

AUSTRALIAN
Quarter Horse
ASSOCIATION

ABN# 41 000 964 643

An Affiliate of the American Quarter Horse Association

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Effective 1st August 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

To record, and preserve, the pedigree of the Australian Quarter Horse Association while maintaining the integrity of the breed.

To develop and implement procedures that ensure humane treatment of all horses and animals associated with the breed.

To develop diverse educational programs, material and curriculum that will position the AQHA as one of the leading organisations in the Australian Equine Industry.

To provide beneficial services for its members which enhance and encourage Quarter Horse ownership and participation.

To generate growth of the AQHA membership via the marketing, promotion, advertising, and publicity of the Australian Quarter Horse Association.

By resolution of the Board:

These Rules and Regulations will become effective on and from 1st August 2024 and therefore all Regulations and Rules heretofore in force are hereby repealed. The status of all points, registrations and records made under previous rules will remain unchanged.

Alterations of these rules by addition, deletion, or amendment, at any time, must be affected by resolution of the Board in accordance with the Constitution and will be displayed on the Associations web site.

All State and Federal Laws override this Rule Book

INDEX

Attire

English	91
Equestrian with Disabilities	123
Hunter in Hand	103
Judges	83
Lunge Line	110
Officials	63
Pleasure Driving	114
Ranch Riding	115
Sporting	129
Western Attire	95
Youth Lead Line	109
Youth Walk, Jog/Trot	137

SECTION ONE General

A

Association Services	7
----------------------	---

D

Definitions	7
Disciplinary Action	7

I

Indemnity	7
-----------	---

M

Membership	10
------------	----

P

Professional Code of Ethics	9
Prohibited Conduct	9

SECTION TWO Horses

A

Age of a Horse	27
American Registration	39

B

Brands	31
Breeding	21
Breeding Chart	17

C

Characteristics	18
Colours of Horse	28

D

Deregistration	38
Domestic Embryo/Oocyte Permits	24

Domestic/Imported Semen	24
F	
Forebearers	17
Foundation Recording	16, 35
G	
Gelding Status	35
General	25
Genetic Testing	31
H	
Horses bred in Australia	14
Horses not born in Aust. & residing outside Aust.	14
Horses not eligible for Registration	18
I	
IBF Process	22
Imported	14
M	
Markings	29
N	
Name of a Horse	27
Notification of death/disposal of Horse	37
P	
Performance Registry	15
Prefix	28
R	
Registration Application	14
Registration Due Dates	25
S	
Standard of Excellence	18
T	
Transfers/Lease	36
U	
Undesirable Characteristics	19
SECTION THREE Show & Performance	
A	
Allocation of Points	67
Amateur and Select Amateur	70
Animal Welfare	41
Approval	47
Approved Performance Bodies	52
AQHA Disclaimer	45
C	
Champion and Reserve at Halter	67
D	

Different types of Show Approval	47
Disputes Committee	66
Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing	68
E	
Eligibility Halter Classes	50
Eligibility Performance Horses	51
Entry Fees and Records	59
Equestrian with Disabilities Awards	120
G	
General	46
H	
Halter	49, 50
Horseback Riding Program	80
High Point Awards at Shows	53
Horse Age Requirements	49
I	
Incidents at Shows	45
M	
Miscellaneous Show Rules	61
Multi-Judged Shows	58
N	
Novice Horse	79
Novice Amateur and Novice Youth	77
P	
Performance Halter	49,99
Points Sliding Scale	164
Pony Club Points and Awards	76
R	
ROMS and other Achievements	68
Racing	80
Recognised Classes	50
Ribbons	61
S	
Show Hunter	68
Show Officials	63
Show Approval	47
Show Results	60
State, National & Versatility State Shows	59
Special Events	58
T	
Ties (draws)	66
V	
Versatility Ranch Show	55

Veterinarian	66
Y	
Youth	73
Youth Lead Line	75
Youth Walk, Jog/Trot	76
SECTION FOUR Judging	
A	
Ages and Membership	82
Authority	86
D	
Definition of type of Judges	81
J	
Judges Attire	83
Judges Conduct	82
Judges Conflict	84
Judges Fees	85
Judges Placings	84
O	
Other Approved Judges	82
Online Judging Program	83
SECTION FIVE Classes, Equipment	
B	
Boxing	99
C	
Cutting	101
E	
English Equipment	89
English Gaits	91
English Equipment Prohibited for Showing	91
Equestrian with Disabilities	120
H	
Halter Classes	97
Halter Equipment	97
Hunter in Hand	103
Hunter Hack	101
Hunt Seat Equitation	104
Hunter under Saddle	107
L	
Lameness	88
Lead Line Youth only	108
Lunge Line	109
P	
Performance Classes	88

Pleasure Driving	113
Performance Halter	99
R	
Ranch Riding	114
Reining	116
S	
Safety Helmets	88
Showmanship at Halter	125
Sporting	128
T	
Trail Ridden and Led	131
Training Equipment	88
V	
Versatility Ranch	138
W	
Walk, Jog/Trot – Youth only	137
Western Dressage	163
Western Equipment	92
Western Equipment Prohibited for Showing	94
Western Gaits	95
Western Horsemanship	155
Western Pleasure	160
Western Riding	161
Working Cow Horse	163
SECTION SIX – Patterns	
EWD	193
Hunter in Hand	166
Lunge Line	166
Ranch Riding	167
Reining	173
Sporting	185
Versatility Ranch Pleasure	187
Versatility Ranch Reining	190
Western Riding	196

SECTION ONE (1) General

These Rules and Regulations must be adhered to at any Association sanctioned event conducted by the AQHA, AQHA Affiliates and by any organisation that has been granted program approval and by all members of the Association.

ASSOCIATION SERVICES

To be eligible for any services offered by the Association, the person or persons must hold a current financial Full, Life, Honorary Life, Constituent or Youth membership and be a member in good standing with the Association.

No Association services are available to suspended, expelled or non-members. The applicable fee, from the current Schedule of Fees, must accompany all documentation for any service provided by the Association.

All applicants, who wish to use these facilities, are required to satisfy the Association that they are so entitled.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Board will act in accordance with its Constitution to reprimand, fine, suspend or expel a member, the representative of any member, or the Member of any Member (being a Life Member, a Constituent Member or an Affiliate Member) if it considers that Member to be guilty of fraud, dishonesty, conduct unbecoming a Member, in breach of the Constitution and/or the Rules and Regulations of the Association, is prejudicial to the interests of the Association and any non-member will be fined and/or denied Association privileges.

A person who fails to report any infringement of these rules may also be the subject of disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.

INDEMNITY

Every member who supplies the Association with particulars relating to any horse will indemnify and keep indemnified the Association from and against all actions, suits, causes or action, claims and demands which may be brought or made against the Association in respect of registration of such horse or its progeny, provided the information recorded by the Association is that presented to it by the member.

DEFINITIONS

Interpretations – contained in the Constitution of the Association will be deemed to be embodied in these Regulations.

“AmQHA” means the American Quarter Horse Association.

“Appendix Registry” means the register of Appendix “A” numbered Quarter horses.

“Approved Class” means a recognised class that has been given approval by the Association.

“Approved Performance Bodies” means organisations that the Association recognises as the controlling body for such an equine discipline.

“AQHA” means the Australian Quarter Horse Association, ABN 41 000 964 643.

“Association” means the Australian Quarter Horse Association, ABN 41 000 964 643.

“Breeder” means the breeder of any Quarter Horse who is the owner, or the registered lessee, of the dam at the time of service.

“Category” means several classes.

“Class” means a Judged equine discipline.

“Considered” means that it will be reviewed, but not necessarily accepted.

“Divisions” is a reference to ages, status, gender.

“DNA Markers” (also called DNA Profile) are a record, issued by a DNA testing laboratory, of the unique genetic identification of an individual horse.

“Equine Disciplines” means Western Pleasure, Dressage, Campdraft, etc.

“Event” means anything held by the by the AQHA or an AQHA Affiliate, includes but is not limited to: shows, clinics, demonstrations, conducting trade exhibits, meetings, trail rides, end of year get togethers etc.

“Excessive” means unreasonable, unnecessary, and unwarranted.

“Exhibitor” means a person who presents a horse for judging.

“Financial” means membership fees are paid up to date.

“FM or FS” numbered horses means mares and stallions that have been accepted as Foundation Recording for breeding purposes only.

“Imported Horse” means a horse foaled outside the territorial limits of Australia and imported into Australia.

“Lodged” means Post, Email, Faxed, Online and/or hand delivered to the Association Office, completed and with applicable fees.

“Member” means a person whose name is recorded in the register as a member of the Association.

“Nominee” means a person who has the right to sign paperwork on behalf of an *Affiliate* or Constituent membership.

“Owner” in relation to a horse, means the person recorded as its owner in the Association records.

“Recognised Classes” means classes that are deemed point earning by the Association are listed in these Rules and Regulations.

“Sanctioned Event” means any event run by the AQHA or an AQHA Affiliate where notification has been received, and approval given by the Association.

“Show” means a gathering of horses for competition that are judged. A Show is determined as being held from the first class contested on the program to the last class contested on the program.

“Signature Authorisation” means that a member has given another member or person authorisation to sign on their behalf paperwork relating to that person’s membership.

“Stud Book” means the register of Q, R1 and R2 numbered Quarter Horses.

“Unapproved Class” means a recognised class that has not been given approval by the Association.

1. THE ASSOCIATION

1.1 Professional Code of Ethics

We, the members of the Australian Quarter Horse Association, in carrying out our role of providing service to the Australian Quarter Horse industry, recognise the need to do so in a professional manner, and to deal with the public and our colleagues with the highest degree of integrity.

We will endeavour to fulfil our obligations to:

- a) Adhere to the professional standards of the Association and to work to further its goals and objectives;
- b) Ensure that the welfare of the Australian Quarter Horse is paramount and that every Australian Quarter Horse is always treated humanely and with dignity, respect and compassion;
- c) Conduct all business affairs with integrity, sincerity and accuracy, in an open and forthright manner;
- d) Act with integrity in financial dealings with clients, other professionals and the public;
- e) Handle our business and operations in a manner that promotes the image of the Australian Quarter Horse industry; and
- f) Instil confidence among clients, the public and members of the Australian Quarter Horse industry, avoiding any action conducive to discrediting it or membership in the association.

1.2 Prohibited Conduct, but not limited to:

- a) Conspiring with another person or persons to intentionally violate Association rules, or to assist in any violation of Association rules;
- b) Changing or altering any Registration or Recording Certificate issued by the Association;
- c) Displaying or advertising an altered Registration or Recording Certificate issued by the Association;
- d) Selling, issuing, exchanging, giving away, receiving, or offering a false or fraudulent certificate;
- e) Falsely representing any horse owned or managed by them to be registered with the Association;
- f) Refusing an Association request for the return of a registration certificate, either before, after, or pending a hearing to determine registration or participation privilege in Association approved events.
The Association will retain possession of the certificate until resolution of the matter, for which the return of the certificate was requested;
- g) Misrepresenting any horse to be a registered Australian Quarter Horse;
- h) Representing that a horse registered with the Association has earned or is entitled to any official awards, if that award is not recorded with the Association;

- i) Altering, changing, or attempting to hide or alter natural markings of a horse by surgery, dye or in any other manner;
- j) Completing, signing, or handing over an Association Authority for Transfer to any purchaser of a horse unless the horse is registered or recorded with the Association.

