

# Canyon County



## Horse Classes & Rules

# CANYON COUNTY 4-H HORSE SHOW RULES

## INTRODUCTION

These rules and class descriptions have been developed as a guide for club and county 4-H shows. The rules will be used at the Canyon County Fair Horse Show and any other horse event in which 4-H membership is required for participation.

The primary purpose of any 4-H Horse Show is to provide an opportunity for 4-H Horse Project members to demonstrate their knowledge and abilities. In so doing, safety, humane treatment of animals and maintaining our good public image are paramount.

The current Idaho 4-H Policies and Procedures govern all 4-H activity in Idaho. The current Canyon County Horse Rule Book will govern any decisions, except when the book is in direct conflict with the Idaho 4-H Policies and Procedures.

Changes to this rule book will only be made on a three-year cycle, unless there is a true safety concern. Other rule changes will not be made until the end of the three-year cycle when the book is revised.

Special circumstances that are not listed in this book will require approval from the Canyon County Horse Leaders. These rules and class descriptions have been developed as a guide for club and county horse shows within Canyon County.

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## WHEN I COMPETE

- ◆ **I have a performance goal...never a “to only beat someone else” goal.**
- ◆ **I respect and learn from other competitors more skilled than myself.**
- ◆ **I don’t criticize other competitors, officials, or judges.**
- ◆ **I do my best today.**
- ◆ **I have fun.**
- ◆ **I stay home if I can’t follow the above rules.**

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## **GUIDELINES & REGULATIONS**

Showing is only ONE part of the 4-H experience.

Our mission is to use horses and showing as the vehicle to allow members to learn and practice life skills. Members will learn about horses, and how to safely handle, ride and manage their 4-H project. The emphasis throughout this program will always be on safety first and foremost, and the education and skills that can be developed through this program.

Any rule/regulation in this book (unless it is a printing or typographical error) will stand as printed, unless changed by the Canyon County Horse Leaders. Please refer to each class section for specific rules and guidelines.

No rule changes will be made until submitted in writing, reviewed and voted on by the Canyon County Horse Leaders. Forms are available at the Canyon County Extension Office.

Please note that the exhibitor exempts Canyon County Horse leaders from liability for any loss, damage or injury to himself/herself or property, or injury to any person by any person by any animal owned or exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify the said Canyon County Horse Leaders against all claims and any injuries or damage arising from actions or negligence of an exhibitor.

- Interpretation of the rules and other decisions of the judge will be FINAL.
- Only officials and exhibitors may be in the show ring: and NO unauthorized persons are allowed in the gate area.
- Complaints: Any 4-H member or parent shall register any complaint first with their 4-H leader of record and then if deemed worthwhile, the leader will take the complaint to the show manager/superintendent. Failure to follow this procedure may, at the discretion of the show management/superintendent, result in the disqualification of a member from the class.

The fitting, handling or riding of any horse MUST be done by the members and not by parents or leaders, except where there is a question of safety (i.e., small children cannot reach). Penalties may be exercised for any violation and will be regulated by the horse leaders, who are to report any violation to the show manager/superintendent, who at their discretion may:

- #1 Give a verbal warning
- #2 Dismiss the member from their next class
- #3 Dismiss the member from the rest of the day

All exhibitors must be 4-H members in good standing and enrolled in a horse project for the current year.

### **4-H MEMBER**

**CODE OF CONDUCT** – All 4-H members will act in a courteous, respectful manner portraying good sportsmanship, horsemanship, and integrity at all times. Unnecessary roughness, force, or trauma to a horse will not be tolerated. All 4-H members, parents, and leaders are subject to the 4-H Code of Conduct as detailed in the Idaho 4-H Policies and Procedures.

While showing, all exhibitors will respect all horses and keep a safe distance between themselves and other exhibitors. Judges will be asked to take necessary action for this violation including:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Dismissal from the class

Exhibitors of the same family may share a project horse and show it when no other horse is available. 4-H members are to receive NO coaching/instruction while in a class. Failure on the part of a parent, leader or trainer to abide by this rule will result in:

1. A verbal warning for the first offense
2. Removal from the class for any additional offenses.

Exhibitors are to wear clean well-fitting attire that is appropriate for the class.

The required standard dress code for all western classes is: hard soled boots with a heel, long sleeve shirt, a cowboy hat or helmet and a belt if belt loops are on the pants.

The required standard dress code for English classes is: hunt boots (leather or rubber), long or short sleeve shirt, breeches, dark hunt coat and riding helmet

Exhibitors with long hair are encouraged to pull it back and have it confined in a hair net.

\*\*\* For specific rules on Attire or Appointments please review the division rules.

\*\*\* The use of SEI certified helmets is RECOMMENDED for all classes and is REQUIRED for all bareback and English riding classes. The safety equipment institute certifies helmets which meet or exceed the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard for equestrian head gear.

## **AGE DIVISIONS**

The 4-H member's age as of January 1 of the current year. All members will exhibit under the following divisions, unless otherwise specified.

NOVICE I = 8-10 years old; first year of riding

NOVICE II = 9-10 years old; second or third year of riding

JUNIOR I = 11 years old; first year of riding

JUNIOR II = 11 years old; second year or more of riding

INTERMEDIATE I = 12-14 years old; first year of riding

INTERMEDIATE II 12-14 years old; second year or more of riding

SENIOR I = 15-18 years old; first year of riding

SENIOR II = 15-18 years old; second year or more of riding

## **HORSES**

The age of a horse shall be computed on the basis of a calendar year starting on January 1 of the year foaled. For example, a horse foaled anytime in 2006 will be considered to be one year old on January 1, 2007, and two years old on January 1, 2008.

Stallions over one year of age are not to be shown.

The use of sedatives in horses participating in any Canyon County 4-H horse show is prohibited. No animal may be exhibited that has been given any sedative or illegal drug administered in any manner.

Animals on medication must have a veterinarian slip. Violations of this rule will result in disqualification from the show and the revocation of awards and placing.

Any horse that is prone to kick MUST have a visible red ribbon (10-12 inches in length) attached at the top of its tail.

All horses being shown need to be on a current vaccine and deworming schedule.

Required vaccines are:

- Eastern-Western Encephalomyelitis
- Tetanus
- Influenza
- Rhinopneumontis

Recommended vaccines:

- West Nile
- Equine Herpes Virus (EVH)
- Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) (recommended for breeding stock)

## **JUDGE**

Judges for all Canyon County 4-H Horse shows and the Canyon County Fair horse show have been carefully selected and approved by Canyon County Horse Leaders. Comments, concerns or suggestions with regard to a judge will be accepted in writing to the Canyon County Horse Leaders. All scheduled judges are to receive a copy of this rule book, along with a list of classes to be judged, and any other necessary information.

At the judge's discretion riders/exhibitors may be asked to complete additional maneuvers in order to place the class. A judge MAY NOT ask riders/exhibitors to exchange horses in a class. The judge will consider harshness and restrictiveness of equipment when making their placings. Furthermore, a judge is NOT to give additional consideration for expensive or elaborate equipment and appointments. Judges will dismiss any exhibitor for the use of profane language or unnecessary force of reins or spurs. The judge will also dismiss any horse deemed lame, unmanageable or unsafe ( i.e., kicking, rearing, bolting, or biting).

It is recommended that a Score sheet / Comment sheet be made available at the discretion of management/superintendent for some or all classes.

## **SHOW MANAGEMENT/SUPERINTENDENT**

Class Size – Show management/Superintendents reserve the right to cancel, split or combine classes if deemed necessary.

\*\*\* One Show Manager/Superintendent will be present at the arena at all times. If responsibility takes both managers/superintendents away from the arena at the same time the event/class will be stopped / delayed until one or both managers/superintendents can be present at the arena.

In all Canyon County Horse Events, the event chair/superintendent/manager will act as the liaison between the event and the Extension Office or facility management. Any contact with these groups or other outside entities should be approved by the event chair/superintendent/manager.

***It is recommended that the management/supervisor offer an opportunity for an Exhibitors' meeting prior to the start of the show to clarify schedule, judge's comments, etc. This will serve as the opportunity for parents, leaders and exhibitors to approach the judge with questions. At no other time is a judge to be approached unless arranged through the manager/superintendent.***

***It is recommended that show managers/superintendents meet with all volunteers who are scheduled to help the day of the show to confirm job descriptions and answer any questions.***

## **CLASSES**

Below is a list of offered classes. Please refer to the "Class Description" portion of this rule book for information on the class and judging criteria.

### **English**

- English Showmanship
- English Pleasure
- Hunt Seat Equitation (Flat)
- English Pattern (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Hunter Hack
- Hunt Seat Equitation (Over Fences)
- English Bareback Equitation

### **Western**

- Western Showmanship
- Western Pleasure
- Western Equitation
- Western Bareback Equitation
- Western Riding
- Reining

### **Walk Trot**

### **Trail**

### **Horsemanship**

### **Quality**

### **Timed Events/Games**

- Figure 8 Race
- Key Hole Race
- Flag Race
- Ribbon Race
- Dollar Bill Race
- Simon Sez
- Pole Bending
- Barrels
- Egg & Spoon Race
- Australian Pursuit
- Pairs Class

## **CLASS PROCEDURES**

Judging will begin when the exhibitor enters the arena and will continue until the class placings are called. While in the arena, riders will reverse to the inside of the ring.

When lining up, exhibitors will line up keeping a safe distance between horses – typically enough room to turn a horse around. While on the rail, exhibitors are to keep a minimum of one horse length between themselves and the other horses

Once a class has started no late exhibitors will be allowed to enter the arena, no exceptions.

### **GATE HOLDS/TACK CHANGES**

All exhibitors at any horse show are to be prompt and ready to show at the time their class is called. Exhibitors are to check in with the gate person when they arrive. If an exhibitor is scheduled for a class, but is not going to enter, they are to contact the gate person immediately.

Exhibitors needing additional time between classes are required to notify show management prior to the class if special arrangements need to be made.

### **GATE MANNERS**

At no time should any horse, 4-H member, parent or leader be in the way of the entrance/exit gates. A clear path is to be maintained at all times.

### **TACK & EQUIPMENT**

All tack and equipment is to be properly adjusted and fitted to the horse. When available, a tack steward or gate person may inspect tack and equipment prior to contestants entering the arena. All tack is to be clean and in good working order.

Spurs are allowed in both English and Western classes. Western spurs are to have dull free-moving rowels or ball ends. Standard blunt English spurs are allowed. Stirrups/boots must allow for clear movement of foot while in stirrup.

