

2010 SADDLESEAT HORSE DIVISION

Contents

General Rules

Saddleseat Division Classes

Versatility Pattern

Saddleseat Equitation Scoring

The following summarizes eligible classes for high point tabulation (showmanship and three performance classes maximum). **Walk/trot entries are NOT eligible for High Point awards.**

Walk/Trot

Showmanship

Green Rider Pleasure H&P (w/t)

Green Rider Equitation (w/t)

*Walk/Trot riders are NOT eligible for High Point Awards.

Show Pleasure Horse

Showmanship

Show Pleasure

Country Pleasure (if padded)

Saddleseat Equitation

Versatility Pattern

County Pleasure Horse

Showmanship

Country Pleasure

Show Pleasure

Saddleseat Equitation

Versatility Pattern

Non-ASB English Pleasure

Natural Pleasure (if not padded)

All 4-Hers riding or driving horses at 4-H events or activities are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet at all times.

GENERAL RULES

All 4-Hers riding or driving horses and/or ponies at 4-H events or activities are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmet at all times.

In the district horse show and/or state horse show, if there are less than 50 entries in this division, the Alternate Point System II shall be used.

The Open Invitational Classes are designated by an asterisk (*) and the letters OI.

SADDLESEAT DIVISION CLASSES

SHOWMANSHIP I - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-11 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see #10 of General Rules). Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship below).

SHOWMANSHIP II - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 12-14 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see #10 of General Rules). Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship below).

SHOWMANSHIP III - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 15-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see #10 of General Rules). Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship below).

***OI - SADDLESEAT HORSE/PONY HALTER** - Registered and grade mares and geldings any age and height. Class judged on conformation, soundness and way of going. Horses should be shown in a full, double, or Pelham bridle, or English halter.

GREEN RIDER PLEASURE HORSE & PONY (WALK/TROT) - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-18 as of January 1 of the current year, however, may show in this class one time only, with special consideration for special needs children. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she cannot show in any other class which calls for a canter. Entries must show in a flat English saddle with full bridle, Pelham, snaffle or curb. Use of a standing martingale, bosal, mechanical hackamore, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited, however the use of a running martingale with a snaffle bit is acceptable. Entries may be plain shod or have pads that may be of any thickness and may have clipped mane and tails or full mane and tails. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered nor have their tails set. Class judged on horses or pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride with light contact on the mouth at a flat walk and square

trot. Horses will be asked to work both ways of the arena at a flat walk and square trot. Entries will be required to back. The contestants will dress in Saddleseat attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. No coat required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Exhibitors are not eligible for High Point Awards but are eligible for Green Rider Equitation.

***OI - SADDLESEAT GREEN HORSE & PONY (WALK/TROT)** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must show in a flat English saddle with full bridle, pelham or snaffle. Use of a martingale is allowed, however, use of a bosal, mechanical hackamore, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Entries may be plain shod or have pads that may be of any thickness and may have clipped mane and tails or full mane and tails. Horses and ponies may wear tail sets or bustles, but tails may not be braced, gingered or tied. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horses and pony's manners and performance at the walk and trot both ways of the ring. Horses and ponies should have a graceful walk and a square, collected and balanced trot. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse and will be penalized for excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Entries should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances. Entries are not eligible for any other pleasure class. *In addition to this class, entries may only be entered into Open Invitational English Pony/Horse Halter.*

GREEN RIDER EQUITATION (WALK/TROT) - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-18 as of January 1 of the current year, however, may show in this class one time only, with special consideration for special needs children. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she cannot show in any other class that calls for a canter. Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. This is a walk/trot equitation class and entries will not be asked to canter, perform a pattern or to mount or dismount but will be required to back. The contestants will dress in Saddleseat attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. No coat required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Exhibitors are not eligible for High Point Awards, but are eligible for Green Rider Pleasure Horse & Pony.

