

WESTARK HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC.
BY-LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS
Revised March 2022

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WWSA BYLAWS

Article 1: NAME:

This Association shall be known as Westark Horse Show Association, Inc., (“WWSA”) or (“Association”), and shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit association in accordance with the laws of the State of Arkansas, providing for such organizations and by which it shall acquire all such rights as granted to associations of this kind.

Article 2: PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Association shall be to preserve the heritage of equines, to promote equine ownership, equine activities and competition, and to promote equine welfare in Arkansas through the use of educational seminars, horse shows, and other events equine related; to provide support for the Arkansas State Championship Horse Show held annually to benefit Arkansas Children’s Hospital.

Article 3: MEMBERS:

3.1 Members of WWSA shall be admitted, retained and expelled in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, adopt.

3.2 In all matters governed by the vote of the members, each paid member in good standing who is age 18 years and older shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

3.3 Any person interested in supporting through active participation the purpose of this Association may join WWSA, with the exception of any person having been (a) suspended from a member association of the Arkansas State Horse Show Association in the current year and/or (b) expelled from WWSA or another member association of the Arkansas State Horse Show Association in the current year or in past years. Any person who joins shall thereby become subject to the By-Laws and Rules then in force or later adopted by the Association, and shall be subject to expulsion from the Association as provided in the By-Laws.

3.4 The membership term will be from January 1 through December 31. Individual memberships accepted on or after October 1 will be in effect for the following year. Family memberships accepted on or after October 1 will be in effect for the following year only for those members listed on the membership form who still meet the family eligibility requirements as set forth in the rules and regulations.

3.5 Disciplinary Action, Cause and Procedure

3.5.1 Probation

A. WWSA member(s) may be placed on probation for failure to follow the WWSA bylaws and/or infraction of WWSA rules and regulations or for other cause as determined by the Board of Directors. Member(s) on probation will still enjoy all the rights of membership with the exception of those outlined in this section (Sec 4).

B. Notification of probation, including the reason for probation, must be delivered to the affected member(s) either verbally by a director in front of at least one witness, by written notice signed and hand-delivered by a director, or by certified mail to the address(es) on file. Probation will become effective immediately upon such notice being received.

C. Duration of probation shall be for a term deemed reasonable by the Board of Directors, but not to exceed one year from the effective date.

3.5.2 Suspension.

A. Member(s) already on probation may be placed on suspension for failure to follow the WWSA bylaws and/or infraction of WWSA rules and regulations or for other cause as determined by decision of the President, the Vice-President if exercising the office of the President in his or her absence, or two (2) or more members of the board of directors.

B. Member(s) not already on probation may be placed on suspension by vote of a majority of the board of directors for failure to follow the WWSA bylaws and/or infraction of WWSA rules and regulations or for other cause as determined by a majority of the board of directors.

C. Notification of suspension must be delivered to the affected member(s) by written notice signed and hand delivered by a Director, or by certified mail to the address(es) on file. Suspension will become effective immediately upon such notice being received.

D. Duration of such suspension shall last at least until a disciplinary meeting is held, and then for such a time as determined reasonable by the Board of Directors, but not to exceed one year from the effective date. The disciplinary meeting will be held no more than thirty-one (31) days from the initial date of suspension. Notification of meetings regarding disciplinary action will be given to the affected member(s) no less than 7 days prior to the meeting via certified mail to the address(es) on file so that the member(s) may attend the disciplinary meeting. The board of directors present will determine one of the following: (a) to end the suspension, (b) to continue the suspension, (c) to expel the affected member(s) from the club (d) to place the member(s) on probation for a period of time determined reasonable by the board of directors.

E. Member(s) on suspension will forfeit any rights and benefit of membership for the duration of the suspension.

3.5.3 Expulsion

A. The Board of Directors is responsible for determining cause for expulsion of a member.

- B. Expulsion from the association** is not dependent upon any prior notice of suspension or probation having been given to the affected member(s) but will require a disciplinary meeting to be held. Notice of such action will be given to the affected member(s) no less than 7 days prior to the meeting via certified mail to the address(es) on file. Call for consideration of expulsion of a member requires a majority vote of the board currently seated. Vote for expulsion by 75% or more of the board of directors **currently seated on the board** is required to expel a member. If action is passed, the expulsion is effective immediately.
- C. Members who are expelled** shall forfeit any and all rights and benefits of membership, including, but not limited to, class placings, points, awards, prizes, and scholarship grants. Expelled persons may not petition for membership in the Association for two (2) full membership years.

3.5.4. The probation, suspension, and expulsion of a member who is included in a family membership will not affect the rights of membership granted by WHSA in accordance with these by-laws to any other member(s) also contained in that family membership so long as those member(s) remain in good standing.

3.6 Previously suspended or expelled persons seeking membership

3.6.1 Any person having been expelled from the Association or known to have been suspended or expelled from another member association of the Arkansas State Horse Show Association may petition for membership eligibility with WHSA as long as such expulsion or suspension did not occur in the current year.

3.6.2 Petitioner must provide the following to the board of directors, at a WHSA board meeting or general membership meeting, and IN PERSON: (a) a completed membership application, (b) 3 letters of reference - one of which must be from an officer or board member of an equine club or association that puts on equine events in Arkansas, and (c) a \$50 petition fee.

The President will either admit the matter for review, discussion, and vote at that meeting by calling executive session or it may be tabled until the next meeting of the board. Any decision of the board is final for the current membership year. If the vote is to re-admit the petitioner to the Association, then the applicable membership fee will be applied from the petition fee and the petitioner will become a member of the Association with all the rights that membership brings. There will be no refund or pro-rata of the petition fee, regardless of the decision of the board.

3.7 Any member determined by the Board of Directors to have joined WHSA under subterfuge regarding eligibility, age, legal guardianship, or family status or to have intentionally falsified a document to which their signature is attached, shall be automatically expelled, without further action needed, from WHSA, and shall forfeit any and all rights and benefits of membership, including, but not limited to, class placings, points, awards, prizes, and scholarship grants. Forfeiture shall be applicable for the entirety of the membership year, and if possible, shall be retroactive to the date of said subterfuge. Such person may not petition for membership in the Association for two (2) full membership years. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, expulsion and forfeiture may be extended to include any and/or all family members contained within the same membership as the person forfeiting membership.

ARTICLE 4: BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

4.1 The business and property of Westark Horse Show Association, Inc. shall be managed and controlled by the Board of Directors ("Board") or ("Directors"); including, but not limited to, budgeting and management of funds, scheduling and management of events, determination of awards and award eligibility, amendment of the bylaws, and assigning and overseeing the rules and regulations of the Association.

4.2 Persons nominated for election to the Board of Directors must be current WHSA members in good standing at the time of nomination and election and, if elected, maintain a current membership and remain in good standing with WHSA for the duration of their term.

4.3 There shall be a minimum of 3, and a maximum of 12, elected Directors.

4.4 Term of service for a Director is two years, commencing immediately following the end of the Annual

General Membership Meeting and terminating at the end of the Annual General Membership Meeting in the year their term ends. There are no term limits for Directors. The 2 year term for Directors shall be staggered such that only one half

(or as close to one half as possible) of Directors' terms come to a close in any given year. The only exception to a two year term is if the number of Directors changes; in such instance, a Director may initially be elected for a one year term to keep the terms balanced. **4.5 Election of Directors**

4.5.1 Nomination for Director may be made without second by any of the eligible voting membership present at the Annual General Membership Meeting. A motion to end nominations may be made only if (a) a call for nominations has not resulted in a response or (b) nominations are greater than the available seats to be filled on the Board of Directors. Motions to end nominations must be seconded and passed by a majority of the eligible voting membership present. Nominated persons must either be present or must have sent written notice to one of the officers of the board indicating their willingness to hold a position on the board.

4.5.2. Directors shall be elected at the Annual General Membership Meeting by majority vote of the eligible voting membership present at the meeting.

4.5.3 In the event there are nominations greater than the available seats to be filled on the Board of Directors, election by ballot will be performed.

4.5.4 In the event there are nominations equal to or fewer than the available seats to be filled on the Board of Directors, a simple motion to elect all nominees as they stand may be made, seconded, and then passed by a show of hands.

4.6 The current Board shall proceed to the election of officers of the Association at the regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors which will be held immediately following the Annual General Membership Meeting.

4.7 In case of any vacancy on the Board of Directors by death, resignation or any other cause, the President or acting President shall appoint a willing successor from the current and eligible voting membership to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

4.8 The Board of Directors shall have the power and authority to make, amend, repeal and enforce such rules and regulations, not contrary to law or the Articles of Incorporation or these By-Laws, as they may deem expedient concerning the conduct, management and activities of the Association, the admission, classification, qualification, suspension and expulsion of members, removal of directors and officers, the rules and regulations governing the procedure of such suspension and expulsion and removal, the fixing and collecting of dues and fees, the conducting of shows, contests, exhibitions, fundraisers and social functions, and all other details relating to the general purposes of the Association.

4.9 Absentee or proxy voting by a Director (or Directors) not present at a meeting is not allowed unless otherwise noted in these bylaws.

4.10 All actions of the Board of Directors are subject to revision or amendment by the general membership at any special or regular meeting of the general membership provided that written notice of any intention to revise or amend has been published at least thirty (30) days in advance of that meeting.

4.11 No director of WHSA shall be liable to WHSA or its members for monetary damages for an act or omission in such director's capacity as a director of WHSA, except that this Article shall not eliminate or limit liability of a director of WHSA for:

- A. A breach of such director's duty of loyalty to WHSA or its members;
- B. An act or omission not in good faith or that involves intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;
- C. A transaction from which a director received an improper benefit, whether or not the benefit resulted from an action taken within the scope of the director's office; or
- D. An act or omission for which the liability of a director is expressly provided for by statute.

ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS:

5.1. The Officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The position of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined at the discretion of the board.

5.2. Only members of the Board of Directors shall be eligible to serve as officers of the Association.

5.3. The officers shall be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors each year at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. Election of officers shall be the first order of business for the Directors at that meeting.

5.4. 5.4. Term of service for officers shall begin at the time of election during the annual meeting of the Board of Directors and shall terminate at the end of the next Annual General Membership Meeting.

5.5 Duties

5.5.1 The President shall be the Chief Elected Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall see that the By-Laws, rules and regulations of the Association are enforced; shall be the authorized agent on all written contracts of the Association; and shall perform all other duties that may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall abstain from voting unless to break a tie.

5.5.2 The Vice-President shall aid the President and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall have the power and the duties of the President. The Vice-President shall have the right to vote, except when he or she is performing as acting President.

5.5.3 The Secretary shall be responsible for seeing the minutes for all meetings are kept; for the safekeeping of all documents and records of the Association; for seeing that proper notification is given where needed for meetings; and shall turn over all minutes of meetings and records pertaining to the association to any secretary successive to him/her upon demand, including membership records, show point book, entry forms, show results and supplies from previous years. All records of the association including check stubs, bank statements, financial records, receipts for purchases, minutes of all meetings, point book, etc. shall be kept for the 5 previous years. These records will be stored in large envelopes and clearly marked with the year and type of records contained **5.5.4 The Treasurer** shall disburse money under the direction of the president as directed subsequent to decisions made by the board; shall furnish financial itemized statements on a monthly basis, either at meetings or by written communication, and shall prepare a suitable and current financial statement for presentation at the annual general membership meeting and turn over all financial records pertaining to the association to any treasurer successive to him/her, including check books, bank statements, receipts for purchases made, and sponsorship records from the previous years.