1.3 Members must:

- a) Assist the Association, its officers, committees, or agents to locate, identify and inspect any horse(s);
- b) Answer promptly and truthfully any inquiry concerning a horse or a horse's ancestor;
- c) Give prompt and truthful information concerning any matter of which the person has knowledge;
- d) Treat all Association representatives with courtesy, cooperation, and respect; and
- e) Give information to the Association that is true and correct to the best belief and knowledge of the informant.

1.4 Other Testings

Drug testing is mandatory at State and National Quarter Horse Championship Shows, *being one (1) Halter and two (2) Performance classes.*

- a) If show management desires to conduct its own drug testing, it must obtain written authorisation from the Association and a set of instructions as to the procedure for testing;
- b) At any Association approved show, only the Association, or representatives of show management, acting pursuant to the Association rules, may request specimens of urine, blood or other substances for drug testing or require payment of drug testing fees as condition of entry;
- c) Drug testing fees charged by an approved show are subject to prior approval from the Association; and
- d) Any show management which desires to conduct its own surgical alteration inspections must:
 - obtain prior written authorisation from the Association
 - obtain instructions for procedures, and
 - use a registered Veterinarian to conduct all inspections

2. OTHER EQUINE DISCIPLINES

The Association may accept suspension rulings from other recognised equine related organisations.

If the Association accepts a suspension ruling, that acceptance automatically suspends the individual from Association membership privileges and denies privileges for a length of time equal to the suspension for which reciprocity is given.

3. MEMBERSHIP

New membership must be signed by the applicant personally and in the case of a Constituent or Affiliate membership, the Nominee must sign. A member is responsible for renewing their membership.

3.1 Membership Application

- a) The membership year is 1 August to 31 July. Exception: refer Life Membership Rule 3.5;
- b) Membership of the Association is a privilege, not a right. *New application for membership must be made on a Membership Application form and by payment of fees, according to the procedures as prescribed from time to time by the Association;*
- c) Membership or application will be terminated or rejected by the Association for any cause detrimental to the interests, policies, objectives of the Association and the harmonious relationship of its members, as determined by the Association;
- d) Termination or application rejection proceedings under this paragraph will be conducted in accordance with the Articles of the Association;
- e) Any first-time member of the Association, or any person seeking to register an Australian Quarter Horse in their name for the first time, is entitled to an initial Promotional Membership. This membership is not available to any person or group that has been a member of the Association previously in any membership.

3.1.1 Renewal of Membership

Due 1 August each year and can be processed online, by phone or fill in a renewal form and fax, email, or post to the Association.

3.2 Full Membership

An individual person is entitled to apply for a Full membership within the Association.

3.3 Constituent Membership

Corporations, Partnerships, Societies, and the like can apply for a Constituent membership. Each Constituent membership must appoint a nominee, in writing.

The Nominee is the person who has authority to sign all paperwork on behalf of the Constituent membership.

3.4 Affiliate Membership

Clubs or Organisations are entitled to apply for an Affiliate membership. They must have objects similar to those of the Association and have no less than fifteen (15) members of their Club/Organisation that are current financial members of the AQHA, or such number as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. All Affiliate application forms must be completed in their entirety and all information that is required is to be supplied.

Each Affiliate membership must appoint a Nominee, in writing. The Nominee is the person who has authority to sign all paperwork on behalf of the Affiliate membership.

Any Club/Organisation applying for Affiliation must have the word "Quarter Horse" in their name.

3.4.1 *Horses cannot be registered in an Affiliate membership.*

3.5 Life Membership

A Life Membership is for a period of twenty (20) years from the date of payment of subscription.

3.5.1 *An individual person can apply for a life Membership within the Association.*

3.5.2 A Corporation or Partnership can apply for Life Membership. A Nominee must be appointed, in writing and the Nominee is the person who has authority to sign all paperwork on behalf of the Life membership.

3.6 Youth Membership

An individual person, eighteen (18) years of age and under as of 1 August in the current show year, is entitled to apply for a Youth membership.

A parent/guardian, who has been nominated on the youth application/renewal of membership, must sign, or co-sign all Association paperwork relating to the Youth membership.

3.6.1 *A Youth member can only have two (2) horses registered/leased in their Youth membership. Stallions cannot be registered/leased to a Youth membership.*

3.7 Associate Membership Associate members are natural persons who have paid the relevant annual membership fee.

3.7.1 *Horses cannot be registered in an Associate Membership.*

3.8 Nominees Appointment for Affiliate, Constituent or Corporation Life Membership, will be revoked if:

- a) *their appointment as Nominee is cancelled in writing; or*
- b) *they are expelled or suspended by the Association in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.*

3.9 Voting Privileges.

A Full, individual Life or Honorary Life member is eligible to vote in the Board elections, and to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting of the Association, or a referendum if their membership is financial.

Youth and Associate Members cannot vote in the Board elections or vote at the Annual General Meeting or in a referendum but can attend the Annual General Meeting if their membership is financial.

The nominee of an Affiliate, Constituent or Life Membership is eligible to vote in the Board elections, and to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting of the Association, or a referendum if the membership is financial.

4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The only members eligible to be elected as Directors are:

- a) Natural persons who have been Life, Honorary Life or Full financial members in their name only, for the past three (3) consecutive years; and
- b) Resident in Australia and not employed by the Association.

5. SIGNATORY AUTHORISATION

A financial membership may appoint another individual to lodge and sign paperwork on their behalf.

This must be in writing by completing a Signatory Authorisation form and the form lodged with the Association. Cancellation of the authorisation must be in writing to the Association.

6. MEMBERSHIP SHOWING RULES

A horse must be registered in a financial Life, Honorary Life, Full, Constituent or Youth membership to gain points in any competition. At State and National Championships, the exhibitor must also have a current financial membership.

6.1 Amateur/Select Amateurs must hold a current financial membership and an Amateur/Select permit to exhibit, and gain points, in Amateur and Select Amateur classes in any competition.

6.1.1 A Youth exhibitor must have a financial Youth membership to gain Youth points in any competition, and the horse's owner must be a current financial member. Refer Rule 63.5.

6.2 Novice Amateur and Youth Permit

To be eligible to compete in Novice Amateur and Novice Youth classes, the Amateur and/or Youth must have a current Novice Amateur or Novice Youth Permit. To apply for the Novice Amateur Permit, the Amateur must hold a current Amateur permit.

6.3 Novice Horse Permit

Any horse that has not gained twenty (20) or more points in any of the following disciplines: Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding, Reining and Ranch Riding is eligible to apply for a Novice Horse permit. (Refer Rule 66.)

IMPORTANT DATES

**Membership renewals due
1st August every year**

**Breeding returns for mares served
1 August to 28 February, in any year,
must be lodged by
31 May next following.**

**Breeding returns for mares served
1 March to 31 July, in any year,
must be lodged by
31 October next following.**

SECTION TWO (2) HORSES

9. APPLICATION

All application forms and schedule of Fees are available on the Association web site. All paperwork lodged must be accompanied by the correct fees before application is processed.

- a) At time of lodgement, paperwork will only be accepted from a financial member of the Association;
- b) Any application can be refused by the Board. The Board is not obliged to give any reasons for refusal;
- c) All genetic results, identified by the Association registration process, are the property of the Association for its use in its absolute discretion;
- d) To be registered or recorded with the Association, horses must meet the requirements in Rules 9.1 to 9.6; and
- e) All horses must complete any genetic testing, as requested by the Association, and the results must be acceptable in accordance with Rule 19.

9.1 Horses bred in Australia and horses not born in and residing outside Australia, will be considered for registration if the horse:

- a) Is the result of one of the breeding's in the Breeding Chart, Rule 9.7, and a breeding return has been lodged by the stallion owner, at time of service; and
- b) Has its DNA on file and is Parent Verified through a testing facility accepted by the Association.

9.2 Imported

Imported horses, and Stallions whose semen is to be imported into Australia, will be considered for registration if:

- a) The Horse is AmQHA "Numbered" or "X" registered;
- b) Copies of the original AmQHA registration certificate, DNA markers, parent verification, any other genetic test results, and a copy of the shipping documents (if applicable) are received with the application;
- c) An imported horse, the application for registration must be received within 120 days of the horse arriving in Australia; and
- d) A Stallion, all regulations in Rule 12 pertaining to the IBF process, must be met prior to breeding.

9.2.1 Horses accepted under this rule will be registered with the same name as that recorded with the AmQHA and will be allocated a registration number taking into consideration five (5) generations of its pedigree and whether it has been upgraded by performance. The letters IMP or US and IS will appear after their name.

9.3 Horses imported in Utero, horses born enroute to Australia or result of a frozen embryo, will be considered for registration if:

- a) The sire and dam are "Numbered," or "X" registered with the AmQHA;
- b) A copy of the sires and dams AmQHA registration certificates, plus DNA markers and results of any other genetic testings, is received with the application;
- c) The horses DNA is on file, and it has been parent verified;

- d) Application for a Frozen Embryo Permit has been lodged by the owner of the frozen embryo, who is a financial member;
- e) Proof of ownership of the frozen embryo is required.

9.3.1 Imported Embryo Permit

A permit will be sent to the owner of the Frozen Embryo, which must be lodged with the Association once the embryo has been implanted into the recipient mare. Each Permit can be used for the registration of one (1) foal. Permits are transferrable.

9.3.2 The horse will be allocated an appropriate number with the Association taking into consideration five (5) generations of pedigree.

9.4 Imported Frozen Oocyte

Horses, that are the result of an imported Frozen Oocyte, will be considered for registration if an application for a Frozen Oocyte Permit is lodged, and processed by the Association, by the owner of the Frozen Oocyte and proof of ownership of the Frozen Oocyte is produced, and if:

- a) The donor mare is "Numbered" or "X" registered with the AmQHA ;
- b) A copy of the donor mare's AmQHA registration certificate plus the donor mare's DNA markers and results of any other genetic testings are received;
- c) The sire of the resulting horse is "Q", "R" or "A" registered with the Association and the sire has met all regulations in Rule 12 pertaining to the IBF process; and
- d) The resulting horse's DNA is on file and the horse is parent verified.

9.4.1 Permit

A permit will be sent to the owner of the Oocyte and once the Oocyte has been inseminated, the owner must lodge a breeding return with the Association.

Each permit can be used for the registration of one (1) foal only and Oocyte permits are transferable.

9.4.2 The horse will be allocated an appropriate number with the Association taking into consideration five (5) generations of the horse's pedigree.

9.5 Performance Registry (PR)

The Performance Registry is for horses that are not eligible to be accepted for AX, A1, A2, A3 or Q registration.

9.5.1 For a horse to be considered for Performance Registry it must:

- a) Be a mare or gelding;
- b) Have a minimum of 25% proven Quarter Horse lineage;
- c) Prove parentage to one registered Quarter Horse. If the registered quarter horse parent is a stallion, the stallion must have met all regulations in Rule 12 pertaining to the IBF process.

The PR application must be accompanied by either a breeding return or a form giving the stallion owner's permission to register the progeny;

- d) Complete a HERDA, HYPP and OLWS test that will be conducted by an organisation approved by the Association;
- e) Have DNA on file with the Association.