Please refer to each class description for further information about tack requirements

### **Illegal Tack & Equipment**

- Mechanical Hackamore
- Nose Band
- Chains over the nose of the horse
- Roping Reins
- Bareback Pads
- Tie Down
- Gag Bit
- Running Martingale
- Quirts
- Mechanical Bit
- Bats
- Draw Reins
- Twisted Wire Bits
- Curb chains or straps, less than ½ inch wide

### **AWARDS/ PLACINGS/DISQUALIFICATIONS**

#### Danish System

This is an award system based on a standard. The ribbons are earned by the exhibitor based on his/her own performance in the class, not compared to the other contestants. Scoring is as follows:

Blue Award = Excellent display of skill, top of the standard

Red Award = Very Good display of skill, above average of the standard

White Award = Good display of skill, met minimum requirements

### American System

This is a system based on the score received when compared to the other exhibitors in the class. It is recommended when using this system, each exhibitor receive a ribbon.

Participation ribbons may be awarded at the judges' discretion for exhibitors who have fallen off their horse, experience equipment failure, or otherwise do not meet the minimum requirements of the class.

Exhibitors wishing to enter a class and not be judged are to make arrangements with the show management/superintendent prior to the class. Non-judged exhibitors are to display their number backwards so that the number is not visible.

### Disqualification

The following is a list of actions subject to disqualification at the discretion of show management/superintendent

- Falling off of the horse at any time in the arena during a class
- Equipment failure
- Rearing, bucking, bolting, or biting
- Horses that are out of control, unmanageable or deemed unsafe by the judge and/or show management/superintendent
- Exhibitors receiving additional instruction/coaching from someone outside the arena
- Exhibitors showing disrespect to the judge or other officials
- Exhibitors showing dangerous or abuse treatment of their horse
- Whipping, batting or spurring in front of the cinch.
- Unnecessary roughness or abuse of animals.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of exhibitor, parent or leader.
- Disrespectful behavior or abusive language on part of the exhibitor, the exhibitor's parents or leader.
- All sick, lame and unmanageable horses **will be disqualified at the discretion of the judge or show officials**. A horse that cannot be controlled by the exhibitor (in or out of the show ring) will be considered unmanageable. "Unmanageable" is defined as disruptive to other exhibitors in the class, a horse running into gates, out of the arena and/or behavior that may cause the rider to be bucked off, fall, or dismount.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Safety Comes FIRST!
- Conformation of the horse will not be considered in any class, except where stated.
- Any family owned or properly leased horse, pony or mule, regardless of training, may be shown and used as a project horse by a 4-H member who is currently enrolled and in good standing with a county 4-H Horse Project.
- Members may share a horse that is owned within the same family. They will need to be entered into separate riding classes, and when tack/equipment changes do not delay the show
- The use of a SEI certified helmet is recommended for all classes and **required for bareback and English classes**. The Safety Equipment Institute certifies helmets which meet or exceed the American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM) standard for equestrian head gear.
- The judge or show officials will have the authority to disqualify any exhibitor for any appointments that, in the judge's opinion, would give an exhibitor/horse an unfair advantage or that the judge believes to be inhumane.

- Rider falling off the horse or equipment failure **will** result in the member receiving only a participation ribbon at the judge's discretion.
- Any horse that is prone to kick must have a visible (10"-12") red ribbon attached to top of the tail.
- At no time will an expensive outfit or tack be considered over a neat, clean outfit in good repair.
- Exhibitors must prepare their own animals without assistance, except in holding, leading, loading, or where there is a question of safety, i.e., small children cannot reach.
- From the time the horse enters the grounds; no trainer or person other than the 4-H exhibitor may ride the horse and/or assist the exhibitor.
- Judges have been carefully selected and approved by the Canyon County Horse Leaders. **THE DECISION OF THE JUDGE IS FINAL.**
- For general safety considerations, no bare feet or open-toed shoes will be permitted at any time while working around or in the vicinity of a horse.

## **SECTION I – ENGLISH CLASS GENERAL RULES**

The 4-H horse is often a do-everything horse. Riders will be judged on their ability to ride the correct seat, regardless of the breed of horse.

All English classes with the exception of in hand classes, will enter the ring at a posting or rising trot.

### Appointments

#### Tack

- a) Bridles and bits shall be of Standard English type, i.e. English snaffle, Pelham (with four reins) or Kimberwick, all with a cavesson, noseband and browband.
- b) Full bridles are not allowed in Hunt Seat Classes.
- c) Saddles will be English Hunt Seat, Flat, forward seat, Dressage or combination. Saddles may have a suede seat and/or suede insert on the skirt
- d) All saddles must have safety hinge placed in the "Open" position
- e) Crops and breastplates are optional. Crops will not be carried in Equitation flat classes.
- f) Spurs are optional but shall be standard blunt type.
- g) Martingales are permitted in over-fences classes, but not permitted in flat classes.
- h) Splint boots or galloping boots are permitted in over fences classes only. Bell boots, draw reins or jumping hackamores are not permitted in any classes.

### Grooming

- a) Hunters are normally braided but mane and tail braiding is optional. Braiding must be done correctly. A tail may be braided while leaving the mane groomed.

### Attire

- a) All English riders must wear ASTM approved protective headgear while riding in the arena or in a practice arena. An approved helmet is one that carries the approval stamp of the United States Pony Club (USPC) Safety Committee.
- b) Appropriate Hunt type breeches, boots (Leather or Rubber), and a hunt type coat must be worn. Gloves are optional but recommended in Equitation classes.
- c) Those exhibitors with long hair are encouraged to pull hair back and keep confined under their helmet or in a manner so their number is not covered.

## SECTION II – ENGLISH CLASSES

### SHOWMANSHIP (English)

#### Class Description

Showmanship is a demonstration of the members' ability to show the animal to its best advantage at halter.

#### Judging Criteria

The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision.

#### Scoring

- Showing of the horse/Pattern Work = 50%
- Appearance of Horse = 40%
- Appearance of Exhibitor = 10%

#### Appointments

##### Tack

- Bridle only, according to breed being shown
- Whips permitted according to breed being shown
- Tack should be neat, clean and in good repair

#### Fitting of Horses

- Condition and thriftiness
- Grooming
- Hair coat must be clean and well brushed
- Mane and tail must be clean and free of tangles
- Hoofs must be trimmed properly. If shod, shoes must fit properly and clinches should be neat
- Hoof oil, or polish is allowed but not required

#### Trimming

- Horse's mane may be roached, but should be left according to breed being shown
- Horse's tail should be properly prepared according to the breed or type of horse
- Inside of ears may be clipped but exhibitor **will not be penalized** if not done.
- Long hair on jaw, legs and pasterns should be clipped

#### Appearance of Exhibitor

- Clothes and person – neat and clean
- Suitable attire (*See ENGLISH Attire*)

#### Class Routine

The system of showing used will be the general standard for that breed.

- Exhibitor should enter ring leading animal at an alert walk according to the judge's directions
- Exhibitor should walk at the animal's left side, holding reins in the right hand, with the remaining portion of the rein held neatly and safely in the left hand.
- Animal should lead readily at the walk and trot.
- All exhibitors will be required to do individual work

### Posing

When posing horse, stand toward the front facing the horse, always in a position where you can see the judge and the judge can see you.

Pose horse according to the breed being shown

- Quarter Type – feet squarely under horse.
- Saddle Seat Types (Paso Fino, Tennessee Walker, etc) – hind feet stretched.
- Hunter Types (Thoroughbred, Standard bred, Arabian, etc) – front feet square and under: hind feet may be slightly off -set (One foot more forward).
- Draft types (Any horse that is cross bred from a draft that exhibits the physical characteristics of a draft breed will be considered a draft type) – feet squarely under horse, one hind foot may be cocked or resting.

Do not crowd the exhibitor next to you when in a side-by-side position or lined up head to tail.

When standing next to a nervous or anxious horse, allow for plenty of room between you and the other horse. If an exhibitor feels they must move, they may move to the end of the line by walking behind the line and taking a new place in line.

When a Judge is observing other animals, continue showing to the judge, and be sure your horse is standing correctly.

Be natural. Over showing, undue fussing and maneuvering are objectionable.

### ***Poise, Alertness and Merits***

- Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times
- Don't be distracted by persons or things outside the ring
- Respond quickly to requests from the judge and officials
- Be courteous at all times
- Recognize quickly and correct faults of your horse
- Keep showing until the entire class has been placed and excused from the ring, unless the judge has instructed otherwise. The judge may take an award away from any contestant for unsportsmanlike conduct even after the class has been placed and the contestant is still in the arena
- Judges may instruct exhibitors to stand at ease at their discretion

## **ENGLISH PLEASURE**

### Class Description

The emphasis of this class is on the horse, its way of going and ability to walk, trot, and canter while on the rail and keeping a pleasurable demeanor.

### Judging Criteria

Horses are to be judged on performance, ability to give a good pleasurable ride, and manners.

### Scoring

- Horse's way of going/transitions = 60%
- Riders use of aides = 40%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- All exhibitors will enter the ring at a posting trot or intermediate gait in a counter-clockwise direction.
- All exhibitors will go at least once around the ring at each of the three gaits: walk, trot and canter.
- All exhibitors will then be asked to reverse and repeat the procedure.
- The judge may ask for an extended gait.
- At the extended gait, the judge may ask riders to halt & stand quietly on a free rein.
- Horses may be required to back.
- Horses may be required to reverse at walk, trot or intermediate gait at the discretion of the judge. Rider shall not be asked to reverse at the canter or hand gallop.

## **HUNT SEAT EQUITATION (Flat)**

### Class Description

The emphasis of this class is on the rider, their ability to use correct aides, and leads while performing the maneuvers requested by the judged.

### Judging Criteria

- Exhibitors will be judged on seat, hands legs and ability to show the horse.
- Exhibitors will be judged on their ability to attain the desired ride or results according to the judge's instructions.
- The performance of the horse is not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining the desired results.

### Scoring

- Seat, Hands, & Balance = 70%
- Performance = 20%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- All exhibitors will enter the ring at a posting trot or intermediate gait in a counter-clockwise direction.
- All exhibitors shall then go at least once around the ring at each of the three gaits: walk, trot and canter.
- All exhibitors will then be asked to reverse and repeat the procedure.
- The judge may ask for an extended gait.
- At the extended gait, the judge may ask for the halt and for horses to stand quietly on a free rein.
- Horses may be required to back.
- Horses may be required to reverse at walk, trot or intermediate gait at the discretion of the judge. Rider shall not be asked to reverse at the canter or hand gallop.

## **HUNTER HACK**

### Class Description

This is an equitation class with jumps. The class will perform on the rail and each exhibitor will perform the required pattern containing two jumps.

### Judging Criteria

- The horse should be obedient, alert and responsive, and should move freely.
- The style of jumping should be smooth and consistent such that it could be relied on to take a ride over fences in a safe, obedient manner at an even pace.