SHOW PLEASURE HORSE & PONY - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Horse and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Use of a single snaffle, curb, bosal, mechanical hackamore, martingale, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Horses and ponies will wear pads that may be of any thickness and must have full manes and forelocks that should be braided. Horses and ponies showing in the Show Pleasure Classes may wear tail sets or bustles, but may not show with the tail gingered, tied or braced. Unset tails will not be penalized. Riders must

wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride with light contact on the mouth at the flat walk, square trot and canter both ways of the ring with moderately animated action. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances. Entries are eligible for Country Pleasure Horse & Pony if shoeing allows.

COUNTRY PLEASURE HORSE & PONY - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Horses and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Use of single snaffles, curbs, bosals, mechanical hackamores, martingales, draw reins and/or tie downs are prohibited. Horses and ponies must be plain shod. Rim pads are optional. They must have full manes and tails that should NOT be braided. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered or have their tails set. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride on a reasonably loose rein (without loss of contact in the horse's and/or pony's mouth) at the flat walk, trot, extended trot and canter both ways of the ring without extreme animation. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quiet on the rail. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only, and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances. Entries are eligible for Show Pleasure Horse/Pony.

NON-ASB ENGLISH PLEASURE HORSE & PONY - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size, excluding all American Saddlebreds. Horses and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle, single curb, single snaffle or pelham. Use of mechanical hackamores, martingales, draw reins and/or tie downs are prohibited. Horses and ponies must be plain shod. Pads are optional. They must have full manes and tails that should NOT be braided. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered nor have their tails set. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and display a pleasurable attitude. All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness. Exhibitors will be asked to walk, normal trot, strong trot and canter. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quiet on the rail. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only, and will be penalized for wrong leads,

excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

NATURAL PLEASURE HORSE & PONY - Registered and grad mares and geldings of any size. All horses MUST be plain shod with non-weighted shoes. Tail must appear to not have been cut or set. They must have full manes and tails that should NOT be braided. Horses and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Use of single snaffles, curbs, bosals, mechanical hackamores, martingales, draw reins and/or tie downs are prohibited. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride on a reasonably loose rein (without loss of contact in the horse's and/or pony's mouth) at the flat walk, trot, extended trot and canter both ways of the ring without extreme animation. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quiet on the rail. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only, and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

SADDLESEAT EQUITATION JR. - Exhibitors must be between the ages 9-13 as of January 1 of the current year (see #10 of the General rules). Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Pattern is required. Riders will not be asked to mount or dismount. Saddleseat attire is appropriate with conservative coat colors recommended, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Exhibitors will be asked to walk, trot and canter.

SADDLESEAT EQUITATION SR. - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see #10 of the General rules). Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Pattern is required. Riders may or may not be asked to mount or dismount. Saddleseat attire is appropriate with conservative coat colors recommended, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Exhibitors will be asked to walk, trot and canter.

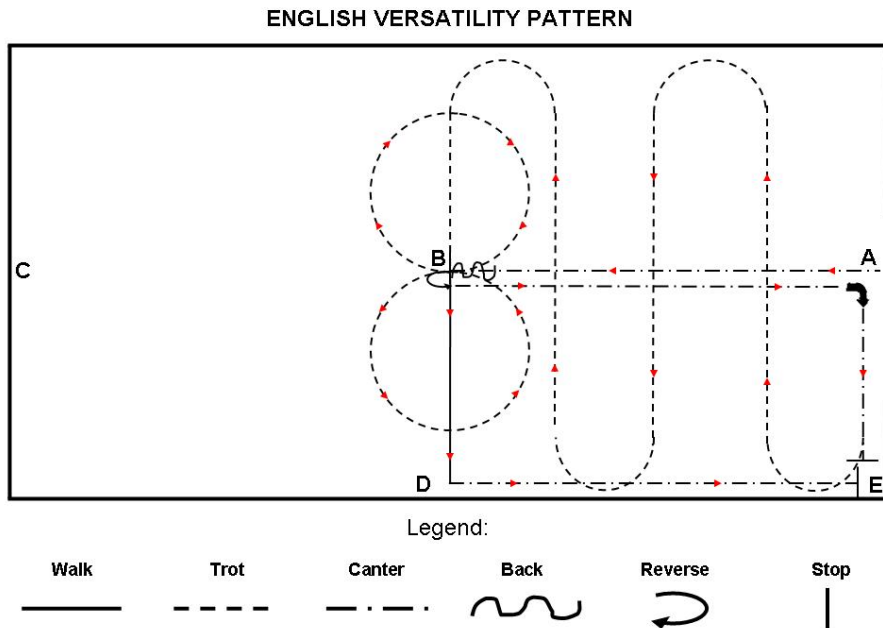
VERSATILITY PATTERN HORSE & PONY - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must show in a flat English saddle with full bridle or pelham. Use of a single snaffle, bosal, mechanical hackamore, martingale, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Entries may be plain shod or have pads that may be of any thickness and may have clipped mane and tails or full mane and tails. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered or have their tails set. Riders must wear neat, clean,

appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the performance of the horse or pony along with the rider executing a specific pattern in a uniform and collected fashion. Incorrect diagonals and leads will be penalized, as well as performing any portion of the pattern out of order. The specific pattern is listed below of the Saddleseat Division Rules.

***OI-WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must be shown in a stock saddle but silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. A side saddle shall be considered legal equipments. A Western curb bit shall be used with shanks no longer than 8 ½ inches in length. Slip or gag bits, rigid donut mouthpieces and flat polo mouthpieces are prohibited. Standard snaffle bits and hackamores are permitted with junior horses 4 years of age or younger only, and prohibited in all other ages of horses. Curb chains and leather chinstraps may be used but must be flat and at least ½ inch in width and lay flat against the jaws of the horse. Rounded, rolled, braided or rawhide curb straps are prohibited. Riders shall wear Western hat, long-sleeved shirt and/or jacket with a collar and a necktie, kerchief or bolo tie, bow tie, peddle-tie, rosette-tie or pin used as a tie; trousers or pants. Chaps, shotgun chaps or chinks and boots are required. A vest, coat or sweater may be worn. Spurs are optional and whips are prohibited (except side saddle riders). An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Entries must be flat shod and have a full mane and tail. However, horses and ponies may not be gingered, braced or have their tails set. Manners and suitability as a pleasure mount are paramount. Transition from one gait to another should be smooth and effortless. Horses and ponies must be obedient with prompt transitions. Special emphasis is placed on a true, flat walk. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quietly on the rail. Horses and ponies should back easily and stand quietly. Pulling, head tossing, laboring action, going sideways and tail-switching will be penalized. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

VERSATILITY TEST

1. Be ready at A, wait for judge to acknowledge.
2. Canter left lead down middle of arena to B-stop. Back 5 steps.
3. Trot circle to left, showing proper diagonal, then transition into right circle, trotting.
4. Stop. Reverse directions by turning 180 degrees to the left.
5. Canter right lead to A. At A, continue cantering on rail to the right to E. Stop.
6. Perform a three-loop trotting serpentine off left rail, showing proper diagonal changes, ending pattern at B. Stop.
7. Walk to rail at D. Turn left.
8. Counter-canter on rail from D to E. Stop.
9. Wait for acknowledgment from judge, walk to exit at A



STANDARDS FOR SHOWMANSHIP

The real purpose of showmanship is to learn the best way to fit and train a horse or pony so that the best attributes of the horse/pony can be seen by the judge or potential buyer. Showmen are reminded that they are being judged on the fitting, training and showing of their horse/pony. The horse/pony's conformation is not to be considered in the judging of this class. Showmen must wear the appropriate attire for the division in which they are participating.