5.6. Recall of Directors

5.6.1 Any Director may be removed with or without cause as herein provided

A. Petition forms will be provided by the Secretary to any of the voting membership upon request. The Secretary will enter the current date and the name of the Director or officer being sought to be removed onto each petition in permanent marker in the presence of the President and one other witness, who may not be the person requesting the petition nor the person who is the subject of the petition. The Secretary will make sure each petition is numbered and will be responsible for keeping record of the details pertaining to the petition, including the date the petition was provided to the petitioner, the identifying numbers on each petition, and the name of the subject of each petition and shall be responsible for the safekeeping of such record.

B. The petition must be presented, within 30 days of the date contained in the petition, to the Secretary. The recall petitions shall be signed, in indelible ink, by (a) a minimum of 3 current members of the Board of Directors or (b) a minimum of 25% of the voting membership of the Association

C. The Secretary shall contact the President immediately upon receipt of the petitions and together they will verify the petition meets the terms as put forth not more than 5 days following the Secretary's receipt of said petition.

D. If the petition is determined to meet the guidelines set forth above, the President will notify the subject of the petition in writing of the verification of the receipt of a valid petition within 5 days of such determination. The notice will be delivered by hand or by certified mail. If the subject of the petition does not tender his or her resignation within 7 days of receipt of notification, the Secretary will then prepare a ballot to be sent out within 15 days of the aforesaid determination to every member of the Association who is eligible to vote. The ballot shall conform to the following requirements: With respect to each person whose removal is sought, the question shall be submitted, "**Shall ___ be removed from the office of ___ by recall?**" Immediately following each such question shall be printed in the ballot the two (2) propositions, on separate lines with at least one-half inch between them, in the order set forth: **For the recall of (name of person)**, and **Against the recall of (name of person)**. Immediately to the left of the proposition shall be placed a square in which the member by making a cross mark (X), may vote for either of such propositions.

E. The ballot must be completed and returned to the Secretary by hand, by mail, or by placement in a locked ballot box if one is provided, within 15 days of the mailing out of the ballot.

F. In the presence of no less than two Directors, the ballots will be counted by the Secretary and recounted by the President to ensure accuracy.

5.6.2 Result of vote: Should a majority of **votes cast** at a recall election be against the removal of the Director named on the ballot, such Director shall finish out the remainder of his term, subject to recall as before. However, no recall petition shall be filed against Director within ninety (90) days after such recall petition has failed to remove him or her. If a majority of the **votes cast** at a recall election are in favor of recall, the Director shall be deemed removed from office immediately.

5.6.3 Special Circumstances: If either the President or the Secretary is the subject of the petition for recall, substitute Vice-President wherever the subject's name is used in the applicable subsections above.

ARTICLE 6: COMMITTEES

6.1. Appointment to committee

The President will have the duty and right to appoint committee members from the Board of Directors or from the general membership and has sole discretion regarding the placement and replacement of committee members. Members may be called upon for multiple committees.

6.2 Audit committee has the right to audit the Westark records at any time. The committee may consist of one Director, not the president or Treasurer and two WHSA members in good standing who are not Directors and are not related to any Directors or each other. A financial statement shall be presented by the Treasurer every year and approved by the Board of Directors. The financial statement will then be presented to the entire club before elections at the Year End Banquet.

6.3 Judges Committee shall consist of no fewer than two WHSA members in good standing appointed no later than January 1. Judges committee will be responsible for acquiring judges for WHSA shows.

6.4 Rules and By-Laws Committee shall consist of three WHSA members in good standing appointed no later than January 1. This committee will be responsible for proofing the WHSA by-laws, rules and regulations, and for insuring that any changes are entered into the document.

6.5 Scholarship: Scholarship Committee shall consist of the President and a Director to select a non-WHSA affiliated person, preferably one who has experience in the field of education, to review the applications and select the scholarship recipient. Names will be removed from the paper work of the applications. Scholarship applicants will turn in applications prior to the Year End Banquet where the scholarship will be awarded.

6.6 Special Committees. The President shall have the right to form committees for special purposes and to appoint them as he or she sees fit.

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS

7.1. Sufficient notice: Unless noted otherwise in these bylaws, notification of meetings by using at least two (2) of the listed methods no less than seven (7) days in advance of the meeting will also be considered sufficient: **(a)** posting in a prominent location on the official WHSA facebook page for at least 7 consecutive days **(b)** posting in a prominent location on the home page of the official WHSA website for at least 7 consecutive days **(c)** text notification to member cell phone number on file **(d)** standard mailing to member address on file or **(e)** email to member email on file. Notice of meetings may be waived by any member or Director.

For any instance the President deems notification of meeting via certified mail to be justified, such notice given to the member address (es) on file no less than seven (7) days in advance of any meeting shall be considered solely sufficient.

7.2. Minutes of all meetings will be made available on the Westark website.

7.3 Annual General Membership Meeting

7.3.1 The Annual General Membership Meeting will be held between October 1 and December 31 to elect the Board of Directors. By default it will be held in conjunction with the year-end Awards Banquet in all years that a year-end Awards Banquet is offered and occurs between October 1 and December 31.

7.3.2 Attendance. General membership meetings are open to the public, but only current WHSA members may actively participate in the business of the meeting unless recognized by a WHSA member attending the meeting.

Any WHSA member currently holding voting privilege may cast votes at a general membership meeting.

7.3.3 Special Notice. The Annual General Membership Meeting will be publicly announce no less than 30 days in advance. Notification will be via both the WHSA Facebook page and the official WHSA website beginning no less than 30 days prior to the meeting and shall remain in a prominent position for at least 7 consecutive days during the 30 days prior to the meeting.

7.4 Board of Directors Meetings

7.4.1 No meeting may be called forth in such a way to attempt to intentionally exclude a Director or Directors.

7.4.2 The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held immediately following the Annual General Membership Meeting to elect officers, to begin appointing committees and to begin preparations for the upcoming year. All other meetings of the Board of Directors to conduct business related to the day-to-day running and management of the Association may be called as needed by the President or by three (3) Directors, provided sufficient notice is given to all of the Directors.

7.4.3. Disciplinary meetings will be called as needed pursuant to the guidelines set forth in Article 3, Section 5. All disciplinary meetings will be called as executive sessions to preserve the privacy of the individual.

7.4.4 Emergency meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or by two (2) Directors without notice to address matters of urgency. An emergency meeting is the only instance in which Directors not present may be consulted and participate in discussion via phone, text, or video-conference. Directors not present will be allowed to cast an absentee vote only if **all** of the Directors not present are able **and** willing to do so.

7.4.5 A meeting of the Board of Directors may be called without notice if **all** of the Directors of the Board are present and **all** of them are in favor of conducting Association business, as long as such business does not involve disciplinary action.

7.4.6 Any WHSA member in good standing may attend a Board of Directors meeting, and may participate in discussion if recognized to do so by a Director. Only Directors may cast votes at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

7.5 Special meetings

7.5.1 Cause. Special meetings may be called by the President or by three (3) Directors or upon written request of a minimum of 25% of the voting membership.

7.5.2 Only current WHSA members in good standing may attend and actively participate in a special meeting unless the non-member is necessary to conclude the matter at hand. Any WHSA member currently holding voting privilege may cast votes at a special meeting.

7.5.3 Notification must be given as per Article 7.1 above. Further, the purpose of the special meeting must be stated in the notification. Business other than that stated in the notification may be conducted at a special meeting only if approved to do so by either (a) a majority of the current Board of Directors or (b) 25% or more of the current voting membership.

7.6 Quorum. Unless specified differently elsewhere, the Directors and / or members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called meeting described herein.

7.8. Parliamentary Procedure. In all parliamentary procedures not described otherwise in these bylaws, the Roberts Rules of Order shall be used.

ARTICLE 8: EVENTS

8.1 Event refers to any scheduled occurrence or happenstance, including but not limited to, horse shows, clinics, fundraisers, and social activities, held to meet the purposes of WHSA as presented in these bylaws, managed by the Board of Directors or a person appointed by the Board of Directors, and that has been approved to take place by the Board of

Directors. All approved events shall use either the "WHSA" or "Westark Horse Show Association" as part of the title.

Any horse show that does not meet the requirements of a WHSA Horse Show as put forth herein must have a word inserted between "WHSA" and "horse" if both of those words are included in its title

8.2 No event utilizing the name "Westark Horse Show Association, Inc", "WHSA", or any shortening of the aforementioned, that is intended to denote approval, sponsorship, management, or endorsement by the Association may be held without the consent of the Board of Directors.

8.3 The Board of Directors may schedule events as it sees fit to meet the purposes of WHSA as presented in these bylaws including, but not limited to, , including but not limited to, horse shows, clinics, fundraisers, and social activities.

8.4 Cancellation of Events

8.4.1 Cancellation of any event may occur due to acts of God, , the absence of a judge or a judge's inability to carry out his/her duties, the occurrence or prediction of adverse weather conditions, any condition occurring or predicted to occur to make the holding of the show unsafe for exhibitors, or as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors acting in the best interests of the Association. The need for cancellation shall be determined either by the manager of the event or by the board of directors and shall be announced immediately once the decision has been made.

8.4.2 Notification of cancellation of an event before it has begun shall be sufficient if posted on the WHSA Facebook page AND on the WHSA website AND announced to any exhibitors or participants already gathered at the event. Notification of cancellation after an event has begun shall be sufficient if announced to persons currently present at the show and posted on the WHSA Facebook page.

8.4.3 Canceled events will be rescheduled at the discretion of the event manager or board of directors.

8.5 WHSA Horse Shows

8.5.1 WHSA Horse Show refers to any show that meets all of the following: **(a)** is listed on the current year WHSA Horse Show Schedule, regardless of possible change of date or venue **(b)** meets the 'minimum classes offered per show' requirement as mandated by the Arkansas State Horse Show Association for the current year **(c)** is presented as a qualifier for the Arkansas State Championship Horse Show and **(d)** awards points to members for class placements.

8.5.2 The number of WHSA shows held each year shall be equal to or greater than the number required by the Arkansas State Horse Show Association for the current year. Shows using multiple judges will be counted as 'one show per judge', as long as such judges are judging the same classes at the same time.

8.5.3 The show schedule shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The completed horse show schedule for the current year will be determined and announced no less than 45 days before the date of the first scheduled horse show. The only exception to this will be to add more shows as needed to meet the Arkansas State Horse Show Association requirements should those change to a number greater than what is scheduled, even if such change comes about after the WHSA Horse Show schedule has already been posted.

8.5.4 Show Management

- A. **Show Secretary** – Person(s) responsible for taking entries will be available at the signup desk at all times (or if also showing in classes, will be responsible for providing a qualified stand-in for those classes) during the show and no less than 1 hour before the start of the show. Show Secretary will be familiar with the WHSA bylaws and rules/regulations. Duties are to make sure any appropriate forms are available, to check that they are properly filled out and signed, to provide class entries to the announcer in a timely manner, and to accept monies that day for class entries, memberships, fundraisers, sponsorships, donations
- B. **EIA Verifier / Admission** – certified EIA verifier(s) will check all horses for a current negative Coggins before they will be allowed on the grounds and will take gate money
- C. **Announcer** – Person(s) announcing will be responsible for adequate notification of upcoming classes, announcing the judge's directions to the class, notating and announcing class placings, promotion of sponsors as much as possible during the show, and will at all times have a copy of WHSA by-laws, rules & regulations, ASHSA rules, and AQHA rules. The announcer may not make decisions regarding entry disputes, tiebreakers, or disqualifications but may provide research and provide reference material if requested.

