

2011 WALKING/RACKING/MOUNTAIN HORSE DIVISION

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General Division Rules:

Horses are to be divided into three divisions: Walking, Racking, and Mountain Horse classes. All horses will show together in Showmanship and in the Equitation Classes. Showmanship is divided according to the age of the 4-Her. Equitation classes include Jr. & Sr. W/R/M English Equitation, Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Bareback Equitation and Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Stock Seat Equitation. Smooth gaited mules are allowed in any division and are expected to follow division rules.

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.

Walking Horse Classes

Trail Pleasure Walking – Jr. & Sr. Trail Pleasure Walking

Country Pleasure – English & Western Country Pleasure Walking

Plantation Pleasure – English & Western Plantation Pleasure Specialty

Equitation: Jr. & Sr. W/R/M English, Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Bareback, Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Stock Seat

Walking Horses may not cross enter into Plantation and Country Pleasure Walking classes.

All Walking Horses may enter either of the following:

Jr. Trail Pleasure (if shoe size allows), Sr. Trail Pleasure (if shoe size allows),

All Walking Horses may not cross enter into Racking Horse or Mountain Horse classes.

For calculation of High Point- Showmanship is mandatory, all Walking Classes are considered, as well as the Equitation Classes. Open Invitational Classes are not counted.

Racking Horse Classes

Trail Pleasure Racking Lite Shod - Jr. & Sr. Trail Pleasure Racking Lite Shod

Country Pleasure Racking Lite Shod – English & Western Country Pleasure Racking Lite Shod

Show Pleasure Racking

Style Pleasure Racking

Equitation: Jr. & Sr. W/R/M English, Jr. & Sr., W/R/M Bareback, Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Stock Seat

All Racking Horses may not cross enter into Walking Horse or Mountain Horse classes.

For calculation of High Point: Showmanship is mandatory, all Racking Classes are considered, as well as the Equitation Classes. Open Invitational Classes are not counted.

Mountain Horse Classes

Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse – Jr. & Sr. Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse

Country Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse

English Pleasure Mountain Horse

Western Pleasure Mountain Horse

Classic Pleasure Mountain Horse

Equitation: Jr. & Sr. W/R/M English, Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Bareback, Jr. & Sr. W/R/M Stock Seat

Mountain Horse Entries are not to cross enter into the Walking Classes or Racking Classes.

For calculation of High Point: Showmanship is mandatory, all Mountain Classes are considered, as well as the Equitation Classes. Open Invitational Classes are not counted.

WALKING/RACKING/MOUNTAIN HORSE DIVISION CLASSES

Walking Horse Division Classes

JUNIOR TRAIL PLEASURE WALKING

Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-13 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Trail Pleasure Walking class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. The trail pleasure horse will be asked to complete three different gaits: the trail walk, the flat walk and the running walk. Horses should enter the ring at a Flat Walk and then the gaits will be called: Flat Walk, Running Walk, Trail Walk and then on the reverse continuing with the Trail Walk. On the reverse, entries will go from Trail Walk to the Flat Walk and then Running Walk. Horses will be called back to the Flat Walk prior to going to the line up. The English Trail Pleasure horses should reverse towards the rail and the Western Trail pleasure horse should reverse toward the center of the ring (away from the rail). At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back individually. The English Trail Pleasure Horse may be more up in the bridle than the Western Trail Pleasure Horse and the reins should be held lightly with two hands. The Western entry must ride on a loose rein at all gaits, have a lower, natural headset and be ridden with one hand on the reins (entry should neck rein) which cannot be changed during the class. The Judge should expect the entries to have effortless gaits geared toward encouraging stamina and longevity on the trail. ASTM SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Trail Pleasure Shod class – shoe size maximum 3/8” thick x 3/4” wide – bands optional.

SENIOR TRAIL PLEASURE WALKING

Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Trail Pleasure Walking class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. The trail pleasure horse will be asked to complete three different gaits: the trail walk, the flat walk and the running walk. Horses should enter the ring at a Flat Walk and then the gaits will be called: Flat Walk, Running Walk, Trail Walk and then on the reverse continuing with the Trail Walk. On the reverse, entries will go from Trail Walk to the Flat Walk and then Running Walk. Horses will be called back to the Flat Walk prior to going to the line up. The English Trail Pleasure horses should reverse towards the rail and the Western Trail pleasure horse should reverse toward the center of the ring (away from the rail). At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back individually. The English Trail Pleasure Horse may be more up in the bridle than the Western Trail Pleasure Horse and the reins should be held lightly with two hands. The Western entry must ride on a loose rein at all gaits, have a lower, natural headset and be ridden with one hand on the reins (entry should neck rein) which cannot be changed during the class. The Judge should expect the entries to have effortless gaits geared toward encouraging stamina and longevity on the trail. ASTM SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Trail Pleasure Shod class – shoe size maximum 3/8” thick x 3/4” wide – bands optional.

ENGLISH COUNTRY PLEASURE WALKING

Registered or grade mares and geldings of any size. This is an English tack and attire class for exhibitors in the Walking Horse division. The Country Pleasure Horse must display a Flat Walk and a Running Walk – a smooth, easy, comfortable intermediate gait with excessive speed in the intermediate gait to be penalized. The judge does have the option of calling for a third gait, the trail walk. Entries will work both ways of the ring. English entries should be reversed toward the rail. The horse should back readily upon command. Entries should be well mannered and manageable on a light rein. Manners are paramount in a country pleasure horse and should be given consideration in judging. ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is mandatory. This is a Country Pleasure shod class – factory stamped keg shoe – maximum 3/8” thick x 3/4” wide – bands optional.

WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE WALKING

Registered or grade mares and geldings of any size. This is a Western tack and attire class for exhibitors in the Walking Horse division. The Country Pleasure Horse must display a walk and a smooth, easy comfortable intermediate gait with excessive speed in the intermediate gait to be penalized. This is a two-gaited class in which the judge will call for a flat walk and a running walk. The judge does have the option of calling for a third gait, the trail walk. Entries will work both ways of the ring. Western horses must be reversed away from the rail to the inside). The horse should back readily on command and are to be well mannered and manageable on a light rein. ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet, boots and long sleeved shirt or jacket or vest and western pants or jeans is mandatory, while chaps and spurs may be worn at the option of the rider. The rider may ride with one or two hands in Western Tack and Attire, but the reins must be light or relaxed and the use of a cavesson is optional. Manners are paramount for a pleasure horse and should be given consideration in judging. Silver mounted equipment shall not count over good working equipment. This is a Country Pleasure Shod class - factory stamped keg shoe – maximum 3/8” thick x 3/4” wide – bands optional.

ENGLISH PLANTATION PLEASURE WALKING SPECIALTY

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. This is an English tack and attire class for walking horse exhibitors. This is a two-gait class in which the judge shall call for a flat walk and a running walk. Exhibitors are to enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits (Flat Walk, Running Walk), reverse and repeat. Entry is to be judged on true pleasure horse quality and performance of the horse and neatness and ability of the rider. Rider must ride with a light rein in both gaits. Judge must require entries to back. Excessive speed should be penalized. Horse should exhibit a four beat walking gait with pronounced and cadenced head motion (nod). ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet mandatory. This is a Plantation Flat Shod Class – maximum 1/2”thick x 3/4” wide - open to any steel – bands optional.

WESTERN PLANTATION PLEASURE WALKING SPECIALTY - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. This is a Western tack and attire class for walking horse exhibitors. This is a two-gait class in which the judge shall call for a flat walk and a running walk. Horses shall be worked both ways of the ring. Entry shall neck rein and should have a natural head set and work on a loose rein. Horses are to be reversed away from the rail (to the inside of the ring). Reins must be held in one hand and cannot be changed during the performance. When using split reins, a hand around the reins or index finger between the reins is permitted, but the free hand is not allowed to touch the reins. Romal reins have an extension of reins attached to the closed reins. This extension is allowed to be carried in the free hand with approximately a 16 inch spacing between the reining hand and the free hand hold the Romal and it cannot be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse in any way. When using the Romal, a hand should be around the reins, but a finger between the reins is not permitted. While the horse is in motion, the exhibitor's hands shall be clear of the horse and saddle at all times. The Judge may call for a halt on the rail. Horse must stand quietly on the rail and in the lineup, and back freely when asked. At the discretion of the judge, the horse may be asked to back clear of the line-up and do a 360-degree neck reined turn, either right or left, exhibitor's discretion. The horse should wear a western bridle with no cavesson or colored brow band. Western Attire including ASTM SEI helmet, boots and long sleeved shirt or jacket and western pants or jeans is mandatory. Chaps, spurs and lariat may be used at the option of the exhibitor. This is a Plantation Flat Shod Class – maximum ½”thick x ¾” wide open to any steel – bands optional.

