



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION



2025 Georgia 4-H State Horse Show

Official Rulebook

June 3-7, 2025

Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter - Perry, GA





January 15, 2025

To: 4-H Horse Project Members, Parents, Agents, and Leaders

Subject: 2025 Georgia 4-H State Horse Show

On behalf of Georgia 4-H and the University of Georgia Animal & Dairy Science Department, we would personally like to thank you for your continued support of the Georgia 4-H Program. Thank you to the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter for their special accommodations for Georgia 4-H'ers. Again, we will stall in Barn 2 and will show in the Perdue, Sutherland, and Practice Ring #2 & #3 Arenas.

Please keep in mind that this rulebook provides our "tentative plan". The 2025 Georgia 4-H State Horse Show rule book includes the governing rules for participation, entry information, class requirements, and judging standards, as well as educational contests that require no horse ownership. Youth must meet these criteria to participate in this show with a horse.

1. Be enrolled in Georgia 4-H as a member.
2. Own or lease the horse shown by March 1, 2025, and be able to show proof. Intent to Show form and Proof of Ownership or Lease form registered online by March 14, 2025, by county extension office.
3. Cloverleaf, Junior, and Novice participants must have completed at least half of the [Novice Horseman Project](#) and Seniors the ENTIRE [Novice Horseman](#) manual. This must be completed by time of entry (verified by the County Extension Office) by **May 6, 2025**. Download the manual from: <https://georgia4h.org/Level-1-Novice-Horseman-Project-Manual.pdf>
4. Completed Georgia 4-H State Horse Show entry form filed with county office on or before **May 6, 2025**
 - a. **County offices** please send one (1) county check to cover all fees for exhibitors to: Jade Andrews Haston, 331 Hoke Smith Annex, Athens, Georgia 30602 (Postmark May 12, 2025).

This will be the fourth year to highlight a well-deserving adult 4-H in the horse program for the VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR award! Contact your county agent to submit nominations. Applications should be submitted to Kate Whiting (whitingk@uga.edu) by the county extension staff no later than **5:00 PM on May 6, 2025**. <https://georgia4h.org/wp-content/uploads/Volunteer-of-the-Year-Nomination-Form.pdf>

This rulebook is revised annually, or as necessary, by the Georgia 4-H Horse Advisory Committee. When you receive this book, discard copies of any previous editions of the Georgia 4-H Horse Show Rules and Regulations. **You will notice that all changes for 2025 are bold and in red.** The upcoming show highlights the following changes:

1. Junior events are for 4th - 6th graders with demonstrated advanced skills and 7th - 8th graders. Any member entering Cloverleaf classes cannot enter any other classes. A 4-H'er cannot enter both Cloverleaf and Junior competitions. (See Page 14 for full rule)
2. New ownership and lease rule: A single horse (whether owned or leased) may be shown by a maximum of two 4-H members (family or non-family member) at the State horse show. Those members must show in different age divisions. (Example: 1 CL & 1 JR, or 1 JR & 1 SR). (See Page 14-15 for full rule)
3. Hunt Seat Division Class Additions: Over fence classes will be offered in Cloverleaf Hunter Poles, cross rail, 2', 2'3", 2'6", and 2'9" heights. (See Page 45-47 for full rule)
4. Hunt Seat Equitation on the flat will run rail work first and finalists will be called back to test (pattern work). (See Page 44-45 for full rule)
5. Combined Training Award & New Dressage classes added: New classes added will be combined with the jumper classes in order to give a combined training award at each level. Riders must match their jumper class with the corresponding dressage test (e.g., Starter jumping class must be combined Starter combined training event dressage to generate a Starter Combined training award). (See page 48 & 53 for full rule)
 - a. Starter - Combined Training Event Dressage - 2022 USEA Starter Test
 - b. Beginner Novice - Combined Training Event Dressage - 2022 USEF Beginner Novice Test B
 - c. Novice - Combined Training Event Dressage - 2022 USEF Novice Test B
6. Gaited classes offered will include: Showmanship, Gaited Equitation, Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type), Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type). (See Page 57-59 for full rule)
 - a. Age groups will show together and division high points will not be awarded.
 - b. Top placing youth in each class will received an invitation to Southern Regionals.
 - c. Saddle Seat Classes will no longer be offered.

7. Ranch Division Class Additions: Working Ranch Rail and Herd Work. (See Page 61-64 for full rule)
8. Novice Classes will no longer be offered.
9. Educational demonstrations, team demonstrations, and public speaking entries will be presented LIVE at the GA National Fairgrounds during the show on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. First and second place winners may compete at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship contests on July 31, 2025.
10. Quizzes for all participants will be given online and must be completed between May 16-May 23, 2025.

Participants and their families should read the entire rulebook for class guidelines, penalties to avoid lower scores, and how to compete more successfully at the GA State 4-H Horse Show. Together we can work towards a successful experience for our youth and their horses in 2025. We look forward to seeing you!

Kate Whiting
Georgia 4-H Extension Specialist – Animal Science
(478) 987-2028
whitingk@uga.edu

cc: Melanie Biersmith, Mandy Marable, Carole Knight, Jade Andrews Haston, Kari Turner, Kylee Duberstein, Francis Fluharty, Lawton Stewart, District 4-H Program Dev. Coordinators, Horse Advisory Committee

IMPORTANT DATES ASSOCIATED WITH THE GEORGIA 4-H STATE HORSE SHOW!

Verify dates with your county office that may be earlier to facilitate the entry process!

<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>IMPORTANT FEATURE OF THE GA STATE HORSE PROJECT AND SHOW</u>
March 1	Agents file form to declare all horses owned or leased for the project
March 14	Agents upload Intent to Show form for horses eligible to be shown at state show
May 6	Agents select and confirm State Show class entries online and Medical Release Forms are due to the county office. County State Show Herdsman entries due. Theme: "Rock, Roll, and Ride" Nominations for Volunteer of the Year are due to whitingk@uga.edu . Agents register 4-H'ers for all Educational Contests: individual, team, and public speaking, essay, artwork, and photography through 4-H Event Registration and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069. All entries should be postmarked by May 12, 2025.
May 12	Postmark deadline for Show Entries, payments, and Educational Contest submissions. Electronic 4-H Code of Conduct must be complete and Medical Release Forms must be uploaded.
May 16-23	Take the required online quiz for all exhibitors at the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show participants
May 28	County stall assignments provided to counties to assign/distribute to their 4-H'ers. Patterns posted for horse show classes.
June 3, 8:00 AM	Georgia National Fairgrounds opens for Georgia 4-H'ers!
June 20	Last date for requests for refunds for the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show

SOUTHERN REGIONAL 4-H HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS - July 30- August 3, 2025, Perry, GA

<u>At State show or by June 13</u>	Accept or decline offer to show at Southern Regionals 4-H Horse Championships in Perry, GA.
June 20, 5:00 PM	Entries <u>RECEIVED</u> to <u>Kate Whiting</u> . Submit paperwork and check at the Georgia State Show or send it in advance of this date to Kate Whiting, 2030 Kings Chapel Road, Perry, Georgia 31069. Entries received after this date risk the loss of opportunity to show at Southern Regionals.
June 25	Last day to withdraw Southern Regional entry without penalty. Checks may be returned or shredded. No refunds after this date from the Southern Regional management committee. NOTE: If circumstances necessitate cancellation of the entry, the earlier the family shares the decision with Kate Whiting, whitingk@uga.edu or (478) 987-2028, the greater the chance of filling the spot with another eligible Georgia 4-H'er and the Georgia delegation.

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CLASS ENTRY SHEET

COUNTY AGENTS: REGISTRATION DUE ONLINE BY MAY 6, 2025 - ABSOLUTELY NO LATE ENTRIES.

4-Her's Name: _____

County: _____

Horse's Name: _____

Exhibitors, please check each class under each division in which you plan to show:

HUNT SEAT DIVISION

*These classes do not accumulate points

**Hunter Hack Entries may not enter any other over fence classes

**Cross Rail entries may not enter any other over fence heights

**Riders may enter classes in up to two consecutive fence heights (excluding cross rail entries) Ex- 2' & 2'3" or 2'6" & 2'9"

Cloverleaf		Junior		Junior & Senior		Senior					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 37	Cloverleaf Hunter Showmanship In Hand	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 1	*Junior Cross Rail Hunter Hack	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 5	*Warm Up Cross Rail Hunter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 2	*Senior Cross Rail Hunter Hack
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 40	Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Hunter Under Saddle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 3	Junior Hunter Hack 2'	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 10	* Warm Up 2' Hunter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 4	Senior Hunter Hack 2'
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 41	Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Hunter Seat Equitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 6	*Junior Cross Rail Hunter Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 15	*Warm Up 2'3" Hunter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 7	*Senior Cross Rail Hunter Over Fences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 42	Cloverleaf Hunter Poles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 8	*Junior Cross Rail Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 20	*Warm Up 2'6"	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 9	*Senior Cross Rail Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 11	Junior 2' Hunter Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 25	*Warm Up 2'9" Hunter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 12	Senior 2' Hunter Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 13	Junior 2' Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 30	*2' Jumper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 14	Senior 2' Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 16	Junior 2'3" Hunter Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 43	Pony Hunter Under Saddle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 17	Senior 2'3" Hunter Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 18	Junior 2'3" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 19	Senior 2'3" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 21	Junior 2'6" Hunter Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 22	Senior 2'6" Hunter Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 23	Junior 2'6" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 24	Senior 2'6" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 26	Junior 2'9" Hunter Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 27	Senior 2'9" Hunter Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 28	Junior 2'9" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 29	Senior 2'9" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 31	Junior Open Jumping Starter (2'-2'3")	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 32	Senior Open Jumping Starter (2'-2'3")
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 33	Junior Open Jumping Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 34	Senior Open Jumping Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 35	Junior Open Jumping Novice (2'6"-2'9")	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 36	Senior Open Jumping Novice (2'6"-2'9")
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 38	Junior Hunter Showmanship In Hand	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 39	Senior Hunter Showmanship In Hand
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 44	Junior Hunter Under Saddle	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 45	Senior Hunter Under Saddle
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 46	Junior Hunt Seat Equitation	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 47	Senior Hunt Seat Equitation

DRESSAGE

*Classes do not accumulate points for division championship

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 48 | *Starter Beginner Combined Training Event Dressage 2022
USEA Starter Test |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 49 | *Beginner Novice Combined Training Event Dressage 2022
USEF Beginner Novice Test B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 50 | *Novice Combined Training Event Dressage 2022 USEF
Novice Test B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 51 | *English Dressage 2023 Intro Level Test B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 52 | *English Dressage 2023 Intro Level Test C |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 53 | *English Dressage 2023 Training Test 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 54 | *Western Dressage 2022 Intro. Test 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 55 | *Western Dressage 2022 Basic Test 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 56 | *Western Dressage 2022 Basic Test 4 |

GAITED

*Classes do not accumulate points for division championship

Junior & Senior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 57 | *Showmanship In Hand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 58 | *Gaited Equitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 59 | *Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 60 | *Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type) |

STOCK SEAT DIVISION

Cloverleaf

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 61 | Cloverleaf Western Showmanship In Hand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 64 | Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Western Pleasure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 65 | Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Western Horsemanship |

Junior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 62 | Junior Western Showmanship In Hand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 66 | Junior Western Pleasure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 68 | Junior Western Horsemanship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 70 | Junior Western Riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 72 | Junior Trail |

Senior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 63 | Senior Western Showmanship In Hand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 67 | Senior Western Pleasure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 69 | Senior Western Horsemanship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 71 | Senior Western Riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 73 | Senior Trail |

RANCH HORSE DIVISION

Cloverleaf

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 74 | Cloverleaf Ground Handling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 77 | Cloverleaf Working Ranch Rail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 80 | Cloverleaf Ranch Riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 85 | Cloverleaf Ranch Trail |

Junior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 75 | Junior Ground Handling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 78 | Junior Working Ranch Rail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 81 | Junior Ranch Riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 83 | Junior Ranch Reining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 86 | Junior Ranch Trail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 88 | Junior Working Cow Horse (Boxing Only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 90 | Junior Herd Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 92 | Junior Ranch Roping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 94 | Junior Ranch Sorting |

Senior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 76 | Senior Ground Handling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 79 | Senior Working Ranch Rail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 82 | Senior Ranch Riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 84 | Senior Ranch Reining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 87 | Senior Ranch Trail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 89 | Senior Working Cow Horse (Boxing Only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 91 | Senior Herd Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 93 | Senior Ranch Roping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 95 | Senior Ranch Sorting |

CONTEST DIVISION

Junior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 96 | Junior Stake Race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 98 | Junior Cone Weaving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 100 | Junior Pole Bending |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 102 | Junior Barrel Race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 104 | Junior Arena Race |

Senior

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 97 | Senior Stake Race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 99 | Senior Cone Weaving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 101 | Senior Pole Bending |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 103 | Senior Barrel Race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Class 105 | Senior Arena Race |

Ranch Sorting Contestant Names and County:

1. _____ 2. _____

County Agents: When inputting Ranch Sorting Contestants into the online registration system, please designate the exhibitor's Ranch Sorting Partner Name and County in the note field.

As Ranch Sorting is a pointed class, all teams must be either Junior or Senior teams; no mixed teams will be allowed. Team members may, however, be from different counties. ***VERY IMPORTANT: WHEN ENTERING CLASSES ONLINE, EACH RANCH SORTING TEAM MEMBER MUST ENTER THE RANCH SORTING CLASS. This is very important to ensure that all team members are entered in the scoring system to receive points. If a contestant is not entered in ranch sorting, they cannot show in the class. Each contestant is responsible for entering and paying his/her share of the entry fee and indicating in the notes section who his/her team member is. A cattle fee will be charged per exhibitor.

* There must be a total of at least five (5) teams entered in Ranch Sorting (Junior and Senior combined), and ALL teams must be pre-entered by May 6th. Adding or entering Ranch Sorting at the State Show will NOT be allowed.

*There will be NO refunds of cattle fees for any reason other than the classes being canceled.

*Over Fence Fee Clarification:

Exhibitors who participate in classes (1-36) will be charged a one-time \$25 fee. Fees accumulated will be put towards the rental or purchase of jumps for the Hunt Seat Division.

*Cattle Charge Clarification:

See below for a breakdown of fees per cattle class:

- Class 88 and Class 89 = \$40 Cattle Fee + \$15 Entry Fee = \$55
- Class 90 and Class 91 = \$40 Cattle Fee + \$15 Entry Fee = \$55
- Class 92 and Class 93= \$40 Cattle Fee + \$15 Entry Fee= \$55
- Class 94 and Class 95 = Each team member will pay \$40 Cattle Fee + \$7.50 (split entry fee) = \$47.50

CLASS ENTRY FEES BREAKDOWN:

\$15.00 per Class X _____ Classes (Except for Ranch Sorting) = \$ _____

\$7.50 Split entry fee per exhibitor (\$15 ÷ 2) for Ranch Sorting only = \$ _____

(If not registered for ranch sorting, do not put amount here)

Cattle Charges (\$40 PER CLASS for all Ranch Horse classes: = \$ _____

(62, 63, 67, 68, 71, 72)

Over Fence Fee \$25 one-time charge for the Classes 1-36: = \$ _____

(A) Class Entry Fees Total = \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEES

\$10.00 per day No Stall - Grounds Fee (Required only if not using stall) = \$ _____

\$40.00 per horse/tack stall x _____ number of stalls = \$ _____

\$5.00 Administrative charge per horse/rider combination - Required = \$ _____

\$5.00 Residue Testing fee per horse/rider combination - Required = \$ _____

(B) Registration Fee Total = \$ _____

Grand Total = (A) Class Entry Fee Total + (B) Registration Fee Total = \$ _____

Exhibitors: Please be sure to contact your County Extension Office for payment details.

STALL AND GROUNDS INFORMATION: Stall reservations will be made by county groups based on registrations received by May 6. All stalling requests must be received by email to whitingk@uga.edu. Show management will make all efforts to honor requests. All stall fees are \$40.00 per stall for tack stalls and horse stalls. Participants who show but do not rent a stall must pay a \$10 grounds fee per day per horse shown.

OFFICIAL CLASSES

2025 State 4-H Horse Show

Hunt Seat

- Class 1 *Junior Cross Rail Hunter Hack
- Class 2 *Senior Cross Rail Hunter Hack
- Class 3 Junior Hunter Hack 2'
- Class 4 Senior Hunter Hack 2'
- Class 5 *Warm Up Cross Rail Hunter
- Class 6 *Junior Cross Rail Hunter Over Fences
- Class 7 *Senior Cross Rail Hunter Over Fences
- Class 8 *Junior Cross Rail Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 9 *Senior Cross Rail Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 10 *Warm Up 2' Hunter
- Class 11 Junior 2' Hunter Over Fences
- Class 12 Senior 2' Hunter Over Fences
- Class 13 Junior 2' Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 14 Senior 2' Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 15 *Warm Up 2'3" Hunter
- Class 16 Junior 2'3" Hunter Over Fences
- Class 17 Senior 2'3" Hunter Over Fences
- Class 18 Junior 2'3" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 19 Senior 2'3" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 20 *Warm Up 2'6"
- Class 21 Junior 2'6" Hunter Over Fences
- Class 22 Senior 2'6" Hunter Over Fences
- Class 23 Junior 2'6" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 24 Senior 2'6" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 25 *Warm Up 2'9" Hunter
- Class 26 Junior 2'9" Hunter Over Fences
- Class 27 Senior 2'9" Hunter Over Fences
- Class 28 Junior 2'9" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 29 Senior 2'9" Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences
- Class 30 *2' Jumper
- Class 31 Junior Open Jumping Starter (2'-2'3")
- Class 32 Senior Open Jumping Starter (2'-2'3")
- Class 33 Junior Open Jumping Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")
- Class 34 Senior Open Jumping Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")
- Class 35 Junior Open Jumping Novice (2'6"-2'9")
- Class 36 Senior Open Jumping Novice (2'6"-2'9")
- Class 37 Cloverleaf Hunter Showmanship In Hand
- Class 38 Junior Hunter Showmanship In Hand
- Class 39 Senior Hunter Showmanship In Hand
- Class 40 Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Hunter Under Saddle
- Class 41 Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Hunter Seat Equitation
- Class 42 Cloverleaf Hunter Poles
- Class 43 Pony Hunter Under Saddle
- Class 44 Junior Hunter Under Saddle
- Class 45 Senior Hunter Under Saddle
- Class 46 Junior Hunt Seat Equitation
- Class 47 Senior Hunt Seat Equitation

Dressage (Not A Division)

- Class 48 *Starter Beginner Combined Training Event
Dressage 2022 USEA Starter Test
- Class 49 *Beginner Novice Combined Training Event
Dressage 2022 USEF Beginner Novice Test B
- Class 50 *Novice Combined Training Event Dressage 2022
USEF Novice Test B
- Class 51 *English Dressage 2023 Intro Level Test B
- Class 52 *English Dressage 2023 Intro Level Test C
- Class 53 *English Dressage 2023 Training Test 3
- Class 54 *Western Dressage 2022 Intro. Test 1
- Class 55 *Western Dressage 2022 Basic Test 1
- Class 56 *Western Dressage 2022 Basic Test 4

Gaited (Not A Division)

- Class 57 *Showmanship In Hand
- Class 58 *Gaited Equitation
- Class 59 *Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type)
- Class 60 *Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type)

Stock Seat

- Class 61 Cloverleaf Western Showmanship In Hand
- Class 62 Junior Western Showmanship In Hand
- Class 63 Senior Western Showmanship In Hand
- Class 64 Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Western Pleasure
- Class 65 Cloverleaf Walk/Trot Western Horsemanship
- Class 66 Junior Western Pleasure
- Class 67 Senior Western Pleasure
- Class 68 Junior Western Horsemanship
- Class 69 Senior Western Horsemanship
- Class 70 Junior Western Riding
- Class 71 Senior Western Riding
- Class 72 Junior Trail
- Class 73 Senior Trail

Ranch Horse

- Class 74 Cloverleaf Ground Handling
- Class 75 Junior Ground Handling
- Class 76 Senior Ground Handling
- Class 77 Cloverleaf Working Ranch Rail
- Class 78 Junior Working Ranch Rail
- Class 79 Senior Working Ranch Rail
- Class 80 Cloverleaf Ranch Riding
- Class 81 Junior Ranch Riding
- Class 82 Senior Ranch Riding
- Class 83 Junior Ranch Reining
- Class 84 Senior Ranch Reining
- Class 85 Cloverleaf Ranch Trail
- Class 86 Junior Ranch Trail
- Class 87 Senior Ranch Trail
- Class 88 Junior Working Cow Horse (Boxing Only)
- Class 89 Senior Working Cow Horse (Boxing Only)
- Class 90 Junior Herd Work
- Class 91 Senior Herd Work
- Class 92 Junior Ranch Roping
- Class 93 Senior Ranch Roping
- Class 94 Junior Ranch Sorting
- Class 95 Senior Ranch Sorting

Contest Events

- Class 96 Junior Stake Race
- Class 97 Senior Stake Race
- Class 98 Junior Cone Weaving
- Class 99 Senior Cone Weaving
- Class 100 Junior Pole Bending
- Class 101 Senior Pole Bending
- Class 102 Junior Barrel Race
- Class 103 Senior Barrel Race
- Class 104 Junior Arena Race
- Class 105 Senior Arena Race

* These classes do not accumulate points

2025 State 4-H Horse Show
****Tentative Schedule Until Show****

Tuesday, June 3

8:00am	Stalling Opens (Horse Barn #2)
9:00 am	Hippology Registration (Sutherland Arena)
10:30am	Horse Judging Registration (Sutherland Arena)
12:00 pm	Horse Show Office (in Perdue Arena) and Stalling Opens (Horse Barn #2)
6:00-8:00 pm	Hunt Seat Over Fences Workout (Sutherland Arena). Riders will be assigned a workout time.
6:00-7:00 pm	Stock Seat Workout (Perdue Arena)

Wednesday, June 4

<u>Sutherland Arena</u>		<u>Perdue Arena</u>	
6:30 - 7:30 am	Hunt Seat Over Fences Workout	7:30 - 8:30 am	Stock Seat Workout
8:00 am	Hunt Seat Over Fences Classes Begin	9:00 am	Stock Seat Classes Begin
1 hour after Over Fences classes end	Hunt Seat Flat Workout for 1 hour	After Stock Seat classes end	Stock Seat Trail will begin in Practice Ring #2. Walk through times will be announced the day of the show. Stock Seat Trail will be shown in Order-of-Go.
		1 hour after Stock Seat Trail ends	Ranch Horse Workout for 1 hour
3:00 pm	Educational Contests (Sutherland-TBD)		

****Exhibitor Party & Senior Spotlight after all classes & contests conclude** (Perdue Arena)**

Thursday, June 5

<u>Sutherland Arena</u>		<u>Perdue Arena and Practice Ring #2 (PR#2)</u>	
6:30-7:30 am:	Hunt Seat Flat Workout	8:00 am	Ranch Horse Classes Begin. Order of classes: Ground Handling, Working Ranch Rail, Ranch Riding, Ranch Reining, Ranch Trail (PR #2)
8:00 am	Hunt Seat Flat Classes Begin		
1 hour after Flat Classes End	Dressage Workout for 1 hour		

****Dummy Roping Competition after all classes & workouts conclude** (Perdue Arena)**

Friday, June 6

<u>Sutherland Arena</u>		<u>Perdue Arena</u>	
6:30-7:30 am	Dressage Workout	6:30-7:30 am	Ranch Workout
8:00 am	Dressage Classes Begin	8:00 am	Working Cow Horse, Herd Work, Ranch Roping, Ranch Sorting
1 hour after Dressage Classes End	Saddle Seat/Gaited Workout for 1 hour	1 hour after Ranch Classes End	Contest Division Workout
30 mins after Gaited Workout	Gaited Classes Begin		

****Exhibitor Games after all classes and workouts conclude** (Perdue Arena)**

Saturday, June 7

		<u>Perdue Arena</u>	
		6:30-7:30am	Contest Workout
		8:00am	Contest Events Tack Check followed by Contest Events Classes

Classes that cannot be completed on the scheduled day (Wednesday - Friday) will be moved to the next day. The Perdue Arena, Sutherland Arena, and Practice Ring #2 and #3 will be available to work out at the designated times by designated supervisors. Once the designated times have expired, the arenas will be closed and locked until the next designated time. If the exhibitor chooses to use any other arena unsupervised, they do so at their own risk.

Shavings Specifications and Standards for the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter

Stalls for the State 4-H Horse Show will NOT be pre-bedded. Exhibitors may pre-order shavings through the Georgia National Fairgrounds by calling 478-224-3938 or order online. www.showshavings.com

Shavings will also be available for purchase during normal shavings office hours from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm. The shavings office is located at the west end of the horse barn.

No Outside Shavings Are Allowed. All shavings must be purchased on grounds as the Georgia National Fairgrounds policy. With the exception of animals that have a Veterinarian note for stated allergies. Exceptions must be communicated to Kate Whiting prior to May 27.

**All stalls in the horse barn have concrete floors in the stalls and in the aisles. Exhibitors may bring mats or may need to purchase additional shavings to bed their stalls deeper.

Stall Mats are available through Greenbroke Stall Mat Rental at [\(478\) 952-6251](tel:4789526251) to schedule your stall mat installation prior to your arrival at a show. Stall mat quantities are limited, so order your rental as soon as possible. Easy online ordering available through our [Contract Agreement](#) page.

GEORGIA
NATIONAL FAIRGROUNDS
& AGRICENTER

NO OUTSIDE SHAVINGS ALLOWED



SCAN ME TO ORDER SHAVINGS
- WWW.SHOWSHAVINGS.COM -
OR CALL (478) 224-3938

SHAVINGS DELIVERED FROM 8AM-8PM DAILY DURING EVENT	ALL ORDERS RECEIVED AFTER 8PM WILL BE DELIVERED 8AM NEXT MORNING
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OFFICIAL RULES 2025 GEORGIA 4-H STATE HORSE SHOW

Every entry at this show and execution of the entry form shall constitute an agreement and affirmation that the person making it, along with the owner, lessee, manager and rider of the horse; (1) shall be subject to the current Georgia 4-H State Horse Show Rulebook and Guidelines; (2) that every horse and/or rider is eligible as entered; (3) that the owner and any of his/her representatives are bound by the current rules in consideration for the acceptance of my entry. I, for my heirs, executors, and administrators, release, hold harmless, and forever discharge Georgia 4-H State Horse Show organizers, the owners of the facilities and their respective officials, employees, agents, and representatives of all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses which I or my child may have against them arising out of or in any way connected with the entry of the listed horse(s) in the event, including any accident or loss which may occur to any exhibitor(s), spectator(s), guest(s), rider(s), groom(s), attendant(s), and any other employee, animal or equipment at any show listed in the prize list. I understand that this waiver includes any claims based on negligence, any applicable equine activity law, action, or in any of the above parties.

WARNING: Under Georgia Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for any injury to or death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to Chapter 12 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.”

