, can a saddle rack replace a tack box on your priority list. Manufactured or homemade racks may be used. The latter are much less expensive and, with a little applied ingenuity, are frequently better than manufactured racks. Saddle racks can be either attached to the outside of the stall wall or free standing. If a saddle rack is free standing it should not be in the aisle way and needs to fit in the area directly in front of the stall (but not in the way of the door).

#### **B. Stalls must be maintained for the safety of the animals and people.**

You are being judged on your ability to maintain a safe environment for your horse as well as for the people interacting with your horse. The components of this section include buckets, hay nets and other equipment, tying of the horse, and appropriate stall identification.

**Water and grain buckets.** Water and grain buckets should be hung high enough to eliminate, as much as possible, the chances of your horse putting a hoof in such containers or leaving droppings in these buckets and containers. These are simply safety and health hazards which good management should avoid. If you feed on the ground, a reasonably high-sided, flat-bottomed feed container is needed. This will help keep the horse from nosing the grain out and turning the container over. If for some reason, buckets must be hung lower or not kept in the stall (horse cribs or plays with buckets) then a note must be posted to this effect, and it should include how often the horse is offered water. Horses must also have at least one quarter bucket of water available at all times. Points will be deducted for horses found with less than that (even in empty stalls- your stall should be prepared for you return) and disqualification from the stable management competition will occur if a horse is found without water.

Lightweight plastic and metal household utility buckets should be avoided. Even if the lightweight materials survive, the handles on these buckets are highly prone to snapping off the bucket, thereby creating a safety hazard to your horse. Only heavyweight metal, plastic, or rubber buckets designed for livestock should be used. The initial cost is more but these buckets have a long life and do not create safety hazards. Buckets should not be hung with nails or wire because these materials could easily injure your horse. A three-foot length of clothes line or window sash run through the eye of a swivel snap can be used. Tie the ends of the rope in a non-slip knot so that you have a closed rope loop with a swivel snap hung on it. Place this at the front corner of your stall with the snap hanging down and the top of the loop at the top of the board. Bring the snap up, thread it through the top loop of the rope, and then pull the snap down. You then have a good means of hanging your water bucket. Your bucket is easily snapped in or out for refill and cleaning. You haven't used any nails or wire, it costs little or nothing to make, and it will last you for years.

**Hay nets:** Hay can either be fed in a pile in a corner of the stall or in a hay net or hay bag. Hay nets, while discouraged, should be hung from a solid structure that cannot be brought down by the horse if pulled on. This can either be the metal grid at the front of the stall or a solid structure at the back of the stall (if available). If a hay net/bag is used it is very important that *they be hung at the appropriate height (3 feet for ponies, 4 feet for horses)*. Hay nets hung too low are an invitation for your horse to get his legs hung in them therefore they should be hung at chest height and monitored throughout the day as they can lower as they empty. When empty, hay nets should be removed. Hay nets are not required. They can become a safety hazard. If the stall is kept clean, hay can be fed on the stall floor. Hay nets are discouraged.

**Other equipment:** Pitchforks, halters and leads, brush boxes, and other equipment *should never be left in a stall* when they are not in use. Pitchforks, shovels, and other cleaning tools left lying in a stall are likely to be stepped on and cause injury to either horse or human. Halters and leads left lying in a stall pose a potential for

getting caught on legs and causing injury. In addition, they should always be stored at the ready in case they are needed. When not in use, the halter and lead, or lead if the halter is being worn, should be hung on the outside of the stall.

**Horse tacked in a stall:** For safety reasons, horses should be groomed and tacked up in their stalls and not in the aisles. While horses are being groomed or tacked they should be tied. Whenever your horse is tacked and in its stall it should be tied, within easy access to its water. The horse can be tied either with a halter over its bridle or its bridle should be removed. Horses should NEVER be tied using the reins or a lead connected to the bit- serious injury to their mouth can occur if they panic. An approved safety knot should also be used, and the competitor may be asked to demonstrate that the knot is properly tied. Lastly, horses should only be tied to an immovable object such as the stall wall, and never to something that could remain attached to the lead rope (such as a bucket hung on the stall wall) if they should panic and pull loose.