- D. **Ring Steward** – Person(s) who assist the judge as liaison w/ announcer, scribe as needed, maintain copies of all patterns for the day and who direct arena help in setting up and working classes. Will also have WHSA by-laws, rules & regulations and ASHSA rules and AQHA rules on hand.
- E. **Gate Help** – Person(s) working the arena gate for classes
- F. **Arena Help** – Person(s) who help set up and work classes that require additional help beyond what the announcer, ring steward and gate person can provide

8.5.5 Judges for WHSA Horse Shows may not be current members of WHSA nor have held membership in WHSA the previous year. The only exception to this will be under any circumstance that a judge is a ‘no-show’, or has canceled with less than 24 hours’ notice, or is unable or deemed unable by the Board of Directors to perform his/her duties once the show has started, and a qualified replacement judge cannot be found. If such occurs, the Board of Directors may appoint a member to carry out the duties of the judge, so long as such member has not shown in any classes that day, with the exception of timed classes, and so long as he/she will not be judging an immediate family member in any classes.

8.5.6 If a horse show is canceled after it has started, and rescheduled on a later date, only those classes not previously held are required to be offered. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, all or some of the previously held classes may be offered, but those classes will only be for exhibition or jackpot purposes and will not count for points nor for state show qualification.

8.5.7 The classes offered at WHSA Horse Shows will be determined by the Board of Directors and posted no less than 30 days prior to the first WHSA horse show of the season on the WHSA Facebook page and WHSA website. Age divisions for classes offered will follow the same guidelines as adopted for the current year by the Arkansas State Horse Show Association. When considering what classes to offer at WHSA Horse Shows, the following guidelines will be used:

- (a) A sufficient quantity of State Show classes are offered to meet the mandatory number required by ASHSA for the current year.
- (b) The board of directors will make the final decision what classes will be offered in the best interest of the organization.
- (c) o new class(es) will be added that would age or gender divisions of State Show classes may be combined only if they are not speed classes, only if both classes averaged 3 or fewer entries per show apiece in the previous show season, and only if such combinations are able to be judged to the depth of the class in order to accurately determine qualification of exhibitors for the State Horse Show; such combined classes will be denoted with a slash (/) in the combined description of the class (ex. Mens / Ladies Western Pleasure) and will count as two classes in regards to meeting the minimum classes requirement of the ASHSA.
- (d) age / gender divisions of classes that are not a State Show class may be combined only if the **combined** entries from those classes averaged 7 or fewer for the previous year.

8.5.8 Determination of class rules will follow these guidelines

- a) All ASHSA required classes will follow ASHSA rules with the possible exception of the dress code in judged events and with the exception that WHSA will impose a 5 second penalty vs DQ for knocking a barrel or pole over in the barrel or pole classes.
- b) AQHA rules will apply to any AQHA similar class that does not fall under the ASHSA rules
- c) ArRSHA rules will apply to any ArRSHA similar class that does not fall under ASHSA or AQHA rules
- d) WHSA rules will apply to any class that does not fall under ASHSA, AQHA, or ArRSHA rules

ARTICLE 9: LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

9.1 Statement of limited liability

WESTARK HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC., ITS DIRECTORS OR MEMBERS OR ANY OTHER PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH ANY EVENT SPONSORED, HOSTED, OR ENDORSED BY WESTARK HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC. WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR (a) ACCIDENT, INJURY, OR DEATH TO ANY PERSON OR ANIMAL, OR (b) THEFT OF, DAMAGE TO, OR LOSS OF PROPERTY OCCURRING BEFORE, DURING OR AFTER THE EVENT. NEITHER WESTARK HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC OR THE WHSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS AN ENTITY WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR OR BE HELD LIABLE OR ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OR NON-MEMBER OR A GROUP OF MEMBERS OR NON-MEMBERS AT ANY EVENT, WHETHER IT BE SPONSORED BY WHSA OR NOT.

9.2 Arkansas Equine Activity Statutes § 16-120-201: WHSA shall not assume any additional liability beyond that set forth in in Arkansas Equine Activity Statutes § 16-120-201 WHSA shall follow the rules for display of the equine liability waiver sign as per Arkansas Equine Activity Statutes § 16-120-201

9.3 Member acknowledgement of liability disclaimer: All members will be required to acknowledge the limitations of liability as put forth in the WHSA bylaws, rules and regulations by written signature on either (1) the membership application or (2) a waiver of liability supplied at a WHSA event, and will thus agree to be bound by the said limits of liability. Acknowledgement for non-emancipated minors (children under the age of 18) will require the signature of an adult who is representing themselves as a parent or legal guardian for the child.

9.4 Non-emancipated minors: WHSA will not be responsible for verification of legal guardianship status for any no emancipated minors participating in any WHSA event beyond having a signed membership application or signed waiver of liability on file. For non-emancipated minors who are not WHSA members, WHSA will require an adult signature on a signed acceptance of responsibility and a signed liability waiver before said child or children will be permitted to participate in a WHSA event and/or activity.

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS

10.1 The Board of Directors may amend the bylaws with a passing vote of 65% or more of the Directors currently seated on the board. Amendments or changes to the rules and regulations require a passing vote of 50% or more of the Directors currently seated on the board.

10. 2 All actions of the Board of Directors are subject to revision or amendment by the members at any special or regular meeting of the membership provided that written notice of any intention to revise or amend has been published at least thirty (30) days in advance of that meeting.

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General Rules / Regulations

Ages: All ages, whether horse or exhibitor, are as of January 1st of the current membership year.

Code of Conduct:

"I promise to act in such a manner that will reflect positively on myself and on my association. I will treat others fairly and will not use criticism and harsh judgment in my dealings with others, but will instead use positive words of support and encouragement. I will treat all animals in my care humanely and with regard to their safety and well-being."

Coggins/EIA: all equines at a WHSA event will be checked for a current (within 12 months) negative test as per Arkansas law.

The Westark Board may allow exceptions to any of the rules when presented with reasonable justification.

Fees, 2024

Individual membership fee - \$10

Family membership fee - \$20

Gate fee - \$2 per person up to 3 or more people in a vehicle \$5

Class Entry fee \$5 per exhibitor/class/judge

Exhibition fee - \$5 per exhibitor/class

State class fee - \$15 per exhibitor/class

Single sponsorship commitment (to be eligible for year-end awards and state qualification) - \$50

Family sponsorship commitment (to be eligible for year-end awards and state qualification) - \$75

Working Classes

Single Membership 20 Classes

Family Membership 40 Classes

On the bottom of the class sheet will be space to sign up for working classes.

Classes must work in order to receive any year end award and to qualify to ride at the Arkansas State Championship Horse Show.

Inhumane treatment of horses or other animals will not be tolerated, such as (but not limited to):

1. Placing an object in a horse's mouth so as to cause undue discomfort or distress.
2. Tying a horse in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress including but not limited to in a stall, trailer or when lunging or riding.
3. Use of inhumane training techniques or methods
4. Use of inhumane equipment - saw tooth bits, hock hobbles, tack collars, tack hackamores, etc...
5. Use of any procedure, item or appliance that restricts the movement or circulation of the tail
6. Any intentional action that results in bleeding or places welts on horse/animal
7. Any intentional action that puts the horse/animal in danger of physical injury beyond what is inherent for the event

Membership:

1. Single membership is one (1) person, any age
2. Family membership includes up to two (2) persons, living as a couple either married or unmarried, in the same household, plus any unmarried children, grandchildren, or dependents age 18 years and under also living in the same household.
3. Every child (non-emancipated minor age 17 years and under) who is a member must have a parent / legal guardian sign their membership form application
4. Refund and Pro-rating. There will be no refund or pro-rating of membership dues for any reason.

Sportsmanship: All attendees of a WHSA event, whether worker, spectator or exhibitor will be held to a high standard of sportsmanship and good behavior. The following behavior will not be tolerated and may result in expulsion from the event or suspension or expulsion from the association:

1. Harassment of judge, show management, spectators, or exhibitors
2. Lewd or obscene behavior
3. Profanity that is offensive to others

4. Drunkenness and/or use of an illegal substance
5. Verbal and/or physical abuse of any person, whether child or adult

Television/Media Release: Attendance at a WHSA event, in whatever capacity, shall constitute authorization for WHSA, its agents, designees, or assigns to photograph, video tape, televise, or record by other means any person or animal on the premises of a WHSA event, and shall further constitute authorization for the use (in any manner that WHSA, in its sole discretion, determines would be beneficial to promoting the purposes and goals of WHSA) of such person's name, voice and biography, or the name, pedigree and performance record of any animal on the premises in conjunction with the use of any photographic or recorded material.

Attendance at an APHA-approved event shall further constitute agreement to the terms and conditions outlined above, and shall constitute a waiver and release, without limitation, of any individual television, radio, motion picture, photographic or other similar rights, including right of privacy, any person or animal may have in or to such photographic material or related information when such information is obtained at an APHA-approved event by the APHA, its agents, designees, or assigns.

Awards Rules / Regulations

Divisions:

- 1) All eligible exhibitors will receive year-end awards based on their total number of points earned for the year. Hi-point Exhibitor awards will be given in 16 divisions. By using this new format we will no longer have nominated Horses. The New Hi-Pt Awards are as Follows: Leadline Rider, Pony Rider, PeeWee Speed Rider, PeeWee Performance Rider, PeeWee Ranch Rider, Buckaroo Speed Rider, Buckaroo Performance Rider, Buckaroo Ranch Rider, Junior Speed Rider, Junior Performance Rider, Junior Ranch Rider, Senior Speed Rider, Senior Performance Rider, Senior Ranch Rider, Walk/ Trot Divisional, and Gaited Rider. Eligibility: Member in good standing showing in at least one class at 50% of the shows offered. **All Speed Classes will count towards speed points. Any rider riding in the walk/trot division class may not cross enter into a comparative loping class. Once rider moves up to loping class they cannot change back.**
- 2) All-Around Hi-Pt awards will be given in Youth and Adult to one placing. Eligibility: Must compete a minimum of five (5) times each in at least one class, in each of these categories –Showmanship, Performance (riding), Ranch (riding) and Speed. Upon being awarded the All-Around Hi-Pt Award, an exhibitor is ineligible for the award for a period of two (2) full show seasons.
- 3) Exhibitors competing for High Point Exhibitor and/or High Point Horse must compete in 50% of each individual class for points earned in those classes to be eligible to count for a high Point Award.

Eligibility: Any WHSA member in good standing who has shown in 50% of the WHSA Horse Shows, has fulfilled their appropriate sponsorship commitment (\$50/individual, or \$75/family), and has met the minimum class working requirements (15/single, 30/family) will be eligible to receive year-end awards.

Ties: Ties for Hi-Pt Exhibitor awards will be broken as follows; for Hi-Point Horse awards, add 'in the relevant division' to each description: a. Person showing the most times during the show season, Placed first more times in the class, if parties are still tied, then move to seconds, thirds and so forth.

Selection of awards/prizes: Awards/prizes will be selected by the awards committee

Shows Rules / Regulations:

Age divisions: Riders must ride in the appropriate class for their age. The exception to riding in only one division per class is for PeeWee riders who may show Pony Western Pleasure and then show in Walk-Trot 10 & under on a horse 53" or taller.