WALKING DIVISION GENERAL CLASS RULES

The Walking Horse rules conform as closely as possible to the Rules and Regulations of S.H.O.W. Any instance not covered in the 4-H rules will be referred to the official rulebook of the S.H.O.W. Rulebooks may be obtained from:

S.H.O.W

Post Office Box 167

Shelbyville, TN 37162

Phone: 931/684-9506 Fax: 931/684-9538

Website: www.showhio.com

Mules (Smooth Gaited) are allowed to show in the Walking Horse Division and are expected to follow division rules. Walking Horse entries are not to cross enter into the Racking or Mountain Horse Classes and vice versa.

No horse shall be allowed to show if that horse has been administered any forbidden substance by any means. A forbidden substance is any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer or local anesthetic. Also prohibited is the use of “ginger” and any drugs regardless of how harmless or innocuous they might be, which by their very nature mask or screen the presence of the prohibited drugs, or prevent or delay testing procedures.

4-H will not recognize the cross entry rule between trail pleasure and plantation, as well as the cross entry rule between country pleasure and trail pleasure. In 4-H, if the shoeing requirements are met, a Plantation entry may show in a Trail Pleasure Class and a Country Pleasure entry may show in a Trail Pleasure Class. Walking Horses may not cross enter between Country Pleasure and Plantation Pleasure.

4-H does allow for both registered and grade horses in Country Pleasure, Trail Pleasure and Plantation Pleasure classes.

The fall from a horse shall disqualify the entry except when the rider falls because of contact interference from another rider or horse. In this situation, the rider and horse at fault will be excused.

WALKING HORSE SHOEING REQUIREMENTS

Horses may be Plantation Shod, Trail Pleasure Shod or Country Pleasure Shod

The Plantation Shod, Trail Pleasure Shod, or Country Pleasure Shod horses perform the specific required gaits without the use of lubricants, artificial appliances, boots, bands, pads or action devices. The shoe must not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The heel of the shoe must not extend beyond the bulb of the horse's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the horse's heel to the ground. For further regulations and rules, please obtain the information directly from the S.H.O.W. rulebook.

Barefooted horses may be shown; however judges must disqualify lame or tender footed horses.

Shoeing Requirements for the Trail Pleasure Horse

Shoes for a Trail Pleasure Shod horse should be cold or hot rolled steel (Plain Carbon Steel) or aluminum no wider than ¾ inch and no thicker than ⅜ inch. Poured or cast clips allowed if poured in the original cast or pulled from the original shoe. Heel caulks are optional. Borium is allowed on the caulks of the shoe but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 7/8 inch. Maximum 1 ½ inch turnback is allowed (measured from front to back of caulk).

Shoeing Requirements for the Country Pleasure Horse

Country Pleasure Horses must wear a factory stamped keg shoe: maximum ⅜ inch thick by ¾ inch wide - factory-stamped (poured or cast) Hot or Cold Rolled steel (Plain Carbon Steel) or aluminum keg shoe. (both front and hind feet). Poured or cast clips allowed if poured in the original cast or pulled from the original shoe. Poured or cast heels allowed (caulks) if poured in the original cast (may not be welded on), Heel caulks are optional. Borium is allowed on the toe with a maximum of 1 ½ inch in length and spots on heels no more than 1/8 inch.

Shoeing Requirements for the Plantation Shod Horse

Shoes for a Plantation Shod horse should be a maximum ½ inch by ¾ inch shoe that is open to any steel. The caulk must not exceed a 1½ inch turnback and is measured from the front to back

of the caulk. The use of borium is permitted on the caulks of the shoe, but the thickness of the shoe and caulk with the borium must not exceed 1 1/8 inch. Clips are optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

Other Shoeing Rules

Bands are optional in all walking horse classes. Metal hoof bands, such as used to anchor or strengthen pads and shoes are permitted so long as they are placed at least 1/2 inch below the bottom of the cornet band. Bands must be a maximum of 3/4 inch & a minimum of 1/2 inch in width. Bands must be made of a 16 gauge or smaller flexible steel.

Clips are optional in all divisions when drawn from the original steel or poured.

Turn back will be measured from the front to rear of the caulk.

Acrylic can be used to repair and mend a foot where the shoe has been thrown and the foot has been damaged. Acrylic or any other material cannot be used for the purpose of extending the length of the natural hoof in any manner on both feet, which includes the toes or heels. Acrylic can be used to fill in around the nail holes or cracks on the sides of the hoof.

No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe, nails, and bands.

WALKING HORSE TACK AND ATTIRE

Tack Requirements for Walking Horses

- All entries shall be clean, neatly trimmed in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance, and outfitted in clean and appropriate tack.
- All horses must use an English Saddle in English Classes (Western tack is addressed in the class description for Western classes).
- Exhibitor's equipment (& apparel) shall either be English or Western, but not a combination of both.
- Standard Walking Horse single rein bridle and bit. While any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, a gag bit with no shanks is not considered a standard Walking Horse Show bit. Severe bits are discouraged and bleeding of the mouth or muzzle must be penalized in the final judging.
 - Shanks in excess of 9 & 1/2 inches are prohibited in the Walking Horse Division. Shanks are measured from the very top of the metal to the very bottom of the metal, including the rings to which the cheeks and reins are attached.
 - Quick change bridles and reins are not permitted.
- Full blinders of any type are not permitted on the show grounds at any time.
- Action devices of any kind and tail braces are prohibited on the show grounds or in the show ring on all Walking Horses.
- An Australian stock saddle is not approved as either English or Western Tack.
- Side Saddles are approved for use in pleasure classes.
- Braids shall be worn in English classes, but not in Western classes. Braids shall be attached neatly to the forelock and at the top of the mane next to the bridle path.

- Rhinestone or sequined brow bands and cavesson fronts are prohibited.
- In Western Country Pleasure – riders may ride with one or two hands and have the option of using a cavesson with the western tack.
- Curb chains or straps must be flat against the jaw and be at least ½ inches wide. Cross chain cavessons are prohibited.
- Martingales and tie downs are prohibited.
- The use of Vet Wrap will be allowed in the cannon bone area on the front legs, and on the cannon bone down onto the ankles on the rear legs. The color is to blend in reasonably with the color of the horse.
- Any change in color of markings other than the mane, tail or hoof is prohibited. Only clear grooming materials are allowed on the hide and hair. Materials may be used to remove stains.

Special rules for Western Trail Pleasure and Western Plantation Pleasure:

- Bosals or ordinary ring snaffles may be used on four-year old or younger western flat-shod pleasure horses. When using a bosal or a snaffle, the rider may use two hands on the reins. The ordinary ring snaffle has a broken mouth piece with conventional O-rings, egg-butt, or D-rings, and the ring must be no larger than 4 inches in diameter. Optional loose chin strap of leather or nylon is permitted. Reins should be attached above the chin strap.
- Any Western horse using a curb bit must neck rein (regardless of its age. Any horse over 4 must neck rein regardless of the bit used.
- Reins must be held in one hand and cannot be changed during the performance
- Cavessons are prohibited in Western Trail Pleasure and Western Plantation Pleasure.
- When using split reins, a hand around the reins or index finger between reins is permitted, but the free hand is not allowed to touch the reins. The bight of the rein should fall on the side of the horse opposite of the free hand
- Romal reins mean an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension is allowed to be carried in the free hand with approximately 16” spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal. The Romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse in any way. When using the Romal, a hand should be around the reins and a finger between the reins is not permitted.
- In Western Classes, silver mounted equipment shall not count over good working equipment.