A. ELIGIBILITY OF YOUTH

1. Exhibitors in the 4-H Horse Show must be in the 4th Grade and not graduated from 12th Grade. Eligibility is determined by grade level during 2024-2025 school year.
2. Cloverleaf classes are restricted to 4-H'ers that are currently in the 4th - 6th grades with limited horsemanship experience. Horses will be required to walk and trot in the classes. The riders will not be expected to canter or lope. Cloverleaf classes are intended for 4-H'ers with limited experience.
3. Junior events are for **4th - 6th graders** with demonstrated advanced skills and 7th - 8th graders. Any member entering Cloverleaf classes cannot enter any other classes. A 4-H'er cannot enter both Cloverleaf and Junior competitions.
4. Senior events are for 4-H'ers in the 9th grade through 12th grade.
 - a. Senior contestants may not participate in post-secondary courses (i.e. college, technical school) in the subject area of the 4-H competition and/or on a college equestrian team, nor may contestants participate in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the 4-H competition. Violation will result in forfeiture in the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show as well as forfeiture of any awards or recognition received from the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show.

Summary of 4-H Horse Show Grade Breakdown (based on September 1 of the current year)

Cloverleaf Events - 4th - 6th graders with demonstrated skills at walk/trot only.

Junior Events - **4th - 6th graders** with advanced demonstrated skills, 7th - 8th graders.

Senior Events - 4-H'ers in 9th - 12th grades.

5. All exhibitors must be enrolled in a county 4-H program. Junior and Cloverleaf exhibitors must have completed at least half of the requirements in each section of the 4-H Novice Horseman Project. Senior exhibitors must have completed the entire 4-H Novice Horseman Project. Certification of project work on the show entry form is the sole responsibility of the County Extension Agent/Staff and is made in the form of the agent's signature on the entry form.
6. A student may show recreational animals (horses, dogs, cats, exotic, etc.) in both Georgia 4-H and FFA in the same year. This is allowed because of the significant differences in the typical learning experiences associated with these type shows. Relative to these shows, 4-H and FFA organizations at local, district, and regional levels are encouraged to plan events in cooperation with each other.

B. OWNERSHIP, LEASING, AND CARE OF THE HORSE

1. Horses must be owned or leased by the 4-H'er or his/her immediate family member by March 1, 2025. The duration of the lease should be for five months so that the youth may show at Southern Regionals in August if qualified. If the leaser does not follow the five-month lease agreement, the leaser may be ineligible to participate in future Georgia 4-H State Horse Shows.
2. The Intent to Show form must have been submitted online by the county agent no later than March 14, 2025, and must be accompanied by Proof of Ownership or Lease. Without this form, 4-H'ers may not show. Please keep the original Intent to Show Forms on file at the county office. Do not send originals to the State 4-H Office.
3. A 4-H'er may submit as many Intent to Show forms as she/he has eligible horses by March 14. Absolutely no additional Intent to Show forms will be accepted after March 14, 2025. Please submit all possible horses in your ownership in case of injury.

**Substitution of horses (horses that do not have a completed Intent to Show Form submitted online by the deadline) is NOT permitted. Horses with completed Intent to Show Forms that are submitted online by the deadline will be the only horses eligible to compete in the 2025 State 4-H Horse Show.

If a registered 4-H member would like to file a grievance or protest to question an entry in the show, they must follow the official protest procedure that is found in Section E, Rule 1 of the current state horse show rulebook. If the protest is upheld, and the horse in question and the Intent to Show Form description does not match, the deposit shall be refunded, and the horse/rider combination will forfeit all their earned points and placings and could be disqualified from future Georgia 4-H State Horse Shows. If the protest is overruled, the deposit shall be forfeited to the horse show fund. The decision of the grievance committee is final.

Show management reserves the right to verify submitted Intent to Show Forms (and Coggins) by visually inspecting horses on the grounds during the show.

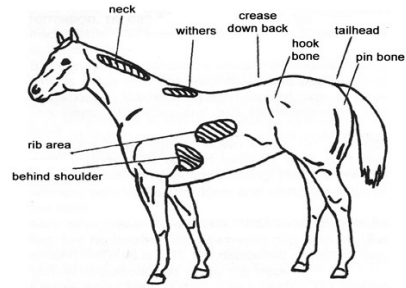
4. Proof of Ownership can be registration papers or a Bill of Sale. In the case of a grade horse, a notarized letter from a veterinarian or other professional that has worked with the horse and 4-H'er is acceptable. Coggins papers will not be accepted as Proof of Ownership.
5. Certification of the above is the responsibility of the 4-H member, parent/legal guardian & County Extension Agent/staff.
6. In the case of a leased horse, the completed Lease Agreement must accompany Intent to Show form.
7. The show committee reserves the right to interview 4-H'ers and their families who are leasing horses to discuss the terms and conditions of the lease as well as proper management.
8. **A single horse (whether owned or leased) may be carried as a project animal by a maximum of 2 4-H members at the State Horse Show, provided they are in two different age groups. For example, a seventh grade 4-H'er could show the horse in Junior events, and a ninth-grade 4-H member could show the same horse in Senior classes. If both are Juniors, they may not compete on the same horse. If both are Seniors, they may not compete on the same horse.**
9. Borrowed horses are prohibited.
10. **The 4-H'er(s) must be the only person showing the horse, i.e., an owner or trainer could not show the horse at a show one weekend, and the 4-H'er show the next. The only exceptions to this would be: 1. If the horse is owned/leased by a family and another family member shows the horse . 2. 2 4-H members are carrying the horse as a project animal for the show season. This is allowed by our rules.**
11. The 4-H'er must be the person primarily responsible for the care of the horse. If a horse is leased by 2 4-H'ers, members must share management duties equally.
12. Research has shown that health complications, such as heat stress, the stress of traveling, and showing can be exacerbated at low body condition scores. Due to concerns for animal welfare and the objective of 4-H to educate and promote quality animal husbandry; horses, ponies, and/or mules shall not be shown at the GA State 4-H Horse Show with a body condition score of less than 4 based on the Henneke scale (ribs easily discernible, tops of spinous process easily discernible, tail head prominent with hook bones easily discernible, withers accentuated, and neck obviously thin). If a 4-H'er has questions about the body condition score of a project horse or is concerned about the horse being acceptable at the state horse show, the county agent and/or the GA State Horse Specialist should be contacted. Exhibitors should target an ideal body condition score of 5 or 6 for the state show and be aware it is especially important in the fitting and turn out of the project horse for showmanship. The judge has the authority to penalize a horse with an unsuitable body condition score. Refer to Henneke System scale for reference.

HENNEKE SCALE

BODY CONDITION

SCORING SYSTEM

FOR REFERENCE ONLY



modified from Henneke et al. EVJ 1983;15:371-372

Condition	Neck	Withers	Shoulder	Ribs	Back	Tailhead Area
1 Poor <i>(extremely emaciated)</i>	Bone structure easily noticeable	Bone structure easily noticeable	Bone structure easily noticeable	Ribs projecting prominently	Spinous processes projecting prominently	Tailhead, pinbones, and hook bones projecting prominently
No fatty tissue can be felt						
2 Very Thin <i>(emaciated)</i>	Bone structure faintly discernible	Bone structure faintly discernible	Bone structure faintly discernible	Ribs prominent	Slight fat covering over base of spinous processes. Transverse processes of lumbar vertebrae feel rounded. Spinous processes are prominent	Tailhead prominent Pin bones prominent Hook bones prominent
3 Thin	Neck accentuated	Withers accentuated	Shoulder accentuated	Slight fat cover over ribs. Ribs easily discernible	Fat buildup halfway on spinous processes, but easily discernible. Transverse processes cannot be felt	Tailhead prominent but individual vertebrae cannot be visually identified. Hook bones appear rounded, but are still easily discernible. Pin bones not distinguishable
4 Moderately Thin	Neck not obviously thin	Withers not obviously thin	Shoulder not obviously thin	Faint outline of ribs discernible	Negative crease (peaked appearance) along back	Prominence depends on conformation. Fat can be felt. Hook bones not discernible
5 Moderate	Neck blends smoothly into body	Withers rounded over spinous processes	Shoulder blends smoothly into body	Ribs cannot be visually distinguished, but can be easily felt	Back is level	Fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy
6 Moderately Fleshy	Fat beginning to be deposited	Fat beginning to be deposited	Fat beginning to be deposited behind shoulder	Fat over ribs feels spongy	May have a slight positive crease (a groove) down back	Fat around tailhead feels soft
7 Fleshy	Fat deposited along neck	Fat deposited along withers	Fat deposited behind shoulder	Individual ribs can be felt, but noticeable fat filling between ribs	May have a positive crease down the back	Fat around tailhead is soft
8 Fat	Noticeable thickening of neck	Area along withers filled with fat	Area behind shoulder filled with fat	Difficult to feel ribs	Positive crease down the back	Fat around tailhead very soft
9 Extremely Fat	Bulging fat	Bulging fat	Bulging fat	Patchy fat appearing over ribs	Obvious crease down the back Flank filled with fat	Bulging fat around tailhead

Henneke Equine Body Scoring Chart 1_18_07.xls

Attachment 1-1

C. ENTRIES

1. Class entries should be made as designated by State 4-H Office. The official entry form must be used and contain the appropriate signatures. No entry will be accepted unless properly certified by 4-H member, parent/legal guardian, and Extension Agent/ Staff. The exhibitor is responsible for securing official approval (signatures) of the County Extension Agent. The show committee will refuse all uncertified entries. An entry fee of \$15.00 will be charged for each class and a grounds fee of \$10.00 per day will be charged for each horse if NO stall is rented. Entry fees must accompany the entry. All entries are due online by May 6, 2025. Absolutely no late entries will be accepted.
2. All entries must be prepared to present a certificate of negative test for Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins Test) for admittance to show grounds. CURRENT WITHIN ONE YEAR. All entrants will be required to show a copy of their current Coggins paperwork to receive horse show packet(s). The recognized Georgia 4-H State Horse Show management team/vet may check each Coggins and horse's condition during the show.
3. No 4-H'er may exhibit more than three different horses at the State Show. Exhibitors may only show one horse per class, regardless of whether it's an individually worked class or a group class.
4. All exhibitors will be required to have a completed 4-H Code of Conduct and Medical Release Form uploaded to the State Horse Show registration site by May 12, 2025.
5. A 4-H'er who is already entered in the State Show by the May 6 deadline may make a class change or may add a class at the State Show for a \$25 cash fee, except for cattle classes. These class changes or class additions must be handled in person at the show in the horse show office 24 hours before the start of the division the class is designated for. Any name changes or added classes must be done before the close of the show office the night before the scheduled event. Name changes or added classes will not be done on the day of the scheduled event.
6. Counties will be assigned stall space in Horse Barn #2, with those stalls ordered online through the State Horse Show Registration site by the May 6, 2025 deadline.

On May 27, the State 4-H Office will send an email to those county offices that have youth registered to participate to verify the stalling assignments. Stalls will be allotted to counties but individual stalls for individual exhibitors will not be designated. It is the responsibility of the county to work with the exhibitors to assign the stall numbers to each exhibitor. Specific stalling assignments for exhibitors must be communicated to the exhibitors by the county.

Management will place a priority on stalling spaces with an end cap to counties that provide a completed Herdsman Entry Form postmarked by May 12 to assist with their displays. If a county does not provide a completed Herdsman Entry Form by the provided deadline, they will not be guaranteed an end cap.

7. Requests for refunds will be accepted until June 20, 2025, for medical excuses only (for 4-H'er and/or horse only). The request must come from a County Extension Agent (on County Extension Letterhead) and be accompanied by a letter from a veterinarian or doctor explaining why the rider/horse could not participate in show and had to withdraw. Please include a complete explanation for the requested refund. If a request is granted, the check will be made payable to the county extension office. All documentation should be sent to Kate Whiting, 2030 Kings chapel Road, Perry, Georgia 31069. No refund less than \$15 will be made. No refunds will be accepted after June 20, 2025.

D. SHOW REGULATIONS

Each Show makes divisions whereby all will have the opportunity to demonstrate their skill and horsemanship.

1. All horses entering the show grounds shall immediately enter the stabling or corral area. No horse is to be exercised except in the assigned areas. No riding shall be permitted in the spectator area and no spectators in the exercise area. Only 4-H members can ride the horse at the show facility. Trainers are allowed to lunge horses but not ride. Lunging is allowed in the uncovered outside arenas only, weather permitting.
2. Sportsmanship is the 4-H way. The judge's decision will be final. When an exhibitor or exhibitor's parent, trainer, leader, or agent is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, the show management may suspend such exhibitor's right to participate in future classes and/or shows for such period as judged appropriate.
3. No exhibitor may be tied, buckled, or fastened into the saddle by any means during the competition. This includes Velcro, rubber bands, and all other means.
4. An official of the show may check the appointments of each horse and exhibitor. However, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to be aware of all rules and enter the arena with the proper tack and attire. An official may request removal or alteration of any equipment deemed inappropriate prior to the judging of the class. Participants exhibiting with illegal appointments may be disqualified at the discretion of the judge.
5. The show will begin at the designated time. Each class will be called two times prior to the "last call." The gate will be closed within one minute following the last call. Exhibitors and exhibitors' parents are responsible for keeping track of working orders and for being in line or in the makeup area when their run or class time arrives. Exhibitors who miss their class or run will forfeit their run in that class, unless they notify the show officials of an unpreventable emergency before

their time to work has passed and show management approves their request. In all individually-worked classes, exhibitors must go in posted order or they forfeit their go.

NOTE: The P.A. system is used to help the show move as smoothly as possible but is only a courtesy. It is the responsibility of the contestants to know when they are required to be in the make-up area or arena. Not hearing or understanding gate calls, etc. is NOT an excuse for missing one's order of work, heat, or class.

6. Riders must keep horse under control at all times. Fall of the horse and/or rider may be penalized or disqualified at the discretion of the judge. The judge will dismiss from the ring any entry that is unruly or not in sufficient control for the safety of the handler or other exhibitors.
7. In timed events, horses will be stopped inside the arena. Gate will not be opened until horse is stopped and under control and rider dismounts. Horses running into the gate or arena fence shall draw a five second penalty.
8. In timed events, an electric timer, when accessible, will be the official time. Failure of electric eye will result in rerun option determined by the rider. Otherwise, at least two stopwatches shall be used, with the average time of the two stopwatches to be the official time. The rider must choose between the two options before leaving the arena.
9. In the event of a tie in a timed class, the contestant declared the winner in the runoff must run the pattern within two seconds of his original time, or the runoff must be held again.
10. All over fence classes will run one time (no preliminaries) except for open jumping which will run back to back. The number to be brought back for finals will be at the judges' and officials' discretion.
11. A rerun may, at the judges' discretion, be given to a contestant if handicapped by equipment failure. Equipment failure must be reported immediately to ring master if a rerun is desired. If need arises, exhibitor should request permission from ring master before leaving ring. Decision of the judge is final.
12. An exhibitor receiving excessive coaching or advice from parents, leaders, or agents while in the show ring, may be disqualified by the judge or show committee. Only exhibitors and show officials will be permitted in the show ring during the show.
13. Stallions are ineligible in all 4-H Shows.
14. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the show grounds during the State 4-H Horse Show.
15. A mandatory curfew or cut-off time of midnight will be in effect for the State 4-H Horse Show.
16. Unnecessary roughness or discourteousness will dismiss the rider from further competition in the events. Good sportsmanship shall prevail at all times -- no abuse of animals or acting unmannerly. Georgia 4-H is committed to the humane treatment of horses and livestock. Inhumane or abusive treatment may result in disqualification, at the discretion of the show management and/or judges.
17. Any exhibitor that enters the ring without their correct contestant number will be disqualified.
18. Dogs are not allowed in facilities where horses are being exhibited. Violators may be subject to dismissal from the show. Dogs are allowed in the barn area but must be on a leash at all times.
19. Any motorized vehicle used on the grounds must be operated by a licensed driver (at least 16 years of age). The use of golf carts, 4 wheelers and the like is allowed only in designated livestock areas (not allowed on the interior of any barns/rings). Skateboards, scooters, roller skates, hover boards, roller blades, and other similar mechanical equipment are prohibited within all property known as the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter unless approved by the Office of Public Safety as part of a scheduled program or demonstration registered through an appropriate administration office. Bicycles may be limited during specific events at the discretion of the Public Safety Director.
20. Patterns will be provided to participants. The show committee will make the patterns available online at georgia4-H.org on the Horse Programs webpage approximately 1 week prior to the start of the horse show and they will be posted 24 hours before the start of the division in the main alley of Horse Barn 2. Any changes that are made to the provided patterns will be posted a minimum of one (1) hour prior to the start of the work out or class. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to clarify any questions prior to the start of the work out or actual class.
21. All RV Reservations are handled by the GNF Security Depart. and can be arranged for at the East Gate security building. An RV spot will be assigned and unlocked for you. You can go to www.gnfa.com and reserve the RV spots for a particular event you will be attending.

E. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. A grievance committee will be designated by the show management before the show begins. This committee will act upon protests arising out of any class. A grievance or protest must be made in writing and be presented by the 4-H'er only, accompanied by a \$25.00 cash fee during or immediately upon conclusion of the class in question. Protests made by anyone other than a 4-H'er will be considered invalid. The exhibitor or horse and the reasons for the protest being filed must be designated. Protests will be made with the understanding that the protestor's name will be made public. If the protest is upheld by the grievance committee, the deposit shall be refunded to the 4-H'er. If the protest is overruled, the deposit shall

be forfeited to the horse show fund. The decision of the committee is final. The grievance committee will not reverse the placing of the class.

F. QUIZ REQUIREMENTS

1. An online, short answer quiz with 25 questions regarding basic horse care, knowledge, and horse show rules must be completed by all 4-Hers showing in the State 4-H Horse Show. If youth are entered in two or more divisions, they may choose the test in the division they prefer. The testing format may be any combination of matching, multiple choice, true/false, or identification where the correct answer may be selected. Youth will have the option to click on the speaker symbol to have the question and answers read to them. Once the answer is selected and the youth advances to the next question, they may not go back to the previously answered questions. Note: Cloverleaf tests will be specific for these younger youth.
2. Study materials. All youth should prepare for the quiz by completing the Level 1 Novice Horseman Project and reading the rules of their division entered at the GA State Show, along with general 4-H membership information. *Junior and Senior youth should also be familiar with information required in Level 2 The Intermediate Horseman Project.*
3. The quiz score total will be worth 25 possible points. The quiz points will not count toward the computation of championship points for the Cloverleaf or Junior age divisions. However, the test scores may be used as a tie breaker for all division placings. To determine championship rankings among Seniors, the quiz score will count 25% of the total points when added to the points earned from placings in three classes of the division.
4. Orientation sessions will no longer be offered.

G. ATTIRE AND HEADGEAR

1. Boots are strongly recommended by show management at all times. During assigned work out times (in Perdue Arena, Practice Ring #2 and #3 and Sutherland Arena), boots must be worn. When riding at the State 4-H Horse Show, all 4-Her's are required to wear appropriate full-length jeans, breeches, jodhpurs, or pants. Jeans with large holes and capris are not suitable for riding. Horses must be ridden with a bridle and saddle at all times. Riding on pavement is strongly discouraged. These rules will be regulated by management.
2. Suitable, neat attire is to be worn in classes. For safety reasons, sneakers and low shoes are not considered suitable. Boots are required to be worn during competition. See individual class descriptions for specific requirements.

Headgear: Equestrian sports involve inherent danger and risks. Students and parents should make responsible decisions relative to safety and their equipment.

Understand that the Georgia 4-H Show committee & officials make no representation or warranty expressed or implied about protective headgear and cautions riders that serious injury or death may result despite wearing such headgear.

Helmets that meet the minimum performance standards set by the American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) and which include certification and labeling required by the Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) will be REQUIRED for all mounted classes in ALL DIVISIONS. The approved helmets must have a permanent ASTM identification inside the helmet, a permanent harness and chin strap attachment, and should be 5 years old or less with no impact from a previous fall. The student and parent/guardian are responsible for assuring that the 4-H'ers head gear complies with safety standards. It is not the responsibility of the official to check headgear. This headgear must be secured with the harness engaged and properly fastened at all times while on the horse. The chin strap should be centered under the rider's chin, and fit snugly so that no more than one or two fingers fit between the chin and the strap. Failure to adhere to this rule will disqualify the 4-H'er. Helmets will be spot-checked by show staff or judges. Disqualification will result from improper helmets or improperly worn helmets. Show management will not loan helmets. Exhibitors may wear a helmet or traditional show attire on the head in showmanship or ground-handling classes.

Any time a youth is mounted, they must wear their show number for easy identification in case of an emergency.

H. RESIDUE TESTING PROGRAM

Forbidden substances or methods:

- a. The management of the State Show reserves the right to have horses tested for drugs. Show veterinarians will submit samples to a suitable laboratory for testing and the results of such tests will be provided to county and state Extension faculty for appropriate action. All horses are subject to testing. *Refusal to submit animals for testing or cooperate in completion of minimum testing requirements will result in disqualification and subject the exhibitor to the same penalties provided for exhibitors whose animals test positive for drugs.*
- b. No person shall cause to be administered internally or externally to a horse, either before or during the State 4-H Horse Show, any medication, drug, or substance which is of such character as could affect its performance or appearance, except for those conditionally permitted therapeutic medications, the use of which is specifically provided for in the therapeutic medication addendum in C.
- c. Therapeutic Medication Addendum (Does not apply if prohibited by governmental regulations)
- Exhibitors, owners, trainers, and veterinarians are cautioned against the use of medicinal preparations, tonics, pastes, and products of any kind, the ingredients and quantitative analysis of which are not specifically known, as many of them may contain a forbidden substance.

1. Forbidden drugs or substance:
 - A) Any drug or substance considered a Class I or Class II substance as defined in the most current USEF Guidelines for Drugs and Medications which may include substances beyond the list in this document.
 - B) Any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer, or sedative which could affect the performance of a horse (stimulants and depressants are defined as substances which stimulate or depress the cardiovascular, respiratory or central nervous system).
 - C) Any substance, regardless of how harmless or innocuous it might be, which might interfere with the detection or quantization of any substance defined in (A), (B), or (C).
2. Conditionally permitted therapeutic medication: Any drug, medication, or substance which could affect the performance of a horse that is used for the legitimate treatment of illness or injury and is specified as a forbidden substance as defined in paragraph (1)(A) above.
 However, these drugs or substances are forbidden and use thereof subjects the person to disciplinary action, unless all conditions of their administration are met.
 Each of the following requirements is a condition to authorize administration of conditionally permitted therapeutic medications, which shall be verified in a written medication report, completed in its entirety, and filed with show management before exhibition of the horse (see C through J below):
 - A) Administration by a veterinarian who is a member in good standing of the AAEP (American Association of Equine Practitioners) and licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state where the event is being held or from a written prescription (written instructions) by a licensed veterinarian, who is a member in good standing of the AAEP, which documents administration of medication is necessary for the treatment of illness or injury. The administration of a conditionally permitted therapeutic medication for the purpose of transport, grooming, training, etc. Is not therapeutic under this authorization rule.
 - B) The horse must be withdrawn and kept out of competition for not less than 24 hours after the medication is administered.
 - C) Identification of the medication: the name, amount, strength, and mode of administration.
 - D) Date and time of administration.
 - E) Identification of the horse: name, age, sex, color, and entry number.
 - F) Diagnosis of illness/injury, reason for administration, and name of administering and/or prescribing AAEP veterinarian.
 - G) Signature of veterinarian or person administering the medication. If prescription (written instructions), a copy must be attached to the medication report.
 - H) The medication report must be filed with show management within one hour after administration of the medication or one hour after show management is available, if administration occurs at a time other than during competition hours.
 - I) The medication report must be signed by show management and time of receipt recorded on the report.
 - J) While this report must be filed only if the administered medication will be present in amounts detectable in blood and/or urine samples at the time of competition/sampling, exhibitors are hereby cautioned it is their responsibility to determine whether or not such medication has had time to clear the horse's system. If there is any doubt, a medication declaration form should be filed.
3. Restrictions concerning the use of conditionally permitted medications that may be administered within 24 hours of showing and should be administered in accordance with the recommendation following each to ensure compliance with maximum allowable plasma level
 - A) Only those twelve drugs or medications listed below may be administered within 24 hours of showing and should be administered in accordance with the recommendation following each to ensure compliance with maximum allowable plasma levels.
 - (1) Phenylbutazone - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of phenylbutazone is 15.0 micrograms per milliliter, and the maximum permitted trace level is 2.0 micrograms per milliliter. When phenylbutazone is administered, the same dose should be accurately calculated according to actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 2.0 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered, preferably less. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 2.0 grams, which equals two 1.0 gram tablets, or two 1.0 gram units of paste, or 10.0 cc of the injectable (200 milligrams per milliliter). Neither a total daily dose nor part of an injectable dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competing. In the event the phenylbutazone is administered orally, half of the maximum daily dose (1.0 gram per 1000 lbs.) can be administered each 12 hours during a five-day treatment program. Phenylbutazone should not be used for more than five successive days. Whenever phenylbutazone is administered, flunixin meglumine should not have been administered during the seven preceding days.
 - (2) Flunixin- The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Flunixin is 1.0 microgram per milliliter, and the maximum permitted trace level is 0.2 micrograms per milliliter. When Flunixin in Meglumine (Banamine) is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 0.5 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 500 milligrams, which equals two 250 milligram packets of granules, or one 500 milligram packet of granules, or 500 milligrams of the oral paste (available in 1500 milligram dose syringes), or 10.0 cc of the injectable (50 milligrams per milliliter). No part of a dose should be administered during the twelve hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed must be consumed and/or removed at least twelve hours prior to competing. The medication

should not be used for more than five successive days.

(3) Ketoprofen- The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Ketoprofen is 40.0 nanograms per milliliter, and the maximum permitted trace level is 10.0 nanograms per milliliter. When Ketoprofen (Ketofen) is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 1.0 milligram per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 1.0 gram, which equals 10.0 cc of the injectable (100 milligrams per milliliter). No part of a dose should be administered during the twelve hours prior to competing. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

(4) Meclofenamic Acid- The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Meclofenamic Acid (Arquel) is 2.5 micrograms per milliliter, and the maximum permitted trace level is 0.1 micrograms per milliliter. When Meclofenamic Acid is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 12 hours, not more than 0.5 milligram per pound of body weight should be administered, preferably less. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum 12-hour dose is 0.5 gram, which equals one 500 milligram packet of granules. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

(5) Naproxen- The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Naproxen is 40.0 micrograms per milliliter, and the maximum permitted trace level is 2.0 micrograms per milliliter. When Naproxen is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 4.0 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 4.0 grams, which equals eight 400 milligram tablets. No part of a dose should be administered during the twelve hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed should be consumed and or removed at least twelve hours prior to competing. The medication should not be used for more than five successive days.