### Scoring

- Individual Work: Rider = 35% Horse = 20%
- Rail Work: Rider = 35% Horse = 10%

### Class Routine

- All exhibitors will enter the ring at a posting trot.
- All exhibitors shall then go at least once around the ring at each of the three gaits: walk, trot and canter.
- All exhibitors will then be asked to reverse and repeat the procedure.
- The judge may ask for a hand gallop.
- At the hand gallop, the judge may ask for the halt, and horses will stand quietly on a free rein.
- Horses will back in a straight line.
- Horses will jump two fences.  
Height:
  - Novice and Junior: minimum 18" but not to exceed 24"
  - Intermediate and Senior: minimum 24" but not to exceed 36"
- Distance between jumps or fences will not be less than 48 feet.

## **HUNT SEAT EQUITATION (OVER FENCES)**

### Class Description

This is an Equitation over Fences class. The exhibitors will demonstrate their ability in controlling their horse, while using correct riding aides in a suitable Hunt Seat position while going over fences at a balanced, even pace.

### Judging Criteria

- The performance of the horse is not to be considered unless it is the result of the exhibitor's ability.
- Classes shall be held over reasonable jumps. Types shall be left to the discretion of the management.
- Three refusals, cumulative, will affect score and/or disqualify rider
- Exhibitor may circle once before the first jump of the course.
- Jump Courses will not be used as practice courses at any time.
- It is recommended that a "Walk-Through" opportunity will be made available prior to the start of the jumping class. Contestants will be given an opportunity to walk (on foot, without the horse). The course measurements will also be made available on a posted pattern, 1 hour prior to the class.

### Height:

- Novice and Junior: minimum 18" but not to exceed 24"
- Intermediate and Senior: minimum 24" but not to exceed 36"
- Exhibitor shall proceed at least once but not more than twice around the arena prior to starting the jumping course, keeping an even pace.
- Any or all exhibitors may be called back to perform at a walk, trot or canter, or to execute any appropriate tests as determined by the judge in order to place the class.

### Scoring

- Rider = 80%
- Horse = 10%
- Appointments = 10%

\*\*The performance of the horse is not to be considered unless it is the result of the exhibitor's ability.

## **ENGLISH BAREBACK EQUITATION**

### Class Description

This is an Equitation class, to be ridden with only a bridle. Exhibitor will be judged on correct use of riding aides and their ability to show the horse.

### Judging Criteria

- Horses are to be judged at the walk, trot or intermediate gait and canter both directions of the ring.
- The performance of the horse is not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining the desired results.

### Exceptions

- Exhibitors will not be asked to dismount for any reason.
- Novice riders will not be asked to lope.

### Scoring

- Rider: Hands, & Balance = 70%
- Performance = 20%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- All exhibitors will enter the ring at a posting trot.
- All exhibitors will go at least once around the ring at each of the three gaits: walk, trot and canter.
- All exhibitors will be asked to reverse and repeat the procedure.
- Riders may be asked to back

## **SECTION III – WESTERN CLASS GENERAL RULES**

The 4-H horse is often a do-everything horse. Riders will be judged on their ability to ride the correct seat, regardless of the breed of horse.

### Appointments

#### Tack

- Western stock saddle without tapaderos
- Western headstall and acceptable western bit. Riders will ride one handed in a curb bit or two (2) handed in a snaffle or Bosal (Please see glossary of terms for clarification).
- Romal Reins – The non-reining hand will hold the romal 16 inches from the reining hand. The non-reining hand will rest on the rider's thigh.
- Split reins – One finger may be between the reins. Bight of the reins will lay on the same side as the rein hand.
- Reins are to be held above and as near to the saddle horn as possible.
- Hands will be clear of the saddle while in motion.
- Spurs are permissible, with dull, free moving rowels, and/or ball ends.

- A flat curb strap, at least one-half inch wide, is allowed with any regular western-type bit
- Stirrups will allow for free and clear movement of the foot.

Exceptions:

- Timed Events, and Roping – Two hands may be used.
- Trail and In Hand Trail - It is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle.

Not Permissible Tack:

- Martingales
- Draw reins, tie-downs (except in gymkhana and roping events)
- Wire used in any manner, regardless of how padded or taped
- Taping or padding of curb-chains in any manner
- Mechanical hackamore
- Nose band (except for English equipment)
- Quirt
- Gag bit
- Roping reins, (except in gymkhana and roping events)
- Metal curb strap (except 1" flat chain)
- Chain not permitted over horse's nose

The use of a hand or spurs ahead of the cinch in any event will be a disqualification. Equipment must not be used to hit the horse.

Grooming

- Horses are to be clean and in good health.
- Mane and tail is to be clean and free of debris/tangles

Attire

There is no specific dress policy other than clothing that is required for safety. This includes long-sleeved shirts, full-length pants and sturdy riding boots with heels. There will be no penalty awarded to any exhibitor/contestant as long as dress meets safety requirements.

- Long sleeved shirt. Stand-up or tuxedo collars will be permitted.
- No polo shirts
- Sleeves will be rolled down and fastened
- Shirt tails will be tucked in
- Western Boots with heel- no riding sneakers
- Standard Western hat/helmet
- Optional – gloves, & chaps
- Belts are required if pants have belt loops

Note: The purpose of the dress code is to provide safety and a simple, affordable means for all exhibitors to dress neatly in good working attire.

## **SECTION IV – WESTERN CLASSES**

### **WESTERN SHOWMANSHIP**

Class Description

Showmanship is a demonstration of the members' ability to show the animal to its best advantage at halter.

### Judging Criteria

The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision.

### Scoring

- Showing of the horse/Pattern Work = 50%
- Appearance of Horse = 40%
- Appearance of Exhibitor = 10%

### Appointments

#### Tack

- Halter & lead (Minimum 8 feet long)
- Chains are not recommended; if used they must be placed under horse's chin and laying flat
- Tack should be neat, clean and in good repair

### Fitting of Horses

- Condition and thriftiness
- Grooming
- Hair coat must be clean and well brushed
- Mane and tail must be clean and free of tangles
- Hoofs must be trimmed properly. If shod, shoes must fit properly and clinches should be neat
- Hoof oil or polish is allowed but not required

### Trimming

- Horse's mane may be roached, but should be left according to breed being shown
- Horse's tail should be properly prepared according to the breed or type of horse
- Inside of ears may be clipped but exhibitor **will not be penalized** if not done.
- Long hair on jaw, legs and pasterns should be clipped

### Appearance of Exhibitor

- Clothes and person – neat and clean
- Suitable attire (*See WESTERN ATTIRE*)

### Class Routine

The system of showing used will be the general standard for that breed.

- Exhibitor should enter ring leading animal at an alert walk according to the judge's directions
- Exhibitor should walk at the animal's left side, holding the lead rope in the right hand, with the remaining portion of the lead rope held neatly and safely in the left hand.
- Animal should lead readily at the walk and trot.
- All exhibitors will be required to do individual work

### Posing

When posing the horse, stand toward the front facing the horse, always in a position where you can see the judge and the judge can see you.

Pose horse according to the breed being shown

- Quarter Type – feet squarely under horse.
- Saddle Seat Types (e.g., Paso Fino, Tennessee Walker, etc.) – hind feet stretched.
- Hunter Types (e.g., Thoroughbred, Standardbred, Arabian, etc.) – front feet square and under; hind feet may be slightly off -set (i.e., one foot more forward).

- Draft types (Any horse that is cross bred from a draft that exhibits the physical characteristics of a draft breed will be considered a draft type) – feet squarely under horse, one hind foot may be cocked or resting.

*Do not crowd the exhibitor next to you when in a side-by-side position or lined up head to tail.*

When standing next to a nervous or anxious horse, allow for plenty of room between you and the other horse. If an exhibitor feels they must move, they may move to the end of the line by walking behind the line and taking a new place in line.

When a judge is observing other animals, let horse stand if posed reasonably well.

Be natural. Over showing, undue fussing and maneuvering are objectionable.

#### Poise, Alertness and Merits

- Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times
- Don't be distracted by persons or things outside the ring
- Respond quickly to requests from the judge and officials
- Be courteous at all times
- Recognize quickly and correct faults of your horse
- Keep showing until the entire class has been placed and excused from the ring, unless the judge has instructed otherwise. The judge may take an award away from any contestant for unsportsmanlike conduct even after the class has been placed and the contestant is still in the arena
- Judges may instruct exhibitors to stand at ease at their discretion

## QUALITY

### Class description

This is a halter class; the score is based on the horse's conformation for its breed type.

Two classes are available:

- Pony Mares and Geldings 36"- 56" tall
- Mares & Geldings 56" and over

Age divisions for horses will be:

- Foals born since Jan. 1 of current year
- Yearlings born as of Jan 1 of current year
- Two-year olds as of Jan 1 of current year

### Judging Criteria

This class is to be judged on the horse's confirmation, and way of movement.

### Tack

- Halter & lead (Minimum 8 feet long)
- Chains are not recommended, if used they must be placed under horses chin and laying flat
- Tack should be neat, clean and in good repair

### Fitting of Horses

- Condition and thriftiness
- Grooming

- Hair coat must be clean and well brushed
- Mane and tail must be clean and free of tangles
- Hoofs must be trimmed properly. If shod, shoes must fit properly and clinches should be neat
- Hoof oil, or polish is allowed but not required

#### Trimming

- Horse's mane may be roached, but should be left according to breed being shown
- Horse's tail should be properly prepared according to the breed or type of horse
- Inside of ears may be clipped but exhibitor **will not be penalized** if not done.
- Long hair on jaw, legs and pasterns should be clipped

#### Posing

When posing horse, stand toward the front facing the horse, always in a position where you can see the judge and the judge can see you.

Pose horse according to the breed being shown

- Quarter Type – feet squarely under horse.
- Saddle Seat Types (e.g., Paso Fino, Tennessee Walker, etc.) – hind feet stretched.
- Hunter Types (e.g., Thoroughbred, Standardbred, Arabian, etc.) – front feet square and under: hind feet may be slightly off-set (i.e., one foot more forward).
- Draft types (Any horse that is cross bred from a draft that exhibits the physical characteristics of a draft breed will be considered a draft type) – feet squarely under horse, one hind foot may be cocked or resting.

*Do not crowd the exhibitor next to you when in a side-by-side position or lined up head to tail.*

When standing next to a nervous or anxious horse, allow for plenty of room between you and the other horse. If an exhibitor feels they must move, they may move to the end of the line by walking behind the line and taking a new place in line.

When a judge is observing other animals, let horse stand if posed reasonably well.

Be natural. Over showing, undue fussing and maneuvering are objectionable.

#### Poise, Alertness and Merits

- Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times
- Don't be distracted by persons or things outside the ring
- Respond quickly to requests from the judge and officials
- Be courteous at all times
- Recognize quickly and correct faults of your horse
- Keep showing until the entire class has been placed and excused from the ring, unless the judge has instructed otherwise. The judge may take an award away from any contestant for unsportsmanlike conduct even after the class has been placed and the contestant is still in the arena
- Judges may instruct exhibitors to stand at ease at their discretion

#### Scoring

- Appearance/Conformation of Horse = 75%
- Exhibitor's ability to show horse 15%
- Appearance of Exhibitor = 10%

### Class Routine

Exhibitors will enter the arena one at a time, and lead their horse away from the judge at a jog. Exhibitor will then form a line displaying their horses (head to tail) for the judges' inspection. If exhibitor has two horses to show, another 4-H member may hold the first horse after it has been judged.