Leadline (3yr-7yr)	Buckaroo (13yr and under)
Pony (10yr & under)	Senior/Adult (19yr and over)
PeeWee (10yr & under)	
Junior/Youth (18yr and under)	

(Ponies must measure 54" and under)

All ages are as of January 1 of the current year. WHSA reserves the right to request proof of age of exhibitor or horse.

Arena drag: The arena will be worked as deemed necessary by the arena crew so as to provide as consistent a working/running surface as is possible without delaying the show.

Arena setup: At the discretion of the show management, any pattern may be adjusted (barrels/poles moved, obstacles shifted, etc...) for safety reasons as long as it is done between classes and not mid-class.

Arkansas State Championship Horse Show:

1. WHSA will send its top 5 exhibitors in each eligible class to the State Show
2. Must be a member in good standing
3. Must have shown in at least 50% of WHSA Horse Shows
4. Lottery Draw eligibility – see ASHSA rules
5. No ties are allowed for the 5th rider position when going to the State Show. In the case of a tie in the 5th position, the tie will be broken in the following order:
 Person who showed the most in the class, then placed first more times in the class, if parties are still tied, then move to seconds, thirds and so forth.
6. If an exhibitor, who has signed up for the state show and has paid his/her state show entry fees, does not compete at the State Show without giving notice to the President, the Vice-President, or the Sec/Treasurer no later than 6pm two days prior to the first class he/she was scheduled to compete in or in the absence of such notice, does not have an acceptable excuse (as determined by the Board of Directors) to miss their class(es) and thus prevents a 6th place exhibitor from participating who would otherwise have done so; then that exhibitor will forfeit any and all year-end awards for the current year.
7. State Show classes that were not offered at WHSA Horse Shows in the current year may be filled with riders who have shown in similar classes. If there are more than 5 eligible and willing exhibitors for such a class, exhibitors will be chosen based on participation at the shows as follows (if the class is a timed class, only timed classes will be counted – if it is a judged class, only judged classes will count) person who showed the most in the class, then placed first more times in the class, if parties are still tied, then move to seconds, thirds and so forth.
8. Each exhibitor showing in a state show class will be responsible for the class fee of \$15/class
9. A \$10.00 per entry surcharge will be added in all the gaited classes to help defray the expenses of the dqp. This surcharge must be paid by the exhibitor prior to the state show entries being submitted.
10. By default, signup for the State Show will be at the last WHSA Horse Show of the year, but may be held separately at the discretion of the Board. All class and stall fees are due at the time of sign up. Each person qualifying for the state horse show must sign a consent, waiver, and release form at the time he/she signs up for the state show. This form will become part of the entry packet sent to the state show secretary.
11. WHSA shall pay the president's mileage to all ASHSA meetings at forty cents (\$.40) a mile and shall pay reasonable motel expenses for the president and secretary while at the State Show.

Attire: A shirt with a well-defined rolled down sleeve and a tail that is long enough to be tucked in (i.e. - no tank tops, midriffs, or muscle shirts allowed) and pants or breeches that extend far enough down the leg to either tuck into or meet the top of the footwear. Footwear may not be open toed and must have a defined heel - note: "heels down" type shoes are permitted in speed classes - judged events require the appropriate heeled boot for the class (western, English, gaited). Hats are required in all judged classes with the exception of Ladies Fast Gaited.

Exceptions:

1. WHSA Show management may relax the dress code in severe heat
2. It is legal to wear a current year WSHA shirt in any class – exhibitors who do so will understand and accept that while the judge will be aware of the 'WSHA shirt' rule, he/she may still take attire into account
 - A. when placing exhibitors who have performances of similar quality or
 - B. when placing exhibitors in classes that are scored on appearance/turnout of exhibitor (showmanship, equitation, horsemanship, queen's, leadline, etc...)
2. The jumper in barrel pickup may wear non-heeled footwear that is not open toed and attaches securely to the foot (no flip flops, crocs, sandals, etc...)
3. **AQHA approved safety helmets may be worn in any class at the discretion of the exhibitor**

Back numbers: Numbers must be worn in all judged classes. Numbers may be worn on the exhibitor's back or affixed to the **left side** or both sides of the saddle pad. No exhibitor will be placed 1) who does not display a number, or 2) who does not properly display the correct number as listed on the class entry sheet, or 3) who displays a number with an X through it.

Breed alternative competition: Any person(s) competing for alternative points from any breed registry is responsible for supplying, completing, and presenting 2 copies of the appropriate form to the secretary or show manager for their signature.

Checking horses and ponies: Exhibitors must have ponies measured for height no taller than 54", and have junior horses age 5 and under, verified, prior to entry in pony or junior horse classes at the first show attended. Ponies will be measured at the highest point of the withers, using a ruled stick with a level. Exhibitors with junior horses will provide proof of age via registration papers or a signed veterinary statement of age. A list of verified ponies/horses will be kept at the signup desk. Gaited horses will be inspected for compliance with the shoeing regulations for each gaited class as necessary. There is no leniency regarding height, age, or shoeing compliance, and it is the exhibitors' responsibility to be aware of all rules regarding such.

The WHSA Board of Directors reserves the right to check any horse in any class for performance enhancing foreign substance(s), illegal or inhumane alterations of horse or tack, for signs of contagious disease or illness, and for soundness issues that would be considered detrimental to the horse's well-being. The Board of Directors reserves the right to carry out any action it deems fit based on the results of such findings. This includes, but is not limited to, dismissing horse and/or exhibitor from the remainder of classes at that or future shows, pursuing disciplinary action against exhibitor, recalling any awards / placing's won by the horse in the current show season, etc... The act of entering a class serves as a release to check an exhibitor's horse if the board sees fit. Horses deemed unsound by the judge may be excused from the ring at the discretion of the judge.

Class rules, disputes: In the event of a dispute or question regarding procedure, proper attire, tack, equipment, rules, class setup, etc... that is not already addressed in the WHSA class rules, then WHSA Show Management will reference the official handbook or rules/regulations of the following Associations as applicable:

- AQHA (American Quarter Horse Association)
- ASHA (American Stock Horse Association)
- ASHSA (Arkansas State Horse Show Association)

S.H.O.W. (Sound Horses, Honest Judging, Objective Inspections, Winning Fairly)

Any dispute or question must be brought to the attention of the Show Management before the class begins. Upon entering the arena for his/her class, an exhibitor becomes subject to the rules and regulations for that class as set forth by WHSA.

Class schedule: Show management, at their discretion, may make minor adjustments to the class schedule at any show in order to help prevent delays, or to ensure the qualification guidelines for the Arkansas State Championships Horse Show are met. This can include combining similar classes, splitting combined classes, flip-flopping adjacent classes due to tack changes, etc....

Class signup:

1. No additional entries will be taken for a class after the announcer has called the class for that class and the next class to enter the arena
2. Exhibitors must use the next available line on the individual class entry sheet. Any exhibitor found to be 'skipping' lines will automatically be moved up to the top of the running order
3. The running order of any individually judged (pattern) class will be 'first to sign up, last to go'.
4. The running order of speed classes will be 'first to sign up, first to go'.

Dismissal from arena: An exhibitor may be dismissed from the arena during warm-up or during a class if he/she shows lack of sufficient control of his/her horse, or if he/she is riding in such a manner to intentionally foul, block, or endanger other riders and/or horses

Double Judged Shows:

1. Riders in timed classes at double judged shows must declare - **as they exit the arena immediately after running "A"**- whether they will take that same time to run "B" or will run "B" separately.
2. If using the second run option, the rider agrees to abide by each separate time and subsequent placing.
3. "B" runs (if taken) will be in the same order as for the "A" runs.
4. Exhibitors in all judged classes will be judged by both Judge A and Judge B at the same time.

Exhibitions:

1. Exhibition is defined as showing a horse in a class for training or warm-up purposes only, there will be no judge's consideration and no placing.
2. Exhibition entries must be clearly indicated by an X through an exhibitor number, or (in speed classes) by announcement over the PA system.

3. Exhibition runs in barrels & poles are restricted to the exhibition classes provided for those events.
4. Exhibition entries in classes that are judged as a group will adhere to the instructions of the judge as to gait transitions and directional changes and will not foul other horses in the arena or will risk being excused from the class.
5. Exhibition entries in all classes will go at the end of the class, will not receive the judge's consideration, and will have a reasonable time limit imposed.
6. Show management may restrict the number of exhibition entries in any class in order to maintain the time schedule for the show.
7. Time limit of 60 seconds will be clearly announced, a warning will be given at the halfway mark, and again 15 seconds before the limit; failure to exit the arena within the allotted time limit will incur a \$4 penalty.

Fall of the horse and/or exhibitor: Will eliminate the entry. **Exception** - when the rider or horse falls because of contact interference from another rider or horse. In this situation the only the rider and horse at fault will be excused. Fall of horse is defined as horse down on the ground with all 4 feet pointing the same direction. Fall of rider is defined as rider not astride horse when any part of rider's body touches the ground.

Gate Call:

- 1) Exhibitors will be ready at the back of the arena before the start of their class.
- 2) A 2 minute gate rule will be in effect. Any exhibitor failing to enter the arena after receiving 3 calls over a two minute time stretch will be considered a no-show and the class will proceed without them. The only exceptions to this for tack changes and verifiable tack malfunction that has been brought to the attention of the show management (announcer, ring steward) **before** the class has started.
- 3) Once the gate has been officially closed on a class as indicated by the Ring Steward to the announcer, no more exhibitors will be allowed into the arena.

Judges: 1. Judges will be selected and provided by the Judge's Committee.

2. Judges will be on the show grounds no less than 20 minutes before the estimated start of the judged classes.
3. Judges will maintain a professional demeanor at all times and will not converse with anyone before or during the show, except Directors or members of the Judge's Committee, unless approached by other person(s) in a respectful manner and in the presence of the ring steward
4. Judges will be expected to familiarize themselves with the rules and judging guidelines of the classes they will be judging prior to the show. All pattern classes will be judged using a scoring system appropriate for the class. A copy of the rules and regulations, along with show bill, patterns, and directions will be mailed to the judge no less than 2 weeks prior to the show.
5. Place cards will be provided to the judge for every judged class and will note the depth to which the class must be placed.
6. The decision of the Judge is final.

Mule entries: Mule entries will be allowed in all classes with the exception of State Show classes that are judged on the rail. If there are 5 or more mule entries for a class, show management may, but is not required to, split the class.

CANCELLATION OF A SHOW IN PROGRESS

In the event that a show in progress cannot be completed for any reason, the results of the classes completed will stand as recorded and uncompleted classes will be scheduled by the Board for a later date.

If a class is in progress and not completed, that class will be included at the rescheduled time and run in its entirety. No scores or participation credit will be carried forward. Only those exhibitors on the class sheet at the time of the cancellation may enter the rescheduled class.

All other uncompleted classes may be entered by anyone present. For complete sign up rules see page 14, CLASS SIGN UP.

For reasons of cancellations see ARTICLE 8.4

Payback Classes/Jackpots: offered at show events and shows decided by the board. Payouts and entry fees will be decided at the discretion of the board and announced when scheduled.

Point System: Points will be awarded as follows:

First Place-5 pts.
 Second-4 pts.
 Third-3 pts.
 Fourth -2 pts.
 Fifth-1 pt.