Attire for Walking Horses

It is the tradition of the show ring that riders, drivers and handlers be correctly attired for the classes in which they compete. Correct attire for Walking Horse presentation consists of the following, unless otherwise noted:

- English Riding Habit (Saddle Suit) or Day Coat with Jodhpur Pants in English Classes. Western attire is addressed in the class description for Western Classes.
- Use of Spurs is optional
- Riding Boots

- Tie downs, or underpasses required
- Gloves (Optional)
- Whips of four feet or less are allowed in any class where English attire and tack is used.
- The exhibitor's hair must be neat and groomed. Long hair should be styled so the back number can be easily seen.
- ASTM-SEI Approved Equestrian Helmet must be worn for all driving & riding classes.

Judging Procedures & Criteria for Judging Walking Horse Classes:

All horses shall enter the ring at the flat walk and continue to work at a flat walk until the class is called or the judge may request that entries go at ease until all entries are in the class. The gate will be closed when the Judge calls for the first gait and no entry shall be admitted into the ring after the gate is closed. Judging of a class begins when the class is called to order and put on the rail at the close of the gate and continues until the judge has turned in his card. Entries in English Tack & Attire should reverse to the rail and those in Western Tack & Attire should reverse to the center of the ring. All Flat shod Pleasure entries must stand quietly and back readily. The judge must walk the line-up in all flat shod classes and ask each entry to back individually. A Flat Shod Pleasure Horse performs the gaits associated with the breed without the use of lubricants, artificial appliances, boots, pads or action devices and braced tails are prohibited. The Pleasure Walking Horse classes are to be judged on true pleasure qualities and the performance of the horse, as well as the neatness and appearance of the horse and exhibitor.

Criteria for Judging Trail Pleasure Walking Classes:

A Trail Pleasure Walking Horse should be the ultimate of a trail type horse and should be collected in his gaits and should not have the higher head, leg lift or animation of the Plantation Walking Horse. The Trail Pleasure Horse will be required to perform three gaits: Flat Walk, Running Walk and Trail Walk. Horses in this class should stand quietly and back readily. A trail pleasure entry should display a true four beat gait at the flat walk and running walk and never have any tendency to trot, rack or pace. The gaits will be more pronounced than that of a country pleasure horse. They should display a more defined flat walk and running walk, which may include a longer stride and a more pronounced head shake. The Trail Walk is the slowest of the gaits (also known as a "dog walk"). It is a smooth four beat gait that should be performed in a very relaxed manner. Although animation is not desirable, the trail pleasure horse may be slightly more animated than the country pleasure horse.

Criteria for Judging Country Pleasure Walking Classes:

The Country Pleasure horse should represent the epitome of the flat shod pleasure horses. He displays true pleasure qualities, along with the natural gaits of the walking horse. The gaits required are the Flat Walk and Running Walk.. The Trail Walk may be asked for at the Judges discretion. A Country Pleasure Horse should never have a tendency to rack, pace or trot. Animation is not desirable, but they should exhibit a smooth, gliding flat walk and running walk, with a cadenced head shake. The gait should be level with both front and rear legs, never "hitchy". It should display a balanced, fluid, rhythmic motion. Manners are paramount in this division. The rider may ride with two hands, both English or Western Tack and Attire (not a

combination of both), but the reins must be light or relaxed. The cavesson is not prohibited in Western Country Pleasure and is an option. The Country Pleasure horse should stand quietly in the line up, and back readily upon the Judges request.

Criteria for Judging Plantation Walking Classes:

The Plantation Pleasure Horse should display elegant and classic beauty while performing the flat walk and running walk effortlessly in a true rhythmic four beat gait. Lots of head shake is quite desirable in this class. The Plantation horse will be animated and have a long, gliding overstride, with its hind legs always in a forward motion. This horse should never show tendencies to pace, trot or rack. The English Plantation Pleasure horse should be high headed and alert with show horse qualities. The Western Plantation Pleasure horse should have a natural head set and work on a loose rein.

Racking Horse Division Classes

JUNIOR TRAIL PLEASURE RACKING LITE SHOD

Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-13 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Trail Pleasure Racking class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. A Trail Pleasure Racking Horse shall not be required nor expected to maintain qualities such as a high head or high front leg lift, but should be the ultimate of a trail type horse, and should show evidence of being collected in his gaits. He shall stand quietly and back readily. A Trail Pleasure horse will be required to perform two gaits: Trail Pleasure Walk and Trail Pleasure Rack. The Trail Pleasure Walk is a true walk in which the rider and his mount are at complete ease. The rein is light and there is no evidence of strain on the part of the horse or rider. The Trail Pleasure Rack is considered to be a true four-beat gait. It is recognized as being the ultimate for a pleasure horse in which ease of riding and comfort are paramount. There is no evidence of strain on the part of the horse or rider, and the reins are lightly held in two hands (or one if desired by riders with Western Attire). Speed shall not be a factor in judging. The Trail Pleasure Racking Horse shall enter the ring at a Trail Pleasure Rack prior to initial judging of the class. Horses will work both ways of the ring. ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Lite Shod (also known as Light Shod) class and the shoe must not exceed 3/8 of an inch in thickness, nor be any wider than 3/4 of an inch. The caulk must not be any thicker than 3/4 of an inch. Bands are not allowed.

SENIOR TRAIL PLEASURE RACKING LITE SHOD

Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Trail Pleasure Racking class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. A Trail Pleasure Racking Horse shall not be required nor expected to maintain qualities such as a high head or high front leg lift, but should be the ultimate of a trail type horse, and should show evidence of being collected in his gaits. He shall stand quietly and back readily. A Trail Pleasure horse will be required to perform two gaits: Trail Pleasure Walk and Trail Pleasure Rack. The Trail Pleasure Walk is a true walk in which the rider and his mount are at complete ease. The rein is light and there is no evidence of strain on the part of the horse or rider. The Trail Pleasure Rack is considered to be a true four-beat gait. It is recognized as being the ultimate for a pleasure horse in which ease of riding and comfort are paramount. There is no evidence of strain on the part of the horse or rider, and the reins are lightly held in two hands (or one if desired by riders with Western Attire). Speed shall not be a factor in judging. The Trail Pleasure Racking Horse shall enter the ring at a Trail Pleasure Rack prior to initial judging of the class. Horses will work both ways of the ring. ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Lite Shod (also known as Light Shod) class and the shoe must not exceed 3/8 of an inch in thickness, nor be any wider than 3/4 of an inch. The caulk must not be any thicker than 3/4 of an inch. Bands are not allowed.

ENGLISH COUNTRY PLEASURE RACKING LITE SHOD

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. The Country Pleasure horse shall be shown with a light rein; both the horse and rider must be relaxed and comfortable. He shall not be required to maintain a high head, but should be alert in the bridle. He shall not be required to maintain a high front leg lift, but should exhibit a smooth stride behind. The Country Pleasure Horse will be required to perform three gaits: Country Pleasure Show Walk, Country Pleasure Slow Rack, and Country Pleasure Fast Rack. Country Pleasure Horses shall stand quietly and must back readily. Horses will work both ways of the ring. The Show Walk shall be a slow, true four beat gait. There shall be a smooth stride behind with a natural rolling motion in the front. The Show Walk will not have the speed or animation of the Slow Rack. The Slow Rack shall be a true four-beat gait, distinguished from the Show Walk. The reins shall be held lightly. The Fast Rack shall be a comfortable, easy-going rack in which speed is not a factor, but easily distinguished from the other two gaits required in this division. Any indication of strain on the part of the horse or rider will be penalized. The Country Pleasure Racking Horse shall enter the ring at a Show Walk prior to the initial judging of the class. ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Lite Shod (also known as Light Shod) class and the shoe must not exceed 3/8 of an inch in thickness, nor be any wider than 3/4 of an inch. The caulk must not be any thicker than 3/4 of an inch. Bands are not allowed.

WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE RACKING LITE SHOD

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. The Country Pleasure horse shall be shown with a light rein; both the horse and rider must be relaxed and comfortable. He shall not be required to maintain a high head, but should be alert in the bridle. He shall not be required to maintain a high front leg lift, but should exhibit a smooth stride behind. The Country Pleasure Horse will be required to perform three gaits: Country Pleasure Show Walk, Country Pleasure Slow Rack, and Country Pleasure Fast Rack. Country Pleasure Horses shall stand quietly and must back readily. Horses will work both ways of the ring. The Show Walk shall be a slow, true four beat gait. There shall be a smooth stride behind with a natural rolling motion in the front. The Show Walk will not have the speed or animation of the Slow Rack. The Slow Rack shall be a true four-beat gait, distinguished from the Show Walk. The reins shall be held lightly. The Fast Rack shall be a comfortable, easy-going rack in which speed is not a factor, but easily distinguished from the other two gaits required in this division. Any indication of strain on the part of the horse or rider will be penalized. The Country Pleasure Racking Horse shall enter the ring at a Show Walk prior to the initial judging of the class. Western attire including ASTM-SEI Helmet, boots, long sleeved shirt or jacket is mandatory. Chaps and spurs are optional. Since this is a Country Pleasure Racking Class, riders do have the option of riding with one or two hands on the reins. ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Lite Shod (also known as Light Shod) class and the shoe must not exceed 3/8 of an inch in thickness, nor be any wider than 3/4 of an inch. The caulk must not be any thicker than 3/4 of an inch. Bands are not allowed.

SHOW PLEASURE RACKING

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. English tack and attire is required. A Show Pleasure horse shall be dependable and pleasurable to ride. In the execution of its three gaits, the Show Pleasure horse should exhibit smoothness of ride required of the true natural Racking Horse, exhibiting a higher head than the Trail Pleasure horse without the look of an Open Show horse and exhibit more animation than the Trail Pleasure mount. Front lift must not exceed the height of level and is generally accepted as having lift somewhat below level and less than the Style Pleasure mount. A Show Pleasure Horse shall be shown with a light rein, but not loose, both horse and rider must be relaxed and comfortable. Any indication of strain on the part of the horse or rider will be penalized. A Show Pleasure Racking Horse will be shown at three gaits: Show Pleasure Walk, Show Pleasure Slow Rack and Show Pleasure Fast Rack. The Show Pleasure Walk will be a snappy type walk, but will not have the speed or animation of a Slow Rack. The Show Pleasure Slow Rack will be executed at a distinct gait from the Show Pleasure Walk, and will again lack the animation of a Slow Rack when compared to the Open division of Racking. The Show Pleasure Fast Rack will be a comfortable easy going rack in which speed is not a factor, but should be easily identifiable from the other two gaits required in this division. The Show Pleasure Racking Horse shall enter the ring at a Show Pleasure Walk prior to initial judging of the class. Horse will work both ways of the ring. ASTM SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Flat Shod or Open Shod class.

STYLE PLEASURE RACKING

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. English tack and attire is required. The Style Pleasure Racking Horse shall be dependable to ride, shown with a light rein, but not loose, shall be more reasonably mounted in the bridle than the Show Pleasure horse displaying style over animation. The front lift must not exceed the height of level, yet is generally accepted to have more lift than the Show Pleasure mount with a more striding back end. Both horse and rider must be relaxed and comfortable, exhibiting a smooth ride. Any indication of strain on the part of the horse or rider will be penalized. A Style Pleasure Racking Horse will be shown at two gaits: Show Walk and Style Rack. The Show Walk will be a true stylish walk, but will not have the speed or animation of an Open Show Walk. The Style Rack will be a comfortable easy going rack in which speed is not a factor in judging. The Style Pleasure Racking Horse shall enter the ring at a Style Rack, prior to initial judging of the class. Horses will be worked both ways of the ring. ASTM SEI Equestrian helmet must be worn. This is a Flat Shod or Open Shod class.

RACKING DIVISION GENERAL CLASS RULES

The Racking Horse rules conform as closely as possible to the Rules and Regulations of the Racking Horse Breeders' Association of America (RHBAA). Any instance not covered in the 4-H rules will be referred to the official Rulebook of the Racking Horse Breeders' Association of America. Rulebooks may be obtained from:

Racking Horse Breeders' Association of America

67 Horse Center Road
Decatur, Alabama 35603

Phone: 256/353-7225 FAX: 256/353-7266 Website: www.rackinghorse.com

Mules (Smooth Gaited) are allowed to show in the Racking Horse Division and are expected to follow division rules. Racking Horse entries are not to cross enter into the Walking or Mountain Horse Classes and vice versa.

RACKING SHOERING REQUIREMENTS

Racking Lite Shod

Lite Shod (also known as Light Shod) shall be construed as being hoof-to-shoe with no pad being used for any purpose, which shall include corrective shoeing. Weighted shoes are allowed. Shoe must not exceed 3/8 inch in thickness and 3/4 inch in width. The caulk must not exceed 3/4 inch in thickness. Shoeing bands are not allowed in all light shod classes. The use of welded clips is prohibited in all classes. However, clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are allowed. No additional weights shall be allowed in or on the hoof other than shoe and nails.

Racking Flat Shod

Flat shod shall be constructed as being hoof-to-shoe with no pad being used for any purpose, which shall include corrective shoeing. Weighted shoes are allowed. Shoe must not exceed 1/2 inch in thickness and 1 1/2 inches in width with no bare plates or other weight inside the shoe. The caulk must not exceed 1 inch and the shoe must not extend more than 1/4 inch beyond the hoof at the toe. Shoeing bands are allowed in all flat shod classes including Pleasure classes except those designated as light shod. The uses of welded clips are prohibited in all classes. However, clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are allowed. No additional weights shall be allowed in or on the hoof other than shoe and nails.

Racking - Open Shod

Open Shod shall be construed as having pads which can be flat pads or wedge pads. Weighted shoes are allowed.

- **Heel/Toe Measurement:** Toe length must exceed the height of the heel by one (1) inch or more. The length of the toe shall be measured from the coronet band, at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall, to the ground. The heel shall be measured from the coronet band, at the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90-degree angle to the ground, not including normal caulks at the rear of

the horseshoe that do not exceed an inch in length. The portion of caulk at the rear of the horseshoe in excess of an inch shall be added to the height of the heel in determining the heel to toe ratio.

- **Pad Measurement:** The amount of pad or artificial extension permitted on any horse two years of age or older will be determined by the natural hoof length. The amount of artificial extension, whether accomplished with pads, acrylics or any other material or combination thereof, must not exceed 50 percent of the natural hoof length. The natural hoof length is measured from the coronet band at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall, to the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe. The thickness of the pad, or artificial extension, shall be measured from the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe at a 90-degree angle to the proximal (foot/hoof) surface of the shoe.
- **Pads:** Pads shall be made of leather, plastic or similar pliant material.
- **Shoe Size:** The maximum shoe size is 1½ inches wide and ½ inch thick with a turnback for a caulk not to exceed 1 inch. The turnback is measured from the inside of the fold.
- **Rubber Foundation:** A rubber foundation used in lieu of a shoe cannot be more than ½ inch in thickness.
- **Half-Rubber Foundation:** A half-rubber foundation used in lieu of half a shoe cannot be thicker than the corresponding half-shoe. Example: with a 3/8-inch thick shoe, rubber cannot be more than 3/8 inch thick. With a ½ inch thick shoe, rubber cannot be more than ½ inch thick.
- **Half-Metal Shoe:** A half-metal shoe in front with rubber on the rear half used for the foundation must be in apposition (there can be no gap between the metal shoe and the rubber).
- **Weight Bearing Surface:** The weight bearing surface of the shoe must be level.
- **Rockback Pads:** Rockback pads cannot extend below the weight-bearing surface (bottom of the shoe).
- **Lead and Other Weights:** Lead or other weights cannot be attached to the outside of the hoof wall, the outside of the horseshoe, or any portion of the pad except the bottom surface within the horseshoe. Pads may not be hollowed out for the purpose of inserting or affixing weights, and weights may not extend below the weight-bearing surface of the shoe. Hollow shoes or artificial extensions filled with mercury or similar substances are prohibited.
- **Breakover:** The breakover point of the shoe cannot be any further back than the tip of the toe on the natural hoof.

RACKING TACK AND ATTIRE

Tack

- All tack must be neat and clean and fit the horse correctly.
- Horses may not be exhibited with tail braces, boots, chains or any other apparatus that would restrict the natural movement of the Racking Horse.

- **Bridles:** Hackamores, martingales and tie downs are prohibited. Bridles should be the type commonly used by Racking Horses with single reins.
 - Shanks over 9½ inches are prohibited. Shanks are measured from the top of the metal to the bottom of the metal, including the rings.
 - Gag bits without shanks are not allowed. Severe bits must be penalized in the final judging.
 - Cross chain cavessons are prohibited.
- **Saddles:** Should be the flat English types. Forward seat saddles are prohibited. Western saddles are prohibited except in designated classes where Western tack is permitted or required.
- **Breast Straps:** May be used, but must be free of any imprinting of names or symbols.
- **Braids:** Should be attached neatly at forelock and at the top of the mane next to the bridle path. Braids are not worn in classes with Western Tack & Attire.