(6) Eltenac- (Pending FDA APPROVAL - SEE BELOW) The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Eltenac is 0.1 micrograms per milliliter. When Eltenac is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 0.25 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered, preferably less. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 250 milligrams, which equals 5.0 cc of the injectable (50 milligrams per milliliter). No part of dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competing. Eltenac should not be administered for more than five successive days. ELTENAC HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR USE PENDING FDA APPROVAL. THIS MEDICATION MAY NOT BE USED.

(7) Acetazolamide- may only be administered to horses documented through DNA testing to be positive (N/H or H/H) for HYPP (Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis). When acetazolamide is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 3 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered. For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 3 grams.

(8) Furosemide or Lasix- when used, must be administered intravenously at least 4 hours prior to competition.

(9) Isoxsuprine- when administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. Each 24 hours, not more than 1.6 milligrams per pound of body weight should be administered (usually divided in two equal doses given 12 hours apart). For a 1000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 1600 milligrams, which equals eighty 20 milligram tablets. Not part of a dose should be administered during the four hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed should be consumed and/or removed at least four hours prior to competing.

(10) Lidocaine / Mepivacaine- (when administered within 24 hours of showing) may only be used under actual observation of event management (or designated representative) and/ or the official show veterinarian, either of which must sign the medication report form, to aid in the surgical repair of minor skin lacerations which, by their very nature, would not prevent the horse from competing following surgery. Medication report form must be filed with show management as required in section 2 above.

(11) Dexamethasone - The maximum permitted plasma concentration is 3.0 nanograms per milliliter at the time of competition. In order to help trainers, owners, and their veterinarians achieve compliance with this rule in connection with the therapeutic use of dexamethasone, it should be administered in accordance with the guidelines below. These guidelines include several alternative scenarios for dose time, and route of administration. Whenever dexamthasone is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal.

*Alternative Number 1. (2.0 mg or less per 100 pounds IV or IM at 12 or more hours before competition). Each 24 hours not more than 2.0 milligrams of dexamethasone injectable solution per 100 pounds of body weight should be administered intravenously or intramuscularly, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily intravenous or intramuscular dose of dexamethasone injectable solution is 20.0 milligrams, which equals 5.0 milliliters of the injectable solution (4.0 milligrams per milliliter). No part of this dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competing. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five successive days.

*Alternative Number 2. (0.5 mg or less per 100 pounds IV at 6 or more hours before competition). Each 24 hours, not more than 0.5 milligrams of dexamethasone injectable solution per 100 pounds of body weight should be administered intravenously, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily intravenous dose of dexamethasone injectable solution is 5.0 milligrams, which equals 1.25 milliliters of the injectable solution (4.0 milligrams per milliliter). No part of this dose should be administered during the six hours prior to competing. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five successive days.

*Alternative 3. (1.0 mg or less per 100 pounds orally at 6 or more hours before competition). Each 24 hours, not more than 1.0 milligrams of dexamethasone powder per 100 pounds of body weight should be administered orally, preferably less. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily oral dose of dexamethasone powder is 10.0 milligrams, which equals one packet of dexamethasone powder (10.0 milligrams per packet). No part of this dose

should be administered during the 6 hours prior to competing. Any medicated feed should be either consumed or removed at least six hours prior to competing. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five successive days.

(12) Firocoxib (Equioxx) (an NSAID) - The maximum permitted plasma concentration of Firocoxib (Equioxx) is 0.240 micrograms per milliliter. Guidelines: When Firocoxib (Equioxx) is administered, the dose should be accurately calculated according to the actual weight of the animal. For a 1,000 pound animal, the maximum daily dose is 45.5 milligrams, which equals 0.1 milligram per kilogram of body weight once daily. No part of a dose should be administered during the 12 hours prior to competition. Firocoxib (Equioxx) should not be administered for more than 14 successive days.

B) Administration of these drugs does not require that the horse be withdrawn and kept out of competition for a period not less than 24 hours after the medication is administered, nor is there a requirement that a medication report be filed with show management, except when Lidocaine/Mepivacaine is used (see (10) above).

C) If more than one nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug substance (NSAID) is present in the same plasma or urine sample, no more than one is to be present in a concentration which exceeds trace levels.

D) If two of the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs listed above are administered at any time during the seven days prior to competing, one of them should not be administered during the 48 hours prior to competing, in order to avoid exceeding the maximum permitted trace level when two are present in the plasma.

E) If any third nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug is administered, it should not be administered during the seven days prior to competing. (Exception: Dipyrone, a masking substance, is not to be administered during the 24 hours prior to competing.)

F) In the event a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug is administered in a manner that might cause the plasma concentration to exceed the quantitative restrictions of the rule (in the case of those permitted to be used) or might cause the drug to be detected at any level in plasma or urine (in the case of those not permitted to be used), the trainer and owner should withdraw the horse from the competition, and the animal should be withheld from competition until the plasma concentration of any permitted drug returns to acceptable levels and/or until any nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug not permitted by the rules is no longer present in the blood or urine. In the event Dipyrone is administered to a horse, the trainer and owner must comply with all of the requirements of section 2 of this addendum.

4. Each of the 11 medications allowed in section (3) above must be administered in accordance with the recommendations as given for each. Should the testing laboratory report the presence of one of these drugs in an amount greater than what would be consistent with the recommendations or at a level higher than the maximum permitted plasma concentration for those listed in section 3(A) (1-3), the matter will be reviewed and disciplinary action may be taken.
5. Burden of persuasion to establish correct dosage and time limitation rests with the responsible person.
 - A) Additionally, as to drugs or substances described in subparagraphs (1)(B) and (C) above, in order to avoid disqualification by detection of a presence in the horse's system, the medication must be administered, or prescribed (letter of instructions) by a veterinarian, for the legitimate treatment of illness or injury, and administered, at least 24 hours before exhibition. Should the testing laboratory report the presence of these drugs in an amount greater than what would be consistent with the specified dosage and/or time constraint or dosage for legitimate treatment of illness or injury, the laboratory test result will be reviewed and disciplinary action may be taken.
 - (B) Laboratory detection of an excessive dosage of an otherwise conditionally permitted therapeutic drug or drugs specified in subparagraphs (1)(B) and (c) above shall constitute presumption of a violation of this rule, and the responsible party has the burden of persuasion to establish that the dosage was administered within rule specifications.
 - (C) To avoid this rule violation presumption and the stringent responsibilities of this rule, the responsible party may decide to simply withdraw the horse from competition for at least 24 hours following the last administration of any conditionally permitted therapeutic medication.

I. CHAMPIONSHIP AND HIGH POINTS AWARDS – STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW

1. A Cloverleaf champion will be selected from the Hunt Seat, Ranch Horse, and Stock Seat Divisions. Points accumulated in the three best classes within a division on one horse will determine the Cloverleaf Champion for that division (scale below). Quiz scores will not be included in the accumulated points for championship ranking. In the event of a tie, points accumulated in the performance class based on riding ability (equitation or horsemanship) will break the tie. A second tie breaker will be the quiz score.

2. Junior and Senior 4-H members participating in the State 4-H Horse Show will be awarded points based on their placing in each class. Points accumulated in their three best classes within a Championship Division

Junior division champion and reserve division champions will be awarded to the 4-H'er with the highest points earned in 3 performance classes (riding classes). In the event of a tie, points earned in a fourth class will break the tie. If a tie still exists, the quiz score will break the tie.

The Senior division champion and reserve champion titles will be awarded to the 4-H'er with the highest point total from adding the quiz points to the performance points from three classes. The written test will count as 25 points of the total possible 100 points for the championship ranking for Seniors in divisions where classes have 12 or more entries. For divisions with less than 12 entries/class, the quiz score will remain as 25% of the total points for the championship title. Quiz points will be calculated by multiplying the percentage score on the quiz (# correct/25 possible points) by the points associated with the largest class in the division. Points from the three performance classes will complete the final tally with the quiz score for the division ranking. In the event of a tie, the higher quiz score will break the tie. If youth remained tied, the points earned in a fourth performance class will break the tie.

Points will be awarded in CLASSES based on placings as follows:

Number Showing	Placings									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	3									
2	5	3								
3	7	5	3							
4	9	7	5	3						
5	11	9	7	5	3					
6	13	11	9	7	5	3				
7	15	13	11	9	7	5	3			
8	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3		
9	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3	
10	21	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3
11	23	21	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5
12 or more	25	23	21	19	17	15	13	11	9	7

Points Won

***Exhibitors will receive two points if they show in classes with heats, are invited to come back for the final round, but do not earn a ribbon in the top ten placings for that class.

Four divisions are offered: Stock Seat, Hunt Seat, Ranch Horse and Contest. A \$500 college scholarship is awarded to each of the four Senior Champions. A \$300 college scholarship is awarded to each of the four Reserve Senior Champions. Scholarship recipients must maintain a college GPA of at least 2.0 in order to request scholarship payment. "Senior Champion Horseman" will also achieve master 4-H status. Senior 4-H champions and reserve champions become eligible for their scholarships upon completion of one quarter or semester of college with a 2.0 average. Special awards are presented to each of the four Junior Champions and three Cloverleaf Champions.

Participation ribbons are provided for those that were not called back or did not place. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to pick ribbons up after the conclusion of the class at ringside or in the awards office. Finalist ribbons will be provided for those that were called back in their class, but did not place. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to pick ribbons up after the conclusion of the class at ringside or in the awards office.

The "Top 10" individuals in the Cloverleaf, Junior and Senior divisions will be recognized at the award program at an announced time and location that will be made available at the conclusion of the last class of that specific discipline. The "Top 10" individuals will receive a rosette.

J. SOUTHERN REGIONAL QUALIFYING

Entry information and check must be received by the June 20, 2025, deadline. Youth are informed of their qualifying status at the horse show during division awards. Youth intending to show at Southern Regionals are strongly encouraged to complete the entry AT THE SHOW and turn paperwork into the show office with a check for entry fees. County agent signatures are not required on the entry, but youth MUST inform their county agents of their success and participation at the next step!

An entry can be canceled and funds refunded at any time before the deadline (June 20) by emailing Kate Whiting at whitingk@uga.edu. If cancellations occur, youth with the next highest number of points in that division will be offered the chance to show at Southern Regionals. Youth that qualify and DECIDE NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN SO. REGIONALS MUST DECLARE THEIR INTENTIONS WITH KATE WHITING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE via email: whitingk@uga.edu or phone: 478-987- 2028. Contact information on the state entry forms must be current to facilitate notification.

Families hopeful to show at Southern Regionals are encouraged to consider the schedule, class list, and rules at the online site for “2025 Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship” that will be available in late spring. Kate Whiting must have current contact information to facilitate potential communications that youth have become eligible after scratches are received.

70 4-H'ers will be eligible to represent Georgia at the 2025 Southern Regional Horse Championships, to be held *July 30-August 3, 2025, in Perry, GA*. The first and second place winner of the Dressage English Training level and first and second place winners of the Western Basic Test 4 will be invited to participate in the Southern Regionals Show. **The first-place winner in Gaited Showmanship, Gaited Equitation, Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type), and Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type) will be invited to participate in the Southern Regionals Show.** The remaining 62 qualifying positions will be selected based upon the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Number of exhibitors in division (HS, StS, RH, CE*)}}{\text{Total number of show exhibitors}} \times 62 = \text{Number of qualifying positions within a respective division}$$

* HS = Hunt Seat; StS = Stock Seat; RH = Ranch Horse; CE = Contest Events)

Example:

120 Western Division exhibitors divided by 240 total exhibitors = 0.50 or 50% of total offered a spot at SR

0.50 x 66 qualifying positions = 33

33 Western Division exhibitors will be given the opportunity to exhibit at the Southern Regionals....16 Jr and 17 Sr

** If all slots within a division are not filled, open qualification spots will be recalculated on a percent basis between remaining divisions with adjustments made in the total number of exhibitors eligible to participate at Southern Regional's. Each division will be guaranteed to qualify at least 2 Senior and 2 Junior riders.

The first priority for selection of Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships will be to invite 70 different qualifying 4-H'ers. The second priority is to allow 4-H'ers who qualify on two different horses to take both horses if each horse earned enough points to qualify.

Contestants must show the same horse at the Southern Regionals Show that they qualified on at the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show, with no exceptions. Substitutions of horses will not be allowed.

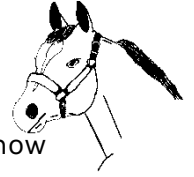
Before entering Southern Regionals, youth and their families should consider the class list that does not include some of the classes offered at the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show.

Youth may only show in one showmanship or ground handling class.

Rules and the entry form will be available at the show office and from GA 4-H office.



2025 Georgia 4-H State Horse Show Additional Educational Contest Rules



**** 4-H'ers do NOT have to own a horse or be entered in the State 4-H Horse Show to compete in these contests****

Attached are the official rules and applications for the following educational equine competitions:

- Individual Demonstration Contest (Method) *
- Team Demonstration Contest (Method)*
- Public Speaking Contest *
- Horse Drawing Contest
- Horse Painting Contest
- Horse Essay Contest
- Horse Photography Contest

**First and second place Senior winners are eligible to compete in Southern Regionals in August. NOTE: Georgia youth may compete in a maximum of two educational contests at Southern Regionals in a single year.*

Purpose & Objectives:

The Georgia 4-H State Horse Show Educational Contests develop necessary skills, such as self-motivation, confidence, and responsibility; while providing 4-H members in the Horse project an opportunity to exhibit knowledge of their horse project through art, writing, visual aids, and speech.

Eligibility:

This competition is open to Cloverleaf, Juniors and Seniors. Seniors are 9th - 12th grade, Juniors are 7th - 8th and Cloverleaf's are 4th - 6th grade. Eligibility is determined by the grade level during the 2024 - 2025 school year. 4-H'ers do not have to own a horse or be entered in the State Horse Show to compete in these contests. *Age divisions are set to comply with Georgia 4-H State Horse Show eligibility guidelines.*

Deadline:

May 6, 2025: All entries should be entered online in Event Registration and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd, Perry, Georgia 31069. All entries should be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

Online Registration:

EXTENSION EMPLOYEES ONLY must register each individual online at the 4-H Camp & Event Registration website. *(This a separate website from the State Horse Show Registration site)*

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All Educational Contest entries will be judged prior to the State Horse Show by at least two judges per contest. Results and scores will be announced and on display at the State Horse Show. Awards and entries will available for pick-up at the show office the week of the 2024 State 4-H Horse Show.

All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online (May 6, 2025) in 4-H Event Registration and mailed to:  
 Kate Whiting  
 Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries  
 2030 Kings Chapel Rd.  
 Perry, Georgia 31069  
 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

## 2025 STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATION CONTESTS

Eligibility: All participants in the contest must be active 4-H members, certified by their County Extension Staff member's signature on the application. The member does not have to own a horse but must be involved in the 4-H Program. Participants may be cloverleaf, junior or senior 4-H members. Their eligibility is determined by their grade level during the 2024-2025 school year.

Entry Information: Public Speaking and Individual/Team presentations will be judged in-person on June 4, 2025. Presentation times and locations will be announced by May 28. Presentations will not begin before 12:00pm.

### METHOD DEMONSTRATION CONTEST (TEAM)

1. May be a demonstration or illustrated talk.
2. A team will consist of two members. One person may not be a member of two teams. Teamwork should be demonstrated.
3. Subject must pertain to the horse industry. (No live animals may be used)
4. Demonstrations should be 6-9 minutes in length for Cloverleaf 4-H'ers (4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and 10-15 minutes in length for Junior 4-H'ers (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and Senior 4-H'ers (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade). One point per judge will be deducted from the score for every minute or fraction of a minute under or over the time limits.
5. Consideration and points on the scorecard will be:
  - a. Introduction (10 Points)
    - i. Did the introduction create interest in the subject?
    - ii. Was introduction short and to the point?
  - b. Organization (25 Points)
    - i. Was only one main idea presented?
    - ii. Did the discussion relate directly to each step as it was shown?
    - iii. Was each step shown just as it should be done in an actual situation, or was an explanation given for discrepancies?
    - iv. Could the audience see each step?
    - v. Were materials and equipment carefully selected, neatly arranged and well-organized?
    - vi. Were charts and posters used if and when needed?
    - vii. Were the key points for each step stressed?
  - c. Content and Accuracy (25 Points)
    - i. Were facts and information presented accurately?
    - ii. Was enough information presented about the subject?
    - iii. Were approved practices used?
    - iv. Was credit given to the sources of information if it was appropriate?
    - v. Was the content appropriately related to the horse industry?
  - d. Stage Presence (10 Points)
    - i. Was the presenter neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of demonstration?
    - ii. Did the presenter speak directly to and look at the camera/audience?
    - iii. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?
  - e. Delivery (15 Points)
    - i. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving the presentation?
    - ii. Did the presenter have good voice control?
    - iii. Were all words pronounced correctly?
    - iv. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the speech?
    - v. Did the presenter seem to choose words at the times they were spoken instead of memorizing the presentation?
  - f. Summary (15 Points)
    - i. Was the summary short and interesting?
    - ii. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
    - iii. Did the summary properly wrap up the presentation?
6. Contestants may use notes. Excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge or judges.
7. No live animals may be used.
8. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their demonstration. This will not be counted in the allotted time.
9. All materials and props must be provided by the contestant.
10. Ties will be broken by: (1) the accumulated delivery score, (2) the accumulated organization score, or (3) the accumulated Content and Accuracy scores.

METHOD DEMONSTRATION CONTEST (INDIVIDUAL) -- Same rules and scorecard as Team Contest.

### Exceptions:

1. This is an individual contest.
2. Presentations should be 6-9 minutes in length for Cloverleaf 4-H'ers (4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and 9 - 12 minutes in length for Junior 4-H'ers (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and Senior 4-H'ers (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade). One point per judge will be deducted from the score for every minute or fraction of a minute under or over the time limits.

Participants must choose to either participate in Method Demonstration (Individual) or Public Speaking (Individual); they cannot participate in both.

## 2025 GEORGIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

**Eligibility:** All participants in the contest must be active 4-H members, certified by their County Extension Staff member's signature on the application. The member does not have to own a horse but must be involved in the 4-H Program. Participants may be cloverleaf, junior or senior 4-H members. Their eligibility is determined by their grade level during the 2024 - 2025 school year.

**Entry Information:** Public Speaking and Individual/Team presentations will be judged in-person on June 4, 2025. Presentation times and locations will be announced by May 27. Presentations will not begin before 1:00pm.

### PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

1. Subject matter of speeches must pertain to the horse industry.
2. 7-10 minutes will be allowed each speaker. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under 7 minutes or over 10 minutes.
3. Contestants may use notes. Notes must be printed or written on paper or note cards. Electronic devices, such as tablets are not to be used by contestants during their speeches. Excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judge or judges.
4. Consideration and points on the scorecard will be:
  - a. Introduction (10 Points)
    - i. Did the introduction create interest in the subject?
    - ii. Was introduction short and to the point?
  - b. Organization (25 Points)
    - i. Was only one main idea presented?
    - ii. Did the presentation fully develop the main idea with supporting information?
    - iii. Were the key points for the topic stressed?
    - iv. Could the audience understand the subject matter?
  - c. Content and Accuracy (25 Points)
    - i. Were facts and information presented accurately?
    - ii. Was enough information presented about the subject?
    - iii. Were approved practices discussed?
    - iv. Was credit given to the sources of information if it was appropriate?
    - v. Was the content appropriately related to the horse industry?
  - d. Stage Presence (10 Points)
    - i. Was the presenter neat and appropriately dressed for the subject of demonstration?
    - ii. Did the presenter speak directly to and look at the camera/audience?
    - iii. Was the presentation too fast or too slow?
  - e. Delivery (15 Points)
    - i. Did the presenter appear to enjoy giving the presentation?
    - ii. Did the presenter have good voice control?
    - iii. Were all words pronounced correctly?
    - iv. If notes were used, was it done without distracting from the speech?
    - v. Did the presenter seem to choose words at the times they were spoken instead of memorizing the presentation?
  - f. Summary (15 Points)
    - i. Was the summary short and interesting?
    - ii. Were the key points briefly reviewed?
    - iii. Did the summary properly wrap up the presentation?
5. Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their speech. This will not be counted in the allotted time.
6. No visual aids or posters are allowed.
7. Ties will be broken by: (1) the accumulated delivery score, (2) the accumulated organization score, or (3) the accumulated Content and Accuracy scores.

Participants must choose to either participate in Method Demonstration (Individual) or Public Speaking; they cannot participate in both.

2025 STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW  
 APPLICATION FOR  
 DEMONSTRATION CONTEST and PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST  
 Online Deadline for entries: May 6, 2025

Exhibitors: Please be aware that your County's deadline might be earlier than May 6. To get all online entries completed on time, please contact your County Extension Office for their deadline.

Deadline: All entries must be entered on the 4-H Event Registration website, by the County Extension Staff no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025.

|             |                                                                |                                                             |                                                              |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| CIRCLE ONE: | Cloverleaf Division<br>4 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade | Junior Division<br>7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades | Senior Division<br>9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|

|             |                          |                    |                 |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| CIRCLE ONE: | Individual Demonstration | Team Demonstration | Public Speaking |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL (2024-2025 year) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Extension Staff

\*ALL 3 SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED

**2025 GEORGIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW  
DRAWING CONTEST RULES AND ENTRY FORM**

**Objectives:**

- To encourage the 4-H member to apply creative talent within the Horse Project.
- To increase knowledge skill in equine-related drawing exhibitions.
- To learn the value of developing visual exhibits in areas of specific interest

**Regulations:**

1. Only one entry per exhibitor permitted. All exhibits are to be original works of the exhibitor and relate to the Horse and Pony Project.
2. Size allowance: minimum 9" x 12" and maximum 18" x 24". This indicates the finished matted size. Those exceeding the maximum will be disqualified.
3. Media used: pencil, chalk, charcoal, pen and ink, or pastels. All images must be hand-drawn. Use of technology to create, enhance or alter the image is NOT permitted.
4. Presentation: all work must be matted/framed with suitable matting board, with a maximum 3" border. Recommended matting boards: Crescent, Alphamat, and Bainbridge brand name matting board. No glass allowed. No frames allowed. No captions permitted.
5. All items must include on the back: name, district, county, division, and grade. (No signatures or identification will be allowed on the front of the artwork.)
6. Entries failing to conform to contest rules will be disqualified.
7. All essay, art and photography entries should be must online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

|                                                         |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Originality, Use of Imagination, and Creativity         | 20 points |
| Composition, Balance, Harmony, and Overall Design       | 20 points |
| Craftsmanship, Completed Appearance, and Neatness       | 20 points |
| Use of Materials, Skill Level and Appropriate Selection | 20 points |
| Presentation, Matte- General Appearance                 | 20 points |

**Online Deadline for entries: May 6, 2025**

Exhibitors: Please be aware that your County's deadline might be earlier than May 6. To get all online entries completed on time, please contact your County Extension Office for their deadline.

|                                                                                                |                                                                         |                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CIRCLE ONE:</b> <b>Cloverleaf Division</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades</b> | <b>Junior Division</b><br><b>7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades</b> | <b>Senior Division</b><br><b>9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grades</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|

\*\* Please submit a separate form for each contest you plan to enter. \*\*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL (2024-2025 year) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Extension Staff

\*ALL 3 SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED

All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

**2025 GEORGIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW  
PAINTING CONTEST RULES AND ENTRY FORM**

**Objectives:**

- To encourage the 4-H member to apply artistic talent within the Horse Project.
- To increase knowledge and skill in equine-related painting.
- To learn the value of developing visual exhibits in areas of specific interest.

**Regulations:**

1. Only one entry per exhibitor permitted. All exhibits are to be original works of the Exhibitor and relate to the Horse and Pony Project.
2. Size Allowance: minimum 9" x 12" and maximum 18" x 24". This indicates the finished matted size. Those exceeding the maximum size will be disqualified.
3. Media used: watercolor, acrylic, oil, or tempera paints (cloverleaf and juniors only). Mixed-media is acceptable in this category. Use of technology to create, enhance or alter the image is NOT permitted.
4. Presentation: all work must be matted with suitable matting board, with a maximum 3" border or be on a stretched canvas frame . All oil and acrylic must have a suitable frame for hanging or setting up the work. Recommended matting boards: Crescent, Alphamat, and Bainbridge brand name matting board. No glass allowed. No frames allowed. No captions permitted.
5. All items must include on the back: name, district, county, division, and grade. (No names can appear on the front of the artwork.)
6. Entries failing to conform to contest rules will be disqualified.
7. All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Pery, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

|                                                               |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Originality, use of Imagination, and Creativity .....         | 20 points |
| Composition, Balance, Harmony, and Overall Design .....       | 20 points |
| Craftsmanship, Completed Appearance, and Neatness .....       | 20 points |
| Use of Materials, Skill Level and Appropriate Selection ..... | 20 points |
| Presentation, Matte- General Appearance.....                  | 20 points |

**Online Deadline for entries: May 6, 2025**

Exhibitors: Please be aware that your County's deadline might be earlier than May 6. To get all online entries completed on time, please contact your County Extension Office for their deadline.

|                    |                                                                 |                                                             |                                                              |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CIRCLE ONE:</b> | Cloverleaf Division<br>4 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades | Junior Division<br>7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades | Senior Division<br>9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|

**\*\* Please submit a separate form for each contest you plan to enter. \*\***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL (2024-2025 year) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Extension Staff

**\*ALL 3 SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED**

All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

## 2025 GEORGIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW ESSAY CONTEST RULES AND ENTRY FORM

**Objectives:**

- Encourage youth to gain better contact and use of the English language.
- Stimulate youth to expand their horse knowledge and learn how to use and interpret resources available on different subjects.
- Recognize youth who have studied hard and can express their ideas through writing.

**Regulations:**

1. Only one essay per youth permitted.
2. Essays will be limited to 1000 words maximum with a minimum of 200 words for Cloverleaf and Junior essays and a minimum of 500 words for Senior essays.
3. Essays may be typed (double-spaced) or written legibly in ink. Please ensure that any scanned, hand-written copies are clear and easily readable.
4. Essays will be judged on the following basis:
  - Content.....50 points
  - Creativity and Expression..... 15 points
  - Originality..... 10 points
  - Grammar..... 15 points
  - Neatness..... 10 points
5. Essays must be related to horses or the horse industry. Essays not conforming to topic guidelines will be disqualified.
6. Essays must include a separate title page with the following information:
  - a. Title of Essay
  - b. First and Last Name
  - c. Address
  - d. County
  - e. District
  - F. Division
7. The title page will be removed before the essays are judged - no names, counties, etc., will appear on the essays. PLEASE NOTE: The title of the essay must also appear on the actual body of the paper without the contestant's name, county, district, etc..
8. All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

### Online Deadline for entries: May 6, 2025

Exhibitors: Please be aware that your County's deadline might be earlier than May 6. To get all online entries completed on time, please contact your County Extension Office for their deadline.

|                    |                                                                        |                                                                    |                                                                     |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CIRCLE ONE:</b> | <b>Cloverleaf Division</b><br>4 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades | <b>Junior Division</b><br>7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades | <b>Senior Division</b><br>9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL (2024-2025 year) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Extension Staff

\*ALL 3 SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED

All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries should be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

**2025 GEORGIA STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW  
PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RULES AND ENTRY FORM**

**CONTEST INFORMATION:**

- The Georgia 4-H Horse Photography Contest is open to all cloverleaf, junior and senior 4-H'ers.
- This is a great way to share your photographs related to the equine industry. We hope the photography contest entries will express creativity in communicating 4-H and horses to exhibit viewers. You do not need an expensive camera to capture a winning photo!