Showmanship classes will be given two sets of awards. The winner will be given an award and ribbon. Ribbons will also be given for 2nd through 10th place. In addition, youth will be given a Danish Ribbon. The Danish System allows for deserving youth to be recognized for their accomplishments and does not limit a judge to recognize only the top ten youth in a class.

The procedure for judging large classes and the pattern to be used will be left to the discretion of the judge.

SCORING FOR SHOWMANSHIP CLASS

I. Appointments - 25%

- **Personal Appearance:** Youth should be neat, clean, well groomed, attentive, courteous and wearing appropriate attire for the type of horse being shown.
- **Saddleseat:** Appropriate Saddleseat riding habit.
- **Equipment:** Clean and properly adjusted equipment should be used. Horses/ponies must be shown in an English bridle in the Saddleseat Division. Youth may carry a whip or crop which is no more than thirty-six (36) inches in length, only in the Saddleseat (Trotting) Division. The use of the whip or crop will only be as an extension of the showman's arm to alert, signal and/or direct the horse/pony. Youth are not permitted to touch any part of the horse/pony with the whip or the crop.
- When a double or full bridle is used, youth may show with either both reins down or with the snaffle rein secured at the withers and the curb rein down.

II. Horse and Pony (fitting and grooming) - 25%

- The horse or pony should be clean and well groomed. Fitting for show is a year-round job. Daily grooming and good nutrition are very important to the hair coat and fitness of the horse/pony. Just before entering the ring, the showman should rub the horse/pony down with a grooming cloth to remove any dust which may have accumulated since brushing. Avoid using an oily grooming cloth since oil will attract dust. Wipe the ears, around the eyes, nostrils, lip, sheath and anus with a damp cloth or sponge; or with a cloth that has a small amount of baby oil or Vaseline on it to add luster to these areas.
- Horses and ponies should be clipped approximately one week before showing to allow for some regrowth to cover up any minor mistakes. The long hairs inside the ears, around the muzzle, under the chin and jaw, on the bridle path, fetlocks and lower legs should be clipped.

- Horses or ponies may be shown with either a full or clipped mane that is either braided or unbraided according to recognized practices for that breed.

III. Method of showing - 50%

- **Leading:** Youth must be able to walk, trot, turn, stop and back as directed by the pattern or ring officials. Always lead from the left side at an alert walk following the judge's direction, never in front of the horse/pony. The horse/pony's head should be about even or slightly in front of your shoulder. The horse/pony should travel willingly with his body in a straight line in the same direction being traveled. Youth must have the right hand on the lead when leading their horse/pony. The left hand will contain the remainder of the reins or lead in a loosely coiled loop or in a figure eight. The youth should walk in a brisk, alert manner and give the appearance that you and your horse or pony are a team.
- Run by the left side of the horse/pony when you are showing him at trot. The horse/pony should be traveling alertly and willingly with his head up (not too high). The youth should run with good posture and vitality.
- The horse/pony should always be reversed by turning to the right. Turn in as small an area as possible and attempt to keep his hind legs in one place while turning (this allows you to keep the horse/pony lined up with the judge). Any turn requiring more than 90 degrees should also, be made to the right.
- Always move your horse/pony directly toward or away from the judge unless specific instructions are otherwise given by the judge.
- **Working the Judge:** When setting up your horse/pony, stand out diagonally from the horse/pony's shoulder but never directly in front of the horse/pony. Always be in a position where you can observe your horse/pony and the judge at the same time. As the judge moves around the horse, the youth must respond accordingly. When the judge is in front of the horse/pony the youth should be on the opposite side away from the judge, so as not to block the judge's view. When the judge moves down one side of the horse/pony and passes the middle of the withers the youth should cross over in front of the horse/pony so that he/she is now on the same side as the judge. This allows you to see your horse/pony and continue to have eye contact with the judge. As the judge passes behind the horse/pony and crosses over to the other side, the youth should cross in front of the horse/pony to remain on the same side with the judge. Once again when the judge approaches you and crosses the middle of the withers the youth should cross over to be on the opposite side from the judge, so as not to obstruct his/her vision of the horse/pony. This procedure allows the judge an unobstructed view of the horse/pony and allows the youth to show their horses/ponies to the best of their ability. It also will allow youth to keep an eye on their horse/pony and the judge without having to look through, under or over their horse/pony.
- **Stance of the horse/pony:** Horses/ponies in the Saddleseat Division can be set up differently depending on the breed. Saddlebred and Morgan horses should always be parked while Arabian horses should be set with their front feet square and their rear feet slightly offset. Parked horses/ponies may be either lead up or backed out of the stretch before being asked to move.