Attire

- **Dress:** Following the tradition of the show ring, it is necessary that the exhibitors be neatly attired for competition. Exhibitors will wear an English Riding Habit, with the exception of designated western attire in Western Country Pleasure and choice of tack/attire in the Trail Pleasure. All riding attire shall be neat and properly fitted. Rider's hair must not obstruct back number.
- ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmets are required whenever riding or driving.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING RACKING HORSE CLASSES

In some horses, the rack is considered to be an artificial gait, but to the true Racking Horse, this gait comes just as natural as walking or striking a bold trot for some horses.

The Racking horse requires no special training to perform this air-float, four-beat action which creates a comfortable shock-absorbed ride. The rack is often called the single-foot because a single foot strikes the ground at a time. At a rack, the horse should display style, speed and action.

The racking horse must not exhibit an exaggerated head nod in the Slow Rack or Fast Rack. The racking horse must not exhibit an exaggerated hock action with the rear legs, but its stride should be long and natural. The front leg action must exhibit a curved rolling motion rather than the legs following a straight line, commonly termed pitching or pointing. The racking horse must exhibit good conformation and be free of blemishes and unsoundness, other than healed permanent scars.

Racking Gaits include the Show Walk, Slow Rack and Fast Rack.

- **Show Walk** – The show walk is a smooth collected, slow and easy gait. It is a distinctive four-beat gait displaying both style and grace. The horse is alert and mounted well in the bridle.

- Slow Rack – The slow rack is a relaxed four-beat gait with both style and action, neither a pace nor a trot. The neck is arched with head and ears alert. The gait should be straight, square and in form at all times.
- Fast Rack – The fast rack is the same in form as the slow rack, displaying style, speed and action. The fast rack is faster than either of the other gaits, but form may not be sacrificed for speed.

Exceptions to the three gaits are found in Trail Pleasure, Style Pleasure, and Country Pleasure Classes. In each of the three gaits the horse must be collected and presented well, and the rider must be relaxed and smooth in the saddle. At no time may the horse exemplify a gait with animated hock action. The Racking Horse must not exhibit an exaggerated head nod in the Slow Rack or Fast Rack. It must not exhibit an exaggerated hock action with the rear legs, but its stride should be long and natural. The front leg action must exhibit a curved rolling motion rather than the legs following a straight line, commonly termed “pitching” or “pointing”.

Mountain Horse Division Classes

JR. TRAIL PLEASURE MOUNTAIN HORSE

Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-13 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. The reins are lightly held in two hands if riding in English attire and one hand if riding in Western attire. The horse should exhibit an evenly timed, consistent four-beat gait. A Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse must demonstrate a way of going suitable for using trail horses. Gaits are performed in a manner that is effortless and extremely smooth. Neither excessive animation nor excessive speed is desired. All gaits must be forward moving, with gliding quality and minimal knee action. Lift of the hooves should be no higher than above the mid-pastern joint. The head and neck are carried in a relaxed manner appropriate to the conformation of the horse. The trail walk must be calm, relaxed and ridden with clearly observable slack in the reins. The reins at all times must be in a "U" with the lowest point noticeably lower than the point of attachment to the bit. Horses must be well-mannered, quiet and manageable on a light rein at all gaits. Aids should be unobtrusive and produce no obvious resistance. The horses will be asked to perform the following gaits: Trail Walk, Show Gait and Pleasure Gait. The Trail Pleasure Mountain horse will enter the ring at the Show Gait and then all three gaits shall be called for; the horse will work both ways of the ring. The judge may ask for a Halt and the horse must stop promptly and stand quietly on a light rein. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. ASTM-SEI Helmets are mandatory. Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.

SR. TRAIL PLEASURE MOUNTAIN HORSE

Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. The reins are lightly held in two hands if riding in English attire and one hand if riding in Western attire. The horse should exhibit an evenly timed, consistent four-beat gait. A Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse must demonstrate a way of going suitable for using trail horses. Gaits are performed in a manner that is effortless and extremely smooth. Neither excessive animation nor excessive speed is desired. All gaits must be forward moving, with gliding quality and minimal knee action. Lift of the hooves should be no higher than above the mid-pastern joint. The head and neck are carried in a relaxed manner appropriate to the conformation of the horse. The trail walk must be calm, relaxed and ridden with clearly observable slack in the reins. The reins at all times must be in a "U" with the lowest point noticeably lower than the point of attachment to the bit. Horses must be well-mannered, quiet and manageable on a light rein at all gaits. Aids should be unobtrusive and produce no obvious resistance. The horses will be asked to perform the following gaits: Trail Walk, Show Gait and Pleasure Gait. The Trail Pleasure Mountain horse will enter the ring at the Show Gait and then all three gaits shall be called for; the horse will work both ways of the ring. The judge may ask for a Halt and the horse must stop promptly and stand quietly on a light rein. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. ASTM-SEI

Helmets are mandatory. Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.

ENGLISH PLEASURE MOUNTAIN HORSE

Registered and grade mares and geldings. This is an English Tack and Attire class for those horses that are described as Mountain horses. The horse should exhibit an evenly timed, consistent four-beat gait. The horse should exhibit the appropriate headset carriage of a Mountain horse. The horse must demonstrate a characteristically calm, intelligent, sensible, willing temperament. Reins should be held in both hands. The horses will be asked to perform the following gaits: Trail Walk, Show Gait and Pleasure Gait. The Mountain horse will enter the ring at the Show Gait and then all three gaits shall be called for and the horse will work both ways of the ring. The horse will turn towards the rail when asked to reverse. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. ASTM-SEI Helmets are mandatory. Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.

WESTERN PLEASURE MOUNTAIN HORSE

Registered and grade mares and geldings. This is a Western Tack and Attire class for those horses that are described as Mountain horses. The horse should exhibit an evenly timed, consistent four-beat gait. The Western Pleasure Mountain horse works quietly exhibiting a smooth and comfortable ride without excessive action or animation. The Western horse is forward-moving, ground-covering yet relaxed, and may be somewhat less “contained” in frame than horses in other divisions. The headset of the horse must be relaxed and steady; any tendency to be up in the bridle will be penalized. Reins must be held in one hand and may either be around the reins or a single finger may be placed between the reins. It is optional to hold the remaining reins with the free hand. The horses will be asked to perform the following gaits: Trail Walk, Show Gait and Pleasure Gait. The Western Pleasure Mountain horse will enter the ring at the Show Gait and then all three gaits shall be called for and the horse will work both ways of the ring. The horse will turn towards the center ring when asked to reverse. The judge may ask for a Halt and the horse must stop promptly and stand quietly on a light rein. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. Western tack includes a western saddle, any style (including Australian Stock Saddle) and a western bridle with no cavesson or colored brow band. Bits with shanks should not exceed 8 inches. Western attire includes: an ASTM SEI Equestrian helmet, boots and a long sleeved shirt (or jacket) and pants. Chaps and spurs are optional. Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.

COUNTRY TRAIL PLEASURE MOUNTAIN HORSE

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Country Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. The reins are lightly held in two hands if riding in English attire and one hand if riding in Western attire. The horse should exhibit an evenly timed, consistent four-beat gait. A Country Trail Pleasure Mountain Horse shall exhibit a gait that is effortless and extremely smooth, with no animation. The head and neck must be relaxed and show little to no elevation, and the horse in

gait should be ridden with a minimum of bit contact. The horse should remain relaxed at all times. The horses will be asked to perform the following gaits: Trail Walk and Show Gait. The Country Trail Pleasure Mountain horse will enter the ring at the Show Gait and then both gaits shall be called for; the horse will work both ways of the ring. The reins at the trail walk shall be loose and preferably on the buckle. The show gait must be forward moving with a gliding quality and minimal knee action. The lift of the hooves must be no higher than mid-pastern joint. Speed is not desired in this class. A completely smooth and steady ride, with proper gait at all times is essential. Manners are paramount in this class. Aids must be unobtrusive and produce no resistance. The judge will ask for a Halt and the horse must stop promptly and stand quietly on a light rein. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. ASTM-SEI Helmets are mandatory. Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.