**PHOTO CONTEST RULES:**

1. Entry must be a single photograph or digital photo. No photo stories will be accepted. Do not re-submit photos from previous years.
2. There will be two divisions: 1.) Color photography and 2.) Black and White photography. A 4-H'er may submit only one entry per division in their age category.
3. Photos must not be edited, altered or computer enhanced. By signing on the entry form, participants, parents and extension staff certify that these conditions are met.
4. The body condition and overall fitness of equine subjects in any submitted pictures should be appropriate. Entries not conforming to guidelines will be disqualified.
5. All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

- Originality, use of Imagination, and Creativity .....20 points
- Composition, Balance, Harmony, and Overall Design ..... 30 points
- Lighting, Exposure and Brightness of Image..... 20 points
- Focus, Appropriate Theme or Mood .....20 points
- Uniqueness and Relevancy ..... 10 points

**Online Deadline for entries: May 6, 2025**

Exhibitors: Please be aware that your County's deadline might be earlier than May 6. To get all online entries completed on time, please contact your County Extension Office for their deadline.

|                    |                                                                 |                                                             |                                                              |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CIRCLE ONE:</b> | Cloverleaf Division<br>4 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades | Junior Division<br>7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades | Senior Division<br>9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grades |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|

|                    |                   |                           |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>CIRCLE ONE:</b> | Color Photography | Black & White Photography |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|

**\*\* Please submit a separate form for each contest you plan to enter. \*\***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL (2024-2025 year) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Extension Staff

**\*ALL 3 SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED**

All essay, art and photography entries must be entered online in Event Registration no later than 5:00 PM, May 6, 2025. and mailed to: Kate Whiting, Attn: Horse Show Contest Entries, 2030 Kings Chapel Rd., Perry, Georgia 31069 All entries must be postmarked by May 12, 2025.



## SHOWMANSHIP

### GENERAL

Fitting and showmanship classes are judged on the fitting and grooming of the horse and on the ability of the showman to present the horse properly and to best advantage. Type, conformation, and quality of the horse have no bearing on the judging of these classes. Manners and response to the showman, however, do indicate the degree of training received by the animal and should be credited to the showman. These classes are offered in three divisions - Stock Seat, Hunt Seat, and Gaited- for members showing horses. Ponies and horses compete in the same classes. The judge should respect breed differences in grooming, presentation and appointments within the showmanship class. These guidelines follow the current AQHA Handbook for scoring and penalties. It is at the judge's discretion to adhere closely to the AQHA system in other divisions, but the showmanship standards are similar. Refer to the AQHA Rulebook for more detail on presentation and execution of patterns: <https://www.aqha.com/aqha-rulebook>.

### SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES (All Divisions)

- A. Club member and his/her equipment:
1. Personal appearance of club member: neat, clean, well-groomed, attentive, courteous, and in appropriate attire. For western, hunt seat, or gaited divisions, traditional hats OR helmets **MUST** be worn in showmanship classes.
  2. Equipment:
    - a) Hunter: Clean, adjusted and acceptable hunter bridle (no halters). No crops or bats are permitted. Braiding manes and tails are optional but will be a credit earning effort.
    - b) Gaited: Clean, adjusted halter only for gaited entries. Saddle seat/trotting horses may be shown in a halter or bridle (full, Pelham, curb or snaffle).
    - c) Western: Clean, adjusted halter to fit the horse. A silver embellished halter shall not be given preference over good-working halters.
- B. Horse (fitting and grooming):
1. The horse should be clean, well-groomed and fitted for his type.
  2. The horse's body condition (**BCS 5 - 6 ideal**) and overall fitness should be assessed. The hair coat should be clean, well brushed, and in good condition.
  3. The horse's feet should be cleaned and either trimmed or properly shod.
  4. Manes may be pulled or natural for horses in the stock seat division where banding and hoof black is permitted. Ranch horses should **NOT** be shown **with banded manes** or hoof black (See Ranch Horse Division Rules)
- C. **SHOWMANSHIP SYSTEMS**  
Everyone is expected to show their horse on the "Quarter Method" where the horse is "divided" down the midline of the vertebrae and at the withers. The judge's position in the respective quadrant of the horse influences where the showman should stand to present the horse.

#### Quarter Method:

1. The showman must always have an unobstructed view of the judge, must always be presenting the horse and must always know what his horse is doing.
2. If the judge is standing at the rear quarters of the horse, the showman must be on the same side of the horse as the judge.
3. If the judge is standing at the front quarters of the horse, the showman is on the opposite side of the horse as the judge.
4. In either case, the showman must keep the judge within his field of vision at all times and should never stand directly in front of the horse.
5. The exhibitor should not crowd other exhibitors when setting up side-by-side or head-to-tail.
6. When moving around the horse, the exhibitor should change sides in front of the horse with minimal steps and should assume the same position on the right side of the horse that they had on the left side.

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

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

#### Methods of Showing:

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

Leading, backing, turning and initiating the set-up should be performed from the left side of the horse. At no time should

the exhibitor ever stand directly in front of the horse. When moving, keep your horse's neck, head and body in a straight line and maintain precise control.

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

The exhibitor should not touch the horse with their hands or feet, or visibly cue the horse by pointing their feet at the horse during the set-up. Light halter (or bridle) pressure should signal the horse to place the feet appropriately.

The ideal turn consists of the horse pivoting on the right hind leg while stepping across and in front of the right front leg with the left front leg.

When leading, the exhibitor should be positioned between the eye and the mid-point of the horse's neck referred to as the leading position. Both arms should be bent at the elbow with the elbows held close to the exhibitor's side and the forearms held in a natural position. Height of the arms may vary depending on the size of the horse and exhibitor, but the arms should never be held straight out with the elbows locked.

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

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

When setting the horse up for inspection, the exhibitor should stand angled toward the horse in a position between the horse's eye and muzzle, and should never leave the head of the horse.

#### Class Procedure

Each exhibitor will individually enter the ring and perform the pattern as shown in the show pattern book. Exhibitors will work in the order of go that is posted and confirmed by the paddock master. The following maneuvers are considered acceptable: leading the horse at a walk, jog, trot or extended trot or favorite gait, or back in a straight or curved line, or a combination of straight and curved lines; stop; and turn 90 (1/4 turn), 180 (1/2 turn), 270 (3/4 turn), 360 (full turn) degrees or any combination or multiple of these turns. A pull turn towards the exhibitor is an unacceptable maneuver. Exhibitors must also set the horse up squarely (appropriate for breed) for inspection.

Be sure to check in with the paddock master prior to your class. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to be on time for their go. If you miss your go in order you will not be allowed to go at the end of class. Special cases will be considered if arrangements are made at least one hour prior to the class.

#### Scoring

Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Patterns will be divided into 6 to 10 maneuvers, as specified by the judge, and each maneuver will be scored from +3 to -3 with 1/2 point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70. Maneuver scores should be determined independent of penalties, and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and the form and effectiveness of the exhibitor and presentation of horse to result in the following scores: +3 Excellent, +2 Very Good, +1 Good, 0 Average or Correct, -1 Poor, -2 Very Poor, -3 Extremely Poor. Exhibitor's overall form and effectiveness should also be scored from 0 to 5 with 0 to 2 Average, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent

#### Penalties

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

##### Three (3) points

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

##### Five (5) points

Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet (3 meters) of designated location  
Break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides  
Splitting the cone (cone between the horse and exhibitor)  
Horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn  
Horse stepping out of set-up after presentation  
Horse resting a foot or hipshot in a set-up  
Over or under turning 1/8 to 1/4 turn

Ten (10) points

Exhibitor is not in the required position during inspection  
Exhibitor touching the horse or kicking or pointing their feet at the horse's feet during the set-up  
Standing directly in front of the horse  
Loss of lead shank, holding chain or two hands on shank  
Blatant disobedience including biting, kicking, rearing or pawing; horse continually circling exhibitor

Disqualifications (should not be placed) including:

Loss of control of horse that endangers exhibitor, other horses, or judge  
Horse becomes separated from exhibitor  
Failure to display correct number  
Willful abuse  
Excessive schooling or training; use of artificial aids  
Illegal equipment  
Off pattern, including: knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker; never performing designated gait; over or under turning more than 1/4 turn

Contestants will be scored on an individual basis ranging from 0-100 and according to the fault system listed above.

Score Range:

90-100: Excellent showmanship, including body position and presentation of horse. Completes pattern accurately, quickly, smoothly and precisely; demonstrates a high level of professionalism.

80-89: Very good performance in execution of the pattern as well as correct showmanship and presentation of horse. Excellent showman that commits a major fault.

70-79: Good pattern execution and average showmanship; lacking adequate style and professional presentation to merit elevating to the next scoring range. A very good showman that commits a major fault or an excellent showman that commits a severe fault.

60-69: Fair pattern that lacks quickness or precision. Horse with consistently unwilling attitude or handler with obvious position and/or presentation faults that prevents effective showmanship. A good showman that commits one major fault in the performance of the pattern. A very good showman that commits a severe fault.

Less than 59: Good showman that commits one severe or multiple major and/or minor faults; excellent or very good showman that commits multiple, and/or combination of severe, major or minor faults in the performance or presentation or position of exhibitor that precludes effective communication with the horse.



## STOCK SEAT DIVISION

### APPOINTMENTS

1. **PERSONAL:** Clothing must be clean and neat. Riders shall wear western boots. Shirts with a collar and long sleeves are required. Spurs, chaps, or similar equipment are optional. Ball caps are not acceptable.

It is required that all students in all divisions of Georgia 4-H horse shows wear equine approved protective headgear meeting accepted safety standards (ASTM/SEI). The student and parent/guardian are responsible for assuring that their head gear complies with safety standards. It is not the responsibility of the officials to check head gear. Protective head gear is appropriate for any class or division and will not be viewed as inappropriate attire or cause penalization in competition.

2. **TACK:** Horse shall be shown with a stock saddle, but silver tack equipment will not count over a good-working outfit. A snaffle, curb, half-breed or spade bit is permissible; but a martingale, tie-down or nose band is prohibited. No wire curbs, regardless of how taped, nor chin strap narrower than one-half inch will be permitted. Chain curbs are permissible but must be of the standard flat variety with no twist, and must meet the approval of the judge. A hackamore or snaffle bit may only be used on junior horses (5 years or younger). "Hackamore" means that a horse will be ridden ONLY with a rawhide braided or leather braided or rope bosal. Absolutely no iron will be permitted under the jaws, regardless of how padded or taped. Mechanical hackamores are prohibited. Horses being shown in a shanked bit can only be shown one-handed. Horses being shown in a snaffle or hackamore can be shown two handed.
3. Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are prohibited except in Western Horsemanship.
4. More information is available by visiting: <https://www.aqha.com/aqha-rulebook>

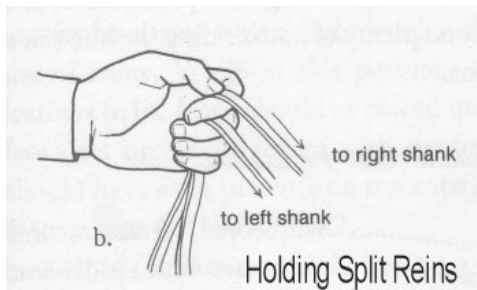
### SHOWMANSHIP - CLOVERLEAF, JUNIOR AND SENIOR

Showmanship is a class that rewards excellence in grooming, presentation of the horse/pony for conformation evaluation, and the ability to complete a pattern of maneuvers. Youth should study a more detailed overview of the class described on pages 33-35 of this rule book. The specific pattern will be available online about one week prior to the horse show but typically asks all exhibitors to move their horse into a trot for a short distance. Orange cones are often used to mark transition points in the pattern. Practice makes perfect!

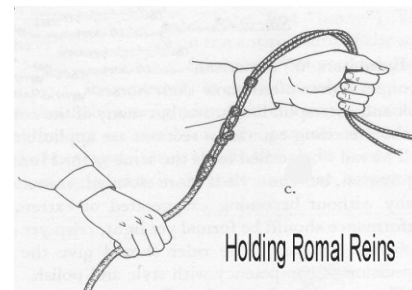
### WESTERN PLEASURE - Cloverleaf, Junior and Senior

1. Horses are shown at a walk, jog, extended jog, and lope on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint. Horses must work both ways of the ring at all gaits to demonstrate their ability with different leads. Horses may be required to reverse at the walk or jog and may be required to make upward or downward transitions from any gait at the discretion of the judge. For safety of the contestants, a reverse at the lope shall not be called. An extended lope will not be requested. Cloverleaf youth show at walk and jog only.
2. The judge shall have the right to ask for additional work from any horse. Additional work shall be related to the utility of the horse.
3. The judge may ask that only finalists be backed.
4. Horses are to be reversed to the center of the arena.
5. Any portion of a class or heat may be placed on the rail for extra work by the judge at any time.
6. Entries shall be penalized for being on wrong leads, but not necessarily disqualified. Excessive speed and breaking gait are to be penalized.
7. This class will be judged on the performance of the horse at the discretion of the judge.
8. Reins shall be held as illustrated in images below and cannot be changed during the performance. The free hand shall not be used to support the rider by being placed on any part of the saddle.
9. Contestants must use split reins or romal reins -- roping reins are not permitted. Only one finger between the reins is permissible when using split reins. See diagrams below for correct usage of reins - romal, split reins with curb bit, and split reins with snaffle bit. [AQHA: Rein Holds for All Styles of Horseback Riding: Western and English](#)

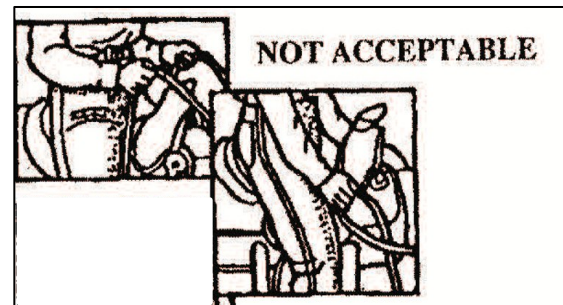
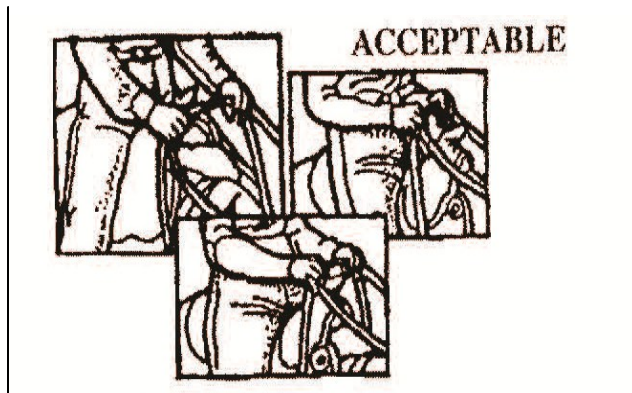
**Only one finger allowed between split reins**



**NO fingers allowed between romal reins**



Below are variations for holding reins riding with a snaffle bit or bosal.



**WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP - CLOVERLEAF, JUNIOR AND SENIOR**

**Section A: General.**

1. Riders will be judged on basic position in saddle; position and use of hands, legs and feet; ability to control and show horse; and suitability of horse to rider.
2. Scores on individual work will be based on rider's skills and execution of the pattern.
3. Cloverleaf youth show at walk and jog only.

**Section B: Exhibitor evaluation considerations**

Horsemanship will be judged according to the standards and scoring system outlined in the current American Quarter Horse Association Official Handbook as follows.

Overall presentation of exhibitor and horse. The exhibitor should appear natural in the seat and ride with a balanced, functional and correct position regardless of the maneuver or gait being performed. During the rail work and pattern, the exhibitor should have strong, secure and proper position. Exhibitors should sit and maintain an upright position with the upper body at all gaits.

Exhibitor presentation and position. The rider should sit in the center of the saddle and the horse's back with the legs hanging to form a straight line from the ear, through the center of the shoulder and hip, touching the back of the heel or through the ankle. The heels should be lower than the toes, with a slight bend in the knee and the lower leg should be directly under the knee. The rider's back should be flat, relaxed and supple. An overly stiff and/or overly arched lower back will be penalized. The shoulders should be back, level and square. The rider's base of support should maintain secure contact with the saddle from the seat to the inner thigh. Light contact should be maintained with the saddle and horse from the knee to mid-calf. The knee should point forward and remain closed with no space between the exhibitor's knee and the saddle. The exhibitor will be penalized for positioning the legs excessively behind or forward of the vertical position. Regardless of the type of stirrup, the feet may be placed home in the stirrup, with the boot heel touching the stirrup, or may be placed with the ball of the foot in the center of the stirrup. The rider's toes should be pointing straight ahead or slightly turned out with the ankles straight or slightly broken in. Riding with toes only in the stirrup will be penalized. Those exhibitors that can maintain the proper position throughout all maneuvers should receive more credit. When riding without stirrups, the exhibitor should maintain the same position as previously described. Both hands and arms should be held in a relaxed, easy manner, with the upper arm in a straight line with the body. The arm holding the reins should be bent at the elbow forming a line from the elbow to the horse's mouth. The free hand and arm may be carried bent at the elbow in a similar position as the hand holding the reins or straight down at the rider's side. Excessive pumping of the free arm as well as excessive stiffness will be penalized. The rider's wrist is to be kept straight and relaxed, with the hand held at about 30 to 45 degrees inside the vertical. The rein hand should be carried immediately above or slightly in front of the saddle horn. The reins should be adjusted so that the rider has light contact with the horse's mouth, and at no time shall reins require more than a slight hand movement to control the horse. Excessively tight or loose reins will be penalized.

The rider's head should be held with the chin level and the eyes forward, and may be directed slightly toward the direction of travel. Excessive turning of the head to the inside of the circle, or down at the horse's head or shoulder will be penalized.

The exhibitor should not crowd the exhibitor next to or in front of them when working on the rail and should pass to the inside of the arena. When reversing on the rail, the exhibitor should always reverse to the inside of the arena.

#### Section C: Class Routine

1. The officials will ask each rider to work individually. These individual workouts will be of any of the maneuvers that the officials feel are necessary to determine the horsemanship ability of the rider.

Some of the following maneuvers may be required in addition to others requested by the judge:

- a) Straight walk, jog and lope, and/or circles in both directions.
  - b) Stop.
  - c) Back straight, in an "L" or circle.
  - d) 360 degree turn or spin.
  - e) Pivot, both ways.
  - f) Turns of varying degrees: 90, 180 or 270.
  - g) Rollbacks.
  - h) Lope circles of varying size and speed.
  - i) Pickup leads from standstill, walk or jog.
  - j) Simple or flying lead changes in a circle.
  - k) Simple or flying lead changes on a straight away.
  - l) Side pass.
  - m) Senior exhibitors only may be requested to dismount and remount.
2. Judging of the individual workout begins at the indication of the judge and stops at the end of the pattern or the end of the 30 second time period, which will be indicated by a signal from the ring steward or the timer. Exhibitors shall leave the arena at that signal, regardless of whether or not they have completed the work prescribed by the judge.
  3. These individual work scores will be used to determine the top riders who may be asked to work individually or on the rail. Those selected riders (or all riders if the class is small) will be required to work on the rail to determine final placing.
  4. Rail work will include walk, jog, and lope in at least one direction of the ring.

#### Section D: Scoring Exhibitors.

Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Patterns will be divided into 6 to 10 maneuvers, as specified by the judge, and each maneuver will be scored from +3 to -3 with 1/2 point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70. Maneuver scores should be determined independent of penalties, and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and the horsemanship form and effectiveness of the exhibitor to result in the following scores: +3 Excellent, +2 Very Good, +1 Good, 0 Average or Correct, -1 Poor, -2 Very Poor, -3 Extremely Poor. Exhibitors overall horsemanship form and effectiveness should also be scored from 0 to 5 with 0 to 2 Average or below, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent. Exhibitors should also be judged on the rail, and their pattern score and/or ranking may be adjusted as appropriate.

90-100 Excellent rider, including body position and use of aids. Completes pattern accurately, quickly, smoothly and precisely while demonstrating a high level of professionalism.

80-89 Very good performance in execution of the pattern as well as correct horsemanship and use of aids. Or it could be an excellent rider that commits a major fault.

70-79 Good pattern execution and average horsemanship lacking adequate style and professional presentation to merit elevating to the next scoring range. A very good rider that commits a major fault or an excellent rider that commits a severe fault.

60-69 Fair pattern that lacks quickness or precision or rider has obvious position and/or appearance faults that prevents effective horsemanship; or a good horseman that commits a major fault in the performance of the pattern. A very good rider that commits a severe fault.

Less than 59 Good pattern with one severe or multiple major/minor faults; excellent or very good rider that commits multiple, and/or combination of, severe, major or minor faults in the performance. A rider that demonstrates a lack of riding ability and knowledge of correct body position.

Overall Presentation of Exhibitor and Horse. The exhibitor's overall poise, confidence, appearance and position throughout the class as well as the physical appearance of the horse will be evaluated.

#### PENALTIES

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

Three (3) points

Break of gait at the walk or jog up to 2 strides  
Over or under turn from 1/8 to 1/4 turn  
Tick or hit of cone  
Obviously looking down to check leads

Five (5) points

Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet (3 meters) of designated location  
Incorrect lead or break of gait at the lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead)  
Break of gait at walk or jog for more than 2 strides  
Loss of stirrup  
Bottom of boot not touching pad of stirrup at all gaits including backup  
Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation

Ten (10) points

Loss of rein  
Use of either hand to instill fear or praise while on pattern or during rail work  
Holding saddle with either hand  
Cueing with the end of the romal  
Blatant disobedience including kicking, pawing, bucking, and rearing  
Spurring in front of the cinch

Disqualifications (should not be placed) including:

Failure to display correct number  
Abuse of horse or schooling  
Fall by horse or exhibitor  
Illegal equipment or illegal use of hands on reins  
Use of prohibited equipment  
Off pattern, including: knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker; never performing designated gait or lead; over or under turning more than 1/4 turn

WESTERN RIDING - Junior & Senior classes judged largely on the execution of flying lead changes!

- A. Western Riding is an event where the horse is judged on quality of gaits, lead changes at the lope, response to the rider, manners, and disposition. The horse should perform with reasonable speed, and be sensible, well-mannered, free and easy moving.
- B. Credit shall be given for and emphasis placed on smoothness, even cadence of gaits (i.e., starting and finishing pattern with the same cadence), and the horse's ability to change leads precisely, easily, and simultaneously both hind and front at the center point between markers. In order to have balance, with quality lead changes, the horse's head and neck should be in a relaxed, natural position, which his poll level with or slightly above the level of the withers. He should not carry his head behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance. The horse should have a relaxed head carriage showing response to the rider's hands, with a moderate flexion at the poll. Horses may be ridden with light contact or on a reasonably loose rein. The horse should cross the log both at the jog and the lope without breaking gait or radically changing stride.
- C. The judge will select one of the four AQHA Level 1(Green) to be performed. The judge is responsible for the pattern being correctly set.
- D. On the pattern:
  - 1. The eight small circles represent pylon markers which are recommended. These should be separated by a uniform measured distance of not less than 30 feet nor more than 50 feet on the sides with 5 markers (see diagram). In pattern one, the three markers on the opposite side should be set adjacent to the appropriate markers. It is recommended that markers be set a minimum of 15 feet (4 1/2 meters) from the fence and with 50 to 80 foot (15 to 24 meters) width in the pattern, as the arena permits.
  - 2. A solid log or pole should be used and be a minimum of 8 feet (2.5 meters) in length.
    - 3. The long serpentine line indicates the direction of travel and gaits at which the horse is to move. The shaded area represents the least changing area between the markers. The dotted line (...) indicates walk, the dash line (---) jog, and the solid line (\_\_\_\_) lope.
- E. Scoring will be on the basis of 0-100 with 70 denoting an average performance.
  - 1. Scoring guidelines to be considered: points will be added or subtracted from the maneuvers on the following basis, ranging from plus 1.5 to minus 1.5: -1.5 extremely poor, -1 very poor, -.5 poor, 0 average, +.5 good, +1 very good, +1.5 excellent. Maneuver scores are to be determined independently of penalty points.
- F. A contestant shall be penalized each time the following occur:
  - One-half (1/2) point:
    - 1. Tick or light touch of log
    - 2. Hind legs skipping or coming together during lead change
    - 3. Non-simultaneous lead change (Front to hind or hind to front)

One (1) points:

- 1. Hitting or rolling log

2. Out of lead more than one stride either side of the center point and between the markers
3. Splitting the log (log between the two front or two hind feet) at the lope
4. Break of gait at the walk or jog up to two (2) strides

Three (3) points:

1. Not performing the specific gait (jog or lope) or stopping when called for in the pattern, within 10 feet (3 meters) of designated area
2. Simple change of leads (breakdown to trot)
3. Out of lead at or before the marker prior to the designated change area or out of lead at or after the marker after the designated change area
4. Additional lead changes anywhere in pattern (except when correcting an extra change or incorrect lead)
5. In pattern one and three failure to start the lope within 30 feet (9 meters) after crossing the log at the jog
6. Break of gait at walk or jog for more than two strides
7. Break of gait at the lope

Five (5) points:

1. Out of lead beyond the next designated change area (note: failures to change, including cross-cantering. Two consecutive failures to change would result in two five (5) point penalties).
2. Blatant disobedience includes kicking out, biting, bucking and rearing.

Disqualified- 0 score:

1. Illegal equipment
2. Willful abuse
3. Off course
4. Knocking over markers
5. Completely missing log
6. Major refusal- stop and back more than two strides or four steps with front legs
7. Major disobedience or schooling
8. Failure to start lope prior to end cone in patterns #1 and #3
9. Four or more simple lead changes and/or failures to change leads
10. Overturn of more than 1/4 turn
11. Faults, which will be cause for disqualification, except in novice amateur or novice youth classes, which shall be faults, scored according to severity:
  - a. Head carried too low (tip of ear below withers consistently)
  - b. Over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently.