## **WESTERN PLEASURE**

### Class Description

The emphasis of this class is on the horse, its way of going and ability to walk, jog, and lope while on the rail and keeping a pleasurable demeanor.

### Judging Criteria

Horses are to be judged on performance, apparent ability to give a good pleasurable ride and manners, according to the breed being show.

### Scoring

- Horses way of going/transitions = 60%
- Riders use of aides = 30%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- Exhibitors will enter the ring at the walk
- Horses are being judged at the walk, jog or intermediate gait and lope both directions of the ring.
- Horses will be required to back. Horses are to back readily and stand quietly.
- Horses may be required to reverse at the walk, jog or intermediate gait, but not the lope.

## **WESTERN EQUITATION**

### Class Description

The emphasis of this class is on the rider, their ability to use correct aides, and leads while performing the maneuvers requested by the judged.

### Judging Criteria

- The performance of the horse is not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining the desired results.
- Exhibitors will be judged on seat, hands and legs, and exhibitor's ability to show the horse.
- Exhibitors are to be judged at the walk, trot, and lope.

### Scoring

- Seat, Hands, & Balance = 70%
- Performance = 20%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- Exhibitors will enter the ring at the walk
- Horses are being judged at the walk, jog or intermediate gait and lope both directions of the ring.
- Horses will be required to back. Horses are to back readily and stand quietly.
- Horses may be required to reverse at the walk, jog or intermediate gait, but not the lope.

## **WESTERN BAREBACK EQUITATION**

### Class Description

This is an Equitation class, to be ridden with only a bridle. Exhibitor will be judged on correct use of riding aides and their ability to show the horse.

### Judging Criteria

- The performance of the horse is not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining the desired results.
- Exhibitors will be judged on seat, legs, hands and exhibitor's ability to show the horse.
- Exhibitors will be judged on their ability to attain the desired ride or results according to the judge's instructions.
- Exhibitors will not be asked to dismount for any reason.

### Scoring

- Seat, Hands, & Balance = 70%
- Performance = 20%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- Exhibitors are to be judged at the walk, jog or intermediate gait and lope both directions of the ring.
- Horses will be required to back. Horses are to back readily and stand quietly.
- Horses may be required to reverse at the walk, jog or intermediate gait, but not the lope.
- Novice classes will not be asked to lope.

## **WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP**

### Class Description

This is a pattern class - there is no rail work. Maneuvers will be selected by the judge, from the option listed, based on the age divisions. At the managements/judges discretion, the pattern may be posted prior to the class.

This class may be shown western or English.

### Judging Criteria

The emphasis of this class is on the rider's equitation and ability to perform the maneuvers accurately as directed by the judge.

### Scoring

- Seat, Hands, & Balance = 70%
- Performance = 20%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- Riders will enter the ring at a walk and line up.
- Riders may ask questions about the pattern.
- Each rider will work individually.
- The judge may ask for additional maneuvers from the option list if needed to place the class.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH AGE GROUP:**

NOVICE: *Perform two options from Novice OPTION LIST.*

JUNIOR: *Perform three options from Junior OPTION LIST.*

INTERMEDIATE: *Perform four options from Intermediate OPTION LIST.*

SENIOR: *Perform five options from Senior OPTION LIST.*

### **OPTION LIST**

*All age groups:*

- Questions may be asked out of any project book according to exhibitor's level.

#### ***Novice Age Division***

- Walk horse designated number of steps
- Identify 2 parts of saddle/bridle
- Back horse designated number of steps

#### ***Junior Age Division***

- Identify 3 parts of saddle/bridle
- Back Horse 1 horse length
- Walk or Trot specified number of steps
- Demonstrate transition from walk to stop and stop to walk
- Demonstrate a figure 8 at the jog or lope

#### ***Intermediate Age Division***

- Back horse 2 horse lengths
- Side pass 1 direction, with 4 crossovers
- Demonstrate a figure 8 at a lope, using a simple or interrupted change of lead
- Demonstrate transition from a trot to a walk, and from a walk to a trot
- Ride without stirrups/irons
- Pivot horse on forehand or haunches 360'
- Dismount

#### ***Senior Age Division***

- Back Horse in a "L" or "Z" formation
- Demonstrate controlled lope with balanced stop
- Sidepass both directions, with 6 crossovers
- Demonstrate two figure 8 patterns at the lope, using a interrupted and flying change of lead.
- Dismount & Mount
- Trot horse from a standstill position – repeat 2x
- Pivot horse on forehand or haunches 1 ½ turns (540'degrees)

**Patterns will be posted one hour before the class**

## ROOKIE PATTERN CLASS

### Class Description

This is a class to show the performance of a sensible, well mannered, free-moving ranch horse in one of two required patterns that can get the rider around for the usual ranch chores, and over trails or obstacles. Western riding is not a stunt or a race.

### Judging Criteria

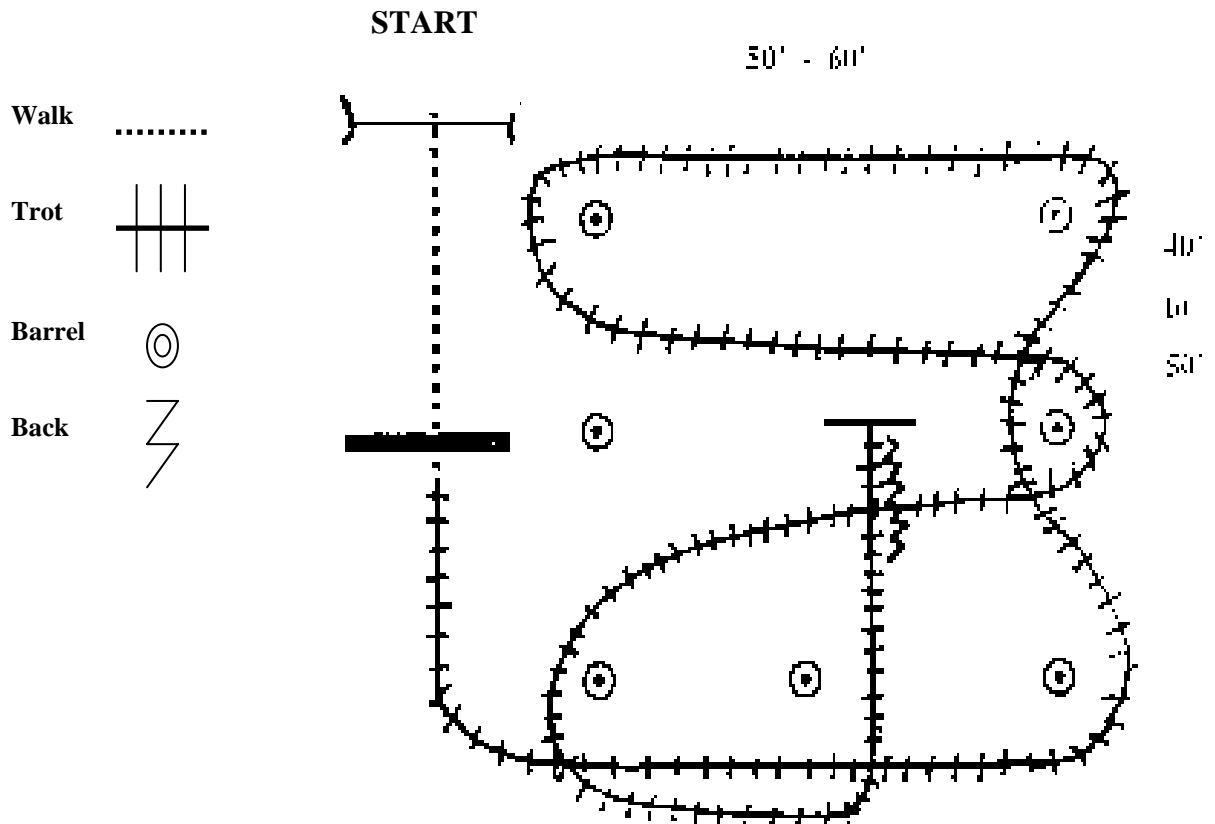
- Riding qualities at the walk-trot only
- Exhibitor's ability to attain desired response from horse
- Manners of the horse
- Any exhibitor not following the exact pattern will be faulted

### Scoring:

- Riders use of aides to maneuver horse = 45%
- Horses ability to maneuver thru obstacles = 45%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

Exhibitors will perform individual work. Exhibitors will enter the ring and wait for the judge's queue to begin the pattern.



## **REINING CLASS – Novice Riders Only**

Western Attire and Tack Required

### Class Procedure

- Reining patterns in this rule book may be used at the discretion of the judge.
- Patterns will have varying degrees of difficulty, bearing in mind they are to be run by Novice participants.
- Each entry to individually perform required pattern
- Horse to be judged on neatness, dispatch, ease, calmness and speed with which pattern is performed. Horse shall rein easily, fluidly and with reasonable speed throughout pattern.