Points will shift down accordingly if there are less than 5 entries in the class (ex. only 3 entries = 3pts for 1st, 2pts for 2nd, and 1pt for 3rd)

- Points will be kept on members only.
- Any member(s) placing lower than a non-member will have their points rolled up accordingly
- Exhibitor may show only one horse for points in each class and each horse may only be shown once in each class for points
- Points will not be awarded in any 'exhibition' class (es), or any 'added' class (es) not on the official class roster for the current year

Protective legwear: Protective legwear, wraps, and bandages are allowed in all speed classes, all ranch horse classes, all reining classes, Equitation, & Horsemanship. **The use of slip on (easy care) horse boots or related footwear are not considered as protective boots and are permissible to be worn in ALL classes.**

Rider Assistance: No communications devices allowed except as necessary for exhibitors with impairments. Encouragement is welcome, but coaching from the sideline is strongly discouraged, and may be prohibited at the discretion of the Show Management if it becomes disruptive or unsportsmanlike. Riders in speed events may be helped into the arena, exhibitors in judged events may be helped to the gate only. Riders will not use any restraint that attaches them 'hard and fast' to the saddle, unless such use is required due to physical handicap.

Stallions: May be shown by exhibitors age 19yr and over, with no class restrictions. Exhibitors 18yrs and younger may not show a stallion in any class that requires more than one horse to be in the arena at the same time. Stallions must be personally attended whenever they are not securely tied with a halter/lead a reasonably safe distance from other horses

Tack & Equipment: Rules regarding tack and equipment, including prohibited items, will by default follow either the rules of the association referenced for each class or will follow the show standards for the particular breed shown, **unless exceptions have been noted.**

Timer infractions: Any deliberate act, whether malicious or with the aim of achieving a faster run, resulting in the tripping of the timer by rider or spectator (instead of horse) before or during a run will result in punitive action appropriate to the offense as determined by the Show Management and any Directors present.

Timer malfunction: An electric timer will be in operation at all times during speed events. If a rider makes a qualified run in any speed event and the timer fails, he/she may re-ride immediately or at the end of that class. Any penalties incurred from knocking down a barrel or pole will be added to the time of the re-ride. Rider must make a **bona fide attempt** to run the pattern in the re-ride to receive a time. In a Flag Race re-ride, rider must run within arm's length of both flag buckets.

Warm-up: General warm-up will be offered when deemed necessary by show staff. All riders must follow the announcer's directions or risk being excused from the warm-up.

Class Guidelines

ENGLISH CLASSES

- English snaffle (no shank), kimberwick, pelham and/or full bridle (with two reins), all with cavesson nosebands and plain leather brow bands must be used.
- Saddles must be black and/or brown leather of traditional hunting or forward seat type, knee insert on the skirt is optional. Saddle pads should fit size and shape, except when necessary to accommodate numbers on both sides, for which a square pad or suitable attachment may be used. Saddle pads and attachments shall be white or natural color with no ornamentation.
- Allowed – Crops, bats, gloves, English breast collar, braiding of mane/tail in hunt style
- Disallowed – Rowelled spurs, martingales, figure 8/flash cavessons, draw reins, protective legwear

Hunter Under Saddle:

- **AQHA rules apply. See SHW601-SHW604 (page 129) of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for scoring, faults, penalties, disqualifications.**
- **Exception:** Entries in WalkTrot Hunter Under Saddle will not be asked to canter.
- The purpose of the hunter under saddle horse is to present or exhibit a horse with a bright, alert expression, whose gaits show potential of being a working hunter. Therefore, its gait must be free-flowing, ground covering and athletic. Hunters under saddle should be suitable to purpose. Hunters should move with long, low strides reaching forward with ease and smoothness, be able to lengthen stride and cover ground with relaxed, free-flowing movement, while exhibiting correct gaits that are of the proper cadence. The quality of the movement and the consistency of the gaits is a major consideration. Horses should be obedient, have a bright expression with alert ears, and should respond willingly to the rider with light leg and hand contact. Horses should be responsive and smooth in transition. When asked to extend the trot or hand gallop, they should move out with the same flowing motion. The poll should be level with, or slightly above, the withers to allow proper impulsion behind. The head position should be slightly in front of, or on, the vertical
- This class will be judged on performance, condition and conformation. Maximum credit shall be given to the flowing, balanced, willing horse
- Horses may be asked to change to canter from the flat-footed walk or trot, at the judge's discretion
- At the option of the judge, all or just the top 12 horses may be required to hand gallop, one or both ways of the ring. Never more than 12 horses to hand gallop at one time. At the hand gallop, the judge may ask the group to halt and stand quietly on a free rein (loosened rein)
- Horses are to be shown under saddle, not to jump
- Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses should back easily and stand quietly
- Horses are to be reversed to the inside away from the rail

English Equitation

- **AQHA rules apply. See SHW616-SHW622 (pages 130-132) of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for scoring, faults, penalties, disqualifications.**
- The purpose is to evaluate the ability of the hunter rider to perform various maneuvers on his/her horse which provides a base for natural progression to over fence classes. The communication between horse and rider through subtle cues and aids should not be obvious. Equitation is judged on the rider and his/her effect on the horse. Hunt seat equitation on the flat provides a base for a natural progression to over fence classes. The poll should be level with, or slightly above the withers, to allow proper impulsion behind. The head should not be carried behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance.
- **Body Position:** Hands should be over and in front of horse's withers, knuckles 30 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. However, all reins must be picked up at the same time. 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. Iron should be on the ball of the foot and must not be tied to the girth.
- Individual works may be comprised of any of the following:

Walk	Halt	Leg-Yield
Sitting Trot	Back	Flying or Simple Change of Lead
Extended Trot	Side pass,	Canter / Hand Gallop straight line
Posting Trot	Address Reins	Canter / Hand Gallop curved line
Canter	Change of Diagonal	Counter-Canter Figure 8
Circles	Serpentine (Trot /Canter)	Drop and/or Pick-up Irons without stopping
Figure 8	Turn on Haunches or Forehand	

- All patterns must include a trot and canter. Horses' gaits are to be ridden with the same cadence and speed as you would find in the rail phase
- Rail work shall be at the discretion of the judge, but if used will consist of all three gaits in at least one direction

Gaits:

THE WALK: Should be a four-beat gait with the rider in a vertical position with a following hand

THE POSTING TROT: Figure 8 at trot, demonstrating change of diagonals. 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 his/her hip angle to allow his/her torso to follow the horizontal motion of the horse. The upper body should be inclined about 20 degrees in front of the vertical

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

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. Hands should be forward, up the neck, not resting on the neck

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

GAITED CLASSES:

Referenced rules may be found at <http://www.showhio.com/rulebook.html>

Fast Gaited, Mens & Ladies

- **As per ASHSA, S.H.O.W. Rules 6A, 6B, & 3D with exception.** This class will be open to all gaited horse breeds.
- Braids are optional for this class.
- Shoeing of the horse is allowed, as permitted by the HPA and S.H.O.W regulations.
- Horse is to be shown at a walk and favorite gait. Horse will enter the arena at a walk.
- English or western equipment may be used. One or both hands may be used on the reins.
- The class will be judged on the performance and conformation of the horse at the discretion of the judge.
- The wearing of hats is optional for the ladies; the wearing of hats is mandatory for men. Will not be asked to back.
- Bits with shanks in excess of 9 ½ "in length are prohibited. Shanks are measured from the very top of the metal to the very bottom of the metal including the rings to which the cheeks and reins are attached. (See bit in diagram on page)

Required Gaits:

- **Flat Walk (Walk):** The flat walk should be bold and four - cornered with an evenly timed (1 - 2 - 3 - 4) beat. In the flat walk the horse should break at the knees, reaching and pulling with the front legs with that movement originating from the shoulder. The horse should have impulsion and exhibit stride and drive with the hind legs. There should be no wringing or twisting of the hocks, not any excessive hock action. Over stride is important but should be in accord with the conformation and length of the back and legs of the horse. A horse with a good flat walk will naturally have a straight, up and down head motion timed with the overall rhythm of the walk.
- **Running Walk (Favorite Gait):** The running walk has the same beat or evenly timed footfall (1 - 2 - 3 - 4) as the flat walk but is much smoother with greater stride, rhythm, and natural motion. The increased rear leg stride and increased reach in the shoulder create this smoother ride and propel the horse at a faster speed without changing the cadence of the leg motion. As with the flat walk, the horse will naturally have a straight up and down vertical head motion timed with the overall rhythm of the running walk. A correctly performed running walk is truly a gait of ease, producing a clearly heard and easily counted 4 - beat tempo.

Gaited Equitation:

- **As per WHSA, S.H.O.W. Rule 8 for reference, with exceptions:** This class will be open to all gaited horse breeds.
- Horse will only be shown at the walk and favorite gait (with possible speed transitions)
- For the purposes of this class, Saddle Seat shall indicate usage of an English type saddle and Stock Seat shall indicate usage of a western type saddle. Australian saddles are not allowed. No tie-downs, martingales or draw reins.
- Horse and rider in this class should be immaculately groomed and properly tacked or attired for the style they are showing in.
- Horses must present in their natural state (no fake tails, no dye jobs). Forelock, mane, and tail may be braided in any such way that is neat and does not cause discomfort to the horse. Hair accessories are prohibited with the exception of a discreet, appropriately colored tail bow used for safety reasons (stallion, kicker) ■ Barefoot or flatshod only.
- Riders will be judged on basic position in the saddle, position and use of hands, legs and feet, ability to control and show horse, suitability of horse to rider, and neatness and cleanliness of tack and attire. ■ Perceived value of horse, tack and attire will not be a factor. Horses may be turned either direction when reversed on the rail.
- Results, as shown by the performance of the horse, are not to be considered more important than the methods used by rider to obtain those results. Simply put, and all else being similar (clean, neat, properly tacked and attired horse and rider), a rider who exhibits a lower standard of proper equitation while mounted on a well-trained, 'automatic' horse should not place over a rider who exhibits a higher standard of proper equitation while mounted on a less finished, less talented horse.
- Riders will complete a pattern made up of at least 4 of the recommended maneuvers.