**Stall Identification:** This may be as elaborate or simple as the individual or club desires. It should, however, tell the observer the name of the 4-H'er, the name of the horse and the name of the club. Uniformity of design is desirable within club groups. Additionally, emergency contact information- a phone number and (optional) where the exhibitor is staying (camping or hotel) should be posted.

### **C. Stalls should be clean and well bedded.**

You are being judged on your ability to maintain a clean and comfortable stall, 24 hours a day. You should fully clean your stall first thing in the morning and before you leave at night- horses that are kept stalled 24 hours a day need to have their stalls fully cleaned twice a day. Your horse works hard for you and deserves a comfortable place to rest. There is no excuse for a stall still being dirty at the time of the judge's arrival and this may mean arriving extra early if you have early morning schooling.

**Level of bedding:** Although it should be obvious, it is surprising how many stalls are not sufficiently bedded. In other words, there are patches of uncovered ground; or the bedding is so light that when the horse moves around normally, he pulls what little bedding there is off the ground. Bedding should be deep enough to pad the stall floor sufficiently to accommodate absorption of urine and still provide a dry, comfortable bed for the horse. (Try sleeping in a wet stall with only an inch or two of straw, with no blanket or bed roll, and you'll quickly learn what "sufficient" bedding is.) The stalls at the Virginia Horse Center require the equivalent of a full bale of straw or two bags of shavings at all times to keep them well bedded. Normally, you need to start with a bale and one-half as initial bedding, and replace approximately one-half a bale/one bag each day, depending on the individual animal's stall habits and the weather conditions. Admittedly we are more extravagant with straw and shavings during stable management competition than we would be at home on a day-to-day maintenance basis. But, on the same basis, we do not wear our show ring riding habits at home when we are schooling horses, either. Pre-planning is very important to proper stall cleaning, this means that you should have enough bags of shavings on hand for the next morning. Therefore, the excuse of "the shavings truck hasn't arrived yet" is not accepted.

If a stall has been properly cleaned, it is clean beneath the top layer of straw/shavings as well as clean on top. You cannot go into a stall, pick up the dropping on top of the straw, and call that stall clean. The bedding must be lifted, all wet and dirty straw removed, all covered-up droppings removed, and then the remaining clean bedding "shook-out" over the stall floor. An easy way to clean stalls that are bedded with shavings is to rake all of the dirty shavings into a large pile in the middle of the stall and then remove the entire pile. This will usually leave clean shavings around the edge of the stall that can be raked evenly across the floor of the stall and then a fresh bag added on top. Once this is properly done in the morning, it is easy to step in several times during the day to remove the droppings and possibly shake the straw out again to keep the stall "inspection-ready". If the stall has been properly cleaned, no judge is going to penalize the stall for having obviously fresh droppings or a recent wet spot on the bedding.

**Stalls must be stripped before leaving the show grounds or a \$25.00 charge will assess to the person the stall was assigned to during the show.**

**Water and hay:** Water buckets must be scrubbed daily and kept clean- it is important to keep water clear of hay and other debris. If your horse dunks its hay, please post a note to that effect, otherwise points may be deducted for dirty water buckets. Hay should also be kept neat and organized and if not in a hay net, must be kept piled neatly in one stall corner. It is important that when you clean your stall you remove any hay from the bedding. A small amount of hay in the bedding will not be penalized, however if it appears that you have not properly cleaned your stall and an excessive amount of hay is in the horse's bedding then points will be deducted.

#### **D. Health and comfort of the animal**

No matter what is going on in the ring, your first obligation is to your horse. He should be clean, dry, and brushed-out before you leave him in his stall. If you have not finished grooming your horse and you see the stable judge coming **DON'T** leave the horse to "get out of the way". Keep right on with your work. The stable judge likes to see the exhibitor properly caring for his animal.

**Grooming:** Some exhibitors seem to think that they only need to groom their horses in time to prepare for a class they are going to enter. Not so. Horses should be groomed in the morning, regardless of whether or not they are to be entered in a class. In other words, the horses are on exhibit from the time you arrive at the activity in question until you leave. Even when in their stalls, they are on exhibit. Common sense tells you that if your horse is "on exhibit" he must be presented at his best. A horse that hasn't been groomed in the morning and stands in his stall with bedding in his mane and tail, stable stains on his legs and body, hay dust in his face, and manure in his feet, is like a person going to school or work with an unwashed face, unbrushed teeth and uncombed hair. It is downright unattractive in man and beast alike!