9.5.2 A horse will **NOT** be considered for the Performance Registry if the horse:

- a) Returns an afflicted (Hr/Hr) result to HERDA;
- b) Returns a positive (N/HYPP) result to HYPP;
- c) Has pedigree to, or markings or conditions characteristic of an Appaloosa, Paint, Pinto, Standardbred, Heavy Draught or Pony bred;
- d) Has white markings above the lines drawn in Diagram 1, refer Rule 11.4;
- e) Is less than 14 hands in height at age of five (5) years; and
- f) Is the result of cloning or progeny of a clone.

9.5.3 All horses accepted into the Performance Horse registry will:

- a) Receive a PR number;
- b) Only have the one (1) qualifying parent name appear on the registration certificate;
- c) Be eligible to compete in performance classes only;
- d) Not be eligible to compete in closed Quarter Horse Halter classes; and
- e) Never be upgraded out of this registry.

9.5.4 Progeny out of Performance Registry mares will only be considered for the Performance Registry if:

- a) The Performance Registered mare has been bred to a Q, A1, A2, A3 or AX registered quarter horse stallion; and
- b) They meet all other requirements in Rule 9.5.

9.6 Foundation Recording

Horses born in Australia will be considered for Foundation Recording for breeding purposes only, if the horse:

- a) Is registered with the ASB or number registered with the ASHS and has been parent verified through genetic testing by ASB or ASHS;
- b) Has a C1 or C2 registration allocated by the ASHS due to a registered quarter horse parent, and the horse has been parent verified through genetic testing;
- c) Tests negative to any genetic test in accordance with Rule 19.6;
- d) Is not excluded under Rule 10; and
- e) Is a stallion, the horse must have met all regulations in Rule 12 pertaining to the IBF process.

9.6.1 All applications for Foundation Recording must be accompanied by a copy of the horses Certificate of Registration *and a copy of all genetic test results that the horse has on file.*

9.6.2 Any horse accepted for Foundation Recording will be recorded under its breed registered name and ASB or ASHS will be placed at the end of the horse's name accordingly.

The horse will be allocated a FS or FM number accordingly, which must be always quoted with the name of the horse.

9.6.3 Progeny to be considered for registration with the Association must be by or out of a Foundation Stallion/Mare that was bred to either a Q, A1, A2, A3 or AX registered horse with the Association.

9.7 Breeding Charts

Stud Book Registry

To be considered for registration in the Stud Book, the horse must be the result of one (1) of the following breeding's in Chart 1 and the progeny will be allocated the registration status as indicated:

Chart 1

Parent One	Parent Two	Progeny
Q	Q, A3, R1, R2	Q

Appendix Registry

To be considered for registration in the Appendix registry, the horse must be the result of one (1) of the following breeding's in Chart 2 and the progeny's Appendix (A) number will be determined by this breeding as indicated:

Chart 2

Parent One	Parent Two	Progeny
Q	A2	A3
Q	A1	A2
Q	AX	A1
Q	FS, FM	A1
A3	A3	A3
A3, A2	A2	A2
A3, A2, A1	A1	A1
A3, A2, A1	FS, FM	A1
A3, A2, A1	AX	A1
AX, FS, FM	AX	AX

In the chart above, if one of the parents is deceased, and has no DNA on file, the progeny will have to be paternity, or maternity verified, and an Affidavit will be required by the progeny owner stating that the parent is deceased, and the resulting foal will be given AX registration.

9.8 Forebearers

Forebearers are the sire and dam of progeny that have been accepted for the registration of the following:

- An imported horse;
- For imported semen;
- Born in Utero;
- Born en route to Australia;
- As an imported frozen embryo; and

- f) The dam of an imported frozen Oocyte.

NB: Forebearers are not registered or recorded with the Association

10. NOT ELIGIBLE

A horse is not eligible for registration or recording if the horse:

- a) Is less than 14 hands in height at age of five (5) years;
- b) Tests H/H (positive) to HYPP;
- c) Tests N/H (positive) to HYPP unless gelded or surgically spayed;
- d) Tests Hr/Hr (afflicted) to HERDA;
- e) *Tests MYHM/MYHM (afflicted) to MYHM unless gelded or surgically spayed;*
- f) Is the result of cloning or progeny of a clone;
- g) Has pedigree to, or markings or conditions characteristic of an Appaloosa, Paint, Pinto, Standardbred, Heavy Draughts or Pony breed;
- h) Has excessive white markings, whether such markings or conditions are, or could be, the result of inherited traits, or the result of an organic or abnormal physical condition. It is a matter for the Association alone to determine whether the white markings are deemed "excessive";
- i) Has inherited defects such as Cryptorchid or Monorchid and is also capable of reproduction; and
- j) Has any defects that has resulted in or will predispose the animal to pathological changes that interfere with its intended use.

11. STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

11.1 Conformation means the form or outline of an animal, the symmetrical arrangement of its parts.

11.2 The conformation of a quarter horse is different from that of any other breed. It gives the horse grace and balance and enables it to excel in a great variety of disciplines. It is important therefore to become familiar with the Standard of Excellence of the breed.

11.3 Characteristics

The following characteristics are desirable in Quarter Horses:

- a) **Balance:** Head, neck, forequarters, barrel, hindquarters correctionally proportioned and symmetrical.
All component parts blend smoothly together resulting in overall balance, style and beauty giving a grace and freedom of movement;
- b) **Head:** Relatively short and wide with a small muzzle and a shallow, firm mouth. The head joins the neck at an angle of about 45 degrees.
 - nostrils** - full and sensitive
 - ears** - short, active, and set wide apart
 - eyes** - large, wide set and reflect intelligence and placid disposition
 - jaws** - well developed
 - teeth** - to be acceptable teeth must have occlusal contact between the upper and lower incisors;

- c) **Neck:** of sufficient length and flexibility to be well balanced and give good manoeuvrability. The neck blends well into sloping shoulders and the throat latch is trim and flexible;
- d) **Shoulders:** long and set at an angle of about 45 degrees. Smooth and relatively heavily muscled. The slope of the shoulder blends with the withers;
- e) **Withers:** well defined, medium height and extends well back beyond the top of the shoulder;
- f) **Chest:** deep and broad with well set forelegs blending into shoulders, muscling inside forearm gives the appearance of a well-defined inverted V;
- g) **Barrel-Back:** short and close coupled and full and powerful across the loin.
girth - deep with well-sprung ribs
underline - longer than the back and carried well down at the flank;
- h) **Hindquarters:** broad, deep, and heavy. Muscled so that they are full at the thigh, stifle, gaskin and down to the hock.
rump - long and sloping gently from hip to tail
hip - muscling is long extending down into the thigh
thigh - deep and ties in well with the gaskin, when viewed from the rear it is the widest part of the Quarter Horse
gaskin - wide and well-muscled inside and outside
hock - broad, flat, clean, strong, low set and free of excess tissue.
The muscling ties well into the hock joint and there is no play or give except directly forward;
- i) **Limbs:**
legs - the legs are strong and when viewed from the front or rear the legs, cannons and pasterns are straight
cannon - short, broad, and strong with hock and knee joints low to the ground, perpendicular and squarely set
tendons - clean and sharply separated from the bone and from each other
fetlock joint - well-formed and strong
pastern - medium length, strong and with a forward slope of about 45 degrees
hoof - tough-textured with deep, wide, and open heel. Balanced in size with the overall size of the individual animal. Has the same slope as the pastern;
- j) **Temperament:** intelligent and gentle;
- k) **Movement:** square and true with legs well placed for powerful, active movement;
- l) **Mature horses** at five (5) years of age a minimum height of 14hh, weight normal range of 400kg to 600kg.

11.4 Undesirable Characteristics

- a) Any characteristic of conformation or movement of a horse, is considered undesirable if below the standard described in Rules 11.1 to 11.3;

- b) The number and degree of undesirable characteristics, and/or defects present in a horse, will determine if it is acceptable to the Association for registration or recording;
- c) **Excessive White:** The Quarter Horse has long been recognised, identified, and promoted as a solid-coloured horse and does occasionally produce offspring with excessive white markings, beyond the lines shown in Diagram 1, but may be considered for registration subject to:
- The horses pedigree
 - returning a negative result to the OLWS gene test
 - the horse meeting all other requirements for registration
 - *the horse completing further colour genetic tests, as required, and the results will be recorded*
 - all white markings must be confirmed on the Application for Registration, failure to do so could invoke a fine of up to \$1,000
 - five (5) photos of the horse to be sent with the Registration Application being near side, off-side, front, rear, and belly.
- Horses accepted with excessive white markings will have displayed on their Registration Papers “Undesirable Characteristics of a Quarter Horse Excessive White”.
- d) **Balance:** any imbalance in proportion which affects appearance, symmetry or movement of the horse;
- e) **Temperament:** nervous, intractable;
- f) **Movement:** any characteristic which interferes with balanced, active movement of the horse such as splints or other bone conditions accompanied by lameness, stringhalt, broken wind and roaring;
- g) **Umbilical Hernia**

Diagram 1

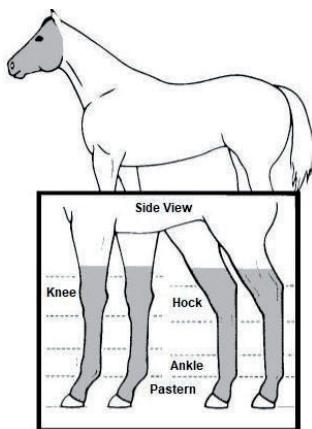


Diagram 2 Neck and Head

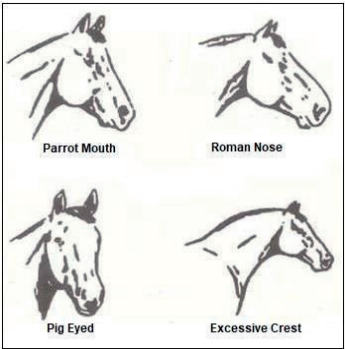


Diagram 3 Body

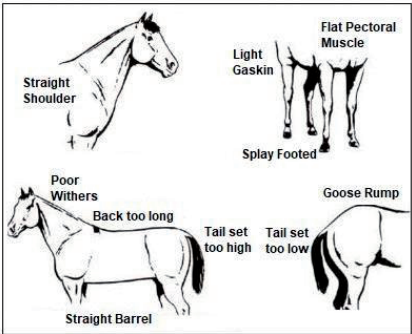
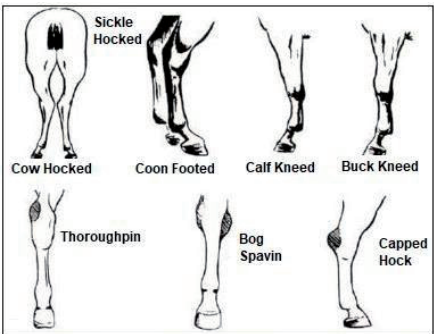


Diagram 4 Limbs



12. BREEDING

Any breeding Stallions and mares bred after the 1st August 2024, must have results on file for OLWS (if applicable), HERDA (if applicable), HYPP (if applicable), PSSM1, MH, GBED and MYHM for progeny to be eligible for registration. NB: If breeding stallion or mare are deceased, resulting progeny will be required to be tested.

12.1 IBF Process

A stallion must have its Certificate of Registration endorsed as having completed the IBF process prior to the first service taking place. NB: Failure to comply with the above will result in a substantial penalty fee being applied.