### Class Routine for both patterns

Faults against Rider for all patterns

- Changing rein hand
- Losing stirrup or hold on to saddle
- Any unnecessary aid given by rider to horse (such as spurring, quirting, and jerking of reins) is considered a fault and scored accordingly

Faults against Horse for all patterns

- Excessive jawing, opening mouth, or head raising on stop
- Fighting the bit
- Opening mouth excessively
- Nervous throwing of head
- Refusing to change leaders or incorrect leads or failure to change both front and hind leads
- Lack of smooth, straight stop on haunches (bouncing sideways stop)
- Backing sideways
- Wringing tail
- Anticipating signals
- Breaking gaits
- Stumbling and/or falling
- Knocking over markers

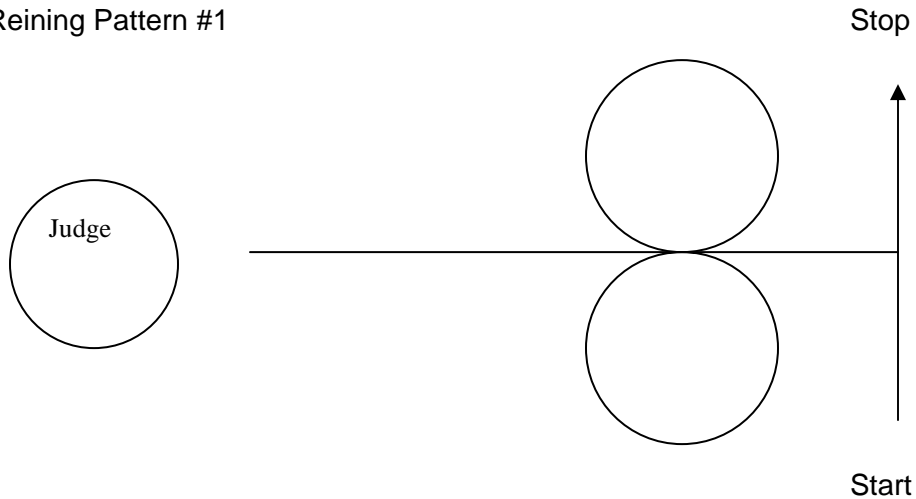
Reining pattern markers

- At center of arena on both sides
- At least 50' from each end wall on both sides

**Patterns will be posted one hour before the class**

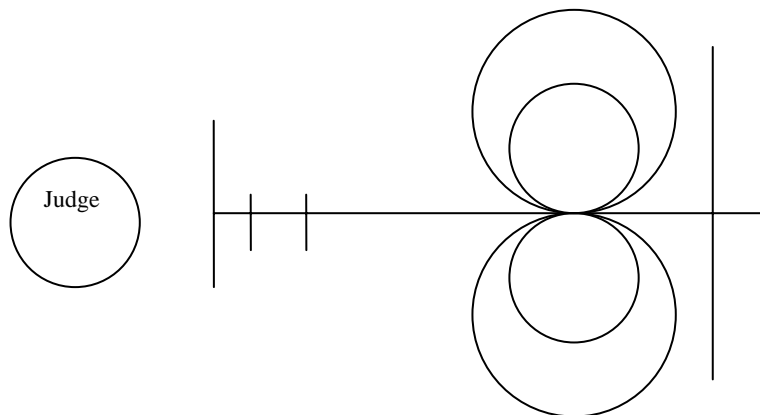
## REINING PATTERNS FOR NOVICE RIDERS ONLY

### Reining Pattern #1



1. Run down fence past center marker and stop.
2. Back to center marker.
3. Do a 90 turn to left-jog to center of circles.
4. Pick up lope on right lead.
5. Lope large circle to right, change leads at center.
6. Lope left lead large circle to left, continue to judge and stop.
7. Inspection by judge.
8. Wait for dismissal.

### Reining Pattern #2



1. Start run at first marker, and run down to end marker, right rollback.
2. Run back down to first marker, left rollback.
3. Continue to center on left lead, at center point change to right.
4. Do a slower smaller figure 8 changing leads in center.
5. Do a faster figure 8 changing leads in the center.
6. Continue out of circle towards judge, sliding stop.
7. Back

## **WESTERN REINING**

### Class Description

This class will demonstrate the rider's ability to achieve one of the three required reining patterns fluently, effortlessly and with reasonable speed throughout. Flying lead changes should count over simple changes. Reining patterns will be posted. The judge will select one of these patterns at the show.

### Class Routine for all patterns

Each exhibitor will perform the required pattern individually. The judge shall indicate, with markers on arena fence or wall, the length of the pattern. Markers within the area of the pattern will not be used.

### Judging Requirements for all patterns

- Horse shall rein and handle easily
- Horse must have proper manners
- Any exhibitor not following exact pattern will be faulted
- The judge may require contestants to repeat all or portions of their runs

### Faults against Rider for all patterns

- Changing hands on reins
- Two hands on reins, refer to Appointments
- Losing stirrup or holding on
- Any unnecessary aid given by the rider (such as unnecessary talking, petting, spurring, quirting, jerking of reins, etc.)
- Not following exact pattern

### Faults against Horse for all patterns

- Excessive jawing, opening mouth
- Excessive head raising on the stop
- Breaking gaits
- Lack of smooth, straight stop on haunches; bouncing or sideways stop
- Refusing to change leads
- Anticipating signals. Stumbling or falling
- Wringing tail
- Knocking over markers

### Scoring

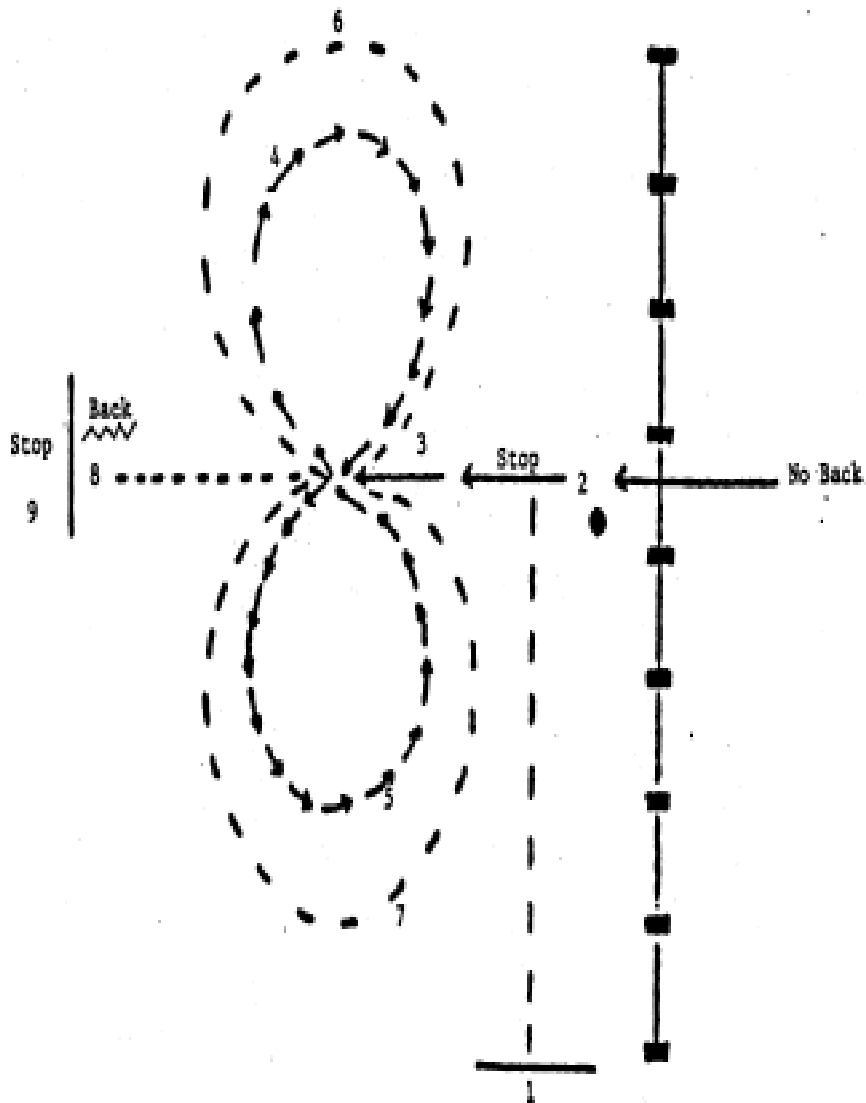
- Riders use of aides to maneuver horse = 45%
- Horses ability to maneuver thru obstacles = 45%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

**Patterns will be posted one hour before the class**

## INTERMEDIATE WESTERN REINING PATTERN

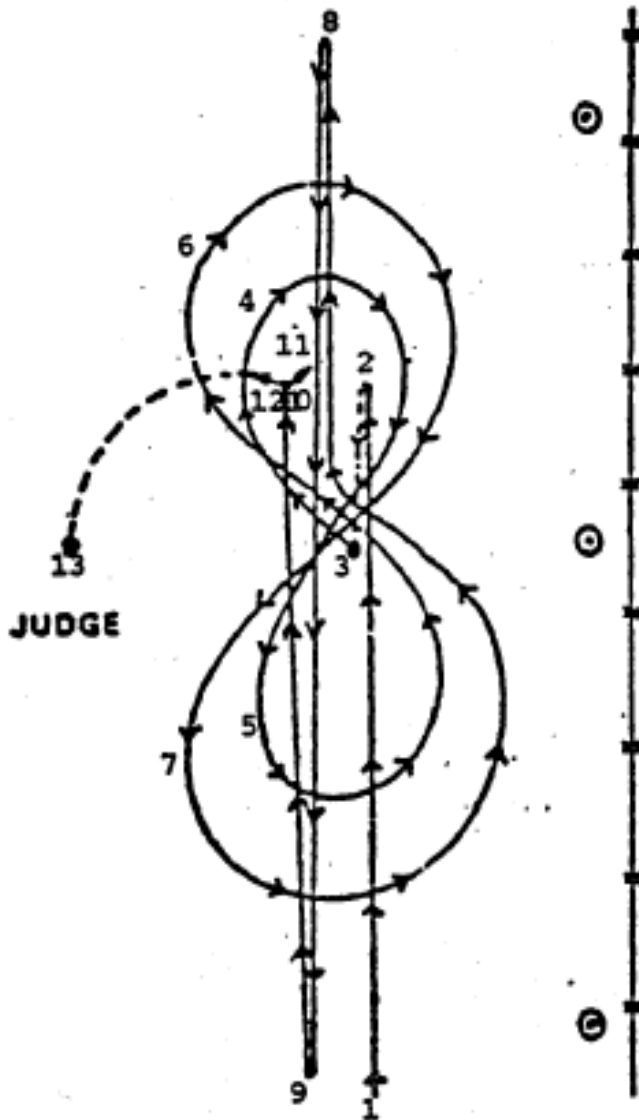
Pattern as follows:

- 1-2. Enter on left lead. Proceed at controlled lope.
2. Collected stop. Settle horse.
3. Walk to center. Lope right lead.
- 4-5. Small figure 8, slow lope.
- 6-7. Larger figure 8, faster lope.
8. Continue out of circle toward fence. Collected stop. Settle. Back.
9. Walk to judge.