CLASSIC PLEASURE MOUNTAIN HORSE

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Tack and attire for the Classic Pleasure Mountain Horse class may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. The Classic Pleasure Mountain Horse executes the Show and Pleasure Gaits in a collected, up-headed and stylish manner, with moderate stride. The horse is shown in a collected frame, with the head carried proudly up in the bridle. There shall be no evidence of heavy handedness, excessive pressure on the bit, or any sense of the horse being propped up or held up by the rider. The distinction between the Classic Pleasure Mountain horse and the Trail Pleasure Mountain horse is primarily in the frame and carriage. The Classic Pleasure horse will exhibit somewhat more animation and speed than the Trail Pleasure Mountain horse, with a showier, upheaded carriage. The trail walk must be calm, relaxed and ridden with clearly observable slack in the reins. The reins at all times must be in a “U” with the lowest point noticeably lower than the point of attachment to the bit. Neither speed nor animation is to be tied over smoothness and correct form and footfall. Classic Pleasure Mountain horses must present a picture of balance, elasticity, and controlled energy. Any indication of nervousness, bad manners, or tongue or mouth distress shall be penalized. The horses will be asked to perform the following gaits: Trail Walk, Show Gait and Pleasure Gait. The Classic Pleasure Mountain horse will enter the ring at the Show Gait and then all three gaits shall be called for; the horse will work both ways of the ring. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. ASTM-SEI Helmets are mandatory. Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.

MOUNTAIN HORSES GENERAL CLASS RULES

The Mountain Horse classes are for those horses known as: Rocky Mountain Horses, Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horses, Mountain Pleasure Horses, Spotted Mountain Horses, and all other horses recognized as a smooth-gaited Mountain Pleasure-type horse. 4-H will not recognize the cross-entry rule, nor the limitation on classes in which spotted mountain horses may shown.

The Mountain Horse rules conform as closely as possible to the Rules of the United Mountain Horse, Inc. show organization. Any instance not covered in the 4-H rules will be referred to the official rulebook of the UMH:

United Mountain Horse, Inc

860 Kiddville Road
Winchester, KY 40391
859-842-0270

www.unitedmountainhorse.org

Mules (Smooth Gaited) are allowed to show in the Mountain Horse Division and are expected to follow division rules. Mountain Horse entries are not to cross enter into the Walking or Racking Horse Classes and vice versa.

SHOEING REQUIREMENTS

- Shoes must be factory made keg shoes and all four feet, if shod, must be of the same shoe. Either all four feet should be shod, or all four feet should not be shod.
- Shoes must not be more than 7/8 inches wide and 3/8 inches thick, and may not weigh more than 25 ounces.
- Horses may wear a combination of flat and caulked shoes.
- Trailers (extensions of the heels) are permitted on hind shoes but may not exceed ½ inches in length.
- Clips drawn from the body of the shoe, or factory made clips on the shoe, are permitted. Welded on clips are prohibited, as is the addition of any other substance or device to add weight to the shoe.
- Drill tech, borium, and dowels are permitted.
- Dowels are limited to a total of 4 per shoe, two in front of the shoe and two in the rear of the shoe.
- Two dots of drill tech or borium are permissible on the toes of the shoes. The thickness of the shoe or caulk, including the materials described above, may not exceed 7/8th of an inch, and any traction device or application may not exceed ½ inch in diameter.
- Caulks may not be made by turnback of the shoe.
- Acrylics or other types of bondable materials are prohibited for the artificial extension of the hoof as a means to enhance gait or breakover but may be used to fill in broken sections of the natural hoof or to equalize toe length as long as toe length requirements are not exceeded.
- Bands are prohibited.

MOUNTAIN HORSE TACK AND ATTIRE

Mountain Horse Tack

Entries and exhibitors in classes other than those specifically designated as “Western”, or other description denoting required tack, may be presented in either English or Western tack. Mixing of tack and attire is not permissible.

Western Tack

- Western tack includes: saddle with horn, silver optional, one-ear or brow band headstalls, closed reins with romal or Western-style split reins of leather or hair, saddle blanket and/or pad, cord, leather or neoprene girth, and breast collar.
- Spade bits or Western bits with rollers or crickets are permissible unless their use causes mouth discomfort.
- Running or standing martingales, tie downs, figure 8 or dropped nosebands are not allowed.
- Cavessons are not allowed Western classes.

English Tack

- English tack includes: Cutback, English all purpose, plantation, trooper or dressage style saddles of leather or synthetic materials, English style single rein bridles, stitched or buckled, with cavessons and brow bands, leather, cord, neoprene, webbing or fabric girth, black or white saddle pads, either square or shaped, and leather breast strap.
- Cruppers are allowed with English tack.
- Tradition fillis style (offset stirrups), including safety stirrups are acceptable.
- Metallic and rhinestone browbands are prohibited.
- Snaffle or shank style bits are allowed in English classes.

Miscellaneous

- Any noseband and/or curb chain may not be tightened whereby two fingers cannot be inserted between the jaw and curb chain or jaw and noseband.
- Curb straps or chains of less than ½ inches are not allowed. Curb chains should lie flat against the chin groove, and should be free of any wire, rawhide or other material used in conjunction with the approved curb strap or chain.
- Cross chain cavessons, bicycle chain and other severe mouthpieces, gag bits without shanks, shanks that exceed 9 inches when measured from the top of the bit attached to the bridle to the bottom of the shank including the rings are not allowed.
- Braids or ribbons in manes and tails are not permitted.
- Tail sets not allowed.

Mountain Horse Attire

English

- At a minimum, saddle seat attire includes a long-sleeved shirt with a collar with a tie and vest or short sleeve dress shirt covered by a coat, jodhpur breeches with tie-downs, and solid color boot with heels.

- English saddle seat suit or day coat and jodhpurs, are recommended in all classes, but not required.
- Gloves and vests are optional, but strongly encouraged.
- Long hair should be neatly confined and must be off the collar, not covering the entry number.
- ASTM-SEI approved Equestrian helmet is required when riding.

Western

- Long-sleeved Western style shirt with color, completely buttoned or a turtleneck or slinky required.
- A tie, bolo or neck ornament is permissible.
- Western style boots or jodhpur boots when worn with chaps.
- Western style pants and a belt with buckle are required. Jodhpur breeches may be worn if covered by Western style chaps.
- Optional items include: jackets, vests, full suits, chaps, and gloves.
- Hair should be neatly restrained above the collar line and not cover the entry number.
- ASTM-SEI approved Equestrian helmet is required when riding.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING MOUNTAIN HORSE CLASSES

Gaits include the Trail Walk, Show Gait and Pleasure Gait.

- Trail Walk – The trail walk should be a calm, natural walk. The horse should have a headset that is natural and lower than the other gaits.
- Show Gait– The show gait is a four-beat gait that is performed at medium speed. The show walk is performed in a smooth rhythmic fashion. The head is carried proudly in the bridle and the feet should move forward in an even form. This gait has less speed and action than the mountain pleasure gait.
- Pleasure Gait – The pleasure gait is a four beat gait with increased speed and action. There is a distinct change in speed from the show walk to the mountain pleasure gait.

Classes Open to All Walking/Racking/Mountain Horses

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

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

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

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 classes and the pattern to be used will be left to the discretion of the judge. Patterns to be posted at least 1 hour prior to the show or in the State Show Pattern Book.

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.
- **Walking/Racking/Mountain:** Attire for this class may be either Saddleseat (English) or Western, but not a combination of both, and must be clean and neat.
- **Equipment:** Clean and properly adjusted equipment should be used.
- Whips are not permitted if showing with Western Attire. Youth may carry a whip or crop which is no more than thirty-six (36) inches in length. 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.

- Walking/Racking/Mountain division youth may use either an English bridle or an English halter when wearing English attire. Western attire is worn if a western halter is used.

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.
- Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse Division: Horses/ponies must be shown with a full mane that may or may not be braided. Horses/ponies may be braced, have artificial hair pieces applied and have their tails set according to recognized practices for that type of horse/pony.

III. Method of showing - 50%

- **Leading:** Youth must be able to walk, gait, 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 gaiting with the horse. 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 (away from the handler). 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.