- a) The owner of the stallion must submit the following to the Association for consideration:
 - the stallion's original Registration Certificate
 - a fully completed IBF Form signed by a registered veterinarian certifying that the details contained in the form are true and correct
- b) The stallion will not be eligible for IBF if he:
 - is Parrot mouthed (overshot or undershot) where normal occlusion between the upper and lower incisors is absent in horses over the age of two (2)
 - is a cryptorchid or monorchid
 - does not have two (2) visible testicles descended into the scrotum
 - is under 18 months of age at time of IBF Vet inspection
 - is not a minimum height of 14hh at time of IBF Vet inspection
 - *If the horse tests positive to deafness.*
- c) A deceased stallion cannot have an IBF completed and therefore cannot be upgraded to a breeding sire;
- d) Any stallion that applies for IBF, from 1 August 2024, must complete a GBED, PSSM1, IMM, MH and MYHM genetic test by a laboratory recognised by the Association as part of the IBF process.

12.2 Breeding Returns

An official Breeding Return must be completed and lodged for all services by the stallion owner.

- a) The official Breeding Return must:
 - list the registered name and number of all mares bred, stating type of service, i.e. Natural, AI, Embryo or Frozen Embryo
 - if artificially inseminated, list the date of insemination as the service date
 - if naturally served, list the first date and last date mare was served
 - if pasture bred, list the date mare is introduced into the paddock and the date mare is removed from the paddock, and
 - be lodged with the Association by the required due date, with the correct fees.
- b) Services between registered Quarter Horse stallions and mares, not eligible for Association registration or Foundation Mare recording, can be recorded by using a special breeding return to record these services for lodgement with other organisations;

- c) If the breeding returns are to be signed by a person other than the owner, whose name appears on the Association records, then a Signatory Authorisation form must be on file for the breeding returns to be accepted.

12.3 Mares

- a) **Exposure**

Mares will not be run in a pasture or kept in such conditions where they could be exposed to more than one stallion of breeding age;

- b) **DNA** for mares that were registered or recorded prior to the introduction of DNA, these mares must have their DNA type on file, prior to breeding, for their progeny to be considered for registration;

The Association strongly recommends that DNA samples be taken from mares at or prior to breeding to have DNA records in the event the mare dies or otherwise becomes unavailable for DNA testing after foaling and prior to foal registration;

- c) **Pasture Bred Mares**

Where a mare has been pastured with a stallion for a full breeding year, being 1 August to 31 July, a Breeding Return must be lodged by 31 October of each year. If not lodged by this date, late fees will apply.

12.4 Due Dates for Breeding Returns

- a) Breeding Returns for all mares served between 1 August and 28 February in any year, must be lodged by the owner of the stallion providing the service by 31 May next following;
- b) Breeding Returns for all mares served between 1 March and 31 July in any year must be lodged by the owner of the stallion providing the service by 31 October next following;
- c) Breeding returns for any stallion, that are not lodged with all appropriate fees paid, within twelve (12) months of the due date, the owner's membership and the Stallions registration may both be suspended for non-compliance;
- d) The suspension of a stallion, and its owner, due to rule 12.4 c) will be lifted once all paperwork, any required genetic tests completed, and all fees and penalty fees have been paid.

12.5 Application for Registration that is generated from lodgement of a breeding return.

The application for registration will be sent to the breeder by the stallion owner, or AQHA, who will complete the application once the foal is born and lodge the application with the Association.

If a stallion owner is financially disadvantaged, by non-payment of a service, and informs the Association upon lodgement of such breeding return, the Association will not release the registration for application form to the breeder, (mare owner at time of breeding).

12.6 Domestic Semen

Stallion owners participating in the collection of and/or transport of live or frozen semen must ensure that the Breeding Return reflects that the breeding was by artificial insemination and that the Stallion is registered as a breeding stallion (i.e. has a completed IBF). The Association has the authority to send its representative to inspect the premises and practices of any person or breeding establishment using artificial insemination and no person will refuse, upon reasonable request, full access to the premises.

12.7 Deceased/Incapable Stallion

If a stallion dies or is otherwise rendered incapable of breeding, his frozen semen can be used indefinitely providing all requirements for a Breeding stallion have been met.

12.8 Domestic/Imported Semen

- a) If an owner intends to sell their stallion, but retain the stallion's frozen semen, then prior to the sale, the owner must apply to the Association for Retained Semen Permits;
- b) Permits will not be available to the former owner after the sale of the stallion;
- c) Each Retained Semen Permit will allow for the registration of one (1) foal;
- d) A Retained Semen Permit is transferable;
- e) The Association will make available for public record the number of outstanding Permits on file for each individual stallion.

12.9 Domestic Embryo Permits

- a) There will be no restriction on the number of progeny registered as a result of embryo transfer procedures;
- b) All donor mares involved in embryo transfer must be DNA typed prior to embryos being collected;
- c) Embryos frozen for future use must be noted on the Breeding Return by noting in the Service Type column against that service, that the Embryo is frozen;
- d) A Permit will be sent to the owner of the Frozen Embryo, which must be lodged with the Association once the embryo has been implanted into the recipient mare;
- e) A Frozen Embryo Permit is transferable.

12.10 Domestic Oocyte Permits

- a) All mares involved in oocyte collection must have DNA on file with the Association prior to any oocyte collection;
- b) If a mare owner sells their mare and retains oocytes from that mare, then prior to the sale of the mare the mare owner must apply for Oocyte Permits. Once ownership of the mare has been transferred, the former owner cannot apply for additional permits;
- c) If a mare owner retains ownership of their mare but sells the Oocytes from that mare, then prior to the sale of the Oocytes, the owner of the mare must apply for Oocyte Permits;

- d) One Oocyte Permit application must be completed for each oocyte collected;
- e) Each permit can be used for the registration of one (1) foal;
- f) An Oocyte Permit is transferable;
- g) The owner of the oocyte at the time of breeding will be noted as the breeder on the registration.

13. REGISTRATION DUE DATES

Any application for a horse to be considered for registration in the Stud Book or Appendix Register of the Association must be made within the following time limits or penalty fees will apply.

- a) Horses born between 1 August and 28 February in any breeding year must be registered or recorded by 31 May next following; and
- b) Horses born between 1 March and 31 July in any breeding year must be registered or recorded by 31 October next following.

14. GENERAL

If, in the opinion of the Association, there is reason to believe that a return, application or such other information supplied by any breeder, owner or leasee is incorrect, in any particular the Association may refuse the return and/or application unless the breeder, owner or leasee, at their own expense and as directed by the Association must:

- a) Submit all books, receipts, or other documents which the Association may deem necessary for examination by the Association;
- b) Present any animal/s for inspection by a person authorised by the Association to act on its behalf; and
- c) Provides photographs, if required.

14.1 In all proceedings concerning or affecting the records of the Association, and in all disciplinary action, the burden of resolving any doubt as to the true parentage or identification of an animal will be upon the applicant involved.

The Association's determination, decision and action will be final and binding upon all parties.

14.2 A member must not refuse any reasonable request by the Association to assist it, its officers, directors, committees, or agents, to locate, identify and inspect, and must answer any inquiry concerning a horse in their ownership or control or its ancestor or forebearers promptly and truthfully.

14.3 The Association may require any member to make available a horse in their ownership or control for the purposes of DNA typing/genetic testing.

14.4 Any DNA typing/genetic testing will be conducted by an organisation approved by the Association.

14.5 The Association may, at its discretion, appoint a representative to be present during the collection of the sample/s.

14.6 The Association may take into consideration the results of such tests as well as any other available information and authorise any corrections to the records as it determines are necessary or appropriate.

14.7 The Association will not be responsible for any claim, loss or damage consequent upon the Association effecting registration, recording or transfer, to a person other than the legal owner.

14.8 In any application for registration the horse's markings must be fully and accurately provided by completing the markings panel on the application form.

14.9 Any whorls on the horse must be recorded in the markings panel of the application form.

14.10 If the horse is branded then brands must be marked on the markings panel of the application form.

14.11 An incomplete or incorrect description of a horse on an application form may render the horse ineligible for registration.

14.12 The Association will refuse to accept, at its absolute discretion, registration or recording of horses excluded by Rule 10.

14.13 Any application for registration must be signed by the owner of the applicant horse.

14.14 Breeders declaration If the registrant is not the Breeder, then the Breeder must sign a Breeders Declaration stating that the horse was sold prior to registration.

14.15 Signatory Authorisation If a financial member of the Association delegates another person to sign any paperwork on their behalf, a Signatory Authorisation form must be lodged with the Association.

14.16 Youth members may only have two (2) horses registered and/or recorded in their name. (NB: no colt/stallion can be registered in a Youth membership).

14.17 Upon acceptance of a horse for registration or recording, a certificate will be issued to the owner. The issued certificate will remain the property of the Association and must be returned to the office promptly upon request.

14.18 Progeny of stallions and/or mares which are non-compliant with the rules are not eligible for registration.

14.19 Registration and Recording certificates do not represent legal ownership. They are issued for Association purposes only on information provided by members of the AQHA.

14.20 The Association may change the recorded sire or dam based on the results of scientific testing.

14.21 If, in the opinion of the Association, there is a justifiable cause for inspection of an animal, that inspection will be carried out at the applicant's or the registered owner's expense.

14.22 Upgrading As from 1 August 1999, no horse will be upgraded on performance.

14.23 Incorrect Documentation Any documentation received by the Association which is incorrect in any way or is incomplete will not be processed until the error or omission has been remedied by the applicant and the correction fee has been paid;

In cases where the Association is advised by an owner that the information supplied is incorrect with respect to such items as sire, dam, gender or markings, a revised Registration or Foundation Recording Certificate may be issued by the Association;

When applying for a revised Registration or Foundation Recording Certificate, the applicant must:

- complete and submit a statutory declaration to the Association stating the reasons why the horse was incorrectly registered in the first place, and
- forward the original certificate to the Association at the time of applying for a revised certificate.

15. AGE OF A HORSE

The age of a horse will be calculated based on a breeding calendar year starting 1 August every year.

For example, a horse foaled any time between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022 (weanling) for the breeding records the foal is a 2021 born horse. The horse is one year old on 1 August 2022 (yearling) and two (2) years old on 1 August 2023.

16. NAME OF A HORSE

A horse will be allocated a name by the applicant that is acceptable to the Association. The Association reserves the right to refuse any name it deems unacceptable or inappropriate. Exception: Imported horses, horses registered for imported semen and Foundation Recorded horses.

16.1 Numerals and any form of punctuation are not acceptable.

16.2 The horse's name cannot exceed 25 characters, including spaces. NB: If USA registration is intended to be sought, the AmQHA allows up to 20 characters.

16.3 You cannot use the name of an already registered horse in its entirety.

16.4 Using a prefix, in front of an already registered name, the name will not be accepted.

16.5 The name of an already registered horse, alive or deceased, as per Association records, cannot be reused by:

- a) adding a Suffix eg. S, en, ed, ing,er, est
- b) adding letters in front of, within or at the end of that name

16.6 Any horse registered with a prefix, the words in the name, minus the prefix, can be reused with either a word(s) in front of the name or at the end of the name.

16.7 The name of a horse once registered or recorded cannot be changed.

16.8 Reserving a Name

A name may be reserved for a period of two (2) years from the date the Association receives a written reservation request. A fee of \$100 per year applies. If the name is used within the first year only \$100 will be charged. Post the two (2) year period, if the reserved name is not used, the member may apply for a further two (2) year reservation period with payment of \$100 per year.