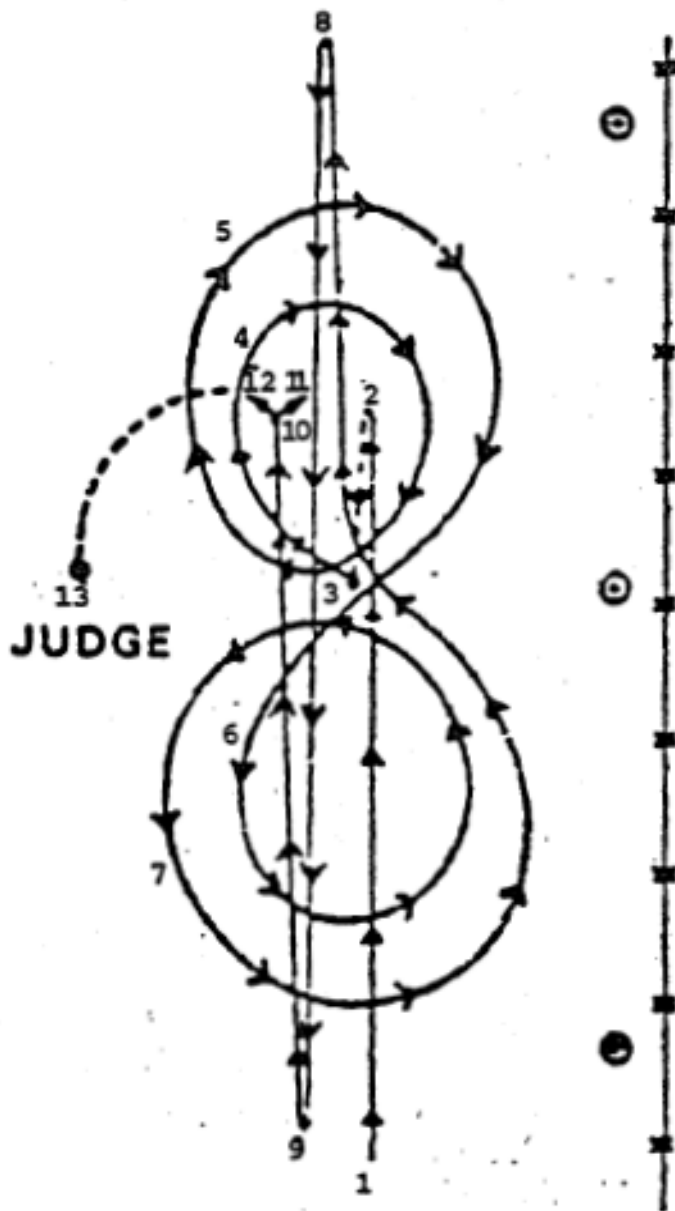
## SENIOR WESTERN REINING PATTERN "A"

- 1 to 2. Run with speed, past center marker.
2. Stop and back up to center of pattern.
3. Settle horse for approximately 10 seconds. Start lope to the right. Figure 8 should be made inside the end markers.
- 4 & 5. Ride small Figure 8 at a slow lope.
- 6 & 7. Ride a larger Figure 8 at a faster lope.
8. Left roll back over hocks (should be made past far end marker).
9. Right roll back over hocks (should be made past near end marker).
10. Stop, (should be made past center marker) let horse settle, and in approximate area of stop, do the pivots.
11. Pivot, right or left, no more than 90 degrees.
12. Pivot opposite directions, no more than 180 degrees.
13. Walk to judge and stop for inspection until dismissed.



## SENIOR WESTERN REINING PATTERN "B"

- 1-2. Run with speed past center marker.
2. Stop. Settle horse. Back up to center of pattern
3. Right lead. Circles should be made inside the end markers.
- 4-5. Ride two circles to the right, first circle small and slow, second circle larger and faster.
- 6-7. Lead Change. Two circles to the left, first circle small and slow, second circle larger and faster.
8. Left roll back over hocks (should be made past far end marker).
9. Right roll back over hocks (should be made past far end marker).
10. Stop (should be made past center marker). Settle horse, execute pivots.
11. Pivot right or left no more than 90 degrees.
12. Pivot opposite direction no more than 90 degrees.
13. Walk to the judge and stop for inspection and dismissal.



## **WALK TROT**

### Class Description

This is an equitation class; emphasis will be on the rider, their ability to use correct aides, and leads while performing the maneuvers requested by the judged. The class may be ridden either Western or English.

### Judging Criteria

- The performance of the horse is not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining the desired results.
- Exhibitors will be judged on seat, hands and legs, and exhibitor's ability to show the horse.
- Exhibitors are to be judged at the walk, jog or trot both directions of the ring.

### Scoring

- Seat, Hands, & Balance = 70%
- Performance = 20%
- Tack & Appointments = 10%

### Class Routine

- Exhibitors will enter the ring at the walk
- Horses are being judged at the walk, jog or trot both directions of the ring.
- Horses will be required to back. Horses are to back readily and stand quietly.
- Horses may be required to reverse at the walk, jog or trot

## **IN-HAND TRAIL**

Judge will create course

### Class Description

This is a class to demonstrate the exhibitor's ability to maneuver their horse over and through various obstacles while being led. The horse's manner, maneuverability, attitude and response to the rider at the walk, and jog will be taken into consideration. This class may be entered in western or English attire.

Judging Criteria: See "Trail" criteria

Scoring: See "Trail"

Class Routine: See "Trail"

Obstacles & Penalties: See "Trail" section

## **TRAIL**

Judge will create course

### Class Description

This is a class to demonstrate the exhibitor's ability to maneuver their horse over and through various obstacles. The horse's manner, maneuverability, attitude and response to the rider at the walk, and jog will be taken into consideration. This class may be ridden Western or English.

### Judging Criteria

Judges give credit based on the ability of the horse to maneuver through obstacles. The course may be progressively more challenging for each age group. Judging will reflect rider's ability to guide and control their horse through a series of obstacles.

### Scoring

Each obstacle has a value of 10 and is scored according to how the rider maneuvers through the entire obstacle. The course may be judged by one judge or divided between two or more judges, with each scoring specific obstacles.

### Class Routine

- Trail course patterns are to be created by the judge. A "Set-Up" crew will organize the obstacles according to the judge's instructions.
- The course will be posted at least one hour before the class.
- A minimum of six obstacles will be used and no more than 8 obstacles can be used. Number of obstacles must be determined by allowed space.
- Perform the walk and jog or trot.
- Only approved obstacles will be used from the list below

### Optional Obstacles:

1. Gate
2. Logs raised no more than 12 inches
3. Wooden bridge a minimum width 36 inches.
4. Carry object from one area to another – only objects that are commonly encountered on a trail ride will be used.
5. Pick-up slicker – may be carried over or through obstacles
6. Mailbox
7. Back through "L"
8. 6' x 6' square
9. Ground tie
10. Tie a specified knot
11. Weave through brush (cones or barrels may be substituted for brush)

### Penalties

1. Three refusals per obstacle will be allowed. Exhibitor must then move on to the next obstacle.
2. Each obstacle should be successfully completed in 15-30 seconds. A time shorter or longer will affect scoring.

### Appointments

(See *WESTERN ATTIRE*)

## **GREENHORSE WEANLING**

### Class Description

This class is open to weanlings foaled in the current year. This class gives the handler an opportunity to demonstrate the training and techniques used in establishing good ground manners and basic handling. This class may be entered either English or Western.

### Judging Criteria

This class is to be judged on the exhibitor's ability to control their horse and maneuver around their horse while doing the required exercises. The judge will consider how well the maneuvers attempted are accomplished and whether adequate progress has been made during the time in training.

### Scoring

- Showing/Handling of the horse = 60%
- Appearance/Behavior of Horse = 30%
- Appearance of Exhibitor = 10%

### Class Routine

There will be one horse at a time in arena. Exhibitors may have a properly dressed 4-H youth attendant in the arena to assist them in holding the horse and/or equipment. Absolutely no mares allowed in the arena.

A time limit of 10 minutes is recommended.

Exhibitors will be asked to demonstrate the following:

- Lead at walk
- Pick up both front feet.
- Groom (body, mane & tail)
- Present horse for inspection

### Tack

- Halter & Lead rope (Minimum 8 feet long)
- Grooming Box
- Chains are NOT allowed

Attire may be Western or English

## **GREENHORSE YEARLING**

### Class Description

This class is open to yearlings that are 1 year old as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. This class gives handlers the opportunity to demonstrate the training and management used in establishing good grand manners and basic handling techniques. This class may be entered either English or Western.

### Judging Criteria

This class is to be judged on the exhibitor's ability to control their horse and maneuver around their horse while doing the required exercises. The judge will consider how well the maneuvers attempted are accomplished and whether adequate progress has been made during the time in training.

### Scoring

- Showing/Handling of the horse = 60%
- Appearance/Behavior of Horse = 30%
- Appearance of Exhibitor = 10%

### Class Routine

There will be one horse at a time in arena. Exhibitors may have a properly dressed 4-H youth attendant in the arena to assist them in holding the horse and/or equipment.

A time limit of 15 minutes is recommended.

Exhibitors will be asked to demonstrate the following

- Showmanship pattern (As directed by judge)
- Pick up both front feet
- Lunge horse (walk, and trot both directions)

#### Tack

- Halter and Lead Rope (Minimum 8 feet long)
- Lunge Line
- Chains are not recommended, if used MUST be under the chin and lay flat
- Attire may be Western or English

## **GREENHORSE – FIRST YEAR UNDER SADDLE**

#### Class Description

This class is open to any horse in their first year under saddle. This class gives the handler an opportunity to demonstrate the training used in teaching the horse to carry a rider at the walk, trot, and lope. Exhibitors will also be able to demonstrate their ability to work the horse both on and off the rail. This class may be shown English or Western.

#### Judging Criteria

This class is to be judged on the exhibitor's ability to control their horse and complete the required exercises gaits and movements asked. The judge will consider how well the maneuvers attempted are accomplished and whether adequate progress has been made during the time in training.

#### Scoring

- Horses understanding & willingness to do what is asked of them = 45%
- Riders equitation and use of aides = 40%
- Appointments = 15%

#### Class Routine

- There will be one horse in the arena at a time.
- Exhibitors may ride English or Western with appropriate attire
- A time limit of 15 minutes is recommended

Exhibitors will be asked to demonstrate the following:

- Ride on the rail at a walk, trot, and lope both directions.
- Lope/Canter horse down center of arena demonstrating right and left leads and a balanced stop
- Horse to remain at a standstill for 30 seconds
- Back horse a minimum of 6 steps, with little or no hesitation
- Rider may be asked to mount & dismount
- Rider may be asked to complete additional pattern work as requested by the judge

#### Tack

- English or Western Saddle and Bridle
- Snaffle Bit, Curb bit, Bosal, or Sidepull will be allowed.
- Curbs, Snaffles and Sidepull must have curb strap
- If a Bosal is used, Mecate rope is to be slid through the riders belt loop in a manner that is easily removed
- Spurs are not allowed
- Attire may be Western or English

## **GREENHORSE – SECOND YR. UNDER SADDLE**

### Class Description

This class is open to any horse that has been ridden under saddle less than three years. This class gives the handler an opportunity to demonstrate the training used in teaching the horse to carry a rider at the walk, trot, and lope. Exhibitors will also be able to demonstrate their ability to work the horse both on and off the rail. This class may be ridden English or Western.

### Judging Criteria

This class is to be judged on the exhibitor's ability to control their horse and complete the required exercises gaits and movements asked. The judge will consider how well the maneuvers attempted are accomplished and whether adequate progress has been made during the time in training.