Credits:

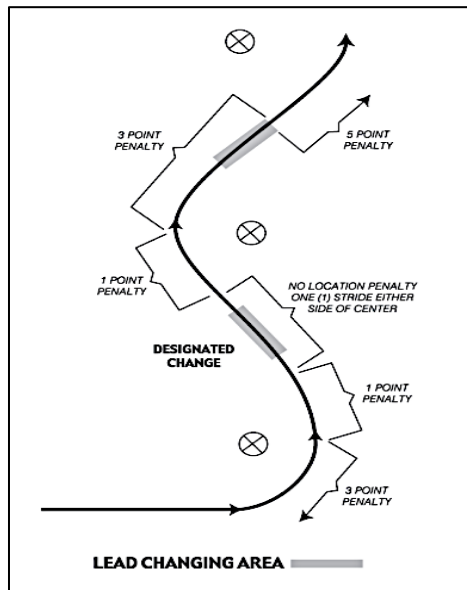
1. Changes of leads, hind and front simultaneously
2. Change of lead near the center point of the lead change area
3. Accurate and smooth pattern
4. Even pace throughout
5. Easy to guide and control with rein and leg
6. Manners and disposition
7. Conformation and fitness

4. The following characteristics are considered faults and should be judged according in maneuver scores:

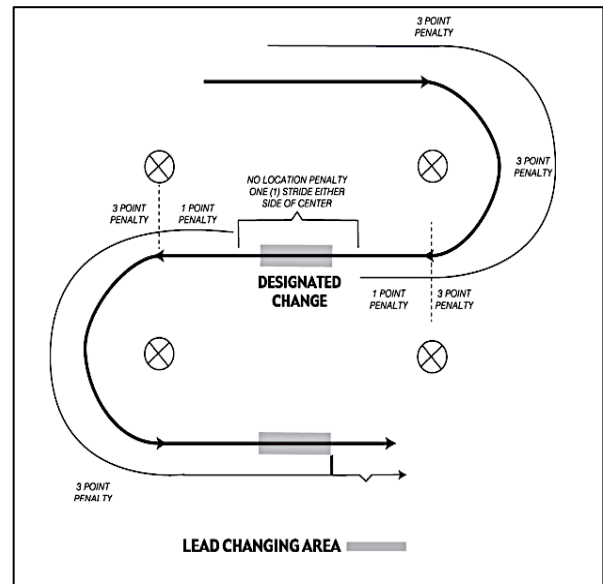
1. Opening mouth excessively
2. Anticipating signals
3. Stumbling
4. Head carried too high
5. Head carried too low (tip of ear below the withers)
6. Over-flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical.
7. Excessive nosing out



## LOCATION PENALTIES (1, 3, or 5 points) FOR DESIGNATED CHANGES



Line Changes



Crossover Changes

### TRAIL HORSE CLASS (Class 72, Class 73)

- A. Open to all horses and ponies. Standard tack and attire for the appropriate division. Hands on reins may be changed. No tie-downs or martingales. The class will have no rail work. Horses may be asked to walk, trot (jog, pleasure gait) and canter (lope or fast rack) between the obstacles. Each entry will work individually through an obstacle course designed to test the manners and performance of a good trail riding mount. Each entry will be given a numerical score based on his performance at each obstacle and overall manners and gaits.
- B. Exhibitors may ride only one horse in a trail class.
- C. Points accumulated will count in the Stock Seat Division.
- D. The course shall consist of at least six obstacles chosen and arranged from the following list:
  - a. Walk over at least four logs
  - b. Back through an "L" shaped obstacle
  - c. Carry an object from one part of the arena to another
  - d. Walk through a water obstacle
  - e. Cross a simulated wooden bridge
  - f. Ride across or lead horse across a pole obstacle at least 12" but not over 24" in height
  - g. Put on and remove slicker
  - h. Drag an object from one part of the arena to another
  - i. Open and close a simple gate
  - j. Ride between bales of hay or other obstacles making a narrow passage
  - k. Sidepass over poles or similar objects
- E. Other obstacles or variations to the above may be used but must be described in the course diagram and meet the approval of the judge. Safety should be stressed in construction, selection and arrangement of obstacles.
- F. A course diagram shall be posted at least one hour before the class is held. This diagram will indicate what gait (i.e. walk, trot, canter) the horse will take between each obstacle.
- G. The judge shall break ties by requiring tied entries to repeat any part of the course.
- H. Tack and appointments used must meet the same requirements as apply to the same entry in its appropriate equitation division. Appointments of the horse and rider, as well as conformation, however, will have no bearing on the placing of this class.
- I. Scoring of the faults on the trail course will follow current AQHA Official Handbook guidelines as outlined below.

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

Penalties should be assessed, per occurrence, as follows:

One-half (1/2) point

Each tick or contact of a log, pole, cone, plant, or any component of an obstacle.

#### One (1) Point Penalty

- Each hit, bite, or stepping on a log, cone, plant or any component of the obstacle
- Incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for two strides or less
- Both front or hind feet in a single-strided slot or space at a walk or jog
- Skipping over or failing to step into required space
- Split pole in lope-over
- Incorrect number of strides, if specified

#### Three (3) Point Penalty

- Incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for more than two strides
- Out of lead or break of gait at lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead)
- Knocking down an elevated pole, cone, barrel, plant, obstacle, or severely disturbing an obstacle
- Falling or jumping off or out of a bridge or a water box with one foot once the horse has got onto or into that obstacle
- Stepping outside of the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (i.e. back through, 360-degree box, side pass) with one foot once the horse has entered the obstacle.
- Missing or evading a pole that is a part of a series of an obstacle with one foot

#### Five (5) Point Penalty

- Dropping slicker or object required to be carried on course
- First or second cumulative refusal, balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing
- Letting go of gate or dropping rope gate
- Use of either hand to instill fear or praise
- Falling or jumping off or out of a bridge or a water box with more than one foot once the horse has got onto or into that obstacle
- Stepping outside of the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (i.e. back through, 360-degree box, side pass) with more than one foot once the horse has entered the obstacle.
- Missing or evading a pole that is a part of a series of an obstacle with more than one foot
- Blatant disobedience (including kicking out, bucking, rearing, striking)
- Holding saddle with either hand

#### Disqualified (0) Score

- Use of two hands or changing hands on reins is not allowed unless a change of hands is needed for an obstacle or to adjust/straighten reins when stopped. The only exception is for riders of junior horses shown in a hackamore or snaffle bit that require two hands on the reins.
- Use of romal other than as outlined in Stock Seat Division-Western Pleasure section
- Performing the obstacle incorrectly or other than in specified order
- No attempt to perform an obstacle
- Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern
- Excessively or repeatedly touching the horse on the neck to lower the head entering
- Exiting an obstacle from the incorrect side or direction
- Working obstacle the incorrect direction; including overturns of more than 1/4 turn
- Riding outside designated boundary marker of the arena or course area
- Third cumulative refusal, balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing
- Failure to ever demonstrate correct lead and/or gait as designated
- Failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles
- Excessive schooling, pulling, turning, stepping or backing anywhere on course
- Failure to open and shut the gate or failure to complete the gate



## HUNT SEAT DIVISION

### APPOINTMENTS

1. **PERSONAL APPOINTMENT:** ASTM/SEI approved headgear is required in all classes in the Hunt Seat Division. While competing in a class, if a rider's chin strap becomes unfastened, the rider may stop, refasten the chin strap and continue his/her performance without penalty or elimination. A judge may stop a rider (but not required) and ask them to refasten a loose chin strap, again without penalty to the rider. Headgear must be free from non-traditional adornment.
2. **ATTIRE:** Clothing must be clean, neat, and appropriate for hunter classes. Riders are required to wear conservatively colored coats (black, blue, green, grey, or brown) which are free from adornment which in the judge's opinion is overly distracting. Shirts must have a choker, similar collar or tie. Breeches or jodhpurs may be buff, canary, tan, rust, or white. Boots should be black or brown. Helmet should be a dark color. English style spurs are permitted and gloves should be a conservative color. Youth under 12 years old may wear jodhpur pants with garter straps and matching paddock boots. Riders in Open Jumping classes should wear show attire as outlined. Management or Judge may eliminate an exhibitor who is inappropriately attired.
3. **TACK:**
  - a. Saddle: Clean English Close Contact, All Purpose or Dressage style saddles should be used
  - b. Bridle: In all Hunt Seat classes (other than Open Jumping and Dressage) a regulation snaffle, kimberwick, pelham, or full bridle all with a cavesson/noseband is required. Figure eight, flash and drop nosebands are considered unconventional in hunter and equitation classes.
  - c. Bits: Bits such as two ring, three ring, gag, etc. are illegal in hunter and equitation classes and may result in elimination. Judges may penalize but not eliminate a horse or pony that competes in a snaffle, Pelham or full bridle that is unconventional.
  - d. Stirrups: It is recommended that riders use traditional stainless steel stirrup irons that promote proper position of the foot in the iron as well as a correct leg position. It is further recommended that riders use stirrup irons that allow judges a clear and unobstructed view of the position of the foot in the stirrup. Judges may not eliminate a rider for using a particular style of stirrup iron.
  - e. Additional equipment: Breast plates are optional, standing and running martingales are allowed in over fences classes. Martingales are not allowed in any flat classes. Horse bonnets are not allowed in hunter. In Equitation Over Fences, boots and wraps are allowed.
  - f. Crops/Bats: Should be a conservative color and may not exceed 30" in length. Traditional length is 18-24 inches.
  - g. Jumper Classes: Bell boots, bandages, figure eight and flash nosebands, gags, two ring and three ring bits and running martingales are allowed.
4. Additional information is available from [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

**SHOWMANSHIP IN-HAND:** Cloverleaf, Junior, and Senior classes. Ponies and horses in same class.

Refer to the SHOWMANSHIP chapter for pattern maneuvers and judging guidelines for scoring patterns.

Showmanship is a class that rewards excellence in grooming, presentation of the horse/pony for conformation evaluation, and the ability to complete a pattern of maneuvers. The specific pattern designed by the judge will be available online but typically asks all exhibitors move their horse into a trot for a short distance. Orange cones are often used to mark transition points in the pattern so it is best for youth to acquaint their horses with these "foreign aliens" before the show! Practice makes perfect!

Unique to the hunter division is the braiding of the forelock, mane, and tail. Since turnout is paramount in showmanship, 4-H'ers should learn to braid their project horse and present a braided, well trained horse for presentation in the showmanship class. Exhibitors should show in a clean bridle and exhibitors must wear a helmet.

**HUNTER UNDER SADDLE:** Cloverleaf, Junior and Senior

1. The class will be judged on the horse's way of going, manners and suitability. Conformation of the horse may only be considered in extremely close competition.
2. Horses are shown on the flat at a walk, trot and canter while maintaining light contact with the horse's mouth.
3. Horses must work both ways of the ring at all gaits to demonstrate their ability with different leads.
4. The judge may ask finalists to hand gallop but never more than a safe number of horses to gallop at one time.
5. Horses should back easily and stand quietly. The judge may ask that only the finalists be backed.

6. Large numbers in this class will necessitate elimination heats to accommodate all horses. Finalists from each heat will be announced and identified before exiting the heat.
7. Any portion of a class or heat may be placed on the rail for extra work by the judge at any time.

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Cloverleaf, Junior and Senior

General: Hunt seat equitation on the flat is an evaluation based on the ability of a rider to perform various maneuvers in harmony with the horse. The communication between horse and rider should be subtle.

Class Procedure:

Riders in all heats and finals will be required to work on the rail. Riders shall enter the ring at a walk in a counterclockwise direction. The riders will proceed at least once around the ring at each gait (walk, trot and canter) and on command, reverse and repeat. Riders in heats and semi-finals must work both ways of the ring. In the finals, rail work is required in at least one direction but the judge may ask for rail work in both directions at their discretion. The riders may be requested to gallop in safe groups and/or perform additional tests. The reverse may be executed by turning either toward or away from the rail.

Test: A test will be performed by only the finalists in this class. The test should be designed so the majority of exhibitors can perform it in a reasonable amount of time (under sixty seconds). All test must include a trot and a canter. Horses' gaits are to be ridden with the same cadence and speed, as you would see in Hunter Under Saddle. All ties will be broken at the discretion of the judge(s). Riders will not be required to jump.

1. Finalists will individually perform a given test, which may be composed from the optional list of tests below. The judge will score each rider on his/her individual skills and execution of the test. Scores may be posted. A test may include but is not limited to the following:

- A. Execute a slow sitting trot, posting trot and/or extended trot.
- B. Back.
- C. Walk from a gallop with emphasis on hands.
- D. Halt from a canter.
- E. Dismount and mount.
- F. Figure 8 at the trot, demonstrating the proper change of diagonals.
- G. Figure 8 at the canter, demonstrating a simple change of leads (a simple change of leads is one in which the horse is brought back to a trot before being restarted in a canter on the opposite lead). Figure 8 should be started at the center of the two circles so one change of lead is shown.
- H. Figure 8 at the canter on the correct leads, demonstrating a flying change of leads. (Change of leads without slowing down to a trot).
- I. Ride without stirrups.
- J. Maintain a counter-canter.
- K. Demonstrate a half-turn on forehand and/or half-turn on the haunches.

Faults: in all phases can be classified as minor, major or severe. The judge will determine the appropriate classification of a fault based upon the degree and/or frequency of the infraction. An exhibitor that incurs a severe fault avoids elimination, but should be placed below all other exhibitors that complete the test correctly. A minor fault can become a major fault and a major fault can become a severe fault when the degree and/or frequency of the infraction(s) merits.

A. Minor faults

- (1) Break of gait at walk or trot up to 2 strides
- (2) Over/under turn of 1/8 of the prescribed turn
- (3) Tick or hit of cone
- (4) Missing a diagonal up to 2 strides in the pattern or on the rail

B. Major faults

- (1) Not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 10 feet of designated area
- (2) Incorrect gait or break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides
- (3) Incorrect gait or break of gait at the canter (except when correcting an incorrect lead)
- (4) Complete loss of contact between the rider's hands and the horse's mouth
- (5) Missing a diagonal for more than 2 strides on the pattern or on the rail
- (6) Loss of iron
- (7) Head carried too low or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation
- (8) Obvious looking for lead or diagonal
- (9) Over or under turn more than 1/8 of prescribed turn, but not more than 1/4 turn

C. Severe Faults (avoids disqualification but should be placed below other exhibitors that do not incur a severe fault) include:

- (1) Loss of rein
- (2) Touching horse, including using either hand to instill fear or praise while on pattern on on the rail
- (3) Holding the saddle with either hand
- (4) Cropping or spurring in front of the shoulder
- (5) Severe disobedience or resistance by horse including, but not limited to, rearing, bucking, kicking out, or pawing.

D. Faults scored according to severity:

- (1) Head carried too low (such that the poll is below the withers consistently).
- (2) Over-flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently.

E. Disqualifications (should not be placed) include:

- (1) Failure by exhibitor to wear correct number in visible manner
- (2) Willful abuse
- (3) Excessive schooling or training
- (4) Fall by horse or rider
- (5) Illegal use of hands on reins
- (6) Use of prohibited equipment
- (7) Knocking over the cone, going off pattern or working on wrong side of cone
- (8) Failure to follow pattern correctly, including failure to ever execute correct lead or gait where called for
- (9) Overturning more than 1/4 of prescribed turn

FINALS SCORING shall be on a basis of 0-100, with an approximate breakdown as follows:

90-100 Excellent equitation, including body position and use of aids. Completes pattern accurately, quickly, smoothly and precisely; demonstrates a high level of professionalism.

80-89 Above average rider that executes the pattern as well as correct equitation and use of aids. Excellent rider that commits a minor fault.

-53-

70-79 Average test execution and average equitation but lacking adequate style and professional presentation to merit elevating to the next scoring range. Above average rider that commits a minor fault.

60-69 Below average test that lacks quickness or precision. Rider has obvious position and/or appearance faults that prevents effective equitation. Average rider that commits two minor faults in the performance of the pattern.

50-59 One major fault or multiple minor faults in the performance. A rider that demonstrates a lack of riding ability and knowledge of correct body position.

40-49 Severe fault, two or more major faults or multiple minor faults in the performance or the exhibitor that demonstrates a lack of riding ability and knowledge of correct body position.

10-39 Exhibitor commits more than one severe fault or multiple major faults in performance, exhibits poor riding skills, but completes the class and avoids disqualification.

#### Basic Position:

- A. To mount, take up the reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right hand and insert left foot in stirrup and mount. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down. The size of the rider must be taken into consideration.
- B. Hands should be over and in front of the horse's withers, knuckles thirty degrees inside the vertical. Hands slightly apart and making a straight line from horse's mouth to rider's elbow. Method of holding reins is optional, and bight of reins may fall on either side of the neck; however, it is more acceptable for the bight to fall on the off side (right side). However, all reins must be picked up at the same time. The rider should maintain light contact with the horse's mouth at all times except when standing still.
- C. Reins: The rein of a snaffle bridle may be held either outside the little finger or between the third and little finger. The snaffle rein of a pelham or full bridle should be held outside the little finger and curb rein between the third and little finger or between the second and third fingers. In either case, reins should be picked up at the buckles by the right hand, then straightened and separated in correct order by the fingers of the left hand, pulled taut and adjusted to even pressure in both hands.
- D. The eyes should be up and shoulders back. Toes should be at an angle best suited to rider's conformation, heels down, calf of leg in contact with horse and slightly behind the girth. Iron should be on the ball of the foot, but may be under the toe, ball of foot or slightly behind ball of foot.

#### Position in Motion:

- (1) The walk should be a 4-beat gait with the rider in a vertical position with a following hand.
- (2) The posting trot: at left diagonal, rider should be sitting the saddle when left front leg is on the ground; at right diagonal rider should be sitting the saddle when right front leg is on the ground; when circling clockwise at a trot, rider should be on left diagonal; when circling counter-clockwise, rider should be on right diagonal. The rider should close the hip angle to allow the torso to follow the horizontal motion of the horse. The upper body should be slightly in front of the vertical.
- (3) The sitting trot and canter: At the sitting trot the upper body is only slightly in front of the vertical. At the canter the body should be positioned slightly more in front of the vertical. As the stride is shortened, the body should be in a slightly more erect position.
- (4) Two point position: The pelvis should be forward, but relaxed, lifting the rider's weight off the horse's back and transferring the weight through the rider's legs. In this position the two points of contact between horse and rider are the rider's legs. Hand should be forward, up the neck, not resting on the neck.
- (5) Hand gallop: A three-beat, lengthened canter ridden in two-point position. The legs are on the horse's sides while the seat is held out of the saddle. When at the hand gallop, the rider's angulation will vary somewhat as the horse's stride is shortened and lengthened. A good standard at a normal hand gallop should be about 30 degrees in front of the vertical.

#### HUNTER POLES- Cloverleaf

1. Cloverleaf riders would trot a shortened course of ground poles.
2. Class will be judged on the following.
  - a. Rider's position, balance, and ability to maintain a consistent rhythm over the poles
  - b. Horse's movement and responsiveness to the rider.

3. Horses may NOT canter in this class.
4. Class will be run after Cloverleaf Hunt Seat Equitation

#### OVER FENCE CLASSES- Juniors and Seniors

- A. Classes offered will be the following (Blue highlighted classes will not count towards high points or Southern Regional Qualifications)
  - a. Warm up cross rail hunter
  - b. Cross rail hunter hack
  - c. Cross rail hunter over fences
  - d. Cross rail hunt seat equitation
  - e. Warm up 2' hunter
  - f. Hunter hack (2')
  - g. 2' hunter over fences
  - h. 2' hunt seat equitation
  - i. Warm up 2'3" hunter
  - j. 2'3" hunter over fences
  - k. 2'3" hunt seat equitation
  - l. Warm up 2'6" hunter
  - m. 2'6" hunter over fences
  - n. 2'6" hunt seat equitation
  - o. Warm up 2'9" hunter
  - p. 2'9" hunter over fences
  - q. 2'9" hunt seat equitation
  - r. 2' jumper (optimum time class) Table II—clear round gets a blue ribbon (no jump off)
  - s. Open Jumping Starter (2'-2'3")
  - t. Open Jumping Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")
  - u. Open Jumping Novice (2'6"-3')
- B. A judged warm up class will be offered for each division. This class would not count for high point.
- C. No separate pony over fence classes—ponies enter the height they are comfortable with.
- D. During Cross rails classes, trot should not be penalized.
- E. If a rider shows in the cross-rails division, they cannot enter any other over fence classes.
- F. In all other over fence classes, riders may enter classes in up to two consecutive fence heights (e.g., either 2' and 2'3" or 2'6" and 2'9")
- G. High point and Southern Regionals qualifying: Cross rails classes will NOT count towards high point or Southern Regional qualification. 2' jumper optimum time does not count for high point or SR qualifier

#### HUNTER OVER FENCES -Junior and Senior

1. Horses will be judged on performance, manners, hunting pace, style of jumping, way of moving and suitability for actual use in the hunting field.
2. All horses must be serviceably sound. Horses must be placed on performance before consideration for soundness. Finalist will be jogged in hand past the judge for soundness in order of performance. Any horse showing lameness, broken wind or impairment in vision shall be refused an award at the judge's discretion.
3. Each horse will individually negotiate a course consisting of at least eight jumps with a minimum of four obstacles. At least two changes of direction are recommended. The course diagram will be available on the show grounds in the pattern book. Judging will start when the horse enters the arena and ends when the horse leaves the arena.
4. Fence Heights offered:
  - a) Cross Rail (Trot should not be penalized)
  - b) 2'
  - c) 2'3"
  - d) 2'6"
  - e) 2'9"
5. Management must provide at least one practice jump. This jump should be in a warm-up ring or area.
6. Jumps to be used in the jumping classes may be selected from the following list but will not be limited to this list:
  - a) Brush.
  - b) Post and rail.
  - c) Gate.
  - d) Chicken coop.
  - e) Stone wall.
  - f) Oxer (must not be square -- it is recommended that the back element be 3" - 6" higher).
  - g) No in and outs will be used in hunter courses
7. When designing a hunt course, the jumps should be spaced a minimum of 48' apart; but all intervals must be in multiples of 12'.

## 8. Faults

### A. Major faults include:

- a. Knockdowns
- b. Refusals at jumps or stopping anywhere on course
- c. Crossing the track
- d. Dangerous jumping
- e. Addressing a jump - coming to a stop in front of a jump in order to show the horse the jump
- f. Completely missing a lead change
- g. Adding or leaving out a stride in an in and out
- h. Breaking stride or trotting while on course unless a required element of the class.

### B. Faults that may be considered by the judge, depending on the severity or division, as major or minor

- a. Rubbing a jump
- b. Swapping a lead in a line or in front of a jump
- c. Late lead change
- d. Kicking up or out
- e. Spooking
- f. Jumping out of form
- g. Jumping off of the center line of the jump
- h. Bucking and/or playing
- i. Adding a stride in a related distance
- j. Eliminating a stride in a related distance
- k. Striking off on a wrong lead in a courtesy circle. May be corrected with either a simple or flying change

### C. Faults that result in elimination: (Dismissed contestants will exit promptly)

- a. Fall of horse and or rider (rider shall not remount in the ring)
- b. Three cumulative refusals
- c. Off course
- d. Trotting or cantering through the in or out gate
- e. Jumping a jump before it is reset

### D. Additional conditions for faults:

- a. Light touches are not to be considered in the jumping but may be recorded for reference in extremely close competition. Touching brush only on a brush jump is not to be scored as a touch.
- b. When a horse makes two faults at an obstacle, only the major fault on the top element will be scored. Disobediences are accumulated and count in addition.
- c. When an obstacle contains more than one jump, faults are scored on each jump.
- d. In case of refusal or run out on an obstacle that contains more than one jump, entry may re-jump previous as well as remaining jumps.

## EQUITATION OVER FENCES- Junior and Senior

1. The rider's performance and skills over fences are being judged in this class. Rider's basic position in the saddle; position and use of hands, legs and feet; ability to control and show the horse and suitability of horse to rider are important; but rider's skills and execution must be considered.
2. Each rider shall perform a pattern consisting of at least six (6) jumps. Three cumulative refusals will cause elimination.
3. **Fence Heights offered:**
  - a. **Cross Rail (Trot should not be penalized)**
  - b. **2'**
  - c. **2'3**
  - d. **2'6"**
  - e. **2'9"**

## 4. Faults

### A. Major faults include:

- a. Refusal at jump or stopping anywhere on course
- b. Crossing the track
- c. Dangerous jumping
- d. Addressing a jump
- e. Completely missing a lead change
- f. Adding or leaving out a stride in an in-and-out
- g. Breaking or trotting on course unless a required element of the class

### B. Faults penalized at discretion of the judge

- a. Loss of stirrup
- b. Loss of rein
- c. Adding or eliminating a stride in a related distance
- d. Late Lead change
- e. Jumping out of form



- f. Striking off on wrong lead in courtesy circle. May be corrected with a simple or flying change
  - g. Swapping a lead in a line or in front of a jump
- C. Faults that result in elimination:
- a. Fall of horse and or rider (rider shall not remount in the ring)
  - b. Three cumulative refusals
  - c. Off course
  - d. Trotting or cantering through the in or out gate
3. Position: Same as Equitation on the Flat.
  4. The judge will score each rider on their individual skills and execution of the course.
  5. The final riders may be required to work on the rail and/or over fences to determine the final placings.