17. HORSE PREFIX

17.1 A member may only have one (1) registered prefix. This must not be confused with the necessity to register the business name of the stud with the appropriate State Authority.

17.2 Once a prefix has been allocated to a member, the member may not change the prefix although the member may choose to discontinue the use of it.

17.3 The Association reserves the right to approve or reject any prefix it deems unacceptable.

17.4 No prefix may be used until written notification of approval has been received by the member.

17.5 A prefix may only be used when the person registering or recording a horse is also the breeder of that horse, except if the breeder gives written authority to the Association to allow the person registering or recording a horse to use their prefix.

17.6 A prefix will not be accepted if it:

- a) Is the name of an already registered horse;
- b) Is the name of a prefix already registered with the Association;
- c) Has been used previously at the beginning of the name of any registered horse; or
- d) Sounds like any other already registered prefix.

17.7 Plurals of existing prefixes cannot be registered as a prefix.

17.8 Any prefix that has been applied for and approved, and has never been used, can be relinquished in writing and that member can apply for another prefix.

17.9 If a prefix has been relinquished then that prefix will be made available to any other member if they so wish to apply.

18. DESCRIBING THE AUSTRALIAN QUARTER HORSE

18.1 An Australian Quarter Horse must be described accurately and correctly in any Application for Registration or recording.

Any misdescribed or inaccurately described horse is liable to be deregistered.

18.2 *Only the following colours and markings will be accepted by the Association. Any horse which has a body colour listed below but has 75% of their body covered with white hairs will have the word 'Roan' after the colour of the horse.*

COLOURS

Bay: Body colour ranging from tan through red to reddish brown; mane and tail black; usually black on lower legs.

Bay/Brown: Body colour predominantly brown, muzzle bay, legs, mane, and tail black.

Black: Body colour true black without light areas; mane and tail black.

Black/Grey: Mixture of black and white hairs. At an early age predominantly black.

With increasing age, the coat grows lighter in colour.

Brown: Body colour brown or black with light areas at muzzle, eyes, and flank and inside upper legs; mane and tail black.

Brown/Black: Body colour darker than brown but not entirely fitting definition of black.

Buckskin: Body colour yellowish or gold; mane and tail black; usually black on lower legs. Buckskins do not have a dorsal stripe.

Chestnut: Body colour dark red or reddish-brown; mane and tail usually same colour as body but may be flaxen.

Cremello: Light (or pink) skin over the body, white or cream coloured hair and blue eyes.

Dun: Body colour yellowish or gold; mane and tail are black or brown, has dorsal stripe, zebra stripes on legs and transverse stripes on withers.

Grey: Mixture of white with any other coloured hairs; often born solid-coloured or almost solid-coloured and get lighter with age as more white hairs appear.

Grulla: Body colour smoky or mouse-coloured (not a mixture of black and white but with each hair mouse-coloured); mane and tail black; usually black on lower legs; has dorsal stripe.

Palomino: Body colour golden yellow; mane and tail white. Palominos do not have dorsal stripes.

Perlino: Light (or pink) skin over the body, white or cream-coloured hair and blue eyes.

Mane, tail, and lower legs slightly darker than body.

Red Dun: *form of dun with body colour yellowish or flesh coloured, mane and tail are red or reddish, flaxen, white or mixed; has red or reddish dorsal stripe and usually red or reddish zebra stripes on legs and transverse stripe over withers.*

Sorrell: Body colour reddish or copper-red, mane and tail usually same colour as body, but may be flaxen.

Taffy: Body colour varies from golden brown, reddish brown or dark chocolate brown with legs dark liver brown and flaxen mane and tail.

MARKINGS

Star: Any marking on the forehead.

Strip: A narrow marking extending vertically in the area between the forehead and the nostrils.

Snip: Any marking between the two nostrils.

Star and Strip: A marking on the forehead with a strip to the nasal peak.

The strip does not have to be an extension of the star.

Star, Strip and Snip: A marking on the forehead with a narrow extension to the nasal peak and opening again between the nostrils. These may be connected.

Bald Face: An overly broad blaze. It can extend out and around the eyes and it can extend down to the upper lip and around the nostrils.

Blaze: A vertical marking of medium, uniform width extending the length of the face.

Coronet: Any narrow marking around the coronet above the hoof.

Half Pastern: A marking which includes only half the pastern above the coronet.

Full Pastern: A marking which includes the entire pastern.

Half Cannon: A marking which extends around the leg from the coronet halfway up the cannon bone, or halfway to the knee on the foreleg or halfway to the hock on the back leg.

Full Cannon: A full marking to the area of the knee on the foreleg and to the area of the hock on the hind leg.

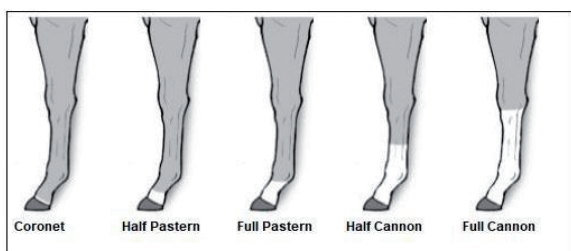
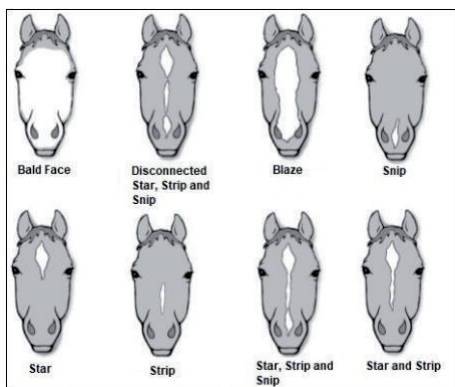
It is an extended sock.

Roan Patches, Patches or Scattered White Hair: Areas with white hair scattered through the basic body colour and which do not have underlying light-coloured skin.

Patches of Darker Coloured Hair: Concentrated areas in which the hair has a darker pigmentation than the surrounding hair of its basic body colour.

Dark Spots: Patches of dark hair (or basic body colour) within white markings.

Other White Markings (Body Patches and Spots): Areas of white hair with underlying white skin.



18.3 Genetic Colour Testing

Is not compulsory. Genetic colour testing is accepted by the Association and will be displayed on the Registration Certificate. The testing is the responsibility of the owner of the horse, at time of testing, and all fees relating to that testing are to be paid for by the owner of the horse.

Genetic colour testing results will be accepted from any testing laboratory up to 31/07/2018. As from 01/08/2018 results will only be accepted from a testing facility approved by the Association. Regarding body colour, owner of the horse must use one of the colours in Rule 18.3.

18.4 Brands

Branding is not compulsory. If you decide to brand your horse it is necessary to comply with State Legislation and/or Jockey Club requirements. If you purchase a horse, and wish to brand that horse, you must notify the Breeder.

18.5 Identification

All horses to be accepted in the Stud Book or the Appendix Registry must be visibly identifiable. Microchips are acceptable as secondary identification. All whorls must be identified on the Application for Registration.

18.6 Inspection

If in the opinion of the Association there is a justifiable cause for inspection of an animal, the inspection will be carried out at the applicant's or the registered owner's expense.

19. GENETIC TESTING

19.1 The Association may require, at its sole discretion, scientific testing to determine the incidence of genetic disorders at any time.

19.2 Results

- a) The results of any genetic testing, generated in compliance with the Rules & Regulations of the Association, is and remains the property of the Association for its use in its absolute discretion;
- b) Test results for all genetic testings will only be accepted from testing facilities deemed appropriate by the Association;
- c) *Results for all genetic testing will be marked on the horses papers.*

19.3 HYPP/MYHM/MH/PSSM1 - Autosomal Dominant Genetic Disorders

Horses carrying one copy (heterozygous) or two copies (homozygous) of the mutation are usually affected by the disease. The severity of the disease can vary.

Heterozygous horses carrying one copy of the mutation will pass the disease on, causing mutation to approximately half of their offspring. Therefore, mating to non-carriers will result in approximately half the foals being affected and half being non-carriers.

Homozygous horses carrying two copies of the mutation will result in all the foals being affected, even if the mate is not a carrier.

19.3.1 HYPP - Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis

HYPP is a muscular disease caused by a hereditary genetic disorder that leads to uncontrolled muscle twitching or profound muscle weakness and in severe cases may lead to collapse and/or death. According to research this condition exists in certain descendants of the stallion "Impressive" AmQHA # 076724.

19.3.2 MYHM - Myosin-Heavy Chain Myopathy

MYHM can cause two different types of disease. One is muscle weakness and stiffness, followed by a rapid, significant loss of muscle, particularly from the topline of the horse. This is often associated with an infection or vaccination, particularly with Strangles or other respiratory viruses.

This syndrome was originally named “immune mediated myositis” or IMM. A mutation associated with IMM was identified by researchers at UC Davis and Michigan State University in the Myosin Heavy Chain 1 (MYH1) gene.

MYHM is co-dominant, meaning that the action of the variant is independent of the second variant.

If a horse has one copy of the MYHM mutation it can be affected with MYHM.

MYHM has ‘incomplete penetrance’, so not every horse carrying this mutation will show the same severity of symptoms.

It is thought that if a horse has two copies it is most likely to be more severely affected.

19.3.3 MH - Malignant Hyperthermia

MH is a muscle disorder that may only become apparent if the horse is subjected to an extreme stress or exposed to a halogenated anaesthetic. When exposed, the mutation triggers the release of excess calcium in skeletal muscle cells causing a high temperature (hence the name), increased heart rate and blood pressure, sweating and muscle rigidity.

MH is frequently fatal. MH sometimes occurs in horses which are also positive for PSSM1, causing them to have more severe tying up symptoms.

MH is rare and only found in some Quarter Horses, however because it is potentially fatal it is recommended all possible carriers be tested before undergoing anaesthesia.

MH is associated with a mutation in the RyR1 gene and is a dominant trait, meaning a horse only needs 1 copy of the mutation (MH/n) to be affected.

19.3.4 PSSM1 - Polysaccharide Storage Myopathy 1

PSSM1 causes a build-up of abnormal sugars in muscle. This is one of the causes of tying up with clinical signs that include muscle twitches, stiffness, sweating, reluctance to move and painful cramps.

Symptoms can vary widely in severity and age of onset.

PSSM1 appears to be quite an old mutation so it is found in many breeds including Quarter Horses and draft breeds. It is a complex disorder that can often be controlled with changes to diet and exercise management.

PSSM1 is associated with a mutation in the GYS1 gene and is inherited in a dominant fashion, so a horse only needs to carry one copy (PSSM1/n) to show symptoms.

There is some evidence that homozygous horses (PSSM1/PSSM1) are more severely affected than heterozygotes. Note that this test only detects this one specific type of tying up, and horses may still exhibit signs of tying up even if they are not positive for PSSM1.