- **Stance of the horse/pony:** Horses/ponies in the Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse Division can be either parked or set up squarely. Parked horses/ponies may be either led up or backed out of the stretch before being asked to move.
- **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.

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. Youth should keep their eyes on the judge the entire time in the ring & continue to “work” the judge at all times. Be courteous, respond promptly to directions and display good horsemanship at all times.

Equitation Classes Open to All Walking/Racking/Mountain Horses

JR. W/R/M ENGLISH EQUITATION - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 – 13 years old as of January 1 of the current year. This is an English tack and attire class for exhibitors in the Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse division. Class is judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Riders will be asked to work a pattern.

SR. W/R/M ENGLISH EQUITATION - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14 –18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. This is an English tack and attire class for exhibitors in the Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse division. Class is judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Riders will be asked to work a pattern.

JR. W/R/M BAREBACK EQUITATION - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 -13 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Walking, Racking and Mountain Horse exhibitors may enter this class. Class is judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Riders will be asked to work a pattern.

SR. W/R/M BAREBACK EQUITATION Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14 – 18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. Walking, Racking and Mountain Horse exhibitors may enter this class. Class is judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Riders will be asked to work a pattern.

JR. W/R/M STOCK SEAT EQUITATION - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 – 13 years old as of January 1 of the current year. This is a Western tack and attire class for exhibitors in the Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse division. Class is judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Riders will be asked to work a pattern.

SR. W/R/M STOCK SEAT EQUITATION - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14 –18 years old as of January 1 of the current year. This is a Western tack and attire class for exhibitors in the Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse division. Class is judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Riders will be asked to work a pattern.

Gaits for the Equitation Classes

Walking, Racking & Mountain Horse entries will all show together in Equitation Classes. Therefore, the judge will call for an Equitation Walk and Favorite Gait. The Equitation Walk compares to a Flat Walk, Show Walk, Show Gait - not a trail walk or dog-walk. The Favorite Gait is an intermediate gait with an increase in speed over the Equitation Walk - not a canter.

Horses will not be required to back in English Equitation or Bareback Equitation. Exhibitors will not be asked to address their reins in Stock Seat Equitation or Bareback Equitation. Horses will be expected to back in the Stock Seat Equitation Class and the judge may call for a halt. The canter will not be called in any Walking/Racking/Mountain Horse Equitation class.

STANDARDS FOR W/R/M ENGLISH EQUITATION

Equitation is the art of horsemanship. In this class, the rider demonstrates skill and talent to control and guide a horse to achieve maximum performance. Although the horse is not judged in the division per se, the ability of the rider to influence the horse to smoothly execute gaits, commands and ring figures depends in large part on the training the horse has had by the rider. In addition to the functional skills the rider must demonstrate good riding form, to include an elegant and correct seat, proper use of hands, and overall balanced body position. Both horse and rider must be turned out to an exceptional standard in order to compete in the equitation division.

- Horses used in this class should be well groomed and properly tacked.
- All exhibitors in Equitation classes must conform to the rules for personal appointments or be severely penalized.
- Fall of the exhibitor will eliminate the entry.
- Any exhibitor not having his mount under sufficient control shall be dismissed from the ring.
- Exhibitors should be familiar with various parts of the horse, tack, and rules on Equitation.
- Judges should penalize those exhibitors who do not conform to proper appointments. Appointment requirements are based on good taste, which is always in style and always correct.
- Patterns will be posted at least one hour before the class.
- Riders will not be asked to canter or to mount and dismount.
- Riders will be asked to address their reins and work a pattern.

Appointments-Personal

- The exhibitor is to be judged on his or her skill and form on a horse. Horse and exhibitor should be groomed to meticulous perfection. The exhibitor should exercise good taste right down to the smallest, most minute detail. The exhibitor is required to choose a neat, well-fitted habit with accompanying accessories within the guidelines based on tradition and present-day customs.
- A saddle suit/habit of a solid color or conservative pinstripe, as well as a Day Coat with Jodhpur pants is acceptable. Vests should be worn and may either match or contrast with the saddle suit/habit color. Careful attention should be given to the fit of the habit. The coat length should be at least 3 inches below the fingertips when standing. The jodhpurs should be long enough to rest on the exhibitor's boot top and the bottom of the boot heel showing only the toe of the boot when mounted. A moderate fullness is better than a suit that fits too snugly. Underpasses must always be worn snugly against the boot. Small post earrings can be worn to add to the look
- A four-in-hand tie matching or coordinating with the suit color should be worn with a man's style white or pastel shirt.
- Boots should be of the English type in either calf or patent leather.
- Gloves shall be worn and should match the suit.
- English type slip on spurs and a short riding whip are optional

- The exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed. Long hair must be styled above the collar.
- ASTM-SEI equestrian approved helmet is required.

English Equitation Appointments & Tack

- **Saddle:** English saddles with a four inch cutback are preferred. Standard cutback or straight head saddle with plain, straight front flaps, and spoon or square cantle. Trooper saddles and bounce pads are not allowed. Dressage or forward seat saddles are prohibited. Regular, Fillis, or safety stirrups are permitted. Standard leathers with ends pulled back behind the leg are proper. The girth should be leather, linen or patent. White is considered traditional, although other dark colors may be used.
- **Bridle and Reins:** Standard, simple English bridles fitted with hooks and studs or buckles is proper. Colored brow bands are appropriate; however, rhinestones, etc., are not acceptable. Cavessons may be leather or match the browband, which may be leather or colored patent. Reins shall be single plain or simple laced rein connected at the end by buckle or stitching. The bight of the reins always falls on the right side.
- **Saddle Pads:** No pad is preferred, but if used pads should be dark and follow the form of the saddle. They should not protrude beyond the saddle so as not to detract from the rider.
- All tack should be clean and well kept with shining bits and stirrup irons.
- Breast straps of brown or black leather are optional.
- Whether of the flat or deep seat variety, the saddle should be the correct size for the exhibitor.
- Braids should be of the straight plaited variety with no butterflies or other ornaments and only required if appropriate for breed requirements.

Position in the Saddle

The general appearance of the English Equitation exhibitor should be one of calm, supple workmanship, in perfect balance with effective and easy control of him or herself and mount. The exhibitor should show his horse well and should exercise good ring showmanship. The basic position should be as follows:

- Head held high looking forward.
- Shoulders square with rib cage drawn up out of the belt.
- Waist should be very supple.
- Buttocks should be neatly tucked (avoid sway back).
- Seat deep, close, in deepest part of the saddle.
- Thighs and knees should be in close contact, with toes pointed forward.
- With foot out of the stirrup, the iron should strike the exhibitor just below the ankle.
- Ball of foot should rest squarely on the stirrup iron with the weight of the leg lowering the heel below the toe.

- Arm should fall naturally from the shoulder with the elbow on the vertical or slightly forward. Forearm should be parallel to the ground or angling up slightly.
- Hands and forearms should form a “V” when viewed from above. They should be held well over the withers and far enough apart so that the thumbs almost touch when extended. The hands should be light and in unison with the horse, showing adaptability as well as control.
- Rein should be held between the thumb and index finger with the rest of the fingers closing gently around the rein. Closed (or crossed) reins shall be used with both hands on the reins, and the bight of the rein should be on the right side.
- One should be able to draw a vertical line through the ear, shoulder, hip, and heel.

Position in Motion

- **Start:** Should be gradual, smooth. Use necessary leg aids with slight release or rein pressure.
- **Equitation Walk**
(Flat Walk/Show Walk/Show Gait - Not a Trail Walk or Dog-Walk):
Should display a gait that is walk with light bit pressure, with required leg aids and correct speed. Close seat with very little motion in saddle. Hands flexible, but showing no obvious movements.
- **Favorite Gait (Intermediate Gait showing an increase in speed – Not a canter):**
Reins adjusted for proper bit pressure for individual mount. A close, steady seat with required leg aids. Exhibitor should be supple and alert.
- **Stop:** To be gradual and easy with no jerking. Increase rein pressure evenly, keeping weight well down in saddle, with yielding legs, and light foot pressure applied to irons.
- **Park or Square:** Horse to stand on all four feet with head up, neck crested, jaw flexible. Feet even front and rear. Light pressure on bit.
- **Reverses:** Toward the rail. Well collected reins so as not to lose mouth contact. Light pressure applied with legs when turning. Even rein pressure after turn, setting head in correct position for gait requested.
- **Whip:** Should the rider choose to carry a whip, it is proper for it to be carried to the inside of the ring for rail work (in the left hand going to the left and switch to the right hand while going to the right). Whip is returned to the left hand for the line-up.