**Tack:** Tack should be cleaned after each using. If it has been properly maintained before coming to Virginia Horse Center and it is put on a clean horse, a simple going over first with a clean soft brush or towel, and then with a good quality leather preparation should keep it in a pleasing condition. If however, tack is used on a dirty horse, or if it is particularly hot and dusty or muddy then a more complete and thorough cleaning will be required. The first things your stable judges will check will be:

- a. The bits for evidence of saliva, food particles, and dirt not properly removed;
- b. Stirrups with mud or dirt left on them;
- c. Buckles with dirt or soap left on them;
- d. Undersides of saddles roughened by improper care or careless cleaning;
- e. Split, torn or dry-rotten billets, stirrup leathers, girths, reins, etc;
- f. Dirty, broken, or improperly fitted halters.

These are the first things the judges check because these are the things that create safety or health hazards to you and your horse. Your tack does not have to be new or particularly expensive, but it must be clean, in good condition, in good repair, and properly fitted.

#### **Some General Guidelines for Consideration**

Unlike a military inspection which demands total perfection for a relatively short period of time at a designated time of day, Stable Management competition is just what its name implies. You are being judged on your ability to maintain a high-level management program for three days under distracting circumstances. It is more demanding than a "mustering out" for which you would apply total concentration to all phases of management in order to present your work at a pre-determined time, only to forget it all until the next inspection. After all, who would know if you didn't wipe the bit off between rides, or didn't wait to get the saddle marks off old Beauty because the gang was going swimming or forgot to water poor old Beauty before you left the grounds to hit the sack?

Stable Management is like a year-end exam -- if you don't study or apply yourself all year, you can't walk in the classroom and get an A, or even a high B. You might be able to stay up all night studying and get a good grade on a six weeks test, but not on an end-of-the-year exam. The same applies here. You might be able to work hard for a few hours and grade-out high on a single, daily, pre-set inspection; but you must apply yourself all day if you expect to be in the blue ribbon group. Your tack, your equipment, your stall, your horse, and you, yourself, are on nearly 24-hour-a-day display.

In regard to equipment, your primary concern should be to have the equipment necessary to maintain the type of high-level stable management we have discussed, keyed to efficient use and safe, attractive display. To totally achieve this, some "special" travel and storage equipment is almost demanded.

Stalls should be closely inspected for nails, wire, loose boards, trash, etc., before your stall is initially bedded and your horse put in the stall. A basic tool kit should be carried in your trailer or car to handle such repairs and corrections.

While some aspects of horse care are not specifically included on the score cards, judges reserve the right to comment on them and deduct penalty points if they feel that a 4-H'er is deficient. These include the condition of your horse -- his weight, the health of his coat, the care of any wounds or injuries he may have, hoof care, or evidence of improperly fitted or cared for equipment, etc. Another area for consideration is sportsmanship and consideration for the safety of others. Anything jeopardizing the health or safety of another rider, horse, or person walking through the barn area, will be penalized. Poor sportsmanship and lack of cooperation will be penalized. Also, if the stable judges have sufficient reason to believe that the 4-Hers stable management is being carried out by his parents, leaders, or any other adult, that 4-Hers stall shall be considered ineligible for competition.

If these guidelines are followed, you will have created a stall which is clean, safe, and properly equipped; a horse that is clean, safe and as happy as his disposition allows; and a stable front which totally, efficiently, neatly and attractively stores and displays all your horse's paraphernalia.

#### **Interaction with Judges**

Despite the fact that you are being judged on your performance in stable management, the judges are primarily interested in your education. **The stable judges are always ready to answer questions and offer constructive criticism when politely approached.** Parents and coaches are not to approach the judges with questions or comments. If an exhibitor feels that there is an error in judging they should make their complaint in writing and present it to the show steward.

A stable management score card that may be used in judging stable management programs is shown on the next page.