Walk	Fast gait	Drop stirrups (str. line)	Circle
Slow gait	Serpentine	Dismount/Mount	Back

- Judge may call for rail work to break a tie. It is the judge's discretion to use the entire class on the rail or to call only for the tied individuals. Judges will evaluate the rider's equitation through gait transitions in at least one direction when working on the rail. In the pattern work, judges will evaluate the rider's equitation, his/her ability to stay poised and calm, efficiency and accuracy in completing the pattern, consistency of gaits, and control of mount.
- Scoring and Faults shall be the same as for English Equitation as it can apply regarding this class **Position of Body, Hands, Legs, and Feet; use of reins:**
- Rider should sit comfortably straight and relaxed from top of head to hips in the middle of the saddle as viewed from the side and the back. Chin should be level and not elevated or tucked. Shoulders should be at an even level and neither rounded nor thrust backward.
- Upper arms should fall naturally from the shoulders toward the hipbones in a flexible and relaxed manner. Elbows should not extend forward, be clutched to the body, nor be flared out from the body. Hand(s) should hold the reins firmly (not rigidly) with palms down, wrist rounded slightly so that hands are slightly turned toward center. Rein(s) should be held with light contact on the bit and at a height determined by the horse's head carriage. Lower arm from elbow to hand should be held at such an angle to present a straight line from elbow to hand to bit.
- Pelvis should be angled minimally so that the back remains naturally straight without having either a significant arch (swayback) or rounding (curl). Knees should rest against the saddle and have a slight bend (as determined by letting legs hang straight outside of the stirrups and adjusting stirrup length so that the bottom of the stirrup is at the ankle bone), ankles shall be relaxed and flexible, the foot will rest in the center of the stirrup on the ball of foot with even pressure on entire width of sole. 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 and 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. When viewed from the side, a straight line should draw from the rider's ear, to shoulder, to hip, to heel. When viewed from the back, shoulders, hip bones, knees and ankles should be level on each side and head should be straight.
- Both hands must be used with closed reins, romal reins, or anytime split reins are used with a snaffle bit. With romal reins one hand must hold the reins in a fist (no finger between reins) and the free hand holds the tail ~ 16" from the rein hand, free hand should stay back of the front cinch. One hand must be used anytime split reins are used with a curb bit, the free hand should mirror the rein hand. Riders may not change hands while being judged. Tail of split reins used with a curb bit must drape on the same side of the horse as the rein hand. Split reins used with a snaffle bit must be crossed with tails lying on the opposite sides of the neck. **Tack, Attire, and Accessories:**
- All tack and attire must be clean, well kept, and in good repair
- **Saddle Seat style** English saddle of any type, English bridle of any type with a closed (single) rein. Colored brow bands are appropriate, but should be of good taste. Any standard horse bit may be used, except for gag bits, bits with multiple rings on the shanks, bits with sharp projections on the mouthpiece, or bits with shanks in excess of 9 ½" in length. Shanks are measured from the very top of metal to the very bottom of the metal including rings to which the cheeks and reins are attached. Cavesson and breastcollars should be of brown or black leather. Rider attire should ideally consist of a well-fitting habit, Jodhpur pants that cover the heel of the boot, along with a hat (derby, homburg or snap brim) and gloves. Boots shall be English style riding boots that at minimum cover the ankles. Long hair must be styled above the collar. Spurs with a small rowel or blunt end, or slip-ons. English riding whips of not more than four feet are allowed.

- **Stock Seat style** western saddle of any type with or without breast collar and/or back girth, leather western bridle, any standard horse bit may be used, except for gag bits, bits with multiple rings on the shanks, bits with sharp projections on the mouthpiece, or bits with shanks in excess of 9 1/2" in length. Bosals and snaffle bits may be used only on horses 5yrs and younger. Split reins or romal reins only unless using a bosal. Bosals must be minimum 1" diameter. No cavessons, tiedowns, or martingales. Rider attire should be long sleeved shirt w/ collar, long pants, western style heeled boots, western hat and gloves. Optional attire is chaps and vest/jacket, and spurs / slip on spurs with a small rowel or blunt end.

Gaited Trail

- **Obstacles and scoring will be the same as in Ranch Horse Trail**
- Exceptions: No rope drag, will only show at the walk, favorite gait (with speed transitions)
- Open to all gaited breeds
- May show either (english) or Western style, but may not mix styles Gag bits without shanks are not allowed, any other bit with shanks less than 9", has no sharp projections that could cause injury or pain during proper use, and does not cause undue pain or discomfort is allowed

Light Shod:

- As per ASHSA, S.H.O.W Rule 5D w/ exceptions
- This class is open to all gaited horse breeds and no preference will be given to one particular gait.
- Riders must wear and use western tack only. One or both hands may be used on the reins
- No whips, crops, nose bands, or cavessons allowed
- Horses in this class will not be asked to back
- Horse is to be shown at a walk and favorite gait. Horses will enter the arena at a walk
- Shoeing of the horse is allowed as permitted by the HPA and S.H.O.W. regulations. Shoes will be steel -to -hoof (flat shod). Shoe may be attached to the foot with shoeing adhesive. Horses will be shod with the frog exposed. Maximum 3/8" thick X 1" wide stamped (poured cast) hot or cold or cold roll steel or aluminum keg shoe is allowed (both front and hind feet). Poured or cast Clips, if poured in the original cast. Poured or cast heels (caulks), if poured in the original cast (may not be welded on) Borium is allowed on the toe (1 1/2" wide at the toe and spots on heels no more than 1/8" thick. Hoof bands are prohibited
- Any standard horse bit may be used, except for gag bit with no shanks

Required Gaits for Light Shod Gaited:

- **Walk:** This is a smooth slow four - beat gait that should be performed in a very relaxed manner. The horse should be alert but not nervous. Animation is not desired in this gait.
- **Favorite Gait:** This gait is to be performed at moderate speed where the horse extends its stride and covers more ground with each step and can be a variation of any gaited horse breed, with no preference given to any particular gait over another. The gait should be consistent and balanced and should appear easy and comfortable to ride. Excessive speed and animation is not desirable and will be penalized.

HALTER CLASSES

- Entries, whether horse, pony, mini, or mule will be judged according to individual breed standard
- The Judge may, through the ring steward, ask an exhibitor the breed of his/her horse
- All Age Ponies / Minis entries must be 52" and under
- All-Age Mule Halter entries may be of any height
- All other Halter classes are for horses over 52"
- Young stock belonging to 'horse' breeds need not meet the height requirement in their appropriate halter classes
- Any style of halter may be used that is humane, safe, well-fitting, and appropriate for the breed of horse. The only exception is in Ranch Horse Halter (must be a good working halter: rope, braided, nylon or **plain** leather).
- All entries will show to the judge at a walk **and** at either a jog/trot or a slow gait as appropriate for the breed

MISCELLANEOUS CLASSES

Lead Line

General Rules:

1. An exhibitor in the Lead Line class must have his or her feet in the stirrups and the stirrups must be securely attached to the saddle.
2. An exhibitor may not ride or lead a stallion in a Lead Line.
3. The horse must be 3 years of age or older as of January 1st of the current year.
4. An exhibitor cannot be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means during competition.
5. A hard hat may be worn.
6. The age for a Lead Line participant is 7 years and under, as of January 1st of the show year.
7. An exhibitor may show in either Western or English attire (per current AQHA Handbook) **in the Lead Line for the performance classes.**
8. In Lead Line the horse must be led by a lead shank attached to a halter that is under a bridle.
9. Lead Line classes will be performed in both directions at a walk only for the **Leadline state class.** The LEADER of the lead line exhibitor must be a minimum of 18 years of age for the **Leadline state class.** **For non state classes the leader must be 14 and over.**
10. JUDGING THE RIDER. The rider will be judged on his basic position in the saddle, hand, leg, feet in stirrups, seat and back position. The rider will be judged on apparent attempt to ride and direct the horse.
11. BACKING. In the lineup, the judge may ask riders to back their horses to help him judge the extent of the rider's horsemanship. If the judge asks the rider to back the horse in the lineup, the adult should not aid the rider. The adult should only keep the horse under control.

Showmanship

- **AQHA rules apply. See SHW370-SHW379 (pages 62-64) of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for rules, faults, penalties, disqualifications.**
- Showmanship is designed to evaluate the exhibitor's ability to execute, in concert with a well groomed and conditioned horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position.
- All exhibitors may enter the ring and then work individually or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. ■
The following maneuvers are considered acceptable: **(Should be dashes instead of bullets for the acceptable maneuvers)**
- Lead the horse at a walk, jog, trot or extended trot
- Back in a straight or curved line, or a combination of straight and curved lines
- Stop
- Turn 90 (1/4), 180 (1/2), 270 (3/4), 360 (full turn) degrees or any combination or multiple of these turns. The pull turn is an unacceptable maneuver.
- The judge must have exhibitors set the horse up squarely for inspection sometime during the class.
- The exhibitor's overall poise, confidence, appearance and position throughout the class, and the physical appearance of the horse will be evaluated.
- Appropriate western attire must be worn; clothes and person are to be neat and clean.
- The use of any type of artificial aid including, but not limited to lighters, hay, dirt, sharp pins, etc. will be considered a disqualification.
- 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.
- The exhibitor must lead on the horse's left side holding the lead shank in the right hand near the halter with the tail of the lead loosely coiled in the left hand unless requested by the judge to show the horse's teeth. It is preferable that the exhibitor's hand not be on the snap or chain portion of the lead continuously. The excess lead should never be tightly coiled, rolled or folded. 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. The exhibitor is required to use the Quarter Method when presenting the horse. The exhibitor should maintain a position that is safe for themselves and the judge. The position of the exhibitor should not obstruct the judge's view of the horse and should allow the exhibitor to maintain awareness of the judge's position at all times. The exhibitor should not crowd other exhibitors when setting up side-by-side or head-to-tail. When moving around the horse, the exhibitor should change sides in front of the horse with minimal steps and should assume the same position on the right side of the horse that they had on the left side.
- 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. 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.
- The horse's body condition and overall fitness should be assessed. The hair coat should be clean, well-brushed and in good condition. The mane, tail, forelock and wither tuft may not contain ornaments (ribbons, bows, etc.), but may be braided or banded for English or Western. The length of mane and tail may vary, as long as they are neat, clean and free of tangles. The mane should be even in length or may be roached, but the forelock and tuft over the withers must be left. The bridle path, eyebrows, and long hair on the head and legs may be clipped, except where government regulations prohibit. Hooves should be properly trimmed and if shod, the shoes should fit correctly and clinches should be neat. Hooves must be clean and may be painted black or with hoof dressings, or shown naturally. Tack should fit properly and be neat, clean and in good repair.
- 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 set up willingly, briskly and readily with minimal visible or audible cueing. Severe disobedience will not result in a disqualification but should be penalized severely, and the exhibitor should not place above an exhibitor that completes the pattern correctly. Excessive schooling or training, willful abuse, loss of control of the horse by the exhibitor, failure to follow prescribed pattern, knocking over or working on the wrong side of the cones shall be cause for disqualification.
- The horse should be led directly to and away from the judge as directed in the pattern and track briskly and freely at the prescribed gait as instructed. The horse's head and neck should be straight and in line with the body.
- The stop should be straight, prompt, smooth and responsive with the horse's body remaining straight. The horse should back up readily with the head, neck and body aligned in a straight or curved line as instructed.
- On turns of greater than 90 degrees, the ideal turn consists of the horse pivoting on the right hind leg while stepping across and in front of the right front leg with the left front leg. An exhibitor should not be penalized if their horse performs a pivot on the left hind leg, but an exhibitor whose horse performs the pivot correctly should receive more credit.
- The horse should be set up quickly with the feet squarely underneath the body. The exhibitor does not have to reset a horse that stops square.

WESTERN CLASSES

Horsemanship

- **AQHA rules apply. See SHW430 – SHW437 (pages 71-74) of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for scoring, faults, penalties, disqualifications.**
- Horsemanship is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position. The ideal horsemanship pattern is extremely precise with the rider and horse working in complete unison, executing each maneuver with subtle aids and cues. The horse's head and neck should be carried in a relaxed, natural position, with the poll level with or slightly above the withers. The head should not be carried behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance.
- All exhibitors must enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. When exhibitors are worked individually from the gate, a working order is required. Exhibitors should be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their work. The whole class, or just the finalists, must work at all three gaits at least one direction of the arena.

Maneuvers or combinations of these maneuvers acceptable in a pattern:

- Walk, jog, trot, extended trot, lope or extended lope in a straight line, curved line, serpentine, circle or figure 8,
- Stop
- Back in a straight or curved line
- Turn or pivot, including spins and rollbacks on the haunches and/or on the forehand ■ Side pass
- Two-track or leg-yield
- Flying or simple change of lead

- Counter-canter
- Ride without stirrups
- Judges will not ask exhibitors to mount or dismount.

Presentation and Position of Exhibitor

- Appropriate western attire must be worn. Clothes and person are to be neat and clean.
- 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.
- 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 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.
- 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 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.