### Scoring

- Horses understanding & willingness to do what is asked of them = 45%
- Riders equitation and use of aides = 40%
- Appointments = 15%

### Class Routine

- There will be one horse in the arena at a time.
- Exhibitors may ride English or Western with appropriate attire
- A time limit of 15 minutes is recommended

Exhibitors will be asked to demonstrate the following

- Ride on the rail at a walk, trot, and lope both directions.
- Complete two figure 8 patterns at a canter/lope demonstrating both a simple and interrupted change of lead
- Horse to remain at a standstill for 30 seconds
- Back horse a minimum of 6 steps, with little or no hesitation
- Demonstrate side passing both left and right with a minimum of 6 steps, both front and hind legs are to cross over
- Rider may be asked to mount & dismount
- Rider may be asked to complete additional pattern work as requested by the judged.

### Tack

- English or Western saddle and bridle
- Snaffle Bit, Curb bit, Bosal, or Sidepull are allowed
- Curbs, Snaffles and Sidepull must have curb strap
- If a bosal is used, mecate rope is to be slid through riders belt loop in a manner that it is easily removed
- Spurs are allowed. If western they are to be dull with free moving rowels. If English they are to be a standard blunt slip on
- Attire may be Western or English

## **SECTION V - TIMED EVENTS GENERAL RULES**

1. In the event of a tie, the exhibitor declared the winner, in the run-off, must run in the pattern within two seconds of its original time, or the run-off must be held again.
2. Failure to follow the course will cause a disqualification and a "no time" will be given.
3. A five-second penalty will be added for each barrel or pole knocked down.
4. Barrel and pole courses may be run to the left or right.

5. A clearly visible start and finish line will be provided by: a) Flags tied to the fence at eye level. b) A line marked by lime. c) An electric timer and flags.
6. All courses must be set to provide ample room to turn and stop.
7. In Barrel Racing and Pole Bending courses must be measured exactly.
8. Measurement:
  - In barrel racing, measurements may be reduced five yards at a time in consideration of arena size. (Final barrel need not be reduced.)
9. The following timers will be used:
  - One electric timer and two hand-held digital stop watches as backup, or
  - Three hand-held digital stopwatches.
  - In the event that the electric timer fails, or the hand-held timers must be used, the average time of the hand-held timers will be used as the official time.
  - A flag person will be provided at the start and end of each run as a backup.
10. Times will be recorded to include hundredths of a second if possible.
11. Two hands may be used on the reins.
12. No exhibitor will begin the run without first hearing the signal, "Timers or flaggers are ready," from the announcer.
13. In Gymkhana events or roping events, Western hats must remain on the head past the start of the run unless management states hats are not required (*See GLOSSARY – "Start of Run"*).
14. Raking will be consistent throughout the class. Show management will decide the numbers of times the arena is to be raked based upon the current condition of the arena prior to the class starting. The number of times to be raked will be announced at the beginning of the class. However, there will be a maximum of ten runs without raking.

## **GAMING TACK**

Required: Western Attire  
Western Saddle & Bridle  
Helmet

Bits: Standard curb bits and snaffles are allowed as well as gag bits

Other Tack: Roping reins, spurs, mechanical hackamores, tie-downs, bell, skid and splint boots, are optional.

## **SECTION VI – TIMED EVENTS**

These games are to be fun, and provide an opportunity for kids to compete against the clock.

Exhibitors wishing to compete at a Walt or Trot may do so and will NOT be disqualified.

### **BARREL RACING**

#### Class Description

This is a timed event. The clover-leaf pattern is designed to test the speed and maneuverability of the horse and the ability of the exhibitor to attain the smoothest, fastest possible run against the clock.

#### Class Criteria

Exhibitors will complete the pattern as quickly as they can, without going off course or knocking over a barrel

### Class Routine

1. At a verbal signal from the announcer, such as, "Timers are ready", the exhibitor will begin the run.
2. The exhibitor is allowed a running start
3. Time will start as the horse's nose crosses the starting line, and time will stop when the nose passes over the finish line.
4. Failure to follow the exact course will cause disqualification.

Tack: See Gaming Tack Section

## **POLE BENDING**

### Class Description

This is a timed event. The pole bending (Washington poles) is designed to test the speed and agility of the horse and ability of the rider to maneuver the horse through the poles.

### Scoring

Class Routine – See Barrel Racing Routine

Tack – See gaming tack

### Patterns

1. Poles shall be set on top of the ground
2. Poles will be six feet in height

## **EGG & SPOON RACE**

### Judging Criteria

The finalist for this class will be the rider who still has their egg in the spoon after everyone else has dropped their egg.

### Class Routine

Riders will be asked to walk, trot, extended trot, lope, stop, back, turn, or sidepass

Tack: English or Western Tack & Attire

Age Divisions: To be determined

## **RIBBON RACE**

### Judging Criteria

This is a "Pairs" class; the winner will be determined by the pair of riders still holding their ribbon at the end of the class.

### Class Routine

Mounted pairs may be asked to walk, trot, lope, back or sidepass while holding onto a ribbon

Tack: English or Western

Age Divisions: To be determined

## **AUSTRALIAN PURSUIT**

### Judging Criteria

This is a trotting race, the winner will be the last rider who has not been passed or had their horse break gait from a trot.

### Class Routine

Riders will be asked to trot their horses around four barrels set up in the arena, the barrels will be moved in closer as competition gets tougher.

Tack: May be ridden English or Western

Age Divisions: To be determined

## **DOLLAR BILL RACE**

### Judging Criteria

This is a bareback class, the winner will be the last rider still holding the dollar bill under their knee

### Class Routine

Riders may be asked to walk, trot, lope, reverse, back, sidepass or pivot

Tack: Bridles only – Western or English

Age Divisions: To be determined

## **SIMON SEZ**

### Judging Criteria

The emphasis of this class is on the rider's ability to pay attention and do the maneuvers that are called

The winner will be determined by the judge/officials

### Class Routine

Riders may be asked to walk, trot, lope, reverse, back, or sidepass.

Tack: English or Western

Age Divisions: To be determined

## **SECTION VI – CANYON COUNTY FAIR HORSE SHOW**

Parents, Leaders, Members, Judges – please refer to the rules section of this handbook to review guidelines, class procedure, and information regarding the horse show.

## GUIDELINES & REGULATIONS

\*\*\* All rules, guidelines and regulations in this book apply to the Canyon County Fair Horse Show. The following rules, guidelines and regulations are specific to the Canyon County Fair Horse Show. Please refer these sections for ALL rules, guidelines and regulations.

The owner or custodian of property of any kind brought to the fairgrounds either for exhibit or for other purposes assumes, as a condition of its admission to the grounds, all risk of and responsibility for its loss, damage or theft. Exhibitor exempts the Canyon County Horse Leaders, Canyon County Fair, Canyon County Extension, and their officers, directors and employees from liability for any loss, damage or injury to himself/herself or his property, or injury to any person or the property of any animal owned or exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify the said entities against all claims and any injuries or damages arising from actions or negligence of the exhibitor.

## SHOW MANAGEMENT/SUPERINTENDENT

Class Size – Show management/Superintendent reserve the right to cancel, split or combine classes if deemed necessary. It is the responsibility of the show management and superintendents to adhere to all rules and regulations within the Canyon County Horse rule book, and to hear grievances when appropriate.

One Superintendent will be present at the arena at all times. If responsibility takes both superintendents away from the arena at the same time the event/class will be stopped or delayed until one or both managers/superintendents can be present at the arena.

***It is recommended that the management/supervisor offer an opportunity for an Exhibitors' meeting prior to the start of the show to clarify schedule, judge's comments, etc. This will serve as the opportunity for parents, leaders and exhibitors to approach the judge with questions. At no other time is a judge to be approached unless arranged through the manager/superintendent.***

***It is recommended that show managers/superintendents meet with all volunteers who are scheduled to help the day of the show to confirm job descriptions and answer any questions.***

## HORSES

- Any 4-H horse of record is required to be registered at the extension office by April 1<sup>st</sup>, to be eligible to enter the Canyon County fair.
- All horses MUST be certified as having been vaccinated for the following by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
  - Eastern-Western Encephalomyelitis
  - Tetanus
  - Influenza
  - Rhinopneumonitis

### Recommended

- West Nile
- Equine Herpes Virus (EVH)
- Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) (recommended for breeding stock)

*Certification means receipt from a veterinarian for the vaccinations, or receipt for the vaccines plus a statement of certification of vaccination by parents or club leader. (Certifications are to be included on the April 1 horse registration for Fair Participation)*

Exhibitors may use the same horse as long as:

- The horse is owned within the same family
- The classes are individual classes
- Tack changes do not delay the show

The horse must have been the exhibitor's project horse for at least 120 days prior to the Canyon County Fair.

## **HARDSHIP**

Should a member experience the loss of a horse or the member's horse becomes injured prior to the fair, the member is allowed an opportunity to request the use of another horse. The 4-H member will be required to present their situation to the Canyon County Leaders association prior to the fair. The 4-H member will be asked to describe the nature of the hardship, any veterinarian's recommendations, and information on the horse they plan to use. A member will be allowed to use an alternate horse but will enter any classes with their number placed backwards, and will be ineligible for any placings or awards.

## **GATE HOLDS/TACK CHANGES**

All exhibitors at any horseshow are to be prompt and ready to show at the time their class is called. If an exhibitor is scheduled for a class, but is not going to enter, they are to contact the gate person immediately.

Exhibitors needing additional time between classes are encouraged to notify show management prior to the class if special arrangements need to be made.

### Fair procedure

There will be a series of gate calls for each class.

- 1<sup>st</sup> gate call: at the beginning of the current class. If first class of the day 1<sup>st</sup> gate call will be 20 minutes prior to start of class.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> gate call: midway through the current class. If first class of the day 2<sup>nd</sup> gate call will be 10 minutes before class.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> gate call: end of current class. If first class of the day 3<sup>rd</sup> gate call will be 2 minutes before class.
- 4<sup>th</sup> gate call: as the current class is exiting the arena.
- Final gate call: As class enters arena.

Exhibitors will be expected to approach gate attendant for check in and will then be directed to line up. If an exhibitor knows he/she will not make the final gate call due to another species project that exhibitor **must** have a parent or leader contact the gate attendant. At that time that class will be held and will not enter the arena. A set time period to be determined by the superintendents (suggested 15 minutes) will be allowed for these specific situations to hold a class. No class shall enter the arena until all exhibitors have been checked in or scratched from the class. Once a class has started no late exhibitors will be allowed to enter the arena. No exceptions.

### Gate manners

At no time will any 4-H member, parent or leader be allowed to block any entry or exit gate. An entry/exit area will be set up at all gates used to enter or exit an arena. At no time should any horse, 4-H member, parent or leader be in the way of the entrance/exit gates. A clear path is to be maintained at all times.