**NOTE:** If you have any special reasons or cases in regard to feeding, watering, etc. different from these guides -- leave a note for the judge.

The judge will post individual scores and notes on the stalls on a regular basis. These should not be interpreted as the final score or award. The State Advisory Committee has reviewed extensively this stable scoring system and deems it fair, sensible, and workable. There is thus a moratorium on any discussion or review at any level in regard to this topic. Judging emphasis should be on sensible and practical management and safety.



**STABLE MANAGEMENT SCORE CARDS**

(Judged anytime between 7 AM Friday and 5 PM Saturday)

Stall Number \_\_\_\_\_ This is not a final score. Cards left Friday and Saturday.

**STALL FRONT**

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- Need to organize area
- Obstacle blocking doorway
- Rake/sweep front

**SAFETY**

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**Stall**

- Buckets not hung at appropriate height
- Buckets not appropriate type
- Buckets hung with inappropriate materials (C hooks facing inward)
- Hay nets hung too low
- Hay net empty and not removed from stall
- Equipment left in stall
- Halter and lead not on stall door (unless being used to tie animal)
- Twine/nails/staples in reach of horse

**Horse**

- Tacked but not tied
- Horse tied without a safety knot
- Horse tied to inappropriate object

**Stall Identification**

- Name of 4H'er and club
- Emergency contact information

**CLEANLINESS**

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**Feed, Water and Hay**

- Dirty water
- Buckets not scrubbed
- Hay in bedding or not neatly piled

**Bedding**

- Needs more
- Dirty
- Pick
- Excessive wetness
- Trash/Yarn/Paper

**COMMENTS ON HORSE AND TACK CLEANLINESS**

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**POINTS FOR DISQUALIFICATION**

- NO WATER
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**OVERALL**

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Excellent

**COMMENTS:**

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# State 4-H Horse Show

## Code of Conduct and Orientation Meeting Guidelines

Each youth and parent must sign that they have received and have discussed proper conduct, rules and regulations of the State 4-H Horse Show **prior to the entry deadline**. Failure to sign the Orientation Report Form will result in entries being returned and the youth will not be allowed to participate in the show for that year. It is also highly recommended that agents and leaders hold a rules and regulations meeting just prior to the State 4-H Horse Show to further impart the necessity of following the stated rules and to answer any questions. The guidance of a horse show orientation committee, comprised of the Extension agent, leaders and senior riders who have had experienced the State Show, is recommended. Concerns about behavior at previous shows have forced us to request this assistance from Extension agents to ensure that all 4-Hers, leaders and parents are aware of and understand the necessity for following the rules and regulations for the State 4-H Horse Show. Each unit should conduct an orientation meeting to acquaint 4-Hers, leaders and parents with an understanding of the rules as set forth in the rulebook. It should be emphasized that all rules have been developed to teach safety to the 4-Her for themselves and their project animal. All 4-Hers, leaders and parents are representing the Virginia 4-H Horse Program at the Virginia Horse Center, and as such all participants should be encouraged to exemplify the 4-H ideals.

### GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION FOR ORIENTATION MEETING

Each unit shall conduct an orientation meeting for 4-H member entry-candidates and their responsible adults. This meeting should be conducted by the Extension agent or at the assignment of a club leader or horse show committee to include the Extension agent. Extension agents are encouraged to seek an experienced 4-H horse project leader to assist with the orientation session. The meeting may be done on an individual basis or in a group setting. Parents of entry-candidates should attend the orientation meeting.

**A. Explain and clarify all rules and regulations of the State 4-H Horse Show. Some of the most important rules are:**

- a) No dogs are allowed at the show.
- b) No drivers under the age of 18 are allowed to drive golf carts per Virginia Horse Center rules. Licensed Drivers must drive slowly and safely and no one may lead horses from golf carts. **Drivers must adhere to marked areas where golf carts are not allowed at all times!!** No golf carts may be driven through the main horse show ring areas and may not be parked near any arena. For the safety of horses and riders, it is paramount that drivers abide by the state show staff requests and signage.
- c) Back numbers and helmets must be worn at all times when mounted or driving horse/pony carts.
- d) **No one but the 4-Her may ride their project animal.**
- e) No riding after lights have been turned out and EMTs have left the grounds. No riding before EMTs are on site and it has been announced.