Presentation and Performance of Horse

- The horse's body condition and overall health and fitness should be assessed. The horse should appear fit and carry weight appropriate for the body size. A horse which appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired should be penalized according to severity. Tack should fit the horse properly and be neat, clean and in good repair.
- The horse should perform all maneuvers in the pattern willingly, briskly and readily with minimal visible or audible cueing. Severe disobedience will not result in a disqualification, but should be severely penalized, and the exhibitor should not place above an exhibitor that completes the pattern correctly. Failure to follow the prescribed pattern, knocking over or working on the wrong side of the cones, excessive schooling or training, or willful abuse by the exhibitor is cause for disqualification.
- The horse should track straight, freely and at the proper cadence for the prescribed gait. Transitions should be smooth and prompt in the pattern and on the rail, and should be performed when called for on the rail. The horse's head and neck should be straight and in line with their body while performing straight lines and slightly arched to the inside on curved lines or circles. Circles should be round and performed at the appropriate speed, size and location as requested in the pattern. The counter-canter should be performed smoothly with no change in cadence or stride unless specified in the pattern.
- The stop should be straight, square, prompt, smooth and responsive with the horse maintaining a straight body position throughout the maneuver. The back should be smooth and responsive.
- Turns should be smooth and continuous. When performing a turn on the haunches, the horse should pivot on the inside hind leg and step across with the front legs. A rollback is a stop and 180 degree turn over the hocks with no hesitation. Backing during turns will be penalized severely.
- The horse should step across with the front and hind legs when performing the side pass, leg-yield and two-track. The side pass should be performed with the horse keeping the body straight while moving directly lateral in the specified direction. When performing a leg-yield, the horse should move forward and lateral in a diagonal direction with the horse's body arced

opposite to the direction that the horse is moving. In the two-track, the horse should move forward and lateral in a diagonal direction with the horse's body held straight or bent in the direction the horse is moving.

- a simple or flying change of lead should be executed precisely in the specified number of strides and/or at the designated location. A simple change of lead is performed by breaking to a walk or trot for one to three strides. Flying changes should be simultaneous front and rear. All changes should be smooth and timely.
- Position of the exhibitor and performance of the horse and rider on the rail must be considered in the final placing.

Ranch Horse Trail

- **AQHA rules apply.**

Disqualifications will be the same as Performance Trail, disqualification rules are after Performance Trail Rules.

- The ranch trail class should test the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered in everyday riding. The horse is ridden through a pattern of obstacles which should nearly approximate those found during the course of everyday work. The horse/rider team is judged on the correctness, efficiency and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated and the attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well-broke, responsive and well-mannered horse which can correctly navigate and negotiate the course.
- The ranch trail course will include no less than six obstacles.
- The course will be designed using obstacles and maneuvers. Combining two or more of the obstacles is acceptable. Tarps, water obstacles with slick bottoms, PVC pipe used as a jump or walk over, tires, rocking or moving bridges, logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner will not be used.
- **All runs begin upon entering the pen** and any infractions are subject to penalty at that time (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.)
- A judge may ask a horse to pass on an obstacle after three refusals or at any time for safety concerns.

Obstacles That May Be Used

- Ride over obstacles on the ground (usually logs or poles) either at the walk, trot or lope. Guidelines:
- Walk-overs: Walk over no more than five logs or poles no more than 10 inches high and spacing between 26 – 30 inches. The formation may be straight, curved, zigzagged or raised.
- Trot-overs: Trot over no more than five logs or poles no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs or poles should be 30-42 inches. The formation can also be straight, curved, zigzagged or raised.
- Lope-overs: Lope over no more than five logs or poles no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs or poles should be 6 to 7 feet. The formation can also be straight, curved, zigzagged or raised.
- Opening, passing through and closing gate: Use gate that will not endanger horse or rider and requires minimum side-passing.
- Ride over wooden bridge: Bridge should be sturdy, safe and negotiated at a walk only. Heavy plywood lying flat on the ground is an acceptable simulation of a bridge. Suggested minimum width shall be 36 inches wide and at least 6 feet long.
- Backing obstacles: Backing obstacles are to be spaced at a minimum of 28 inches. If elevated, 30 inch spacing is required.
- Back through and around at least three markers
- Back through L, V, U or straight or similarly shaped course which may be elevated no more than 24 inches.
- Side-pass obstacle: Any object which is safe and of any length may be used to demonstrate responsiveness of the horse to leg signals. Raised side pass obstacles should not exceed 12 inches.
- Rope drag: A rope will not be used in youth classes. Drag may be a complete figure eight and may begin in either direction.
- A jump obstacle whose center height is not less than 14 inches high or more that 25 inches high. Holding the saddle horn is permissible for this obstacle.
- Only live or stuffed animals which would normally be encountered in an outdoor setting may be used but not to be used in an attempt to spook a horse.
- Carry objects from one part of the arena to another.
- Remove and replace materials from a mailbox.
- Trot through cones spaced a minimum of 6 feet apart.
- Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments.
- Swing rope or throw rope at a dummy steer head. 🐄 Step in and out of obstacles. Put on a slicker or coat.
- Stand to mount with a mounting block.
- Walk through water obstacle. Open gate on foot.
- Pick up feet.
- Walk through brush.
- Ground tie.
- Lead at the trot.

- Any obstacle that can be found in everyday ranch work that is not dangerous to horse or rider (**this could include loading in/unloading from a horse/stock trailer**)

Ranch Horse Western Pleasure

- **ASHSA (Arkansas State Horse Show Association) rules apply**, Western tack and attire.
- Horses will be shown at three gaits – walk, trot, and lope – in each direction of the arena.
- Horses will also be asked to reverse away from the rail, to stop, and back.
- The judge may ask for an extended trot and extended lope.
- A horse will be given credit for traveling with his head held in a normal position, ears alert and moving at a natural speed for the gait required.
- Excessive speed at any gait will be penalized as well as extreme slowness at any gait.
- Credit will also be given for making a smooth transition between gaits, for keeping the correct lead, and for maintaining the gait requested until the judge requests a change.
- Rider must show his horse with only one hand on the reins, unless the horse is five years old or younger and is being shown in a snaffle bit or hackamore (bosal).
- A good working outfit of tack should count over silver equipment. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged. No braided or banded manes or tail extensions.
- No whipping allowed.

Ranch Riding

- **AQHA rules apply. See AQHA rules SHW557.1 and SHW 560 (pages 119 & 120) of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for scoring, faults, penalties, disqualifications.**
- The purpose of the Ranch Riding horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse. 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 shall not 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.
- Horses three years of age and older, Each horse will work individually, The required maneuvers are:
 - Walk, trot, and lope both directions
 - Extended trot and extended lope at least one direction
 - Stops
 - Back
 - Three optional maneuvers may include:
 - Side pass
 - Turns of 360 degrees or more
 - Change of lead (simple or flying)
 - Walk, trot, or lope over a pole(s)
 - Some reasonable combination of maneuvers that would be reasonable for a ranch horse to perform.
 - Any pattern may be used as long as the required maneuvers and the three (or more) optional maneuvers are included, it is recommended to not have the stop following an extended lope.
- The overall cadence and performance of the gaits in Ranch Riding should be as those described here, with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
- In all gaits, movement of the ranch riding horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. The following terminology shall apply: **(Dashes again)**
- 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.
- Trot- The trot is a natural two-beat gait demonstrating more forward motion than the western jog.
- 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.
- Lope- The lope is a three-beat gait, the lope should be relaxed and smooth with a natural, forward moving stride.
- 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.
- Posting at the extended trot is acceptable.
- Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.
- No hoof polish. No braided or banded manes or tail extensions.
- Trimming inside ears is discouraged, trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair.

- Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.
 - It is suggested competitors use a breast collar and a rear cinch.
- Westark will take the scores of the top riders from both Youth and Senior and after the last show Westark will send top 5 to state from our Ranch Riding class. Westark will run their classes as in the past.

Reining

- **AQHA rules apply. See AQHA rules SHW480-SHW489 (pages 86 & 87 of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for scoring, faults, and penalties. Patterns on pages 88-94 of the same handbook.**
- Reining is a judged event designed to show the athletic ability of a ranch type horse in the confines of a show arena. In reining competition, contestants are required to run one of several approved patterns. Each pattern includes small slow circles, large fast circles, flying lead changes, rollbacks over the hocks, a series of 360 degree spins done in place, and the exciting sliding stops that are the hallmark of a reining horse. To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willingly 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. Any one of the 13 AQHA-approved reining patterns may be used and is to be selected by the judge of the class and used by all contestants in the class. Each contestant will perform the required pattern individually and separately. All horses will be judged immediately upon entering the arena. Any fault incurred prior to the commencement of a pattern will be scored accordingly. 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.

Stock Horse Pleasure

- **ASHA (American Stock Horse Association) rules apply**
- This class serves to measure the ability of the horse to be functional and a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from one task to another. This horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits.
- The horse should be ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint. Excessively long floppy reins will not be given extra credit. The horse should be responsive to the rider and make all required transitions smoothly, timely and correctly. The horse should be soft in the bridle and yield to contact.
- Horses shall be shown individually at the walk, trot and lope in both directions. The walk, trot and lope will be extended in one direction only.
- The class should be conducted inside of an arena. An arena provides good footing for stops in the pattern. The pattern may be started either to the right or left direction.
- The order of gaits shall never vary and shall be as follows. Individual Markers shall be setup to designate gait changes. When establishing or setting up markers, the following distances are recommended. These distances will make for a more fluid class to be exhibited and facilitate ease in judging. In smaller arenas, it may be necessary to adjust the course to get distances similar to those recommended.
 - Extended Walk – 75 feet
 - Trot - 120 feet
 - Extended Trot – 240 feet
 - Lope - 150 feet
 - Stop and Reverse
 - Ordinary Walk – 30 feet
 - Lope – 150 feet
 - Extended Lope – 200 feet
 - Trot – 90 feet
 - Stop and Back
- At the preference of the rider, the extended trot may be ridden with the rider posting, sitting or standing in the stirrups, to the front of the saddle. Holding the saddle horn is permissible at the extended trot only. Preference should not be given by the judge for any method of showing, as emphasis should be on the performance of the horse and how effective the horse is at actually extending the trot and the mannerisms and responsiveness to the rider.

Description of Ideal Stock Horse Pleasure Gaits

- The ideal pleasure horse will have a level head carriage at each gait – neither too high nor too low.
- Ordinary Walk – A stock horse pleasure walk should be straight, square, flat footed, relaxed and should move out freely with no anticipation to move to the next gait.
- Extended Walk – A stock horse pleasure walk should be straight, square flat footed, relaxed and should move out freely with horse looking ahead, the extended walk should show more length of stride than the ordinary walk.
- Trot – This gait should be a square two-beat diagonal trot. The trot should be steady, soft and slow enough for riding long distances. Trots which are rough and hard to sit should be penalized. Excessively slow and not in cadence.

- ced trots should also be penalized.
- Extended Trot – The extended trot should show an evident lengthening of stride from the regular trot with the same cadence that will cause an increase in speed. This trot should be level, flat and steady with the appearance that the horse would hold this gait for an extended distance.
- Lope – This gait should be a three beat gait that is cadenced, straight and steady and is comfortable to ride over long distances.
- Extended Lope – This gait should be an obvious lengthening of stride from the previous lope, be at the same cadence and cause an increase in speed. The gait needs to be steady, quiet, and holding the increased speed while being under control.
- Stop (from both lope and trot) – The horse should be in the correct stopping position – both hocks engaged and stopping on the hindquarters.
- Reverse – A horse should turn briskly and flat with front feet on the ground and holding an inside rear pivot foot.