19.3.5 Autosomal Dominant Traits

Any horse applying for registration:

- a) *Whose pedigree does not contain "Impressive" lineage will not be required to be tested for HYPP;*
- b) *Where both parents have been tested for HYPP, PSSM1, MH, MYHM and both parents have a negative result on file for that genetic disorder, the horse is not required to be tested for that genetic disorder;*
- c) *That returns a negative result to HYPP, PSSM1, MH, MYHM will be considered for registration;*
- d) *Whose pedigree does have a parent with a positive (heterozygous/carrier) result to PSSM1, MH, MYHM will require testing for that genetic disorder and if the horse returns a positive (heterozygous/carrier) result to PSSM1, MH, MYHM will be considered for registration;*
- e) *That returns a positive (heterozygous/carrier) result to HYPP will be considered for registration with the Association if gelded or spayed. Chemical alternatives to surgical spaying will not be accepted by the Association;*
- f) *That returns a positive (homozygous/afflicted) result to HYPP will not be accepted for registration or recording.*
- g) *That returns a positive (homozygous/afflicted) result to PSSM1, MYHM, MH will be considered for registration with the Association if gelded or spayed. Chemical alternatives to surgical spaying will not be accepted by the Association;*
- h) *Geldings whose parents are both carriers of the same genetic disorder (HYPP/MYHM/MH/PSSM1) will be required to be tested, and if they return a HYPP/HYPP, PSSM1/PSSM1, MH/MH or MYHM/MYHM result will not be eligible for registration.*

19.4 HERDA/OLWS/GBED - Autosomal Recessive Genetic Disorders

Horses carrying one copy of the mutation (heterozygous) are usually unaffected by the disease.

However, carriers will pass the disease-causing mutation onto approximately half their offspring. Thus, mating to non-carriers will result in approximately half the foals being carriers and half being non-carriers.

Mating to other carriers should be avoided as there is a 25% chance the resultant foal will be homozygous affected (afflicted) by the disease.

Horses carrying two copies of the mutation (homozygous) are usually affected with the disease.

19.4.1 HERDA - Hereditary Equine Regional Dermal Asthenia.

HERDA is a devastating disease that causes the skin to lift and peel away. The condition, which renders a horse unable to wear a saddle or harness, is known by two names: Hyperelastosis Cutis and Hereditary Equine Regional Dermal Asthenia.

The reported age of onset ranges from birth to four (4) years old. According to research this condition exists in certain descendants of the mare Miss Taylor, AmQHA #0002636 and stallion, Poco Bueno AmQHA #0003044.

19.4.2 OLWS - Overo Lethal White Syndrome.

A genetic disorder in which the caecum, colon and sometimes the rectum undergo a large dilation and fill with faecal mass.

Associated with homozygosis of the Overo Lethal White gene it results in incomplete migration of nerve cells to the large intestine during embryonic development.

Affected foals may die within seventy-two (72) hours of birth;

19.4.3 GBED - Glycogen branching enzyme deficiency

GBED is a lethal storage myopathy caused by a mutation in the GBED gene that prevents the animal from properly storing glucose.

The horse will eventually run out of stored energy, which will damage its organs. The symptoms observed are associated with the lack of energy preventing the organs from working correctly, and may include general weakness, failure to thrive, low body temperature, seizures and difficulty rising.

GBED is always fatal, with most affected foals dying before the age of 8 weeks. GBED can also cause foetuses to be aborted or born prematurely. It is inherited as a recessive trait, so only homozygous (GBED/GBED) horses are affected. If a horse is a carrier (n/GBED), it will not show any clinical signs of GBED.

However, there is a 50% chance it will pass the variant to its offspring, so mating to other carriers should be avoided to prevent the birth of an affected foal.

19.4.4 Autosomal Recessive Traits

Horses applying for registration:

- a) That do not carry lineage to Poco Bueno/Miss Taylor will not be required to be tested for that disease;
- b) Where both parents have been tested for HERDA/OLWS/GBED and both parents have a negative result on file for that genetic disorder, the horse applying for registration is not required to be tested for that genetic disorder;
- c) That are geldings, who are by or out of a HERDA carrier, are not required to be HERDA tested;
- d) That are geldings displaying excessive white marking, are not required to be OLWS tested if parent validated to two (2) registered Quarter Horses;
- e) That have lineage to Poco Bueno/Miss Taylor must be tested for HERDA;
- f) That return a negative result to HERDA/OLWS/GBED may be considered for registration;
- g) That return a positive (Heterozygous/Carrier) result to HERDA/OLWS/GBED may be considered for registration;
- h) That return a positive (Homozygous/Afflicted) result to HERDA/OLWS/GBED will not be accepted for registration;

- i) That are geldings, whose parents are both HERDA carriers will be required to be tested, and if they return a Hr/Hr result will not be eligible for registration.*

19.5 Foundation Recorded Horses Genetic Testing

- a)** All ASB registered horses to be considered for Foundation Recording must return a negative result to HERDA, OLWS, PSSM1, MH, *GBED*, *MYHM*;
- b)** All ASHS registered horses to be considered for Foundation Recording must return a negative result to HYPP, HERDA OLWS, *PSSM1*, *MH*, *GBED*, *MYHM*;
- c)** *Horses applying for Foundation Recording that display excessive white markings beyond the limits described in Rule 11.4 will not be accepted for Foundation Recording*

19.6 Stallions and Mares

- a)** All breeding stallions and mares with lineage to Poco Bueno/Miss Taylor, and no HERDA results are on file with the Association, will be suspended and no paperwork will be processed for the stallion or mare;
- b)** All breeding mares who cannot prove that they do not have lineage to Poco Bueno/Miss Taylor and do not have their HERDA results on file will be suspended and no paperwork will be processed for that mare;
- c)** Once a negative or carrier HERDA result has been received, all rights and privileges for the stallion/mare will be reinstated;
- d)** *All breeding stallions and mares with no PSSM1, MH, GBED & MYHM results on file with the Association, will be suspended and no paperwork will be processed for the stallion or mare. Once results are received for PSSM1, MH, GBED, MYHM, all rights and privileges for the stallion/mare will be reinstated.*

19.7 Other Genetic Disorders

At the direction of the Association any horse may be required to be tested for any genetic disorder at any time. On notification from the Association, a registered Veterinarian will, using an official testing kit, be required to take the specified sample and forward it to the place of testing directed by the Association.

The horse's registration papers must be forwarded to the Association where they will be marked with the official result.

20. GELDING STATUS

20.1 Colt/Stallion to Gelding

A registered colt/stallion, that has been gelded, will have their records amended when:

- a)** The Association has been notified in writing that the horse has been gelded; and
- b)** The original Certificate of Registration has been received by the Association.

Notification online can only be submitted by the owner as per the Associations records, and the original registration certificate is to be forwarded to the Association within fourteen (14) days of submitting notification online, or a penalty fee will apply.

NB: *Until the horse has been recorded as a gelding with the Association, it cannot be shown.*

20.2 Gelding to Stallion

If a stallion has been registered as a gelding, upon discovery of this error, an explanation in writing plus the original Registration Certificate must be returned to the Association for correction and a new certificate will be produced upon payment of penalty fee. There will be no redress for any member who sells or transfers a stallion that is recorded with the Association as a gelding.

21. TRANSFER OR NOTIFICATION OF LEASE

To have a lease/transfer recorded with the Association, the leasee, and/or purchaser of the horse must be a financial member of the Association.

21.1 Horse Lease Notification

Amateur and Youth refer rule 62/63

- a) A Lease Notification form must be lodged and signed by both the lessor and the leasee and lodged before the leasee has rights to the horse;
- b) The leasee of the horse is, for Association purposes, deemed to be the owner of the horse for the period of the lease;
- c) The Lease Notification form must specify that the leasee can show and/or breed the horse for a minimum of twelve (12) months and no more than two (2) years at which time a new Lease Notification form must be lodged;
- d) The Association recommends that the lessor and the leasee have a private lease contract;
- e) Notification that a lease has been cancelled must be signed by the lessor and the leasee;
- f) The Association may refuse any Notification of a Lease without assigning a reason.

21.2 Transfers

- a) An Authority for Transfer form must:
 - be completed in its entirety
 - provide the horse's correct name and number
 - provide date of transfer
 - provide the name and address of transferee
 - be signed or lodged by the seller and the purchaser, and
 - be forwarded together with registration or recording certificate of the horse.
- b) To transfer a horse online, the following will apply:
 - seller must fill out the Sellers section online and submit for processing
 - purchaser must fill out the Purchasers section online and submit for processing, and the original registration or recording certificate is to be forwarded to the Association within fourteen (14) days if submitting the transfer online or a penalty fee will apply.

- c) The Association will not give effect to the transfer until all paperwork and fees have been lodged;
- d) Foals at foot that are sold with their dams, including the progeny of foundation mares, are subject to a separate Transfer Certificate if they are registered or recorded;
- e) Purchasers who require their horses to be transferred must ensure that all transfer requirements are met;
- f) If the last recorded owner has not complied with Rule 23 regarding disposing or sale of a registered horse, then Rule 23 can be implemented by the Association.

22. CERTIFICATES

22.1 Registration and Recording Certificates do not represent legal ownership. They are issued for Association purposes only on information provided by members of the Association.

22.2 Correction or Alteration of any original Registration or Recording Certificate can be obtained upon written application from the owner or leasee, provided that:

- a) The Association approves the alteration;
- b) The owner or leasee provides information as may be required to ensure that the correction or alteration is valid;
- c) The owner or leasee submits the horse for inspection if required;
- d) All corrections or alterations must be made by the Association; and
- e) Any Certificate which has been altered in any way is liable to be cancelled until such times as an application for a duplicate Certificate is made.

22.3 Duplicate Certificates

- a) The Association may issue a duplicate Certificate of Registration or Recording provided that the owner or leasee applies for the Certificate and furnishes a Statutory Declaration giving full details of the circumstances surrounding the loss of the original Certificate;
- b) The application must be accompanied by four (4) clear photos showing both sides, front and rear views of the horse;
- c) The Association must be satisfied as to the circumstances surrounding the loss of the original Certificate to issue a replacement certificate.

23. NOTIFICATION

The Association must be advised within thirty (30) days of the death, sale, or disposal of any horse Registered with the Association. This can be done in writing to the Association and the original Registration Certificate must accompany the notification, or the owner, as per Association records, can submit a notification online and must send the original Registration Certificate to the Association within fourteen (14) days of notification or a penalty fee will apply.

23.1 The Association, if requested, will amend the Registration Certificate to note the horse's death and return the Certificate to the owner, unless the owner directs the Association otherwise.

23.2 If a registered horse is sold or disposed of, without papers, and the owner does not inform the Association within 30 days of the sale or disposal, the Association will transfer ownership of the horse to the new owner under the following conditions:

- a) Purchaser to supply a Bill of Sale from the Vendor or proof of payment;
- b) Horse is to be Parent Verified to Association records;
- c) Purchaser to complete and sign a Transfer form;
- d) Purchaser to supply photos of the horse for verification to Association records;
- e) Purchaser to complete a Statutory Declaration outlining how they obtained the horse;
- f) The Association will request a signed transfer from the last recorded owner on two (2) occasions over a 60 day period;
- g) If the signed transfer form is not forthcoming, and all other conditions in this rule are met, the horse will be transferred to the purchaser.

23.3 Application for an unregistered horse that has been sold or disposed of, that may be eligible for registration, and a breeding return has been lodged with the Association, then the following will occur:

- a) The Association will contact the stallion owner. If stallion owner has forwarded registration application form to breeder of the said horse, the Association will contact the Breeder;
- b) If the breeder is not forthcoming with a Breeders Declaration, the Association will request a signed breeder's declaration from the Breeder on two (2) occasions over a sixty (60) day period;
- c) The applicant must meet the following conditions:
 - applicant to supply Bill of Sale or proof of payment
 - horse is to be PV to Association records
 - applicant to supply photos of the horse for verification to Association records, and
 - applicant to complete a Statutory Declaration outlining how they obtained the horse.