**B. Acquaint entry-candidates with the Code of Conduct (see following page).**

**C. Motivate entry-candidates to represent their unit and district well. Emphasize:**

- a) Good sportsmanship and safety.
- b) A sense of pride and responsibility in having qualified for entry and participation.
- c) Exemplary representation and conduct at this public venue. Conduct of our 4-Hers both in and out of the show ring creates a public image of 4-H which has great impact on the general public. They must be on their best behavior at all times. Care for their animal is paramount.

**D. Review entries for accuracy and verify all signatures.** An experienced 4-H horse leader will serve as great advice to review and double check entries. Please note:

- a) Fees include a \$75 office fee for each horse and rider combination and a \$25/class entry fee. Stabling is also designated in FairEntry at a rate of \$25/night/horse and tack stalls are \$25/stall/night.
- b) The scratch deadline is August 25th. No refunds after the scratch deadline.

**E. Identify/designate responsible adult(s) for each 4-Her at the show on the Orientation Report Form and get signatures to validate the understanding of rules.**

**Impress upon the adult(s) the extent of their responsibility.**

- a) Each 4-Her should be encouraged to be responsible for his/her own conduct; however, ultimately the conduct or misconduct of an individual or club group is the responsibility of the designated adult-in-charge. Each 4-Her must recognize the supervisory authority and responsibility of the adult-in-charge.
- b) Adults must recognize that this is a show for youth and each 4-Her has proven through their Horsemanship Skills tests that they are capable of caring for their own horse. Adults may help hold horses and assist their 4-Her as necessary for the youth's safety and physical well-being. Adults are not to be caring for the horses by way of feeding or doing the main preparations, cleaning stalls, etc. If in doubt, please ask show management!

**F. Expected Dress:**

- a) Exhibitors are expected to be appropriately attired in traditionally accepted riding apparel in the show ring. Neat, workmanlike attire consisting of long pants, hard shoes or boots, and shirts are appropriate in the stable area. Mounted 4-Hers must wear appropriate show attire or stable attire as described herein as well as a safety helmet and boots. A neat well-groomed appearance is desired.
- b) Exhibitors, adults and leaders are expected to dress in conservative, safe attire. Rules include language of no bare feet, sandals, tennis shoes, flipflops, open or soft shoes which are considered unsafe in the stable area or anywhere near horses, and therefore unacceptable for all participants, including parents/guardians. Halter tops, tube tops, shorts, etc. are in poor taste and unworkmanlike stable attire; such attire is therefore strongly discouraged.

**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR VIRGINIA 4-H ENTRANTS - STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW**

Each entrant to the State 4-H Horse Show is a representative of the thousands of horse project 4-Hers in the State of Virginia. Each entrant must therefore accept the responsibility of creating a positive image which reflects the 4-H ideals. The [Virginia 4-H Code of Conduct](#) applies to all 4-H Events including this one. The following rules will also apply to this event.

Each entrant must extend a courteous and respectful attitude, especially to show officials. Each entrant, leader, parent and participant shall accept the supervision of and attend all sessions planned by the adult-in-charge.

An entrant shall be sent home (at their expense and with no recourse) if involved in any of the following:

- Deliberate destruction of facilities or equipment;
- Deliberate cruelty to animals;
- Possession or use of fireworks or weapons;
- Possession or use of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs;
- Blatant discourtesy to show officials or designated responsible leaders
- Disrespectful, harmful or unacceptable social media posts made about the show, volunteers or Virginia 4-H Horse Program
- Disregard of show official's request to obey Rules and Regulations of State 4-H Horse Show; or
- Unacceptable or dangerous conduct at any time (infractions to be reviewed by the Rules Committee).

**RULES COMMITTEE - STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW STEERING COMMITTEE**

If the infraction occurs within the jurisdiction of the Show Steward (or show manager), the steward (or show manager) will be included on the committee. All rules are extended to leaders, parents, participants, guests, and spectators.

**Responsibility:** To decide if punitive measures are required, and, if so, what form the punitive measures are to be taken.