Cues and Transitions

- There is no advantage to making these transitions with cues that are imperceptible to a judge. Judges expect to see horses that been trained to respond to cues. To see these cues applied discretely and the horse responding correctly could be a credit earning situation.
- Transitions should be smooth without undue fuss from the horse.
- A horse may be taken back (collected) a bit from the extended trot as the horse moves into the lope.
- The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is very difficult to achieve, however, a good stock horse will have to make this transition several times during a day's work. This transition is down to the normal or sitting trot not the extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this total transition within three strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded.

Horses that bring the hocks together to go into a stopping position should be penalized according to the magnitude of the error.

Scoring.

Each gait, including transitions toward that gait, will be scored from 1-10. There will be 5 scores in each direction for a total of 10 scores and a maximum of 100 points for each horse's work. The following scoring guidelines will be used:

- Score of 1-4 Points: Major faults such as wrong lead, broken gait, lack of control, very poor quality of gait, failure to perform requested gait.
- Score of 5-7 Points: Average quality of movement of gaits and transitions with minor or no faults
- Score of 8-10 Points: High quality mover that is functionally correct in gaits and transitions. Horse is well mannered and responsive.

Trail

- **AQHA rules apply. See AQHA rules SHW461-SHW468 (pages 82 & 86 of the AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations 2015, 63rd edition) for scoring, faults, penalties. There will not be any DQs in Youth and Novice Trail.**

Disqualifications listed below

- Will be judged on the performance of the horse over obstacles, with emphasis on manners, response to the rider and quality of movement. Credit will be given to horses negotiating the obstacles with style and some degree of speed, providing correctness is not sacrificed. Horses should receive credit for showing attentiveness to the obstacles and the capability of picking their own way through the course when obstacles warrant it, and willingly responding to the rider's cues on more difficult obstacles. Horses shall be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching or negotiating the obstacles. Horses with artificial appearance over obstacles should be penalized. Horses must not be required to work on the rail. While on the line of travel between obstacles, the horse shall be balanced, carrying his head and neck in a relaxed, natural position, with the poll level with or slightly above the withers. The head should not be carried behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance.
- At least six obstacles must be used.

Obstacles That May Be Used:

- Opening, passing through and closing gate. (Losing control of gate is to be penalized.) Use a gate which will not endanger horse or rider. If the gate has a metal, plastic or wooden support bar under the opening, contestants must work the gate moving forward through it.
- Ride over at least four logs or poles. These can be in a straight line, curved, zigzag or raised. The space between the logs is to be measured and the path the horse is to take should be the measuring point. All elevated elements must be placed in a cup, notched block, or otherwise secured so they cannot roll. The height should be measured from the ground to the top of the element. Spacing for walkovers, trot overs, and lope overs should be as follows or increments thereof.
- Walkovers shall be 20" to 24" (50 - 60 cm) and may be elevated to 12" (30 cm). Elevated walkovers should be set at least 22" (55 cm) apart.

- Trot overs shall be 3' to 3'3" (90 -100 cm) and may be elevated to 8" (20 cm).
- Lope overs shall be 6' to 6 1/2' (1.8 - 2 meters) or increments thereof, and may be elevated to 8" (20 cm).
- Backing obstacle. Backing obstacles to be spaced a minimum of 28" (70 cm). If elevated, 30" (75 cm) spacing is required. Entrants cannot be asked to back over a stationary object such as a wooden pole or metal bar.
- Back through and around at least three markers.
- Back through L, V, U, straight or similar-shaped course. May be elevated no more than 24" (60 cm).
- Water hazard (ditch or small pond). No metal or slick bottom-boxes will be used.
- Serpentine obstacles at walk or jog. Spacing to be minimum of 6' (1.8 meters) for jog.
- Carry objects from one part of the arena to another. (Only objects which reasonably might be carried on a trail ride may be used.)
- Ride over a wooden bridge. (Suggested minimum width shall be 36" (90 cm) wide and at least six feet long). Bridge should be sturdy, safe and negotiated at a walk only.
- Put on and remove the slicker.
- Remove and replace materials from the mailbox.
- Side pass (may be elevated to 12" (30 cm) maximum).
- An obstacle consisting of four logs or rails, laid in a square. Minimum width of the square should be 6' (1.8 m). Each contestant will enter the square by riding over a log or rail as designated. When all four feet are inside the square, the rider should execute a turn, as indicated, and depart.
- Any other safe and negotiable obstacle which could reasonably be expected to be encountered on a trail ride and meets the approval of the judge

Unacceptable obstacles

Tires, Animals, Hides, PVC pipe, Dismounting, Jumps, Rocking/moving bridges, Ground ties, Water box with floating or moving parts, Flames, dry ice, fire extinguisher, etc., Poles elevated such that they can roll

Disqualified 0 – Score for Ranch and Performance Trail

- use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore classes designated for two hands) or changing hands on reins; except for junior horses shown with hackamore or snaffle bit, only one hand may be used on the reins, except that it is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle as outlined in [443\(d\)](#)
 - use of romal other than as outlined in [443\(e\)](#)
 - 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 or exiting an obstacle from the incorrect side or direction
 - working obstacle the incorrect direction; including overturns of more than ¼ 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 gait between obstacle as designated
 - failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles
 - failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles
 - excessive schooling, pulling, turning, stepping or backing anywhere on course
 - faults that occur on the line of travel between obstacles, which will be cause for disqualification, except in novice amateur or novice youth classes, which shall be faults scored according to severity: -head carried too low (tip of ear below the withers consistently) -over-flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently
- ±

TIMED (SPEED CLASSES)

AQHA rules for tack and equipment will apply to all classes, with those exceptions noted as per WHSA.

Barrel Pick-Up

- To be run with a barrel placed at least 20ft from the fence at the opposite end of the arena from the timers and the rider may ride to the right or left circling the barrel.
- The starting (timer) line should be at least 20 feet inside the arena.
- Jumpers must mount from the barrel and must be astraddle of the horse at the finish line.
- Jumper must mount unassisted. Use of rider's hands to assist or steady the jumper at any time during the will result in a disqualification.
- If jumper touches the ground, it will be a disqualification and he/she must exit the arena by foot.
- Rider and jumper may be in any position or order on the horse at any time, as long as neither have touched the ground during the run, and they are both astride the horse at the finish line.

Barrel Race

- Horse and rider may enter from either side as long as pattern is not broken, and exit is made between the two front barrels. Pattern consists of a cloverleaf beginning to the left (left turn, right turn, right turn) or to the right (right turn, left turn, left turn) run around the barrels.
- No barrel shall be placed closer than 15 feet from the fence.
- Five (5) second penalty for knocking over a barrel OR for any barrel left standing that was moved out of pattern due to a rider using his/her hand(s) on it in an attempt to leave it standing.
- Touching of the barrel by the rider is permissible.
- Rider must maintain forward motion

Flag Race

- Barrels will be set with the point barrel being ~ 126ft from the timer line and the side barrels being placed against the fence on each side **35ft** from the timers. Flags will be a 1" diameter soft wood dowel 18 inches long, moderately sharpened to a tip on one end with a clear mark 3" up from the point and with an 8" x 9" cloth flag attached midway up the dowel to the opposite end (which has been gently rounded and sanded smooth).
- Buckets will be five gallon plastic buckets of any color, clearly marked at a level 3" from the top and filled to that 3" mark with **masonry sand**. Buckets shall be placed to the inside of the barrel.
- The arena crew will place the flag in the bucket to a 3" depth (marked on flag) before each run. The flag for pickup in Pony Flags and leadline flags (if offered) will be placed on the inside edge of the bucket, for all other classes the flag will be placed in the center of the bucket.
- Upon completion of the ride, barrels and buckets must be standing upright and flag must be inside the bucket to receive a time.
- Any flag sticking through the plastic of the bucket inside to outside is legal, **outside to inside is not**.
- Flag may be used as a whip.
- Rider must maintain forward motion with not more than a 90 degree turn in pattern. If rider turns more than 90 or lose forward motion will result in a DQ

Keyhole

- Keyhole shall consist of a 12' circle with a 10' long x 5' wide throat, outlined in lime or flour
- Rider will enter the keyhole at his/her choice of speed, reverse either direction within the keyhole (not in the throat or the approach, and exit the keyhole without stepping **on or over** any lines.
- Placement of a hoof **on or over** a line will be a no-time. Disturbance of the line by pushed dirt, flying dirt clods, dropped equipment, etc... will not result in a no-time (as long as no hoof went on or over the line).
- Flagger will indicate to the announcer whether a run is a no-time by clearly waving the flag.

Pole Bending

- The pole bending pattern is to be run around six (6) poles placed 21ft apart in a straight line. First pole is to be at least 21 feet away from the timer line; the last pole is to be at least 21 feet away from the fence.
- The pattern may begin down the left or the right side of the poles. Horse and rider are to cross the timer, run to the farthest pole without weaving, turn that pole and weave between the poles to the end pole, turn it and weave back down the line of poles to the farthest pole, turn it and run straight back down the line of poles exiting across the timer.
- Failure to follow the pattern (advancement past 2 poles, including downed poles, without weaving between them or crossing back over the timer before completing the run) will be a disqualification.
- Touching of the pole by the rider is permissible.
- Five (5) second penalty per pole knocked over OR for any pole left standing that was moved out of pattern by a rider grasping it in his/her hand.
- Rider must maintain forward motion

Speed Race

- Pattern is a straightforward run across the timer, around the barrel, and back across the timer. May be run either left or right, and may be run along any path the rider chooses as long as the pattern is not broken. ■ Knocked over the barrel is a no-time.
- Riders may use any reasonable attempt to leave the barrel standing that does not significantly alter the original placement of the barrel.
- For Westark Pony Speed will run with Jr Speed and we will divide them out for state. This will not be viewed as an extra class for Westark.
- Rider must maintain forward motion

Stake Race

- FIGURE 8 STAKE RACE, RULES ARE ACCORDING TO THE APPALOOSA HORSE CLUB
- A. This is a timed event.
- B. The start/finish line is 30 feet (9.15 m) wide and marked by two upright markers (cones or pylons) short enough to not interfere with the timer if one is used. Short pylons or cones are recommended. C. There are two stakes in this event. The stakes shall be 80 feet (24.38 m) apart. The first stake shall be 21 feet (6.4 m) from the start/finish line and the second stake shall be 101 feet (30.78 m) from the start/finish line if arena size permits. The pattern may be shortened depending upon arena size; however the two stakes must always be placed 80 feet (24.38 m) apart, regardless of the distance between the first stake and the start/finish line.
- D. Exhibitors shall cross the start/finish line and run down the right side or left side of the poles to the second pole making either a right- or left-hand turn. Exhibitor shall not cross between the two poles before making the first turn. Exhibitor shall then run to the first pole and make a turn in the opposite direction. Exhibitors must then run back to the second pole and repeat the first turn then run straight back down either the left or right side of the poles (opposite side than when first crossing start line and running to second pole) and cross the start/finish line. Pattern must be run according to the diagram in G.
- E. A no-time is given if either of the upright poles or either of the two upright markers are knocked down.
- F. An exhibitor may not walk through the course in order to qualify for a placing position nor in the run-off for a tie.
- Rider must maintain forward motion