23.3.1 If all the above conditions are met and the horse is eligible, the Association can register the horse after all genetic testing that is required has been completed in accordance with Rule 19.

The Association will not take any action on behalf of a member or non-member that is in possession of a horse that is not covered by Rule 23.2 or 23.3 that requests to have the horse transferred or registered into their name with the Association.

24. DEREGISTRATION

24.1 A horse may be deregistered by the Association upon receipt of written application to the Association by the recorded owner of a horse.

24.2 Deregistered horses will only be eligible for reregistration with the written consent of the member who was the recorded owner at the time of deregistration.

24.3 The Association may cancel the registration or recording of any horse for any period if:

- a) The horse was registered or recorded by the Association in error at the time application was made for registration or recording;
- b) After registration or recording, the horse develops characteristics not acceptable to the Association;
- c) The registered owner has been expelled or has had disciplinary action taken against them pursuant to the Constitution of the Association;
- d) The applicant misrepresents the animal's actual markings and pedigree and genetic samples;
- e) The horse develops excessive white markings or it is less than 14hh at the age of five (5) years.

24.4 Absence of reproductive capabilities as a gelding or spayed mare will not lessen the standard by which the horse's markings or height are evaluated.

24.5 In determining the eligibility for registration and recording, or revocation of registration or recording, the burden of persuasion lies with the registration applicant/s.

24.6 The Association may refuse an application for re-registration for any reason.

The Association is not required to provide an explanation for the refusal.

24.7 Until the Association exercises its power under Rule 24, the deregistration of any horse will not affect the registration or recording of any foal from that horse if the registration or recording of the foal was accepted during the period of registration of the deregistered horse.

25. AMERICAN REGISTRATION

Registration of horses with the AmQHA is available through the Australian Quarter Horse Association, provided horses meet AmQHA registration criteria at the time of application.

Members are encouraged to utilise this service to apply for American Quarter Horse Association registration.



DATES TO REMEMBER

BREEDING RETURNS

**Mares served between 1 August and
28 February in any year are
due 31 May next following.**

**Mares served between 1 March and
31 July in any year are
due 31 October next following.**

**Pasture bred mares
due 31 October each year.**

REGISTRATIONS

**Horses born between 1 August and
28 February are
due 31 May next following.**

**Horses born between 1 March and
31 July are
due 31 October next following.**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Due 1st August each year

AUSTRALIAN
Quarter Horse
ASSOCIATION

SECTION THREE (3)

SHOW AND PERFORMANCE

39. ANIMAL WELFARE

This Animal Welfare Policy applies to any sanctioned event held by the Association, its Affiliates and any organisation that has been given program approval.

39.1 Humane Treatment the Association will not tolerate inhumane treatment of a horse, or any other animal used in competition.

- a) No member or non-member will treat any horse or animal in a cruel or inhumane manner;
- b) Inhumane treatment includes but is not limited to all relevant animal welfare legislation and rules of the National Authorities controlling the applicable sport;
- c) In any equestrian sporting event, the welfare of the horse is always the primary consideration;
- d) No horse should be ridden or trained in such a way that it is subject to extended periods of mental or physical distress;
- e) Association members must comply with all relevant animal welfare legislation and rules. This applies to all horses exhibited at events sanctioned by the AQHA, AQHA Affiliates and at any event that has been given Association program approval;
- f) The Association encourages all members to follow best animal welfare practice in all their dealings with horses.

39.2 Responsibility

An individual is responsible for the horse's condition if:

- a) They designate themselves on the entry form as the exhibitor or authorises another to designate them as the exhibitor on the entry form;
- b) They sign the entry form on behalf of themselves or another or causes an agent or representative to sign it;
- c) They physically participate in the class by riding or showing the horse;
- d) They are the actual trainer, having presented or caused to be presented the horse at the grounds for exhibition;
- e) Both the exhibitor, designated on the entry form, and the person having actual possession of the horse, while physically participating in the event, are conclusively deemed to be authorised by the owner to execute all documents necessary, or convenient, to allow the horse's participation in an event approved by the Association, including documents pertaining to drug testing;
- f) An individual is prevented from performing their duties, including absolute responsibility for the condition of the horse/s, or is absent from the show, they must immediately notify the show secretary, at the same time appoint a substitute, and such substitute must place their name on the entry form;

- g) The exhibitor represents the owner regarding their horse(s) entered in an approved show.

39.3 Prohibited conduct but not limited to:

No person on the grounds, including but not limited to barns, stall, practice areas or show arena, can treat a horse in a manner that includes:

- continuous and/or relentless pressure from the bit, legs, or spurs
- placing an object, other than a legal bit, in a horse's mouth to cause undue discomfort or distress
- placing a legal bit in a horse's mouth in an abnormal manner
- leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time to cause undue discomfort or distress, broken skin and/or bleeding
- tying a horse's head up (above the withers), back, or around in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress. the horse must be able to hold its head comfortably in a "normal" position
- tying a horse in a stall without access to food or water for an extended period
- use of excessive training techniques such as striking a horse's legs
- excessive spurring or whipping
- excessive spinning (defined as more than eight (8) consecutive turns in either direction)
- continuing to work or exhibit a horse which appears to be sullen, lethargic, emaciated, dehydrated, depressed, drawn or overly tired
- schooling using rails higher than 1.2 metres
- breaking the skin and causing bleeding from the spur, bit, or any other equipment
- riding or training in such a way that the horse is subject to periods of mental or physical distress
- exhibiting a horse that has an open wound and/or shows traces of blood
- using prohibited equipment on the horse at Association approved events.

39.3.1 Prohibited Conduct

Any form of conduct that inhibits competition at Association approved events *including but not limited to:*

- padding classes, by entering a horse(s) to fill a class to increase show points
- discouraging a potential exhibitor from entering a class
- any exhibitor inside the arena, assisting another exhibitor, may be disqualified. Exception: EWD, Youth Lead Line and Youth Walk & Jog/trot classes. Does not apply to a co-contestant in a team, such as Team Roping or Cutting

- attempting to reduce competition, or assisting in reducing competition by a member or non-member of the Association
- engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct including, but not limited to, inappropriate language
- carrying or consuming alcohol in the marshalling areas, working arenas or show pen/contest areas
- directing abusive or threatening conduct or language toward Association representatives
- entering any registered horse in any AQHA sanctioned event by a name other than that by which the horse is registered
- *obvious coaching from the sideline not permitted.*

39.3.2 Failure to pay when due, any obligation owing to the AQHA or an AQHA Affiliate.

39.4 Prohibited Equipment

Use of prohibited equipment includes but not limited to:

- saw tooth bits
- hock hobbles
- tack collars
- curb straps with tack/rivets or tack hackamores
- war bridles or like devices
- riding in a curb bit without a curb strap
- wire or solid metal curb straps, with or without padding
- wire cavesson
- wire or cable tie downs
- bumper bits
- metal bosals with or without padding
- metal lunging hackamores
- chambons, headstalls made of metal, with or without padding
- running martingales used without rein stops
- excessively tight nosebands
- draw reins attached between or around the front legs
- side reins (direct from bit to girth or surcingles)
- any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the horse's tail
- any appliance or equipment, which results in any bleeding; and
- any other treatment or conduct deemed by a show official to be inhumane or abusive.

39.5 Nutraceuticals or Herbal Therapies

The onus is on the Owner/Trainer/Handler/Exhibitor, who decides to administer these types of products to a horse, to ensure that they are free of any prohibited substance.

39.6 Surgical Procedures

A horse cannot compete if it is had any surgical procedure which could affect the horse's performance. Exception: for those surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the horse.

If requested, a Veterinary Certificate detailing the surgery will be required.

39.7 Artificial appliances are not permitted for use in approved classes. The following are NOT prohibited:

- conventional pads
- therapeutic shoes
- pacemakers or prosthetic eyes, if the owner obtains written permission from the Association and the resulting authorisation is noted on the horse's registration certificate.

39.8 Prohibited Drugs and Foreign Substances

A horse that has had any prohibited foreign substance or drugs administered internally or externally cannot compete.

Exception: Acceptable foreign substances listed in Rule 39.9 and drugs as administered under Rule 39.8 b).

- a) A patch of any type, medicinal or otherwise cannot be on a horse when that horse is being exhibited;
- b) A horse that is injured or taken ill *whilst being transported directly to the show venue*, once it has arrived at the official show venue, or whilst on the ground during the event, may compete after that horse has been treated by a veterinarian at that show.

The attending Veterinarian must sign a certificate which states:

- what the horse is suffering from
 - what treatment, including any substances that have been administered internally or externally, and
 - that the horse is sound enough to compete at that show.
- c) The certificate must be given to the Show Secretary and or Show Manager prior to the horse competing;
 - d) A horse cannot be injected at a show unless the Veterinarian, that attended the horse at the show, has otherwise instructed. A Vet Certificate showing the treatment required must be obtained;
 - e) *Vets must attend in person and cannot assess a horse via electronic means such as video conferencing.*

39.9 Acceptable Foreign Substances:

The following substances are acceptable:

- Antiprotozoals
- Anti-ulcer medication
- Insect repellent
- Anthelmintics
- Rehydration fluids
- B vitamins (orally)
- Regumate/Altrenogest (mares only)
- Topical ointments not containing Corticosteroids, irritant, or painkillers
- Preventative joint restorative therapies and general "over the counter" feed store supplements.

39.10 Every exhibitor will, upon request of show management or the Association representative, permit a specimen of urine, blood, or any other substance to be taken for testing.

Refusal to comply with such a request will constitute grounds for immediate disqualification of the horse from further participation at the event. If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of urine, blood, or other sample taken from the horse indicates the presence of a foreign substance, prohibited drug or medication, this will be taken as prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the horse.

39.11 Penalties and Restrictions refer to Page 7, Disciplinary.

39.12 If, upon examination by Association, or show representatives, after Association authorisation, a horse's physiological functioning is found to be outside normal limits, the horse will automatically be

reported to the Association. Upon written notification by the Association, the horse's participation privileges in Association approved events will be suspended pending a hearing to determine whether the horse's physiological functioning remains abnormal, with the burden of persuasion on the owner to prove normal physiological functioning. Participation privileges of the horse will remain suspended until any hearing. Any hearing under Rule 39.12 must be requested by the owner. A conviction of an individual, under State or Federal Law, will constitute a presumed violation of these rules for an offence of cruelty to, or judicial confiscation of a horse.

40. AQHA Disclaimer of Responsibility for safety and wellbeing of Event participants. The AQHA does not assume or accept duty or responsibility for safety at any sanctioned event regarding participants or any other third parties, or for the horses or other property thereof. As an express condition of privilege to participate at an AQHA approved show or sanctioned event, each horse owner, exhibitor, trainer, and participant assumes the risks of participation and releases and discharges the AQHA, its officers, directors, representatives, and employees, from all liability, whenever or however arising, as to personal injury, property damage occurring because of participation in a class/event conducted by the AQHA or AQHA Affiliate.

40.1 Show Committee is responsible for:

- a) Condition of event premises, conduct and competence of show staff and other representatives;
- b) Implementation of show activities and classes; and
- c) All other aspects of the event.

40.2 Incidents at Shows are the responsibility of Show Manager

If the Show Manager observes an incident, or has been informed of any incident, that is a breach of any rule in this Rule Book, they will speak to the alleged offender and inform them that a report will be filed with the AQHA if deemed necessary by the Show Manager. Any incident reported to the AQHA, will be dealt with under the AQHA Investigative Procedures to determine whether the alleged incident is founded and if further action is required.