#### OPEN JUMPING: Junior and Senior

1. Jumpers are scored and placed on a mathematical basis and penalty faults, which include disobediences, falls, and knockdowns.
2. The open jumping class will be held as a 2.2a/b format class. The first round will be the preliminary round. Each horse and pony will individually negotiate a course consisting of at least four different obstacles and make a minimum of eight jumps. Refer to WORKING HUNTER AND PONY HUNTER OVER FENCES number 6, for type of jumps. There will be a maximum time allowed. There will be 1-time fault assessed for each second over the time allowed.
3. Both a starting line at least 12 feet in front of the first obstacle and a finish line at least 24 feet beyond the last obstacle must be indicated by markers (at least 12 feet apart) at each end of the lines.
4. Horses or ponies with no faults (a clean round) in the preliminary round will jump a second posted course and will be timed. Riders may choose to either immediately jump off or to come out and then jump off after all other riders have completed the first round. In either case, rider will proceed to the jump-off after the judge's signal. The jumps will not be raised for the jump-off. The preliminary round will be timed, and in the event that there are no clean rounds, there will be no jump-off; times earned in the preliminary round will be used to break any ties.
5. **The height of fences for classes will be the following**  
**2' Jumper (optimum time class)**  
**Open Jumping Starter (2'-2'3")**  
**Open Jumping Beginner Novice (2'3"-2'6")**  
**Open Jumping Novice (2'6"-3')**
6. **NEW-Combined Training Awards**
  - a. **Riders who enter an Open Jumping Class and the matching Combined Training Dressage Class will be eligible. Special recognition will be given to the combined training riders for the highest places rider in a combination of dressage and jumping classes.**
  - b. **Riders must match their jumper class with the corresponding dressage test (e.g., Starter jumping class must be combined Starter combined training event dressage to generate a Starter Combined training award).**
  - c. **These Combined Training Dressage Classes will not count towards Southern Regional Qualifications**
7. **Scoring Jumpers:** The following point system will be used in scoring. When a horse commits two or more faults at the same obstacle, only the major fault or only one in case of equal faults will count except when disobediences occur. Disobediences are accumulative and faulted in addition to other faults occurring at the same obstacle.
  - a. **Knock-down:** When a horse attempts to jump an obstacle and knocks down the obstacle or any portion of it, standard, or wing with any portion of the horse, rider or equipment, and lowers the height of the jump, it is considered a knock-down (with exception listed in NOTE below) 4 faults  
 NOTE: When a horse knocks down all or a portion of an obstacle while refusing, it is not to be faulted for a knock-down but should be given only the correct amount of faults for that refusal.
  - b. **Disobediences:**
    1. **Refusal:** When a horse stops in front of an obstacle (whether or not the obstacle is knocked down or altered), it is a refusal unless the horse then immediately jumps the obstacle without backing even one step; but if a horse takes even one step backwards it is a refusal.  
 -If horse is moved toward obstacle after a refusal without attempting to jump, it is considered another refusal.  
 -In the case of a refusal on an in-and-out jump, the horse must return to the start of the in-and-out sequence and re-jump the previous elements as well as jump the following elements.  
 -If a jump is dislodged in a refusal, a whistle will be blown, and time will be stopped until the jump is repaired. When the jump has been repaired, a whistle will then be blown, and only then can the horse/rider attempt to jump it. If the rider jumps the jump before the whistle has been blown, the rider will be disqualified.
    2. **Run-out:** A run-out occurs when a horse evades or passes the obstacle to be jumped; jumps an obstacle outside its limiting markers; or when horse or rider knocks down a flag, standard, wing or other limiting the obstacle (without obstacle being jumped).
    3. **Loss of Forward Movement:** Failure to maintain trot, canter or gallop after crossing starting line (except when it is a refusal, a run-out or when due to uncontrollable circumstances such as when an obstacle is being reset) is a disobedience.
4. **Unnecessary Circling on Course:** After crossing the starting line and before crossing the finish line, any form of circles whereby the horse crosses its original track between two consecutive obstacles, or stops advancing toward or turns away from the next fence except to retake an obstacle after a disobedience, is considered a disobedience. This is a judgment call. (NOTE: Coming sideways or zigzagging toward an obstacle does not constitute a disobedience unless the horse passes or turns



its back to the next obstacle or the finish line).

- a. First disobedience (anywhere on course).....4 faults
- b. Second disobedience (anywhere on course) .....Elimination
- c. Fall of horse and/or rider .....Elimination
- d. Failure to complete course, off course .....Elimination
- e. Jumping obstacle before it is reset or without waiting for signal from the judge to proceed .....Elimination
- f. Starting before judge's audible signal to proceed, jumping obstacles before start or after crossing the finish line, whether forming part of course or not; jumping obstacle out of order; off course.....Elimination
- g. Failure to enter the ring within one minute after the judge's audible signal to proceed .....Elimination
- h. Failure to cross the starting line within 45 seconds after judge's audible signal to proceed  
*A competitor will have 45 seconds from the time the judge sounds an audible signal to cross between the start markers in the proper direction and start on course. If a competitor does not cross through the start line within the allotted time, the time on course will start when the allotted time expires.*
- i. Jumping any obstacle before crossing starting line unless said obstacle is designated as a practice jump  
.....Elimination
- j. *In the case of broken equipment or loss of shoe, rider may either continue without penalty or be eliminated. The judge may eliminate a rider if he/she feels that it is unsafe for the rider/horse to continue the course.*

#### HUNTER HACK

1. This class is designed for those Junior and Senior 4-H'ers with beginning jumping experience and is open only to any Juniors and Seniors who are not entered in any of the other over the fence classes (i.e. working hunter, equitation over fences, open jumping). 4-H'ers may select only Cross Rail Hunter Hack or Hunter Hack 2' they cannot enter both. This class is not open to Cloverleaf 4-H'ers.
2. Horses will be judged on performance, manners, pace, style of jumping, way of going and suitability.
3. Horses must be serviceably sound. Horses will be judged on performance before consideration for soundness.
4. **Each horse will individually negotiate a course consisting of two cross rail jumps.**
  - a. **Cross Rail Hunter Hack (18")**
  - b. **Hunter Hack 2'**
5. Fences are placed a minimum of 60 feet apart.
6. Upon completion of the individual work, finalists (number at judge's discretion) will return to the rail. They will then be judged at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the arena. The judge may also ask for a backup.
7. Three refusals during the course will result in elimination.
8. Hunter Hack 2' will count toward the High Point Awards and the Division Awards



## DRESSAGE



The English and Western Dressage sessions will include ONE test with walk and trot gaits only and TWO tests that require the walk, trot, and canter gaits. Dressage classes are not restricted within age so that riders may chose the test appropriate for their skill and the horse.

Riders in either style of riding cannot cross enter both a walk-trot test and the more advanced canter tests. Riders entered in the walk-trot tests may canter in their other division classes, but they may not ride in the more advanced dressage tests with a canter. Riders entered in the more advanced tests (canter) may not compete in the walk-trot dressage test. Riders may cross between English and Western dressage classes but must ride tests with the same gait requirements between English and Western. For example, a rider in the 2023 USDF Introductory Test B could only enter the WDAA 2022 Western Dressage Introductory Level Test 1.

The first and second place winner of the Dressage English Training level and first and second place winners of the Western Basic Test 4 will be invited to participate in Southern Regional show.

Riders may have the test called to them at the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show and at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show (if qualified).

ENGLISH DRESSAGE -No championship points will be accumulated from these classes. First and second place winner of USDF 2023 Training level Test 3 that include the canter gait will automatically qualify for Southern Regional 4-H Competition.

### 1. OBJECT AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES

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

### 2. THE GAITS AND MOVEMENTS

#### a. HALT

Horse stands obediently quiet with equal weight on all 4 legs. The horse should maintain a soft contact with the rider without allowing his poll to drop below his withers nor his nose to fall behind the vertical.

#### b. WORKING WALK

A marching 4-beat rhythm on light contact with the rider.

#### c. FREE WALK ON A LONG REIN

A 4-beat rhythm with the horse stretching his topline and stride. The rider still maintains contact with the horse but the horse must stretch his nose ahead of the vertical.

#### d. WORKING TROT

A forward 2-beat rhythm that maintains a consistent tempo while remaining on the bit.

#### e. WORKING CANTER

A forward 3-beat rhythm with a quiet consistent tempo while remaining on the bit.

### 3. APPOINTMENTS

#### a. PERSONAL

A short riding coat of a dark color, white shirt, choker or stock tie, white or light colored breeches or jodhpurs, tall boots or paddock boots, properly fitted head gear with harness (S.E.I., ASTM helmets are required.) Blunt spurs and a whip which does not exceed 4 ft. including lash are allowed. Gloves are preferred.

#### b. TACK

To be ridden in a plain snaffle with or without a drop, flash or figure 8 noseband. Unauthorized tack will be removed or competitors will be eliminated. Martingales are not allowed. Any English type saddle may be used (i.e. dressage, forward seat, flat or cutback). No curb bits of any fashion will be allowed. All bits must be smooth and solid. Twisted wire and roller bits are prohibited. The mouthpiece must be made entirely of the same metal (copper bits are prohibited). Synthetic material is acceptable, provided that the contours of the bit conform to the contours of acceptable bits listed by the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. Rulebook.

### 4. TESTS - The small area size (20 meters X 40 meters) will be used for all dressage classes

- b. The Test requiring gaits walk and trot only is the 2023 USDF Introductory Level Test B.  
<https://www.usdf.org/docs/showflash/web/tests/2023/2023%20Intro%20B.pdf?t=2/21/2023%2010:53:18%20AM>
- c. Tests with the canter gait included are:
- 2023 USEF Introductory Level Test C  
<https://www.usdf.org/docs/showflash/web/tests/2023/2023%20Intro%20C.pdf?t=2/21/2023%2010:53:18%20AM>
  - 2023 USEF Training Level Test 3 (first and second place qualifies for So. Regionals in dressage)  
<https://www.usdf.org/docs/showflash/web/tests/2023/2023%20Training%203%204.7.pdf?t=2/21/2023%2010:53:18%20AM>
  - **NEW-Starter- Combined Training Event Dressage- 2022 USEA Starter Test**  
<https://useventing.com/resources/documents/2022-USEA-Starter-Test.pdf>
  - **NEW- Beginner Novice- Combined Training Event Dressage- 2023 USEF Beginner Novice Test B**  
<https://useventing.com/resources/documents/2022-USEF-BEGINNER-NOVICE-TEST-B-WEB.pdf>
  - **NEW- Novice- Combined Training Event Dressage- 2022 USEF Novice Test B**  
<https://useventing.com/resources/documents/2022-USEF-NOVICE-TEST-B-WEB-12.18.2021.pdf>
- d. Test will be ridden in the order listed in the show program. Any changes must be made with show officials prior to the start of the dressage divisions.
- e. Rider may begin schooling around the dressage arena when the rider before him has received his final salute from the judge and begins to exit the arena.
- f. Upon audible signal (whistle or bell) from the judge, the competitor has 60 seconds to enter the dressage arena.
- g. Any dressage test may be called by someone standing behind the letter E or B or else the test may be ridden from memory. Should a rider go off course, the judge will sound an audible sound. The rider should stop and allow the judge to instruct him as to how to proceed. The rider then proceeds or the caller starts calling the test from the point instructed by the judge. Being off course constitutes an error. However, if the caller aids the rider in any fashion other than calling the test, the rider is eliminated.
- h. Errors:                   1st error - 2 points  
                                   2nd error - 4 points  
                                   3rd error - Elimination

5. ELIMINATION

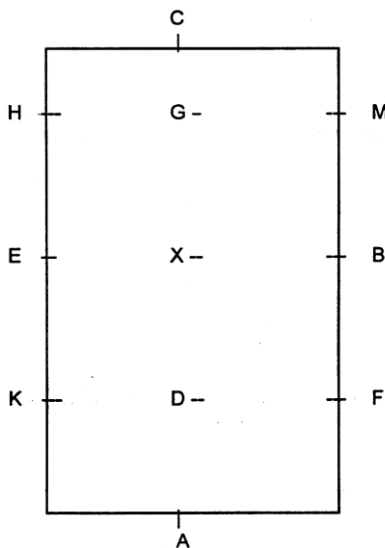
Automatic elimination occurs if the rider fails to enter the dressage arena within 60 seconds of the judge's audible signal; all 4 of the horse's feet leave the arena after the test has begun, unauthorized assistance, obvious lameness or use of illegal equipment.

6. SCORING

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

7. ARENA: The dressage arena will be small. Small = 20 x 40 meters

8. There will be assigned times posted at the show office.



Small Arena  
(20 x 40)

## WESTERN DRESSAGE

For more detailed information, refer to: <http://westerndressageassociation.org/>

Classes offered in 2025:

Walk/trot only: Western Dressage 2022 Intro Level Test 1

Walk/trot/canter: Western Dressage 2022 Basic Level Test 1

Western Dressage 2022 Basic Level Test 4 (first and second place qualify for Southern Regionals)

1. Goal: The goal of Western Dressage is to develop a partnership between a happy equine athlete working in harmony with his rider. A system of progressive training produces a horse that is physically strong, balanced, supple, and flexible; this equine athlete also demonstrates a calm, confident, attentive attitude and is happy to do his job.

2. The gaits

Walk, collected walk, working walk, and free walk should be a well-marked marching gait in a regular cadence with equal intervals between each beat.

Jog is a two-beat gait of alternate diagonal legs separated by a moment of suspension

Lope is a gait with three equal, regular beats with time of suspension after the third beat.

Saddle Gait may be either lateral or diagonal gait, timely and consistently performed. The tempo, rhythm and foot falls of the gait the rider chooses to perform must not change throughout the test. The gait the horse performs should be able to be ridden in a working, lengthened, free and collected manner as the Western Dressage test specifies.

Back is a rearward diagonal movement with a two-beat rhythm but without a moment of suspension.

3. Appointments

a. Personal

A safety helmet is required of all competitors. Long sleeved shirt with any type of collar (short sleeve shirt may be worn at the discretion of the judge). Pants and boots are required.

Optional attire includes:

- Necktie, kerchief, bolo tie, pin
- Vest, jacket, coat, and/or sweater
- Spurs of Western or English style. Western spurs with rowels must not have sharp tines
- Chaps, shotgun chaps, chinks, or split riding skirt

b. Bridle/bits that may be used on horses of any age

- Any Western type headstall must be used, with or without a cavesson as described in WDAA.com. Snaffle bits may be used on any age horse as well as bitless bridles or a hackamore.
- A Western cavesson (flat, rolled, braided or plain, with an adjustable noseband), or pencil bosal with or without a get down rope with space for two fingers placed between the cavesson and the jowl of the horse is allowed. No metal (except for the buckle on the cavesson), studs of any kind or other substances can be used in conjunction with or part of a Western cavesson.
- Reins:
  - snaffle bit: loop/connected reins, split reins, buckled reins, mecate reins, or Romal reins without a proper; two hands must be used with any of these combinations
  - Bosal: Horsehair, rope reins, and mecate reins; two hands must be used. The mecate can be tied to the saddle horn or held by the rider
  - Curb: Romal reins or spit reins. When using a curb with Romal reins, only one hand is allowed; when using split reins, one or two hands are allowed.

c. Saddle

- A standard stock saddle is customary. A working saddle, Australian stock saddle, and Western side saddle are also acceptable. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. Tapaderos are permitted.
- A horn is optional but western style fenders are required
- Padding or pads on the seat of the saddle are permitted
- Rolls are allowed only on Australian Western style saddles
- A breastplate and/or crupper may be used.

d. Other

- Whips: one whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120 cm) including lash, is permitted in all classes/tests.
- Spurs are optional and the shank may be either curved or straight. Straight shanks must point directly back from the center of the spur. Curved shanks must point downward.

e. Items not permitted

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

NOTE: extensive photos and listing of illegal equipment may be reviewed at <http://westerndressageassociation.org/>

#### 4. Class Etiquette and Rules (The dressage test used will be selected annually)

- Arena size will be 20m X 40m.
- Approximately 6-8 minutes will be allowed for each test. The specific time limit will be based on the test selected. Show management reserves the right to adjust individual ride times under extenuating circumstances.
- A competitor who does not enter the arena within 60 seconds after the entry bell or whistle is sounded for his ride shall be eliminated.
- Tests may be called during the competition. If tests are announced, it is the responsibility of the competitor to arrange for a person to announce the test. Lateness and errors in announcing the ride will not relieve the rider from "error penalties". Announcing the test is limited to reading the movement as it is written once only. However, the repetition of reading of a movement is acceptable if there is reason to doubt that the rider heard the original call.
- Voice: The quiet use of the voice or clicking the tongue once or repeatedly is permitted.
- Touch: Petting the horse is allowed during the test as a gentle reward.
- When a competitor makes an "error of the course" (takes the wrong turn, omits a movement, etc.) the judge warns him by sounding the bell or whistle. The judge shows him, if necessary, the point at which he must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed then leaves him to continue by himself.
- The score for each movement should first establish the fact of whether the movement is performed insufficiently (4 or below) or sufficiently (5 or above). The scoring scale is:
 

|                 |                  |                   |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 10 - Excellent  | 6 - Satisfactory | 2 - Bad           |
| 9 - Very Good   | 5 - Marginal     | 1 - Very Bad      |
| 8 - Good        | 4 - Insufficient | 0 - Not performed |
| 7 - Fairly Good | 3 - Fairly Bad   |                   |
- In the case of a fall of horse and/or rider, the competitor will be eliminated.
- If during the test (between the time of entry and the time of exit at A) the horse leaves the arena (all four feet outside the fence or line marking the arena perimeter) the competitor is eliminated.
- Resistance of the horse which prevents continuation of the test for longer than 20 seconds results in elimination.
- In case of ties the competitor with the highest marks received under Collective Marks shall be declared the winner. When the scores for Collective Marks tie, the judge may be required to decide on the winner after review of both score sheets.
- In most cases, it is acceptable for a competitor to enter and work in the perimeter area surrounding the arena (not within the arena itself) immediately prior to his/her ride and after the final salute of the previous competitor.
- Exhibitors may not cross enter between any tests for the walk/trot gaits and the more advanced tests with a canter. Showing in more than one dressage test is permitted if all tests require the same gaits (either walk/trot or walk/trot/canter classes).

## COMBINED TRAINING

### NEW-Combined Training Awards

- Riders who enter an Open Jumping Class and the matching Combined Training Dressage Class will be eligible. Special recognition will be given to the combined training riders for the highest places rider in a combination of dressage and jumping classes.
- Riders must match their jumper class with the corresponding dressage test (e.g., Starter jumping class must be combined Starter combined training event dressage to generate a Starter Combined training award).
- These Combined Training Dressage Classes will not count towards Southern Regional Qualifications

- NEW-Starter- Combined Training Event Dressage- 2022 USEA Starter Test  
<https://useventing.com/resources/documents/2022-USEA-Starter-Test.pdf>
- NEW- Beginner Novice- Combined Training Event Dressage- 2023 USEF Beginner Novice Test B  
<https://useventing.com/resources/documents/2022-USEF-BEGINNER-NOVICE-TEST-B-WEB.pdf>
- NEW- Novice- Combined Training Event Dressage- 2022 USEF Novice Test B  
<https://useventing.com/resources/documents/2022-USEF-NOVICE-TEST-B-WEB-12.18.2021.pdf>

## CONTEST DIVISION



### GENERAL RULES

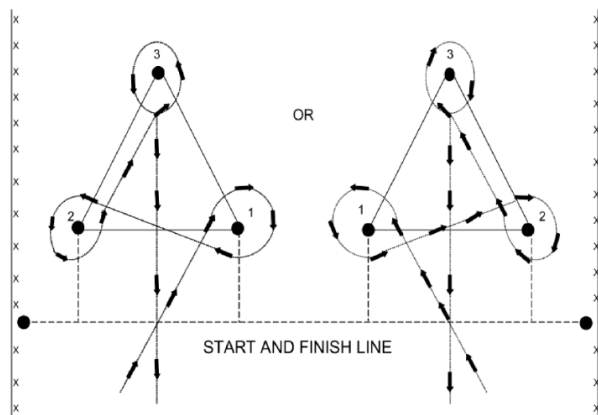
1. If more than 35 entries are received by entry deadline per class, then we will do a preliminary, final go and adjust the schedule appropriately after May 12. If enough entries are received, we will run a preliminary and final go. The top 15 times in preliminary classes (stake race, cone weaving, pole bending, barrel racing, and arena race) will be invited back to run in the event finals. Final classes are run from slowest to fastest time. Times will be cumulative of the preliminary and final classes to determine class placings.
2. Prior to the running of the contest division, the official will perform a tack, helmet and equipment check walk-through on all riders of the division. The tack check will be conducted between the final Contest Events workout period in Perdue Arena and the start of the division. Failure to participate in this check will forfeit a contestant's right to compete in the Contest Division.
3. Fall of rider or horse will be a disqualification.
  4. All contest classes are timed classes. An electric timer, when accessible, will be the official time. Failure of electric eye will result in rerun option determined by the rider. Otherwise, at least two stopwatches shall be used, with the average time of the two stopwatches to be the official time. The rider must choose between the two options before leaving the exit gate.
5. If a rerun is declared for an exhibitor, the exhibitor will be given the option to run immediately or at the end of the class.
6. Assistance by Show Officials only is allowed to help load a horse through the gate into the chute. The contestant will have 60 seconds to enter the arena once the gate has been opened. If the contestant is unable to enter the arena with their horse within the 60 seconds (with or without assistance), they will receive a no time. Once the horse enters into the arena, the arena gate will be closed.
7. In all timed event classes, the horse/rider is allowed a running start. Timing shall begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose passes over the finish line.
8. During timed events, horses will be stopped inside the chute. Gate will not be opened until horse is stopped, under control and the rider dismounts. Horses running into gate or arena fence shall draw a five second penalty.
9. No exhibitor may be tied, buckled, or fastened into the saddle by any means during the competition. This includes velcro, rubber bands, and all other means. This will be strictly enforced.
10. Any exhibitor that is found by the judge to be flagrant or purposeful in knocking over any part of the equipment used in a pattern, will be excused from the ring immediately and will be disqualified from any additional classes entered or qualified for. The Judge's decision is final. No refunds will be allowed, and no grievances will be accepted.
11. In the event of a tie in a timed class, the contestant declared the winner in the runoff must run the pattern within two seconds of his original time, or the runoff must be held again. (See page 18 of Official Show Rules, Section d, rule #9)
12. Excessive or abusive spurring, striking, beating or whipping anywhere on the horse may be grounds for disqualification if viewed as abusive by the judge. The judge's decision is final.
13. In the event of a grievance/protest, cell phone or video footage will not be accepted as evidence.
14. If running of a class is halted due to a grievance/protest, horses in the running pen will be released back to the warm-up pen and given a two-minute gate call before resuming the class.
  15. For more information please visit: [www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com) and [www.nbha.com](http://www.nbha.com). Questions about patterns, tack, helmets, equipment or appointments are welcomed during the Orientation Meeting.

### APPOINTMENTS

1. **PERSONAL:** Clothing must be neat and clean. Riders should wear western attire consisting of long sleeved (sleeves to be unrolled and fastened at the wrist); button up shirts with a collar, that is tucked into jeans. Jeans should not have holes. Capri jeans are not allowed. Boots with heels are required. ASTM and SEI approved helmets are required for all contestants in the Contest Division. The approved helmets must have a permanent harness and chin strap. The helmet must be secured with the harness engaged and properly fastened the entire time a 4-H'er is on horseback. Failure to adhere to this rule will disqualify the 4-H'er. Show management will not loan helmets.
2. **TACK:** Western type equipment must be used. Use of mechanical hackamore or other type bridles is optional; however, the judges may prohibit the use of bits or equipment that they may consider severe, dangerous or inhumane. Draw reins or running martingales are not permitted. Curb chains and tie downs are permissible in all classes, but must meet AQHA rulebook standards.

### BARREL RACING CONTEST

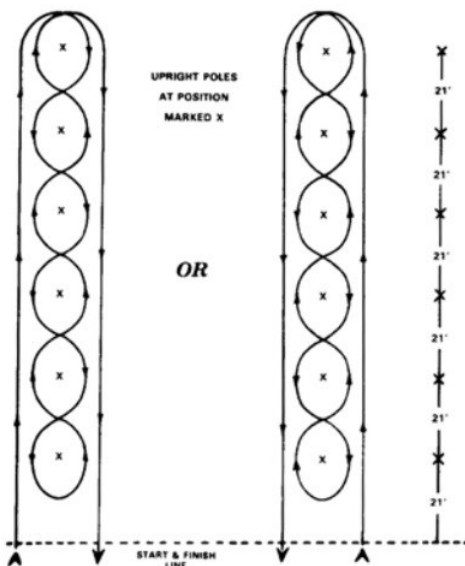
1. At a signal from the starter, the contestant will run to barrel number 1, pass to the left of it, and complete an approximately 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel number 2, pass to the right of it, and complete a slightly more than 360 degree turn around it; then go to barrel number 3, pass to the right of it, and do another approximately 360 degree turn around it; then sprint to the finish line, passing between barrel number 1 and 2. This barrel course may also be run to the left. For example, the contestants will start to barrel number 2, turning to left around this barrel, then to barrel number 1, turning to the right, then to barrel number 3, turning again to the right, followed by the final sprint to the finish line.
2. Knocking over a barrel shall draw a five second penalty for each error made. A contestant may touch a barrel with his or her hand without penalty.
3. Failure to follow the pattern is a disqualification, including excessive turns.
4. The course may be set to fit the arena. The pattern should be set so that a horse may have ample room to turn and stop. All barrels will be a minimum of 18 feet from the arena wall. Barrels 1 and 2 must be at least 20 feet from the timers.
5. If the horse runs beyond the start-finish line any time during the pattern other than when starting or finishing, the horse will be called off pattern and receive no time.



Barrel Race Course (from the *Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship Rule Book*)

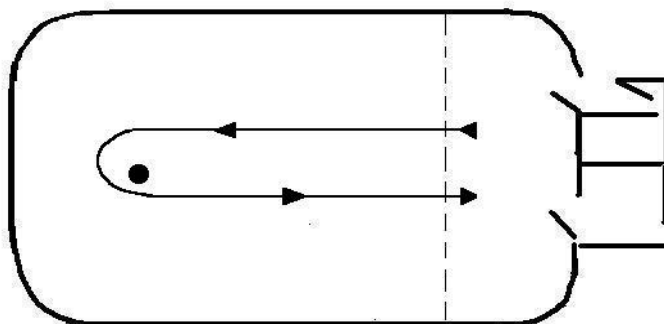
### POLE BENDING CONTEST

1. The pole bending pattern is to be run around six poles. Each pole is to be at least 6 feet in height, twenty-one feet apart and the first pole is to be twenty-one feet from starting line.
2. A horse may start either to the right or the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly.
3. Knocking over a pole shall draw a five second penalty for each infraction. A contestant may touch a pole with his or her hand without penalty. Entries failing to follow the pattern will be disqualified.
4. If the horse runs beyond the start-finish line during any time during the pattern other than when starting or finishing, the horse will be called off pattern and receive no time.



### ARENA RACE

1. The arena race pattern is to be run around one barrel. The barrel will be placed approximately 20 feet off the wall at the end of the arena. The distance from the start-finish line will be approximately 145 feet to 165 feet, depending on the arena length and the necessary
2. The horse may go left and run back
3. Knocking over the barrel will result in a no time result.

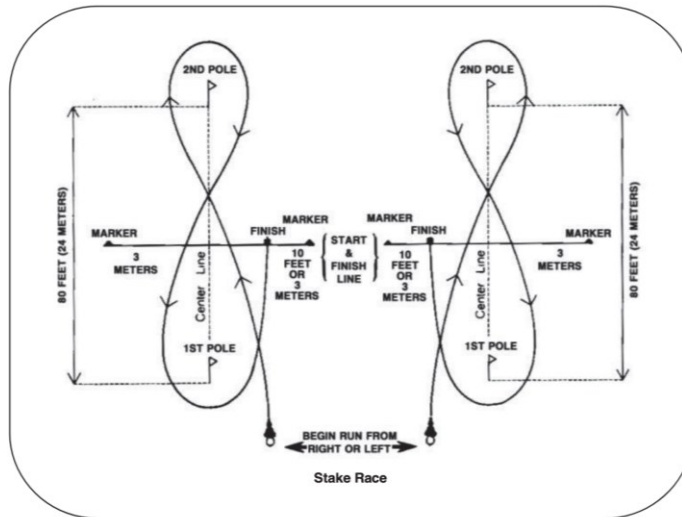


panels for the event. around the barrel either to the right or to the start-finish line. barrel will be a disqualification and time. If the horse runs beyond the start-going around the barrel, a no time will

## STAKE RACE

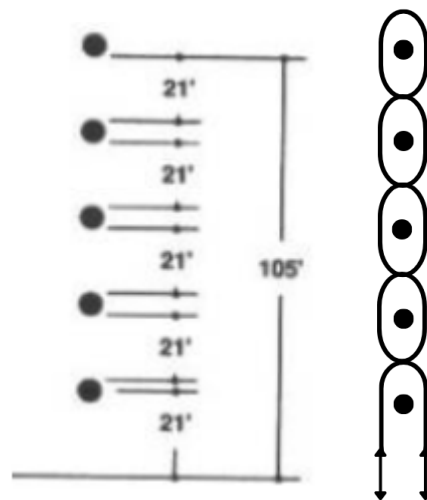
1. Two poles are set 80 feet apart at opposite ends of the course with two markers designating the start-finish line 20 feet apart mid-way between the two end poles.
2. The contestant starts between the two center markers and runs a figure 8 around the two end poles. The first turn may be either left or right. Contestants may run straight through the start/finish line upon entry.
3. The contestant must start and finish between the center markers. Failing to do so is a disqualification. Knocking over any of the poles or markers is a disqualification. A contestant may touch the pole.
4. All horses must start from the same end of the arena.