**Recommendations:** If found in violation of rules, the committee may decide on some form of punitive measure ranging from elimination of showing in the next class to expulsion from show grounds and forfeiture of all prizes. This extends to the actions of leaders, parents, participants and anyone accompanying any 4-H member involved or acting as a spectator at the show.

# **Orientation Meeting**

## **Entry Checklist for Agents**

Orientation meeting checklist can now be found and completed online by VCE Agents and/or Club Leaders ONLY.

The orientation meeting entry checklist should be completed by the VCE agent or Club Leader within 48 hours of entry submission/ orientation meeting. **Entries will NOT be accepted until the orientation checklist form has been received and reviewed.**

Form Available Here: <https://forms.gle/HQ8pDR8Vs1FwLJwUA>

Orientation Report Forms, Additional Paperwork, and Checks must be mailed, in addition to completion of the online orientation checklist.

**Agents: assemble and mail your Unit's entire Group Package in one mailing  
postmarked on or before August 10, 2024**

**VA State 4-H Horse Show**

**Attn: Hunter Liles**

**Extension Youth Animal Science Associate**

**175 W. Campus Drive 388 Litton Reaves**

**Blacksburg, VA 24061**

**Questions?**

**Contact: Katherine Carter**

Email [carterke@vt.edu](mailto:carterke@vt.edu) or call 540-231-2257

Or

**Hunter Liles**

Email: [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) or call 540-231-6345

**ORIENTATION REPORT FORM**

This form must accompany payment. Attach additional copies as necessary.

Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

<p align="center"><b>Total \$ Amounts</b> are to be summarized on first page</p> <p align="center">Use second page for additional entries.</p>
--

Signing below indicates participation in the Orientation Meeting and you agree and understand all rules, procedures, the Code of Conduct and all other information presented. Parent listed below should be the supervising adult of the 4-Her at the show.

	<b>Name – PLEASE HIGHLIGHT THE SENIOR STAMPEDE ENTRIES</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Contact Phone Number</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Horse Show Hero</b> If yes, list total \$ amount raised	<b>Payment will be made via:</b> Individual Check, Journal Transfer (JT) or HokieMart PO	<b>Entry Form Invoice Amount Paid</b>
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							
4-Her					\$		\$
Parent							

							<b>Total Amount:</b>
<b>Total Amount of Payments Included</b>					#	\$	
<b>Additional Amount due via Journal Transfer:</b>					#	\$	
<b>OR—Amount due via Hokie Mart PO</b> <input type="checkbox"/>					#	\$	

# ENTRY FORM WORKSHEET and SUMMARY SHEET

	<b>Name - PLEASE HIGHLIGHT THE SENIOR STAMPEDE ENTRIES</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Contact Phone Number</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Horse Show Hero If yes, list total \$ amount raised</b>	<b>Payment will be made via: Check (list #) Journal Transfer (JT) PO</b>	<b>Entry Form Invoice Amount Paid</b>
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
4-Her							
Parent					\$		\$
Extension agent signature _____ Club Leader signature _____ Club Leader Name and Club _____							



# Show Entry Worksheet Summary

Rider Name: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Fee:** **\$75/horse/rider**

**Classes Entered** **\$25/class**

Please enter the number of each class entered per horse/rider combination.


**Add-On's**

Tack Stall \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25/Stall/Night \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Stabling \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25/Horse/Night \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total:** **\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Extra Forms to Submit:

- Jumper Qualifying Form
- Drill Team Rider - 1/team
- Trail Qualifying Form
- Horse Show Hero funds & summary
- Leg Up nomination

**Please do NOT send payment. Entries will be reviewed, rejected or approved and an invoice sent to your Club Leader for review. In FairEntry you will note if payment is to be made by you, the exhibitor, or by the Club.**



# Drill Team Freestyle Showcase Entry Form

There is no limit to the number of Drill Teams per District. Team may be comprised of riders from mixed Units, but all must be from the same District.

Unit & Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach/Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

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Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse: \_\_\_\_\_

Theme of Ride: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry fee enclosed: \$150 per team, payable to Treasurer, Virginia Tech with “State Horse Show – Drill Team” in the memo line. Please include with Unit Orientation form and email form to Katherine at [carterke@vt.edu](mailto:carterke@vt.edu) and Hunter at [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu).