IV. Keep your position in line and allow reasonable space between your horse/pony and others. Never allow your horse/pony to interfere with other horses/ponies.

V. If asked to change positions in line, back your horse/pony out of line and approach the new position from the rear. Be careful when walking up behind other horses/ponies and allow yourself plenty of room to enter.

VI. Quickly recognize and correct any faults in your horse/pony. All communication between the youth and the horse/pony shall be through the lead shank or reins which may be accompanied by subtle voice commands. Youth can not directly touch any part of their horse/pony unless the judge touches (i.e. disturbs the mane or moves the halter or bridle) the horse in front of the shoulder. At such time, the youth should correct the disarray created by the judge.

VII. Remember - Move quickly, quietly and with confidence when showing your horse/pony. Be courteous, respond promptly to directions and display good horsemanship at all times.

SADDLESEAT EQUITATION SCORING

Appointments: Riders should have a neat, clean and well-groomed appearance. Riders must wear neat Saddleseat “suit” attire. Conservative colors are recommended (i.e. herringbone, pinstripes and other combinations of colors that appear to be solid). Solid colors include black, blue, grey, dark burgundy, dark green, beige or brown jacket with matching jodhpurs, jodhpur boots, and gloves. All 4-Hers riding or driving horses at the District and State 4-H Horse Shows are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet at all times. Horses must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Spurs, crops, short whips, bats and similar equipment are optional. However, use of a single snaffle, curb, bosal, mechanical hackamore, martingale, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Horses may be plain shod or have pads and may have full or clipped manes and tails. Horses and ponies may not be gingered, but may be braided, have their tails set and have artificial hair pieces applied.

Basic Position: Riders should sit comfortably in the saddle and find their center of gravity by sitting with a slight bend to the knees without the use of their stirrups. While in this position, the stirrup leathers should be adjusted so that the irons will be under the balls of the feet with even pressure on the entire width of the soles in the center or outside of the irons. Rolling the knees and thighs in with heels slightly lower than toes will permit the position to become comfortable and natural. Hands should be held over the withers, parallel with the horse’s shoulders and should show sympathy, adaptability and control. Height of hands will depend on how the horse carries its head. The method of holding the reins is optional, however, the reins should be picked up at the same time and held with both hands with the bight of the reins falling to the off side.

Mounting and Dismounting: Riders may or may not be asked to mount and dismount. To dismount, the rider should gather the reins in the left hand and place it on the withers. The right iron is then dropped and the right leg swung easily to the left side avoiding contact with the horse or saddle. The right hand may be placed either on the pommel or cantle and riders may step or slide down. The reins are then gathered with the rider standing on the left side. The bridle and girth should be checked for adjustment prior to mounting and the right hand may be used to steady the left iron as the entire process is reversed. The snaffle rein should be snug and the curb rein loose while mounting and riders should take the right iron without looking down. Horses should stand quietly during the mount and dismount.

Class Routine: Riders should maintain the basic position conveying the impression of being in complete control at all times. All cues and aids should be applied as inconspicuously as possible. Exhibitors may be

asked to work individually, in a group and/or both. Entries will be scored on cleanliness and neatness of rider, horse and equipment, the basic position and the techniques used by the rider in executing maneuvers in order to obtain the desired performance. Overall, the horse/pony and rider should work as a team in order to show the horse to its best advantage.