### Stake Race



## CONE WEAVING

1. The cone weaving pattern is to be run around five cones. Each cone will be placed 21 feet apart, with the first cone 21 feet from the timing line.
2. A horse may start to either the left or the right of the first cone and run the pattern accordingly. Each cone is to be weaved, turning the fifth cone and weaving back to the finish line.
3. A five second penalty will be given for each cone knocked over or moved from its original placement.
4. The rider will receive a no time if the horse jumps any of the cones or fails to weave cones (or placement of base of cone is knocked away) appropriately (off course).







## GAITED



### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. This set of classes is for GAITED horses including all non-trotting breeds of horses, ponies and mules that are ridden in Western OR English tack.
2. Classes will be shown as all age
  - a. Showmanship: Gaited and Saddle Seat horses show in the same class per exhibitor age.
  - b. Gaited Performance Pleasure classes combine Junior and Senior riders into one class based on type of horse.
3. The first-place winner in Gaited Showmanship, Gaited Equitation, Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type), and Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type) will be invited to participate in the Southern Regionals Show.

### SHOWMANSHIP IN-HAND

Showmanship is a class that rewards excellence in grooming, presentation of the equine for conformation evaluation, and the ability to complete a pattern of maneuvers. Refer to the Showmanship chapter for details of the class including maneuvers, scoring system. Acquaint horses with orange cones often used to mark the pattern. Posting of the patterns will be online one week prior to the show.

Gaited horses will be combined for the Junior and Senior divisions.

1. Attire: The appropriate attire for the breed or type of horse shown is expected and may be English or Western. Helmets may be worn but are not required since this is not a mounted class. English entries can wear a derby, homberg, or a snap brim hat for young men while Western dressed entries may wear a Western hat.
2. Appointments: A leather show halter with matching lead or bridle appropriate for the breed is correct for gaited horses. English exhibitors may carry a whip if it is no longer than 36 inches. Braiding ribbons in the mane or forelock is optional and respective of breed standards.
3. Refer to Showmanship chapter for pattern maneuvers and judging guidelines.
4. Patterns will be available online approximately 1 week prior to the horse show.
5. Further details on specific attire and appointments may be found in the Gaited sections outlined in the rulebook.

### GAITED: GENERAL AND APPOINTMENTS

The GAITED CLASSES include all non-trotting breeds of horses, ponies and mules that are ridden in Western OR English tack. Entries will be required to perform gaits appropriate to their respective breed. Trotting in these classes will be penalized.

1. Breed Classification: For performance classes
  - a. Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type) - Tennessee Walking Horse, Spotted Saddle Horses and crossbred horses, ponies and mules that perform the flat walk and running walk.
  - b. Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type) - Including but not limited to non-trotting breeds such as the Rocky Mountain Horse, Missouri Fox Trotter, Paso Fino, Icelandic Horses, and Marsh Tacky horses
2. Shoeing
  - a. Horses may be barefoot, light shod, flat shod or padded as long as the horse is shown in accordance with their respective shoeing regulations.
  - b. Padded Walking Horses and Racking Horses shoe size must not exceed 1 1/2 inches in width nor 1/2 inch in thickness
  - c. Metal hoof bands are permitted as long as they are placed at least 1/2 inch below the coronary band. EXCEPTION: Hoof bands are not allowed on lite shod horses.
  - d. No additional lead/weight is allowed above the weight of the shoe, nails, pads, and bands.
  - e. No action devices are allowed on the show grounds or show ring.
  - f. A DQP (Designated Qualified Person) may be hired for the horse show to check all gaited horses before entering the session of classes for soundness or the judge will assume that role if a DQP is not available.
3. Tack and Equipment: All tack, bits, and equipment that are accepted in the respective breed association and/or USEF will be permitted. Tack may be English or Western, but not a combination of both.
  - a. Bits: A curb or snaffle bit is permissible.
    - i. Shanks are measured from the very top of the metal to the very bottom of the metal, including the rings to which the cheek pieces and reins are attached. Severe bits will be penalized. Bits prohibited from competition include: bits with shanks over 9 1/2 inches long, gag bits with or without shanks, and hackamores.
  - b. Western
    - i. Saddle with horn and girth made of leather or neoprene. Saddle blanket and/or pad.
    - ii. Headstalls with a browband, one ear style or two ear style are permitted with no cavesson
    - iii. Closed reins (romal reins, no fingers allowed between reins) or Western-style, leather split reins with ends crossed over the withers (bridged) or reins made of horse hair are allowed.
    - iv. Breast collars are optional
  - c. English

- i. Acceptable English saddles may be: cutback, English all purpose, plantation, trooper or dressage style saddles of leather or synthetic materials. Girths may be leather, cord, neoprene, webbing or fabric girth.
    - ii. Black or white saddle pads, either square or shaped.
    - iii. English style single rein bridles, stitched or buckled, with cavesson and brow band
    - iv. Breast plates are optional
  - d. Equipment
    - i. Australian stock saddles and trail saddles are permissible.
    - ii. Martingales and tie downs are prohibited.
    - iii. Boots or bandages are prohibited
    - iv. Action devices of any kind and tail braces are prohibited on the show grounds or in the show ring
- 4. Rider Attire
  - a. All exhibitors must wear an ASTM approved helmet (“ASTM” stamp inside helmet) when mounted at any time while on the show grounds. Long hair should be secured in a bun at the nape of the neck or in a hair net.
  - b. Western attire for all gaited classes
    - i. Long-sleeved Western style shirt with collar, completely buttoned. A tie, bolo or neck scarf is permissible. Western style boots and pants with a belt/buckle are required. Denim pants are acceptable. Jodhpur breeches may be worn if covered by Western style chaps. Optional items include: jackets, vests, chaps, and gloves.
    - ii. Riders may show in western type spurs but may not carry a whip.
  - c. English Attire for all gaited classes
    - i. Walking Horse and Racking Pleasure Classes
      - A. At a minimum, attire should include a long-sleeved shirt (or short sleeve dress shirt covered by a coat) with a collar and long, men’s tie, jodhpur pants with tie-downs/underpasses, and solid color boots with heels. Vests and gloves can provide a more finished look.
      - B. Industry dress standard typically requires a long tailed day coat that contrasts the jodhpur pant color or a matching coat with the jodhpur pants (called a “habit”) are acceptable. A matching or contrasting colored vest is often worn under the coat. Habits are preferred in equitation but shall not determine placings if all exhibitors do not wear a habit.
    - ii. Non-Walking/Non-Racking – attire accepted in the respective breed association and/or USEF will be permitted. Examples include:
      - A. Paso Fino: Long-sleeve collared shirt with a blazer or vest, long pants, English style boots
      - B. Icelandic: Hunt coat or blazer, breeches, tall boots
    - iii. English type spurs (with or without rowels) are optional, according to discipline. Riding whips are optional.

## GAITED EQUITATION

Class Routine: Riders shall enter the arena one at a time to perform the pattern (optional elements of the pattern below). Rail work may be asked at the discretion of the judge. The judge may place the class based on the ability of the youth to perform the pattern accurately while maintaining excellent position.

Patterns may include the following actions:

1. Address Reins (English only)
2. Backing the horse a *specified number of steps or horse length(s)*
3. Individual performance on rail; any or all gaits and test may be required. See rider in motion from both front and rear at all gaits.
4. Ride Without Stirrups: Any or all gaits may be requested.
5. Perform a circle, figure eight or serpentine of variable size and speed in the center of the arena.

Position for Gaited Equitation

- a. Riders seat should be a natural, coordinated and comfortable riding position, and should in no way be rigid or exaggerated. Rider should convey the impression of effective and easy control, with the general appearance of being able to ride for a considerable length of time with pleasure. Ring generalship shall be taken into consideration by the judge. The appearance, presentation and alertness of the rider and his/her mount make the overall picture of utmost importance.
- a. Hands should be held in an easy position; waist or elbow height, over pommel, with palms in line with the wrist, slightly turned toward body, wrist rounded slightly. The hand(s) should be in unison with the horse’s mouth, showing adaptability as well as control. How and where the horse carries his head determines the height the hand(s) are held above the horse’s withers. Hands and wrists should be flexible and not held extremely separated. Hands should be in a comfortable waist-level position, depending on how and where the horse carries its head. The use of the hands should be smooth and gradual without jerking or pumping at any gait.
  - i. English: Two hands should be used for English riding, the hands should be in a V shape. The fingers should be closed over reins, with firm but not rigid pressure between thumb and index fingers to secure the reins. Closed reins shall be used for English riding using both hands on the reins. The bight of the rein should be on the off side.
  - ii. Western: Upper arms should fall naturally from the shoulder toward the hip bones and should be flexible, never clutched to the body, extended forward or spread away from the body. Exhibitors may ride in the gaited equitation and pleasure classes with one hand OR two hands with the following guidelines:
    1. Western riders on horses 5 years old and younger should show with two hands using a snaffle or bosal on these less seasoned, younger horses.

2. Horses older than 5 years of age can be ridden one handed (split or romal reins) or two handed with split reins that have the bight of the rein crossing over the horse's withers. Consult this website for tips on how to correctly hold and ride with western reins. <https://www.aqha.com/-/rein-holds-for-all-styles-of-horseback-riding - Snaffle AQHA:Rein Holds>  
Riding well with one hand may represent a higher level of difficulty to the judge, particularly in equitation.
- b. Basic Position. To obtain proper position, rider should sit comfortably in the middle of the saddle and find his/her center of gravity by sitting with a slight bend at the knees without use of the stirrups. While in this position, have stirrup leathers adjusted to fit so that irons will be under ball of foot with even pressure on entire width of sole and center of iron. The foot position will be natural and comfortable if the knee and thigh are rolled inward and the heel is slightly lower than the toes. From the front or rear view, the lower leg will be held naturally away from the horse, depending on the anatomy of the rider and the size of the horse. Knee should rest against saddle.
- c. Position in Motion. The position in motion should be natural, coordinated and graceful, attained only with practice. From the side view a straight line can be drawn perpendicular to the ground through the rider's head, neck, shoulder, hip and ankle. The rider's toe should never be any more forward than his knee, thereby keeping his/her center of balance directly above his/her feet and ankles. This basic recommended position should be maintained at all gaits.

## GAITED PLEASURE

1. General
  - a. Gaited breeds may show in only one of the two pleasure gaited classes offered.
  - b. It is imperative that gaited horses give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride. Easy ground covering action is desired. Judges must penalize any horse with laboring action. Pulling, head tossing, going sideways and switching tail to be penalized. Manners and suitability as a pleasure mount are paramount. Light contact with horse's mouth must be maintained. Bumping and pumping of the reins will be penalized.
  - c. All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness.
  - d. Class Routine. Entries will enter the ring, turning to the right, and proceed counter- clockwise. The class proceeds at least once around the ring at each gait, and on command, will reverse and repeat. Entries will line up on command. Horses may be required to back.
2. Gaited Pleasure (Walking Horse Type)
  - a. The Walking Horse is an easy gaited pleasure horse. Horse should be suitable to rider, serviceably sound, and a pleasure to ride. This pleasure class is for Tennessee Walking Horse, Spotted Saddle Horses, mules and crossbred horses who perform the flat walk and running walk.
  - b. Gaits that are called for:
    - i. Flat Walk: True, square and flat with a cadenced motion with four independent steps. The forelegs should move straight, breaking at the knees and reaching forward. The motion of the hind foot moving over the front track creates overstride. The rear legs should follow through close to the ground in a comfortable overstriding step. In the flat walk the horse should have a vertical head nod from the withers, nodding up and down where the neck and head moves, not just the head. The horse should carry his neck higher than his topline, but not so high that there is straining or hollowing out in the back.
    - ii. Running Walk: An easy, ground covering gait. It should be smooth, cadenced, consistent, and a four beat gait with more overreach from behind and a head nod as described for the flat walk. Extreme speed, labored action or pacing will be penalized.
3. Gaited Pleasure (Non-Walking Horse Type)
  - a. Horse must not be of the walking or racking type. Horse or pony should be suitable to rider, serviceably sound, and a pleasure to ride.
  - b. Gaits that are called for:
    - i. Flat Walk: True, square and flat with a cadenced motion
    - ii. Slow Gait: An easy, ground covering gait (corta, tölt, fox trot, single foot, etc). It should be smooth, cadenced, consistent, and a four beat gait.
    - iii. Fast Gait: A more advanced ground covering gait. Extreme speed, action and pacing will be penalized.

## RANCH HORSE DIVISION



### APPOINTMENTS

- A. **PERSONAL:** Clothing must be clean and neat. Riders shall wear western boots. Shirts with a collar and long sleeves are required. Spurs, chaps, or similar equipment are optional.

It is required that all students in all divisions of Georgia 4-H horse shows wear equine approved protective headgear meeting accepted safety standards (ASTM/SEI). The student and parent/guardian are responsible for assuring that their head gear complies with safety standards. It is not the responsibility of the officials to check head gear. Protective head gear is appropriate for any class or division and will not be viewed as inappropriate attire or cause penalization in competition.

- B. **TACK:** Horse shall be shown with a stock saddle, but silver tack equipment will not count over a good-working outfit. A snaffle, curb, half-breed or spade bit is permissible; but a martingale, tie-down or nose band is prohibited. Nosebands and tie-downs are permitted in roping events; however, these cannot have any bare metal in contact with the horse's head. No wire curbs, regardless of how taped, nor chin strap narrower than one-half inch will be permitted. Chain curbs are permissible but must be of the standard flat variety with no twist, and must meet the approval of the judge. A hackamore or snaffle bit may only be used on junior horses (5 years or younger). In Ranch Sorting, a snaffle bit or hackamore may be used no matter the age of the horse and may be ridden two handed. "Hackamore" means that a horse will be ridden ONLY with a rawhide braided or leather braided or rope bosal. Absolutely no iron will be permitted under the jaws, regardless of how padded or taped. Mechanical hackamores are prohibited except in the roping classes.

Closed reins are not allowed, with the exception of romal reins in Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Reining and Working Cow Horse. Roping reins may be used in Ranch Roping, Ranch Sorting and Ranch Trail. Romal means an extension of braided or round material attached to closed reins. This extension shall be carried in the free hand with a 16-inch (40 cm) spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the romal. When using romal reins, the rider's hand shall be around the reins with the wrists kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top and the fingers closed lightly around the reins. When using a romal, no fingers between the reins are allowed. The free hand may not be used to adjust the rider's length of rein in any reining class. During reining, the use of the free hand while holding the romal to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the reining hand is considered to be the use of two hands and a score of 0 will be applied, with the exception of any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern. In all other classes, including the reined portion of working cow horse, the free hand may be used to adjust the rider's length of rein. The romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or to signal or cue the horse in any way. Any infraction of this rule shall be penalized severely by the judge.

- C. Protective boots and bandages are permitted in reining, working cow horse, roping and ranch sorting.  
D. No braided or banded manes or tail extensions. No hoof polish. Trimming inside ears is discouraged. Trimming bridle path is allowed, as is trimming fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair.  
E. More information and patterns are available by visiting: [www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com).

### RANCH GROUND HANDLING- CLOVERLEAF, JUNIOR AND SENIOR

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

10. Demonstrate a sidepass
  11. Back the horse while handler remains stationary
  12. Send horse in a circle (either direction), around a marker, or over a pole.  
(\*Curve = any non-straight line including, but not limited to: any change of direction from gradual turns to distinct turns, circles or portions of circles, or multiple curves to create a shape.)
- C. Poles, barrels, and cones may be used as markers to define maneuver locations and/or parameters. However, the pattern should not take on the appearance of an "In-hand Trail" class. Hitting/touching/moving these objects will not be scored as penalties, but taken into account when scoring the handler's abilities.
- D. Exhibitors may be asked to work from both the left and right side of the horse during any of the listed maneuvers (switching hands on the lead is permitted). Exhibitors may touch the horse to initiate any lateral movement and when asked to lower the horse's head. The judge will recognize added degree of difficulty of not touching the horse and this will be reflected in the maneuver score.
- E. Scoring will be on the basis of 0 to 100 with 70 denoting an average performance. Judges will assess each maneuver on a scale from -1 ½ to +1 ½ with ½ point increments in between. In addition to the maneuver score, exhibitors can incur penalty points as listed below.
- F. Penalties
1. One-half (½) point
    1. Break of gait (walk or trot) up to 1 full stride
  2. One (1) point
    1. Touching horse other than when allowed. It is acceptable to touch the horse to sidepass, move the hindquarters, and lower the head.
  3. Two (2) points
    1. Freeze up: complete loss of forward, backward or lateral movement within a maneuver
    2. Break of gait (walk or trot) for more than 1 full stride
    3. Use of hand on halter in any manner
    - Touching horse with lead (first offense)
    4. Incorrect or incomplete answer to the judge's question
    5. Artificial or overdone showing
  4. Five (5) points
    1. Inappropriate Body condition score: Clearly below a 4 or clearly above a 7
    2. Balking, continued spooking, kicking, biting, rearing, striking
    3. Failure to complete a maneuver
    4. Leaving out a maneuver
    5. Touching horse with end of lead (second offense)
  5. Zero (0) score
    1. Consistent Lameness
    2. Illegal attire
    3. Illegal tack
    4. Abuse

#### WORKING RANCH RAIL- CLOVERLEAF, JUNIOR, AND SENIOR

- A. The working ranch rail class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride and should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse. The horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The movement of the working ranch rail horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. Maximum credit should be given to the horse that has a natural flowing stride and consistent, ground covering gaits. Transitions should be performed when requested, with smoothness and responsiveness. The ideal working ranch rail horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait. The horse should be ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint while being responsive to the rider and making timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be soft in the bridle, yield to contact and shall not be shown on a full drape of rein. Riders are encouraged to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working pace while under control by the rider. The horse shall be balanced and appear willing and a pleasure to ride in a group situation.
- B. Gaits
1. Walk - the walk is a natural, flat footed, four-beat gait. The gait is rhythmic and ground-covering. As in all gaits, the horse should display a level, or slightly above level topline with a bright, attentive expression.
  2. Extended Walk - the extended walk is an obvious lengthening of stride that will naturally increase the pace. The horse should move in a natural manner (not a running walk) as if it were moving across an open pasture.
  3. Trot- the trot is a natural two-beat gait demonstrating more forward motion than the western jog.
  4. Extended Trot- the extended trot is an obvious lengthening of the stride with a definite increase in pace. The horse should be moving in a manner as if it were covering a large area on a ranch with an above level topline.
  5. Lope- the lope is a three-beat gait. The lope should be relaxed and smooth with a natural, forward moving stride.

6. **Extended Lope-** the extended lope is not a run or a race but should be an obvious lengthening of the stride, demonstrating a forward, working speed. The horse should display an above level topline with a bright, attentive expression

C. **Class Requirements**

1. All exhibitors will work as a group. Individuals working off the rail will not be penalized and passing is permissible.
  2. Horses must work both ways of the ring at the walk, trot and lope. Horses must work at least one way of the ring at the extended trot and extended lope. At the option of the judge, horses may be asked to extend their stride at the walk.
  3. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described in GAITS with an emphasis on forward, free-flowing, and ground-covering movement.
  4. At the extended trot and lope, the exhibitor may post or stand in the stirrups.
  5. Touching or holding the saddle horn during any extended gait is acceptable.
  6. Horses are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). They may be required to reverse at the walk or trot at the discretion of the judge but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope.
  7. Horses are required to back easily and stand quietly. Horses may be brought to the center or backed on the rail.
  8. The rider shall not be required to dismount except in the event the judge wishes to check equipment.
- D. **Faults scored according to severity:** Too slow (any gait), Excessive speed (any gait), Over-bridled (nose behind the vertical), Head carried too low such that the poll is below the withers, Out of frame, Head carried too high, Break of gait, Wrong lead or out of lead, Failure to take the appropriate gait when called, Opening mouth excessively, Draped reins, Use of spurs forward of the cinch, Canted at the lope, Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)
- E. **Faults which will be cause for disqualification:** Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical excessively and consistently while the horse is in motion, or otherwise showing the appearance of intimidation.

**RANCH RIDING – CLOVERLEAF, JUNIOR AND SENIOR.**

The purpose of Ranch Riding horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse.

- A. The horse's performance should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working speed while under control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded and horse does not have to be shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements, and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. Cloverleaf youth show at walk and jog only.
- B. **Gaits**
  1. The walk is a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait. The horse must move straight and true at the walk. The walk must be alert, with a stride of reasonable length in keeping with the size of the horse.
  2. The jog is a smooth, ground-covering two-beat diagonal gait. The horse works from one pair of diagonals to the other pair. The jog should be square, balanced and with straight, forward movement of the feet. Horses walking with their back feet and trotting in the front are not considered performing the required gait. When asked to extend the jog, it moves out with the same smooth way of going.
  3. The lope is an easy, rhythmical, three-beat gait. Horses moving to the left should lope on the left lead. Horses moving to the right should lope on the right lead. Horses traveling at a four-beat gait are not considered to be performing at a proper lope. The horse should lope with a natural stride and appear relaxed and smooth. It should be ridden at a speed that is a natural way of going. The head should be carried at an angle which is natural and suitable to the horse's conformation at all gaits.
- C. **Requirements**
  1. Each horse will work individually, performing both required and optional maneuvers, and scored on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance.
  2. The required maneuvers will include the walk, jog, and lope both directions: and the extended jog and lope at least one direction; as well as stops, turn to change directions, and back.
  3. Three optional maneuvers may include a side pass, turns of 360 or more, change of lead (simple or flying), walk, jog, or lope over a pole(s); or some reasonable combination of maneuvers that would be reasonable for a ranch horse to perform.
  4. The maneuvers may be arranged in various combinations with final approval by the judge.
  5. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described above, with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
  6. No time limit.
  7. One of the suggested 15 patterns may be used, however a judge may utilize a different pattern as long as all required maneuvers are included plus 3 or more optional maneuvers are included.
  8. Failure to perform a required maneuver will result in a horse placing below all other horses that perform all maneuvers.

**RANCH REINING** – Refer to AQHA Handbook for more details and patterns

- A. Each contestant will perform the required pattern individually and separately. All horses will be judged immediately upon entering the arena and judging will cease after the last maneuver. Any fault incurred prior to the commencement of a pattern



- will be scored accordingly.
- B. To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willfully guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely. Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control, and therefore faulted according to severity of deviation. Credit will be given for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority in performing the various maneuvers while using controlled speed. The horse/rider team's overall performance should be credited for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of performing various maneuvers while using controlled speed which raises the degree of difficulty and makes the horse/rider team more exciting and pleasing to watch.
- C. Scoring will be on the basis of 0-Infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. The judge has the discretion to excuse any participant that has not completed the reining pattern in an appropriate time.
- D. Penalties:
- One-half (1/2) penalties: Start the circle or exiting a rollback at a jog for up to two strides; delayed change of lead by one stride where the lead change is required by the pattern description; failure to remain a minimum of twenty feet from the wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or rollback; over spin or under spin up to 1/8 turn
- 1 point penalties: Overbridled (per maneuver); out of frame (per maneuver); out of lead in the circles, figure eights or around the end of the arena (this penalty is cumulative and will be deducted for each quarter of a circle the horse is out of lead); over or under spinning 1/8 to 1/4 turn; slipping rein
- 2 point penalties: Break of gait; freeze up in spins or rollbacks; failure to stop or walk before executing a lope departure on trot-in patterns; failure to be in a lope prior to the first marker on run-in patterns; failure to completely pass the specified marker before initiating a stop position; trotting beyond two strides but less than 1/2 circle or 1/2 length of the arena
- 5 point penalties: Spurring in front of cinch; Blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear or praise
- 10-point penalty: Unnatural ranch horse appearance (horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver).
- Off Pattern (OP): Breaking pattern; inclusion of maneuver (e.g. over or under-spinning, backing more than two (2) strides, etc.); trotting in excess of 1/2 circle or 1/2 length of the arena; repeated blatant disobedience; use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins. Exhibitors cannot place above others who complete the pattern correctly.
- Disqualification: Lameness; abuse; illegal equipment; disrespect or misconduct; leaving working area before pattern is complete; improper western attire; fall of horse/rider.

#### HERD WORK

This class will be judged on the Horse's natural cutting ability but the Exhibitor can handle the horse in a ranch type atmosphere.