Drill Team Music will be provided by email to [huntl97@vt.edu](mailto:huntl97@vt.edu) or on a flash drive by Thurs of the show

Our Drill Team is being Sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_

## Trail Pre-Qualifying Form

Virginia 4-H State Horse Show participants wishing to enter a trail class at the show must participate in a Trail Class or Trail Clinic with the horse that is entered in the State Show. Class participation can be at any open, 4-H, qualifying or breed show. **Placing in the trail class is not necessary but participation is.** Only **NEW Horse/Rider Combinations that have not competed in the State Show trail class** must complete a pre-qualifying form. If a horse/rider combination previously competed in trail at the state show, prequalifying is not necessary.

**Deadline: July 31 and must be uploaded to the entry system during the entry process.**

### Show/Clinic Manager Certification

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (show manager) hereby  
certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (exhibitor)  
participated with \_\_\_\_\_ (horse)  
in a class/clinic at our show.

---

Show/Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Clinic Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Show/Clinic Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Manager Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Show/Clinic Manger Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Jumper Pre-Qualifying Form

Virginia 4-H State Horse Show participants wishing to enter the Jumper classes at the show must participate and successfully complete in a Jumper (NOT Hunter style) Class within the 4-H year similar to the one offered at the State Show with the horse that is entered in the State Show. Class participation can be at any recognized show or event. **Placing in the jumper class is not necessary but participation and successful completion is.**

Please see rulebook for the definition of successful completion.

**Deadline: July 31**

## Show/Clinic Manager Certification

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (show manager) hereby

certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (exhibitor)

participated with \_\_\_\_\_ (horse)

in a jumper class at our show.

---

Show: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class description and height of fences: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Manager Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Manager Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4-H Exhibitors/Parents/Agents

This form must be uploaded to the entry system when completing entries.. Youth will not be allowed to enter the jumper class without this form. **This is only for classes 221 – Junior Jumpers and Class 222 – Senior Jumpers.** Extension requests may be granted.

## **Senior Stampede Application**

The Senior Stampede is for State Show participants in their final year of showing. It is part of the closing ceremony event on Saturday night, held in the coliseum. Participants may ride or lead their animal once around the arena while their information listed below introduces and celebrates their participation in 4-H. Applicants must submit their information at the time of the State Show entry deadline. If the senior decides at the show, that this will not be their final year, then they may scratch their entry by letting the show office know. All riders must check-in at the designated time which will be announced at the show. It is the participant's responsibility to be on time and know when to check-in with the paddock master. **Application due using this Qualtrics Form by August 31, 2024. Please highlight riders name on the Orientation Report Form.**