## **EXHIBITOR DISQUALIFICATION**

Judges will dismiss any exhibitor for the following:

- Use of profane language
- Unnecessary force of reins or spurs
- Any horse deemed lame, unmanageable or unsafe (e.g., kicking, rearing, bolting, or biting)
- A rider falling off horse at any time while in the class
- Equipment failure
- Receiving coaching from outside the arena
- Disrespectful to the judge/ring steward

## **JUDGE**

Judges for all Canyon County 4-H Horse shows and the Canyon County Fair Horse Show have been carefully selected and approved by the Canyon County Horse Leaders. Any comments, concerns or suggestions with regard to a judge will be accepted in writing to the 4-H Horse Leaders. All scheduled judges are to receive a copy of this rule book, along with any information pertaining to show dates, locations, fee, per diem, classes to be judged, and any other necessary information one month prior to the event.

- At the judges' discretion, riders/exhibitors may be asked to complete additional maneuvers in order to place a class.
- A judge MAY NOT ask riders/exhibitors to exchange horses in a class.
- The judge will consider harshness and restrictiveness of equipment when making their placings furthermore, a judge is NOT to give additional consideration for expensive or elaborate equipment and appointments.
- Judges may dismiss and disqualify any exhibitor for behavior believed to be unsportsmanlike, disruptive, abusive or unsafe (*See "Exhibitor Disqualification"*).
- Judging will begin when the exhibitor enters the arena, and will continue until the class placings are called.
- It is recommended that a Score sheet / Comment sheet be made available at the discretion of management/superintendent for some or all classes.

## **EXHIBITOR**

All fair exhibitors must be current 4-H members enrolled in a 4-H or FFA club within Canyon County

- All 4-H members MUST turn in a record book and complete an interview/evaluation to enter the horse show at the Canyon County Fair.
- All 4-H members must be enrolled with the Extension Office by June 1<sup>st</sup> to show at the fair.
- Members are encouraged to review the class list and description prior to entering a class.
- Signed class registration forms are due at the extension office no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Exhibitors are to review age guidelines to know which class division they are to enter
- Each exhibitor will be allowed to use no more than four horses in the County 4-H Fair Horse Show.

## **STALLS**

- Stalls will be available at the fair for exhibitors' horses. Each club will have an opportunity to submit a request for stalls.
- In instances where stalls are not full, all clubs will be required to stall at least one horse at the fairgrounds
- No day stalls will be offered.

- Arrival and departure times will be decided by the fair board.
- Horse are not allowed to leave early, except for medical reasons.
- Exhibitors are to provide their own feed and bedding, bucket and hay net.
- Exhibitors are to provide their own stall cleaning tools/wheel barrow, etc. All stalls must be completely cleaned of any manure, bedding or debris prior to stall checkout.
- The fair management will provide the bedding for the first day.

## **HERDSMANSHIP**

A Herdsmanship award will be given to the club(s) demonstrating the cleanest barn area, best use of decorations according to fair theme, and superior ability to incorporate general safety/awareness and hospitality to the public.

## **CLASSES OFFERED:**

### **English**

- English Showmanship
- English Pleasure
- Hunt Seat Equitation (Flat)
- English Pattern (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Hunter Hack
- Hunt Seat Equitation (Over Fences)
- English Bareback Equitation

### **Western**

- Western Showmanship
- Western Pleasure
- Western Equitation
- Western Bareback Equitation
- Western Riding
- Reining

### **Walk Trot**

### **Trail**

### **Horsemanship**

### **Quality**

### **Timed Events/Games**

- Figure 8 Race
- Pole Bending
- Key Hole Race
- Barrels
- Flag Race

## **AWARDS**

Exhibitors of the fair horse show will be judged on the Danish system. This is an award system based on a standard. The ribbons are earned by the exhibitor based on his/her own performance in the class, not compared to the other contestants. Scoring is as follows:

Blue Award = Excellent display of skill, top of the standard

Red Award = Very Good display of skill, above average of the standard

White Award = Good display of skill, met minimum requirements

In addition, numeric placings of 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> will be awarded in each class. If a rider does not meet the minimum requirements of the class, he/she will receive a participation ribbon. (See Exhibitor Disqualification Section for further details).

#### Western Showmanship/Quality Awards

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will be chosen from the first place and second place winners in each age class.

#### Hard Luck Award

The Hard Luck Award is for those 4-H members who have experienced an event that affected their showing at the fair show. Loss of a horse, injury to a horse, an event that had a negative impact and the exhibitor showed poise and sportsmanship. This award will be voted on by Canyon County 4-H horse leaders.

#### Sportsmanship Award

The sportsmanship awards are voted on and awarded by the Canyon County Horse leaders. The sportsmanship award is based on exhibitor's actions during the week of fair. Examples: assisting others, being kind and courteous to other exhibitors in and out of the show ring, etc.

### **ROUND ROBIN CONTEST**

#### **4-H Junior Round Robin (Large Animal)**

The 4-H winner will be determined by his or her ability to show horse, beef, sheep, swine, dairy, and dairy goat. Junior Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Showmanship winners are eligible to participate. Round Robin age level break for youth with horse projects shall be as follows: Junior Champion Class will include Novice and Junior showmen.

#### **4-H Senior Round Robin**

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion winners of the senior showmanship contest of the horse, beef, sheep, swine, dairy, and dairy goat are eligible to compete in the 4-H Senior Round Robin. Round Robin age level break for youth with horse projects shall be as follows: Senior Champion Class will include Intermediate through Senior showmen.

#### **FFA Round Robin**

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion winners of the FFA showmanship contests of the horse, beef, sheep, swine, dairy, and dairy goat are eligible to participate in the FFA Round Robin. FFA Round Robin Horse participants **MUST** receive blue ribbons in horse showmanship to be eligible for the FFA Round Robin. In cases where no FFA horse participants receive blue ribbons, the FFA Round Robin will not include a horse class.

### **SECTION VII - GLOSSARY**

Appointments: Appropriate equipment, furnishing, tact and attire for a specific event or class.

Basic Rules: Rules and regulations governing the entry into any Canyon County 4-H Horse Show.

Bosal (Hackamore): Use of flexible, braided rawhide or leather or rope bosal. No rigid material permitted.

Canter: Term used in English riding to describe a three beat gait of moderate speed.

Chaps: Full-length leather leg covers. May have fringe or scallops.

Chinks: Short chaps (approximately knee-length).

Class Description: Defines what is expected of both the horse and the exhibitor.

Class Routine: Procedures the exhibitors will follow in a specific class.

Conformation: The structure of the horse.

Convertible Collar: Same as traditional or standard collar; folds over with the capability of covering a tie.

Curb Bit: a leverage bit consisting of shanks, a curb strap or chain. Mouth piece may be solid or jointed. Common curb bits are: Pelham or Kimberwick and Western Bits such as a Tom Thumb, and other curb bits with Roller or Port mouth pieces.

Diagonal: When posting – a rider posting at the trot will raise and lower their seat with the rhythm of the horses outside fore leg when performing in a circular motion. When performing in non-circular motion the rider will follow the diagonal directed by the show officials.

Disqualification: No time given in gaming events, no score given in all other classes.

Equitation: The posture or seat, hands and legs in the most proper position to obtain the desired results from the horse.

Equitation Classes: A class in which the exhibitor's ability to maneuver their horse, while exhibiting poise, confidence, maintaining balance and correct body position is judged.

Equipment: Items needed to perform a specific task – “appointments”.

Faults: Errors made by exhibitor and/or the horse.

Fences: Obstacle over which a horse jumps in schooling or competition. Also known as jumps.

Field Judge: A person appointed by the show management to serve as a judge in events other than performance classes; this person makes decisions within the arena concerning exhibitors and rules.

Figure Eight: A figure that is closed in the center and usually started to the right, in the center, unless otherwise instructed.

Flagger: A person who signals with a hand-held signal the start and stop of the clocks; this person will not be the field judge.

Flatwork: Arena exercises of the horse in the English discipline that does not involve jumping fences.

Flying Change: A change of lead, front and back, while maintaining a lope, canter or gallop.

Four Beat: Term used in western riding to describe an illegal lope where the horse's feet strike the ground individually instead of in 3 beats.

Full Bridle: For purpose of these rules, any bridle with two bits and four (4) reins.

Gaits: The various sequences of foot movements of the horse, such as walk, jog/trot, lope/canter and gallop.

Gallop and Hand Gallop: Lengthening of the stride from a lope/canter with a noticeable difference in speed.

Ground Tie – To leave horse standing untied, with reins or lead rope still attached to horse

Gymkhana: Timed games on horseback, e.g. barrels, poles, etc.

Home: Foot is placed through stirrup or iron so as to be resting against front of heel.

Interrupted Lead Change: Bringing horse to a complete stop before picking up lead

Jog: Term used in Western Riding to describe a smooth two beat gait.

Judging Criteria: Basic guidelines of what the judge is looking for.

Lead: Term used to describe which foreleg is leading when the horse is in a Lope/Canter gait.

Lope: Term used in Western riding to describe a rhythmical three beat gait of moderate speed.

Mechanical Hackamore: A “Bit” with no mouth piece which uses leverage on the nose and chin – allowed only in gaming events

Near Side: The horses left side

Obstacle: An item that the exhibitor must negotiate over, around or through to test the ability and maneuverability of the horse and exhibitor.

Off Side: The horses right side

Pivot: Can be on the forehand or haunches: example – on the haunches – the front moves around while the inside hind is planted, usually performed slower than a spin.

Pleasure: Term used in English & Western classes, to describe a class judged on the horses' way of going, quiet attitude, smooth transitions, and overall quality of gaits.

Posing:

- Quarter Type – feet squarely under horse.
- Saddle Seat Types (Paso Fino, Tennessee Walker, etc) – hind feet stretched.
- Hunter Types (Thoroughbred, Standard bred, Arabian, etc) – front feet square and under: hind feet may be slightly off -set (One foot more forward).
- Draft types (Any horse that is cross bred from a draft that exhibits the physical characteristics of a draft breed will be considered a draft type) – feet squarely under horse, one hind foot may be cocked.

Posting Trot: A rhythmic rising and sitting of the exhibitor as the horse performs the trot.

Ring Steward: A person appointed by the show management to coordinate activities for the judge within the arena or show ring.

Serpentine: A series of “S” formations linked together.

Settle: Term used to describe posing a horse in a quiet, standstill position

Simple Change: A horse's gait is decreased from a Lope/Canter to a Jog/Trot in order to change to the opposite lead before resuming the Lope/Canter.

Side Pass: A lateral movement, with both front and hind legs crossing over.

Snaffle Bit: A non-leverage bit, with no shank – and can have either a solid or jointed mouth piece. Typically a "O-Ring", "D-Ring", Egg-Butt, Or "Full-Cheek

Start of Run: For both judged and timed events, the contestant will walk their horse unaided through the gate, the horse will show it is under control and the gate will be closed prior to the horse moving past the start line. For judged events, it will be announced when timers are ready for the contestant to start. For timed events, time will start when the contestant crosses the indicated start line.

Timed Event: Any event in which the exhibitor competes against the clock; example: barrel racing and pole bending

Trot: Term used in English riding to describe a smooth two-beat gait.