STANDARDS FOR W/R/M BAREBACK EQUITATION

The term "Equitation" specifically means the act or art of riding horseback. The Junior & Senior Bareback Equitation classes are performed without the benefit of a saddle. Exhibitors will be expected to work an individual test (pattern) in the bareback equitation classes. Patterns will be posted no later than 1 hour prior to equitation class. A canter is not required and exhibitors will not be asked to address their reins or to back their horse.

- **Tack and Attire:** Appointments, attention to detail and basic body position all apply to the bareback equitation class. In this class, riders may elect to wear English or Western tack and attire, but not a combination of both. ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is mandatory.

- Please see standards for English Equitation if English tack & attire is used.
- Please see standards for Stock Seat Equitation if Western tack & attire is used. Western Entries are to be ridden with one hand on the reins.
- **Gaits:** judge will call for an Equitation Walk and Favorite Gait. The Equitation Walk compares to a Flat Walk, Show Walk, Show Gait - not a trail walk or dog-walk. The Favorite Gait is an intermediate gait with an increase in speed over the Equitation Walk - not a canter.

STANDARDS FOR W/R/M STOCK SEAT EQUITATION

The term "Equitation" specifically means the act or art of riding horseback. Exhibitors will be expected to work an individual pattern in Stock Seat equitation classes. The gaits to be called by the judge will be Equitation Walk and Favorite Gait. A canter will not be required. The judge can call for a halt and will ask all exhibitors to back individually, and may ask them to do a 360 degree turn (rider may choose direction of turn).

- **Personal Attire:** The horse and exhibitor should be groomed to meticulous perfection and should exercise good taste. Stock Seat Equitation Attire must include: ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet, long sleeved shirt, western type tie, bolo or pin at the collar, gloves, western belt, long pants and boots. The total outfit should coordinate well together - both with the horse and the saddle blanket. Western chaps are quite acceptable although not mandatory. A coordinating vest and/or short western type jacket is optional. The exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed. Long hair must be styled above the collar.
- **Tack:** The tack should be very clean and well kept. No braids should be used in the horse's mane and forelock in stock seat equitation. A western bridle with no cavesson must be used. Either a split or Romal rein will be acceptable. The shanks of the bit must not exceed 9 & 1/2 inches (Walking/Racking horses) or 9 inches (Mountain Horses). The saddle should be of the western type and should be the correct size to fit the exhibitor (No Australian stock saddles are permitted). Saddle blanket under the saddle is mandatory. Consideration should be given to the saddle blanket. The colors should complete the overall look in coordination with the exhibitor's attire. Silver on the bridle and saddle are quite acceptable and should be well cleaned, but should not count over good working equipment.
- **Basic Position:** Head held high, looking forward. Shoulders square with rib cage drawn up out of the belt. Waist should be supple. Buttocks should be neatly tucked (no sway back). Seat deep, close, in deepest part of the saddle. Thighs and knees should be in close contact, with toes pointed forward. With the foot out of the stirrup, the stirrup should strike the exhibitor just below the ankle. Ball of foot should rest squarely on the stirrup with the weight of the leg lowering the heel below the toe. Elbows should be quiet, staying close to exhibitor's side. One should be able to draw a vertical line through the exhibitor's ear, shoulder, hip and heel.
- **Proper Split Rein Position:** Reins may be held in either the right or the left hand, but may not be switched during the class. With a split rein, the exhibitor may only

- place the index finger between the reins and the remainder of the rein must fall on the same side as the hand that the reins are in. The off hand during the class must never touch the remainder of the rein. The hand holding the rein should be placed slightly in front of the horn at about the level of the horn. The position of the hand not holding the rein is optional, but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment and held in a relaxed manner, with the exhibitor's body straight at all times.
- **Proper Romal Rein Position:** The right or left hand may hold the reins, with the remainder of the rein coiled neatly in the off hand. There should be approximately 16 inches between hands with the off hand behind the cinch. The rein hand can have no fingers between the reins and should be held in a fist position just in front of the horn.
 - **Horses Four & Under:** Bosals or ordinary ring snaffles may be used on four-year old or younger western flat-shod pleasure horses. When using a bosal or a snaffle, the rider may use two hands on the reins. The ordinary ring snaffle has a broken mouth piece with conventional O-rings, egg-butt, or D-rings, and the ring must be no larger than 4 inches in diameter. Optional loose chin strap of leather or nylon is permitted. Reins should be attached above the chin strap.
 - **Position in Motion:**
 - **Start:** Should be gradual, smooth. Use necessary leg aids with slight release or rein pressure.
 - **Stop:** To be gradual and easy with no jerking. Increase rein pressure evenly, keeping weight well down in saddle, with yielding legs, and light foot pressure applied.
 - **Equitation Walk**
(Flat Walk/Show Walk/Show Gait - Not a Trail Walk or Dog-Walk):
 Should display a gait that is walk ridden with little or no pressure on the rein, with required leg aids and correct speed. Close seat with very little motion in saddle. Hands flexible, but showing no obvious movements. Reins held according to proper western rein position & cannot be changed during the performance.
 - **Favorite Gait (Intermediate Gait showing an increase in speed – Not a canter):**
 Reins adjusted for proper bit pressure for individual mount. A close, steady seat with required leg aids. Exhibitor should be supple and alert.
 - **Park or Square:** Horse to stand on all four feet with head up, neck crested, jaw flexible. Feet even front and rear. Light pressure on bit.
 - **Reverses:** Toward the center of the ring Pressure applied with legs when turning. Should emphasize rider's ability to neck rein their horse.
 - **Halt:** The judge may ask for a halt during any gait. The exhibitor should respond quickly without altering his or her basic position. Horse must stand quietly on the rail.
 - **360 degree Neck Rein Turn:** At the discretion of the judge, the horse may be asked to back clear of the line up and do a 360 degree neck reined turn on the haunches, either to the right or the left, exhibitor's discretion.
 - **Gaits:** Judge will call for an Equitation Walk and Favorite Gait. The Equitation Walk compares to a Flat Walk, Show Walk, Show Gait - not a trail walk or dog-walk. The Favorite Gait is an intermediate gait with an increase in speed over the Equitation Walk - not a canter.

WALKING/RACKING/MOUNTAIN HORSE – OPEN INVITATIONAL

PLEASURE FLAT SHOD CANTER CLASS – OPEN INVITATIONAL

Registered and grade mares and geldings of any age. No stallions are allowed. This class is open to horses/ponies (including smooth gaited mules) that would be considered as Walking, Racking, Mountain Pleasure, Spotted Saddle Horses, as well as any other smooth gaited type of horse. Tack and attire may be English or Western, but not a combination of both. Entries may choose to use one or two hands when riding Western and have the option of using a cavesson. Tack and attire should conform to breed standards.

Gaits to be executed according to breed standards and gaits will be announced as:
Trail Walk, Favorite Gait & Canter

- The Trail Walk is expected to be a relaxed, smooth, natural walk – an authentic four beat walk.
- The Favorite Gait is expected to be a collected, evenly timed four beat gait, performed at moderate speed, with stride and action appropriate for the breed.
- The canter must be a three beat gait that is relaxed and ground covering, but not fast – the gait must be smooth and controlled. Pumping of the reins is severely penalized. Canter departs must be clean and executed without steps of the intermediate gait. The horse shall pick up the correct lead for the way of the ring. Cross cantering shall be severely penalized, as shall any tendency to four beat while at the canter.

The judge shall call for the gaits in the following order: enter the ring at a trail walk, favorite gait, trail walk, canter and back to the trail walk. When the horses are reversed, the order shall be: continue at the trail walk, favorite gait, trail walk, canter and back to the trail walk prior to entries being called to line-up. English entries should reverse to the rail and Western entries should reverse to the center. Horses must perform all required gaits both ways of the ring. A horse that has not performed all required gaits shall not be placed over a horse that has performed all gaits.

Horses that are not under the rider's complete control will be excused from the ring. Horses will be asked to back and should do so readily, backing at least 3 steps. Horses are to be flat shod, without action devices and bands are optional.