### **APPLICATION ONLY ONLINE USING THIS SURVEY DUE BY August 31<sup>st</sup>.**

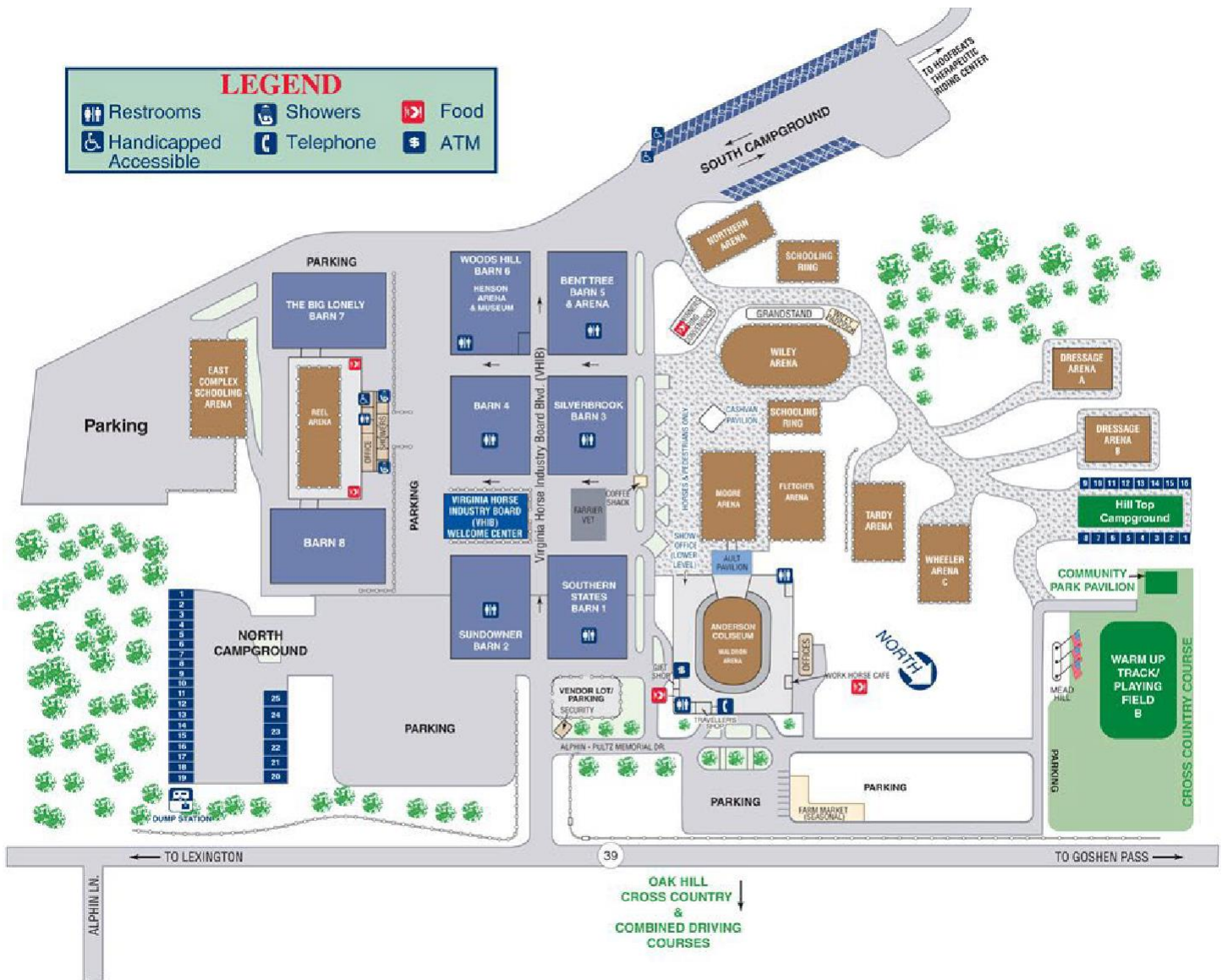
[https://vce.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_b1LacgHzwWJO3Z4](https://vce.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b1LacgHzwWJO3Z4)

Include the following in the form:

- Name
- Name of Club
- County / Unit
- Extension Agent
- Club Leader
- Years in 4-H
- Name of Horse
- Favorite memory of the State Show, 4-H career info, plus any Thank-you's that you would like to mention.
- Participant cell phone
- Email
- Parent / guardian cell phone

# VIRGINIA HORSE CENTER

## 487 MAURY RD, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450



**NOTE:**

**Horse Center showers and bathroom facilities are available to all exhibitors.**

**Directions:**

I-81 North or I-81 South/I-64 West to Exit 191. Proceed on I-64 West to Exit 55. Turn right on Route 11 North, one tenth mile to Route 39 West. Turn left on Route 39 West (Maury Rd.) to the Virginia Horse Center, approximately one mile.

I-64 East to Exit 55. Turn left on Route 11 North, three tenths mile to Route 39 West. Turn left on Route 39 West (Maury Rd.) to the Virginia Horse Center, approximately one mile

## **Camper Reservations**

The Virginia Horse Center now has an online reservation system available for their campgrounds. Exhibitors can make reservations at [www.horsecenter.org](http://www.horsecenter.org) . The Virginia Horse Center has ~70 Camping Spots with 30/50amp electric and water hookups. Due to the space limitations reservations should be made early and can be made by calling 540-464-2966. <http://vahorsecenter.org/plan-your-trip/campgrounds/>

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**PLEASE NOTE THAT**  
**VIRGINIA 4-H RULES SUPERCEDE VIRGINIA HORSE CENTER RULES**  
**IN AREAS WHERE 4-H IS GOVERNING**