- A. Exhibitors are permitted to hold romels and tail in one hand while holding horn with other hand. If exhibitor chooses to show this way they must enter the arena with reins in one hand and are not allowed to touch rein with off hand at anytime during the class. If exhibitor comes in with both hands on the romel they are required to keep both hands on the reins, the way they entered the pen.
- B. Class procedure
1. Judging will start when the contestant crosses the time line. Horse should approach herd with no hesitation, weaving or resistance. Contestant may enter either side of herd.
  2. The horse should show a great deal of expression but no ill will towards the animal. The degree of difficulty, eye appeal, and amount of courage in staying on a tough cow will be taken into consideration.
  3. A greater amount of time actually spent working cattle in 2 1/2 minutes will have a positive affect on the total score. If entry doesn't a minimum of 2 cows and use no more than three (3) head of cattle before the 2 1/2 minute time limit, the judge must whistle out the entry.
  4. Contestant must make one (1) deep cut out of the herd. The horse should work quietly, but alertly causing very little disturbance in the herd or the animal being brought out. Credit will be given for driving cattle, clearing the herd by a sufficient distance and setting up a cow while holding it in a working position as near to the center of the arena as possible.
  5. After the cut is made, the horse should display natural cutting ability. Contestant may handle the horse with reins; if the horse shows no resistance to the riders cues, no penalty will be given. Horses must respond in a positive manner and be responsive to the rider. The horse should stop using its haunches and be free on the front end when moving across themselves. Entry shall get off the cow as close to the middle of the arena as possible to show control of the cow.
- C. Run Content
- + Above Average ✓ Average - Below Average

1. HERD WORK- Each time a contestant enters the herd to make a cut the judge will score according to how the horse handles each cut.
  2. CONTROL OF COW- The horses ability to stop and turn the cow in the middle part of the arena.
  3. DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY- How tough or easy the cow is working or attempting to go back to the herd.
  4. EYE APPEAL -The style or how easy or how hard it is for the horse to show its natural cutting ability. A horse showing softness in the mouth and body when handled will be credited in eye appeal.
  5. AMOUNT OF WORKING TIME- The actual time spent working the cattle.
  6. AMOUNT OF COURAGE- The horse's ability to challenge the cow.
  7. LOOSE REIN- Horses that do the job on a loose rein, and are not consistently being helped will be credited.
  8. EXCESSIVE HERD HELP- If the herd holders keep the cow from going back to the herd or turn back help is stopping the cow for the contestant. Entry will not be penalized if turn back is pressuring a cow that does not move or is having to direct noise towards the cow to make it move or keep it in working area of the arena.
- D. Penalty Points
- 1 POINT PENALTIES
1. (Miss) Loss of working advantage. - When a horse goes by or misses to the degree that he loses his position to maintain control of cow.
  2. Noise directed by contestant towards cattle. Any noise directed at cattle will be penalized one (1) point for each occurrence.
  3. Working out of position. The position of the horse in relation to the cow being worked, whether too short or too long while working to control the cow.
  4. Toe, foot or stirrup on the shoulder. A one (1) point penalty will be charged for each time the toe, foot or stirrup actually touches the horse's shoulder.
- 3 POINT PENALTIES
1. Hot Quit. A contestant may quit an animal when it is obviously stopped, obviously turned away or is obviously behind the turn back horses. A 3 point penalty should be charged if the animal is quit under any other circumstances.
  2. Cattle picked-up/running into or scattering the herd. Each time a horse runs into the herd or scatters herd while working or picking up cattle through fault of horse, they will be penalized three (3) points. The entire cow must enter the working area.
  3. Failure to make a deep cut. Each horse is required to enter the herd sufficiently to show their ability to make a cut. One such cut will satisfy this rule.
  4. Back Fence. The horse will be penalized each time the back fence is used to stop or turn the cow.
- 5 POINT PENALTIES
1. Horse Quitting Cow. When the horse refuses to stop or turn the cow.
  2. Losing the cow. When the horse lets the animal that is being worked get back to the herd.
  3. Changing cattle after a specific commitment. When rider changes cattle after visibly committing to a specific cow.
  4. Failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd. When horse clears the herd with two (2) or more cattle and fails to separate a single animal before quitting. No penalty if time expires. This rule only applies when making a cut.
  5. Blatant disobedience. Kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking or obvious insubordination.
  6. Spurring or hitting in front of the cinch. Spurs or reins of rider must actually make contact with horse in front of the cinch for this rule to apply.
- 0- SCORE
1. Horse turn tail. If the horse turns the wrong way with tail toward the animal being worked.
  2. Using two hands on the reins in a bridle. Having two (2) hands on the reins in any bit other than a snaffle or bosal.
  3. Fingers between the reins in a bridle. More than one (1) finger between reins when showing in any bridle other than a snaffle or bosal D. Illegal equipment. Any equipment that is deemed illegal by ARHA rule book.
  4. Leaving the arena before time expires. Any rider who allows his horse to quit working or leaves the working area before time expires.
  5. Fall of horse or rider. A horse is considered to have fallen when hips and shoulders are touching the ground and all four (4) legs are extended the same way. Rider has fallen when he/she is no longer astride the horse.
  6. Working over three (3) head of cattle in the 2½ minutes.

\*A judge may blow the whistle at any time during the work if they feel the cattle or horse are being mishandled, abused or deem the situation unsafe.

#### RANCH WORKING COW HORSE-BOXING ONLY

- A. Ranch working cow horse exhibitors are allotted one minute and 45 seconds to complete the work. When there is one minute left, the announcer will announce, "one minute remaining." At one minute and 45 seconds, the announcer will call for time. There are three parts to the work: boxing the cow; setting up the cow and driving it down the fence to the opposite end of the arena; and boxing it at the opposite end of the arena. There will be no pattern work prior to working the cow.
- B. There is no expectation that the exhibitor will make a fence turn, rather the drive down the fence demonstrates correct position and control around the corner.



- C. Part One- Boxing the Cow - the rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate, and signal for their cow to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for a sufficient amount of time to demonstrate the horse's ability to hold the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate his horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.
- D. Part Two - Set Up Cow and Drive Down the Fence to Opposite End of Arena - After the cow has been controlled on the entry end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow up for driving down the side of the arena. When coming out of corner, the horse shall be close enough to the cow to demonstrate control with the cow against the fence. This distance and control should be maintained for approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the arena. Rider will then stop and release the cow and move horse toward center of arena to set the cow up for boxing.
- E. Part Three - Boxing the Cow at Opposite End of Arena - The exhibitor will again control or "hold" the cow for the remainder of time at end of the arena to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow.
- F. Credits and Penalties. All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.
- G. Each horse/rider team is scored between 1-100 points and automatically begins the run with a score of 70 points. The horse/rider team is scored on the quality of each maneuver (e.g., -1  $\frac{1}{2}$  extremely poor; -1 very poor, -1/2 poor; 0 correct, +1/2 good, +1 very good; and +1  $\frac{1}{2}$  excellent). Plusses and minuses are a reflection of the smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority of the horse/rider team when performing the various maneuvers. Penalties may be accrued for incorrect maneuver execution.
- H. During "boxing," credit will be given for the horse's expression and its 'cow sense' (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow; the amount of work actually done; and the degree of difficulty of the work.
- I. Credit will be given during "Set Up Cow and Drive Down Fence" for rating the cow; blocking the cow with pressure towards the end of the arena, driving the cow with control down the side of the arena; and controlling a difficult cow.
- J. Penalties will be assessed as follows:
  - 1 Point Penalties: Loss of working advantage, working out of position; slipping rein
  - 3 point Penalties: Knocking down the cow without having advantage; losing a cow while boxing.
  - 5 Point Penalties: Spurring in front of the cinch; blatant disobedience; use of either hand to instill fear/praise; use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore) per maneuver.
  - Off Pattern (OP): Turning tail; failure to attempt a part of the class; Leaving arena before run is complete; repeated blatant disobedience; schooling after entering the arena prior to calling of cow; schooling horse between cows (if new cow is awarded); cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.
  - Disqualification (DQ): lameness, abuse, illegal equipment, disrespect or misconduct, improper western attire, fall of horse/rider.

## RANCH ROPING

The idea of this class is to show the ability of the horse and rider's skill in handling cattle as if they were doctoring injured or sick cattle. Cattle should be handled as calmly and slowly as possible. The judge should judge this class as if the cattle belonged to him or her. Entry does not have to separate the cow from herd and should not receive credit for separation from herd. If the cow is separated from the herd, there should be no excessive running or cutting of the cow.

- A. This is a judged event with a 2-minute time limit. There shall be a 30 second warning given prior to the end of the run. The rope must be thrown and the contestant may rebuild and throw an unlimited number of loops. No credit will be given for additional loops after a successful catch of any part of the animal. The honda on the rope used must be of a breakaway design. Ropes may not be tied hard and fast to the saddle horn.
- B. The arena for this event will be shortened with the addition of portable panels. The exhibition area should be normal width of the arena (usually 100 to 150') by 60' 45' - 75'. Horse and rider must start from an entrance gate which will be opposite from where ten (10) calves/yearlings are held as a herd with each bearing a number 0 - 9. A random draw will be used to select the calf to be roped, which will be announced to the contestant when the horse enters the arena gate.
- C. The show committee will provide at least one herd holder. The sole duty of the herd holders is to settle the cattle between runs.
- D. The contestant must make a legal catch (both horns, half head or around the neck) of the designated calf and dally up. When the calf breaks free from the honda, the Flag Judge will signal the end of the run.
- E. Scoring will be on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance.
- F. Each maneuver will be scored from a plus +3 to a -3 in  $\frac{1}{2}$  point increments.
  - 1. Ability to sort
  - 2. Rating
  - 3. Stopping
  - 4. Ability to rope out of the herd without disturbing other cattle
  - 5. Dallying
- G. Penalties
  - 1. Ten (10) point penalty
    - (1) Roping any portion of the cow other than the head/neck
  - 2. Five (5) point penalty
    - (1) Multiple loop run (penalty may be assessed for each rebuild with a maximum of 15 points taken)
    - (2) Loss of cow (re-cut in the herd)
    - (3) Excessive running/scattering of the herd

(4) Blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, rearing or striking

3. Three (3) point penalty

(1) Holding cut too long without roping

4. One (1) point penalty

(1) Loss of working advantage

5. Zero (0) score / DQ

(1) Running into or over cattle

(2) Schooling

(3) Whipping or hitting horse with rope

(4) Thrown from horse

(5) Fall to ground

(6) Loss of rope

(7) Bucking

(8) Roping wrong cow

(9) Roping more than 1 cow with the same loop

#### RANCH SORTING

Ranch sorting is a timed event class consisting of two riders with the objective of sorting ten head of cattle from one pen into another in a designated sequence. The team that sorts the most cattle in the correct order with the fastest time will be declared the winner. Points will be awarded based on the number of teams entered.

Teams may enter either a Junior or Senior Ranch Sorting Team. A composite team (different counties represented are acceptable) is eligible to compete, but must be either junior or senior. There will be no mixed teams. Contestants are limited to entering and participating on one team. Each contestant is responsible for entering and paying his/her share of the entry fee and indicating in the notes section who his/her team member is. A cattle fee will be charged per exhibitor. Entries must list the name and county of each team member; if all contestants' information is not listed online at the time of entry, the entry will not be accepted. Any substitutions at the show will be subject to a \$25 cash fee (see rule #6, page 16).

- A. The basic concept of ranch sorting is that there are ten numbered cattle, 0-9, and two unnumbered cattle for a total 12 head at the beginning of a run behind a foul line in an arena with two people mounted on the other side of the foul line.
- B. Ranch sorting will take place between two pens of approximately equal size. Recommended sorting area to be 50' - 60' in diameter with no 90 degree corners, i.e. 60' round pen or octagonal "stop sign" design.
- C. The start foul line will be recommended as a 12' - 16' opening between the two pens.
- D. Each team will be given two minutes; a one-minute warning will be issued by the announcer/timer. The official time of each run is determined by the amount of time used until all 10 cattle are sorted or the time limit has expired. Time will continue until all cattle are sorted in the correct order or the time limit is reached, either of which becomes the official time for that team.
- E. A lap timer is to be used in all sorting classes to break ties where the cattle count is equal in runs of less than 10 cattle sorted. The stop watch used for lap time purposes will also be the back-up timer in the event of a malfunction of the official timer. As each numbered cow crosses the start/foul line, cumulative time will be notated (for instance, first cow crosses at the :30 mark, second cow crosses at the :42 second mark), continuing until all 10 cattle have crossed, or the two-minute time limit has expired, whichever comes first. At the end of the two-minute limit, if more than one team has sorted an equal number of cattle, less than 10, cumulative times on the final cow will be used to break the tie. For instance, if Team 1 and Team 2 each have a cattle count of 8, but Team 1's final cow crossed the start/foul line at 1:47 seconds, and Team 2's final cow crossed the start/foul line at 1:52 seconds, Team 1 will be declared the winner.
- F. There will be a minimum of one judge for sorting, to be positioned evenly with the foul line.
- G. All cattle will be bunched on the cattle side of the gate within the designated area before the time begins. At the conclusion of each run, the judge will designate the need to bunch cattle.
- H. The judge will raise the flag to signal when the arena is ready. The flag will drop when the nose of the first horse crosses the start/foul line and the announcer will provide the number to be sorted first. The riders will be given their number instantly. Any delay in crossing the foul line may result in a "no-time" for the team. With particular interest, that no one or two cattle are isolated.
- I. All cattle must have approved back or neck numbers. The cattle are sorted in order. If any part of a numbered cow crosses the start/foul line prior to its correct order, then the team receives a no-time. If any part of a sorted cow re-crosses the start/foul line the team will be disqualified. If any part of any unnumbered cow crosses the foul line before the tenth cow is cleanly sorted, it will result in a no-time.
- J. The order of sorting is determined by the drawing of a random number by the announcer/timer, and then that cow must be sorted first. For instance, if 5 is drawn as the first number, 5 is sorted first, then cow 6 must be sorted, 7, 8, 9, 0, 1 and so on. A cow is considered sorted when the entire cow is completely across the start/foul line.
- K. If there is a malfunction of the sorting pen or a numbered cow jumps any fence and either leaves the arena or ends up in the opposite pen, but did not pass through the gate, it will result in a re-ride for that team at the end of the herd, (assuming it was not caused by roughing of the cattle). In the instance of a re-ride, exhibitors will receive a full two-minute clock, but the exhibitors time cannot be improved. However, the number of cattle sorted during the allotted time can be improved. (Example: If a team had five (5) head in 55 seconds when the cow jumped the fence, they would get a re-ride with the full two-minute clock. In the re-ride, the same team sorted ten (10) head in 50 seconds. Their official time would be ten (10) head in 55 seconds).

- L. Should a herd be numbered incorrectly or have too many non-numbered cattle, the team(s) will receive a re-ride at the end of that set of cattle. If a team is given a number that has already been used within a given herd, a rerun must be given immediately, using the correct number within that same herd.
- M. Riders must alternate between sorting the cattle, or the team will be disqualified. For example, rider one will sort the first cow called out, then rider two will sort the second, and then rider one sorts the third cow, etc. No rider can sort two cattle in a row.
- N. Any unnecessary roughness to cattle or horses or unsportsmanlike conduct may result in disqualification.
- O. Any excessive use of a whip, rope, crop, bat or reins anywhere on the horse will be cause for disqualification.
- P. A snaffle bit, curb bit or hackamore may be used no matter the age of the horse and may be ridden two handed.

#### RANCH TRAIL- CLOVERLEAF, JUNIOR AND SENIOR

- A. This class is designed to show the horse's ability to navigate and cope with the various situations and obstacles encountered in everyday ranch work. It is designed to show a horse's ability to perform these obstacles with a willing attitude. The horse is judged on cleanness and promptness with which the obstacles are negotiated, ability to negotiate obstacles correctly, and attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse while negotiating the course. Cloverleaf youth show at walk and jog only. Whenever possible, realistic or natural obstacles should be used. The course can be laid outside of the arena using natural terrain. However, if a ground tie is specified in the course, the course must be set up in an enclosed arena. The judge must walk the course and has the right and duty to alter the course in any manner. The judge may remove or change any obstacle he deems unsafe or non-negotiable prior to the start of the class. If at any time a trail obstacle is deemed to be unsafe by the judge, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous works for that class. At least two or three obstacles will be designated as tie breakers and shall be selected prior to the beginning of the competition. One of the mandatory obstacles should be used as the first tie breaker.
- B. Tack and Equipment:
  - 1. Ranch work equipment and attire is recommended, but show equipment and attire will not be penalized.
  - 2. Wearing gloves, leather or fabric, is optional. Roping gloves may be worn for the duration of the class or may be worn only for the roping and log drag obstacles.
- C. Roping reins, split reins or romal reins are permitted, but roping reins and romals must be used with a snap attachment if a ground tie is in the Ranch Trail course. Use of hands: Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed, except to work with an obstacle. Refer to the Stock Seat division for diagrams on legal and illegal methods of holding split and romal reins and/or online at: [AQHA Correct Handholds for reins](#). Two hands may be used when using a snaffle bit or bosal on a horse or pony 5 years of age or younger.
- D. The horse will be shown at a ground-covering walk, trot (or natural gait), and lope between the obstacles and credit will be given for performing these gaits on the correct lead with an alert attitude. The walk may be judged as part of an obstacle. Between obstacles, at least 30 feet should be allowed for the trot, and at least 50 feet for the lope. Gaits between obstacles will be scored as part of the next obstacle. Extending the trot or natural gait may also be asked. The extended trot may be ridden with the rider either posting or standing in the stirrups to the front of the saddle. Holding the saddle horn is permissible, at this gait, as might be done in open terrain. No additional credit will be given for unnecessary/additional maneuvers (such as sidepassing to and from an obstacle). The judge may ask a rider to move on to the next obstacle if the horse/rider is unable to complete the maneuver in a reasonable time or if the judge deems that the rider is, or will be, in an unsafe situation. The judge may also ask the rider to move on after a third refusal at an obstacle.
  - 1. A rider will lose 15 points if an obstacle is attempted and not completed.
- E. The maximum points a rider can lose on any one attempted obstacle is 15 points. A rider may elect to skip an obstacle without disqualification. He/she may do so with the judge assigning a 20 point penalty. Scoring will be on the basis of 0-infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each obstacle will receive an obstacle score that should be added or subtracted from 70 and is subject to a penalty that should be subtracted. Each obstacle will be scored on the following basis, ranging from plus 1 ½ to minus 1 ½: -1 ½ extremely poor, -1 very poor, -½ needs improvement, 0 correct, +½ good, +1 very good, +1 ½ excellent. Obstacle scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points. Penalties should be assessed per occurrence as follows:
  - 1. One-half (½) Point
    - 1) Each tick of log, pole, cone, plant, or any component of the obstacle.
  - 2. One (1) Point
    - 1) Each bite of or hit of or stepping on a log, cone, plant or any component of the obstacle.
    - 2) Incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for two strides or less.
    - 3) Both front or hind feet in a single-strided slot or space at a walk or jog.
    - 4) Skipping over or failing to step into required space.
      - \*\*With the nature of the uneven/random spacing of some step-overs, if the horse can navigate the obstacle cleanly without stepping into every little space, that is fine. I.e., not every space in a step-over is a "required" space.
    - 5) Split pole in lope over.
    - 6) Incorrect number of strides, if specified
    - 7) Each step, up to three steps, moved during ground tie or picking up hooves.
  - 3. Three (3) Points
    - 1) Incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for more than 2 strides.
    - 2) Out of lead or break of gait at lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead).
    - 3) Knocking down an elevated pole, cone, barrel, plant, obstacle, or severely disturbing an obstacle.

- 4) Stepping outside the confines of, falling or jumping off or out of obstacle, with designated boundaries, with one foot.
  4. Five (5) Points
    - 1) Dropping slicker, log rope, or object required to be carried on course.
    - 2) Dropping lariat anywhere on course other than after completion of roping obstacle.
    - 3) Each refusal, balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing.
    - 4) Letting go of gate.
    - 5) Use of either hand to instill fear or praise.
    - 6) Stepping outside the confines of, falling or jumping off or out of obstacle, with designated boundaries, with more than one foot.
    - 7) Blatant disobedience (including kicking out, bucking, rearing, striking).
    - 8) Moving more than 3 steps during ground tie or picking up hooves.  
(Note: "Holding the saddle with either hand" is a 5-point penalty in Stock Seat Trail but is not a penalty in Ranch Trail.)
  5. One (1) to Five (5) Points
 

Faults, which occur on the line of travel between obstacles, are scored according to severity:

    - 1) Head carried too high
    - 2) Head carried too low (tip of ear below the withers)
    - 3) Over-flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical
    - 4) Excessive nosing out
    - 5) Opening mouth excessively
  6. Fifteen (15) points
    - 1) Use of two hands (except for junior horses shown with hackamore or snaffle bit) or changing hands on reins. But it is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle.
    - 2) Excessively or repeatedly touching the horse on the neck to lower the head.
    - 3) Failure to ever demonstrate correct gait between obstacles as designated.
    - 4) Failure to complete an obstacle once attempted.
    - 5) Maximum number of points that can be lost on any one attempted obstacle.
  7. Twenty (20) points
    - 1) No attempt to work an obstacle.
  8. Disqualified 0 - Score
    - 1) Use of romal other than as allowed in Contest Rules, Regulations, and Procedures.
    - 2) Performing the obstacle incorrectly or other than in specified order.
    - 3) Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern.
    - 4) Entering or exiting an obstacle from the incorrect side or direction.
    - 5) Working obstacle the incorrect direction.
    - 6) Riding outside designated boundary marker of the arena or course area.
    - 7) Significant deviation from correct line of travel between obstacles.
- F. Six to ten obstacles will be used.
1. Potential Obstacles:
    - a. Opening, passing through, and closing a gate. This gate may not be a rope gate. \*\*Preferably this gate is at least an 8' to 12' in length. The gate must be level so it swings easily and does not fall open one direction or another if released.
    - b. Log Drag - A Log drag may be used in Senior trail classes only. Horse must be willing to drag a log for a short distance in a straight line. Rider to pick up rope while mounted at point A, and drop rope at point B. Jump standards can be used at each end of the drag to hold the rope up where the rider can reach it. Suggested distance between the two standards is approximately 40 feet. The typical rope used for dragging would be a lariat, roughly 30' long. Most youth should be able to drag by hand (without dallying) a log up to ~20lbs. This equates to roughly a 4' x 6' fence post. \*\*The attachment method for the post should have a rope securely attached to one end of the post by either drilling a hole through the post and tying a bowline knot (or other non-slip knot), or attaching an O-ring and tying a non-slip knot through the ring. Rope may not be tied hard and fast to the saddle horn; dallying is optional.
    - c. Stationary Steer - This obstacle may be used in Junior and Senior trail classes only and will demonstrate the willingness of the horse to have a rope thrown from its back. The judge will give credit to the horse that stands quietly while the contestant makes the swing and throw at the stationary steer. Shying from the rope will be penalized, but missing the stationary steer will not be penalized. Rider must provide the rope for this obstacle; rope may be carried in hand, over saddle horn, or affixed to saddle (rope may not be tied hard and fast to the saddle horn; dallying is optional). At the completion of this obstacle, contestant may coil rope and keep for remainder of class, or drop rope at obstacle without penalty.  
\*\*\*Each youth should begin the course with his/her own rope (although exhibitors may pass a rope from one to another between rides). The rider should be able to choose where to stand in relation to the stationary steer to throw the rope (typically about 6' away). A specific location should not be designated for a 'throw from here' spot. The stationary steer should be a similar height to an actual steer - a simple head on a hay bale will be too low.
    - d. Mailbox - Rider will open and close a mailbox when mounted.
    - e. Bridge - Horse should walk willingly over a stationary bridge.

- f. Slicker – The rider shall show the ability to handle the horse while simulating putting on a slicker. The rider may also be asked to carry the slicker from point A to point B.
  - g. Walk-over log-L obstacle – Walk over 90° log “L”. Log should be no less than 6” and no more than 12” in diameter. Riders should negotiate this obstacle in a straight line.
  - h. Step-overs at a walk, trot, or lope – Natural branches, logs, fence posts, etc. which are laid out in seemingly random angles and distances. Distances should be measured only so the set-up is repeatable, but not for uniform spacing or stride length. Obstacles may not be raised and the maximum height of any step-over is 8”.
  - i. Water hazard – The horse should enter and exit the water hazard in a quiet manner.
  - j. Back through obstacle – Straight, “L”, or into/out of a marked location.
  - k. Sidepass – Straight, one direction, may or may not be elevated.
  - l. Ground Tie – Rider must be able to dismount and walk a minimum of 5 paces away with the horse in a designated spot. If used, this must be the last obstacle of the course (no remount) and class must be held in an enclosed arena. If a rider is using a one-piece rein (romal, roping rein, etc.), it should be unsnapped from the bit on one side while ground-tying.
  - m. Pick up front feet – The rider must be able to dismount and pick up both front feet in an easy, time efficient manner. If used, this must be the last obstacle of the course (no remount). May be used in succession with ground tie so rider only dismounts once per course.
  - n. Any other safe and negotiable obstacle which could reasonably be found in everyday ranch work and meets the approval of the judge.
2. If disrupted, the course shall be reset. In the case that an obstacle is used in combination, the obstacle cannot be reset until the contestant finishes the entire combination.

## 2025 Georgia 4-H State Horse Show Herdsman Award

The 2025 State Horse Show Herdsmen Theme will be “**Rock, Roll, and Ride**” Counties must adhere to the theme and decorate accordingly.

County exhibits will have the option to be judged Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, or Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Counties will be judged between 12 noon and 6 pm on the preferred date. It is up to the discretion of the county what day they prefer to be judged. **IMPORTANT:** Only one day may be chosen among the three provided. Judges will be selected by management and will work independently of each other in evaluating the exhibits.

Each county wishing to compete must fill out the 2025 State 4-H Horse Show Herdsmen Entry Form. The deadline to submit your county's Herdsmen Entry Form is May 6, 2025. Please submit this entry form with the rest of your county's Horse Show forms.

Counties will still have the opportunity to sign up at the Horse Show Office no later than 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The top three counties will be recognized daily and announced in both the Perdue and Sutherland Arenas. An Agent, Volunteer, or Adult Member of the winning counties may accept their ribbon at show office in Perdue.

### Criteria for selecting Herdsmen Award Winners

- I. Educational Value & Adherence to Theme: 60% of points
  - A. Identification, such as stall cards, must be displayed.
  - B. Any display of educational information concerning horses or equine science/education will count towards Herdsmen Award.
    - i. Free-standing displays will be allowed, but must be on the end of the aisle and must be secured for the safety of the public and animals.
  - C. Display/decorations include attributes such as teamwork, responsibility, leadership, citizenship, self-confidence, etc.
  - D. Display of participation in other Horse Program activities, i.e. Horse Quiz Bowl, Hippology, Demonstrations, Public Speaking, Horse Judging, Horse School, Horse Shows, Club activities, community outreach, etc.
  - E. Illustrates strong club involvement and team approach
  - F. Additional decorations and county banner will count towards Herdsmen Award.
- II. Safety & Cleanliness: 20% of points
  - A. Aisles must be kept clean.
  - B. Feed and water pails should be neat, clean and removed from stalls when not in use.
    - i. Water pails may be left in stalls but must be secured safely.
  - C. Manure must be removed from stalls and placed in appropriate areas (not in trash cans).
  - D. Appearance of animals should be clean and well-groomed at all times.
  - E. No safety hazards, i.e. water pails secured safely if left in stalls, no protruding nails, no hanging cords, etc.
  - F. *For the safety and well-being of the public, exhibitors and their horses, streamers and overhead decorations are not allowed, (i.e. decorations should not be hung across aisles).*
    - i. Please decorate your area in a safe and creative manner for all those that may visit the Georgia 4-H Horse Show.
- III. Overall Design: 17% of points
  - A. Original & eye-catching
  - B. Neat & well-organized
  - C. Demonstrates creativity
  - D. Theme is carried throughout display
- IV. Conduct: 3% of points
  - A. Courtesy to other exhibitors, spectators, and show officials will count towards the award. Roughhousing, foul language, and loud noises will count against display.

# SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2025 4-H HORSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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The Cooperative Extension Service, The University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences offers educational programs, assistance and materials to people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicapped status.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
4-H and Youth

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Dr. Nick Place, Dean & Director