The AQHA can give a warning, show fine and/or suspend the showing rights of the exhibitor, owner and/or their representative acting on behalf of the exhibitor/owner, to participate in future approved shows for such period as the AQHA deems appropriate. Refer rule 40.2.1.

40.2.1 Show Fines and Penalties

- a) **Probation Period** will be from thirty (30) to ninety (90) days at the discretion of the Association. No privileges are denied. During the probation period, any other incidents reported, will be considered at the next highest level;
- b) **Suspended Show Privileges** will be from three (3) months to twelve (12) months at the discretion of the Association.
All rights and privileges associated with Association sanctioned events and the Association Award System and Annual High Point Awards are denied during the period of suspension and presence on grounds of Association sanctioned events is prohibited;
- c) **Fines** imposed will be between \$100 to \$8,000 at the discretion of the Association. The quantum of any fine will be set out in writing to the party involved and sixty (60) days will be given to pay the fine;
- d) **Expulsion of a member** is to be directed to the AQHA Disciplinary Officer in accordance with the AQHA Constitution.

40.3 If any AQHA Affiliate, and other Associations seeking show program approval, do not conform to the rules and regulations of the Association the following will apply:

1st Offence	Warning
2nd Offence	\$100 up to \$1,000 fine
3rd Offence	No show approvals for three (3) three to six (6) months

41. GENERAL

No Affiliate run event is sanctioned by the Association unless the Association has been notified in writing prior to the event taking place.

Until such times as Show Approval is forthcoming from the Association, the *Show* is not sanctioned by the Association.

- a) An Event Planning Checklist must be completed before commencement of any event and sent to the Association within fourteen (14) days of the completion of the event. This pertains to any event run by an Affiliate;
- b) The rules in this Rule Book must be adhered to at all AQHA Affiliate events, including shows, and for organisations that been granted Program approval;
- c) The rules pertaining to Amateurs/Select Amateurs and Youth must be adhered to in all equine competitions;
- d) All horses present at an AQHA Affiliate show must be entered in the show;

- e) No AQHA member will be required to be a member of any Affiliate to compete at an approved show;
- f) All participants, handlers, exhibitors, owners of horses taking part in any AQHA or AQHA Affiliate event, must be a member of the Affiliate running the event or the AQHA;
- g) A person expelled or suspended or not in good standing with the Association cannot exhibit or act as a handler/strapper at any AQHA approved event;
- h) Points will not be awarded to any horse exhibited or handled by a person so expelled, suspended or not in good standing with the Association; and
- i) Persons as described above are prohibited from entering the official marshalling areas and show arena at any time for the duration of any event that has AQHA approval.

42. APPROVAL

- a) No show of any kind will be permitted to be held, by an AQHA Affiliate, on the dates of the AQHA National Show or on the day of the Associations Annual General Meeting and non-Affiliates will not be granted show approval on these dates;
- b) No AQHA State Championship Show can be held within fourteen (14) days either side of the dates of the National Show, unless sanctioned by a majority of the Board of Directors;
- c) No show approval will be given for any identity, on the same day as an already approved show or program, within 150km normal road distance from venue to venue, unless written permission is given by the Affiliate who has that date approved. *This rule applies to all States and Territories.*
- d) No points will be awarded by the AQHA for any show run by an AQHA Affiliate or Non-Affiliate, that is on the same dates as an AQHA State Show in the state where that state show is held;
- e) A Versatility Ranch show can be granted show approval on the same day as an AQHA Affiliate approved "A", or "AA" show, that is within the 150km distance from each other, if mutually agreeable by both parties. An AQHA Affiliate has preference if no agreement between the two parties.
- f) All AQHA approved shows and programs must be open to Quarter Horse owners and exhibitors who are members in good standing with the Association. Approved performance classes may be open to horses of other relevant breed organisations. Exception: refer Rule 48;
- g) Shows or programs, that have been granted approval in the following point's year, are subject to any rules that become effective from 1 August of that year;
- h) Approval is only given six (6) months in advance for any Show or program, except for State shows;

- i) AQHA Affiliates, and other recognised organisations, may apply for approval and they must:
 - apply on an official application form or Affiliates can apply online
 - apply 30 clear days prior to the show
 - lodge the name of the Judge with the Association 21 days before the first day of the show along with a copy of Judges Contract
 - *not change the approve program less than 14 days before the first day of the show;*
- j) No approval will be considered until all paperwork, as requested by the Association, has been lodged with the appropriate fee and is complete and correct;
- k) A non-affiliate can only run five (5) approved programs per show season;
- l) All approved shows and programs, depending on the type of program (refer Rule 46 and 47), must be officiated by an AQHA Associate Judge, AQHA Accredited Judge, AQHA or AmQHA Versatility Ranch Judge, AmQHA Judge or an International Judge who is ticketed with the AmQHA. NB: An AQHA Trail Judge can only judge trail classes;
- m) All approved shows or programs, which have an AmQHA judge are encouraged to run the minimum approved AmQHA show program. Exception: refer Rule 48;
- n) If approval is sought to run Equestrian with Disabilities recognised classes, then the Show Committee assumes the responsibility for safety of all exhibitors;
- o) Show or program approval is a privilege, not a right, granted or rejected at the AQHA's discretion according to continuous evaluation of the applicant including, but not limited to, competence of show committee; enforcement of AQHA Rules and Regulations; quality of event; and service to AQHA members;
- p) Approval does not carry from year to year, but must be obtained for each individual event and the AQHA reserves the right to approve only the number of shows or programs per calendar year as it deems appropriate for any Affiliate/Organisation;
- q) Only foreign AQHA Affiliates will be given permission to run approved shows in their country;
- r) Changes cannot be made to an approved program that affects the approval of such program. The minimum number and name of classes must be adhered to according to the type of show that has been approved. Changing the running order of an approved event is permissible;
- s) Any advertising of prize money for an approved class must also include an advertised guaranteed minimum prize for the class.

If entry fees are to be jackpotted, the minimum number of entries before jackpotting must be stated on the program. Classes can be jackpotted if all rules pertaining to "AA" and State Shows re prize money is met;

- t) If the application for approval is satisfactory, the AQHA will issue a statement of approval. If approval is not granted, then the Association, in writing, will stipulate the reasons why.

"B" Points: AQHA Affiliates and other recognised organisations, running AQHA recognised classes under AQHA and/or HSAA Rules that have not gained AQHA approval, "B" points will be awarded to horses, youth, and amateurs for those that have placed sufficiently high in that show.

42.1 Youth - Show Committee must provide Youth classes for Youth exhibitors, three (3) years to eighteen (18) years of age as of 1 August of the current showing year. Refer Rule 63.

42.2 Amateur - Show Committee must provide Amateur and Select Amateur classes. Refer Rule 62.

42.3 Halter Classes Only horses that have a AQHA "Q" or "A" registration certificate can compete in approved Halter classes. Geldings, that are still listed as stallions, according to AQHA records at time the show results are processed, will not be allocated points.

42.4 Performance Halter

A horse is not eligible for its horse, amateur or youth halter class and the horse, amateur or youth Performance halter class at the same show. Eligibility: Rule 84.7.

42.5 Performance Classes

- a) Stallions, mares, spayed mares, and geldings two years old and older, are eligible to compete in approved performance classes.
Refer Rule 43 for age clarification and maximum number of classes that can be held;
- b) Only horses, for which a Registration Certificate, Appendix Certificate or Performance Registry Certificate, has been issued by the AQHA or other relevant breed organisations, are eligible to participate in approved performance classes. Proof of registration and age must be available on request and all horses must match their papers.

43. HORSE AGE REQUIREMENTS

To determine the eligibility for competition, the age of a horse will be calculated as per Rule 15.

43.1 Three Year Old

A three (3) year old class can be offered in Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, and Trail only. The three (3) year old can only compete in either the three (3) year old or junior divisions, not in both.

A horse can compete in a three (3) year old class from 1 August of its three (3) year old year.

43.2 Two Year Old

A two (2) year old horse cannot be shown under saddle at any AQHA approved show or program or at any AQHA sanctioned event, prior to 1 April of its two (2) year old year and must have reached a min. age of 24 months.

- a) A two (2) year old class can only be offered in: Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Trail, Led Trail, Lunge Line and Hunter in Hand;
- b) Any horse competing in two (2) year old Led Trail or two (2) year old Lunge Line at a show, is not eligible to compete in any ridden classes at that show;
- c) The two (2) year old can only compete in either the two (2) year old or junior horse divisions, not in both;
- d) A two (2) year old can only compete in a maximum of three (3) ridden classes at a show and is restricted to Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail;
- e) No two (2) year old horse can be ridden at Clinics prior to 1st April in any year.

43.3 Yearling

Can only be shown in a maximum of four (4) performance classes at the same show. Yearlings can compete and earn points in the Amateur, Select Amateur and Youth Showmanship classes, and can compete and earn points in Led Trail, Hunter in Hand, and Yearling on Lunge.

43.4 Weanling

Weanlings cannot be shown before 1 January of their weanling year and must have reached a minimum age of twenty-four (24) weeks.

43.5 Horse age divisions

Senior Horse - six (6) years and over;

Junior Horse - two (2) to five (5) years;

Three (3) year old;

Two (2) year old.

43.6 Limited Pro Horsemen Division

Must be run concurrently with the horse age divisions in Rule 43.5 for Hunter Under Saddle, Trail, and Western Pleasure only.

To be eligible for this division, the exhibitor must have been issued an AQHA Professional Horsemen's Limited permit. A separate entry fee must be paid to enter the Limited Pro Horsemen division and therefore eligible to be placed in this division.

Limited Pro Horsemen division results are not eligible to be counted towards any AQHA award. It is not compulsory to run Limited Pro Horsemen division and can only be run at AQHA State, National Shows and any other show recognised by Board of Directors upon application.

44. RECOGNISED CLASSES

For any class to gain approval it must be one of the Associations recognised classes and the class must be run under AQHA Rules or the rules of a Recognised Approved Performance Body.

44.1 Halter for Horse, Youth and Amateur

Points will be allocated for AQHA Registered Quarter horses that compete in relevant age and sex divisions, (refer Rule 42.3 and 46) at approved AQHA Shows and in AQHA approved Programs.

- a) Halter classes open to AQHA registered Quarter Horses and other relevant breed organisations, “B” points;
- b) Registered Quarter Horses in Quarter Horse halter classes at non- approved shows, “B” points;
- c) A horse cannot be shown in its AQHA halter class and an AQHA Performance Halter class at the same show;
- d) Spayed mares cannot be shown in any halter class;
- e) Supreme Halter Exhibit, or a class of similar style is not point scoring.

44.2 Performance Halter for Horse, Amateur and Youth

Only one (1) Performance Halter class can be offered in each sex division for horse, amateur or youth.

Winner and second placegetters of these classes are eligible for Champion and Reserve in their respective Champion class.

44.3 Performance Classes If approval is granted, will gain points towards ROMs and points may be eligible to count towards Annual High Point Awards if applicable.

AQHA SPORTING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

ARENA SORTING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

BARREL: Open, Divisional or Open, Ladies

BOXING: Novice Youth, Novice Amateur, Rookie, Youth

BREAKAWAY ROPING: Ladies, Youth

CAMPDRAFT: *Open, Novice, Maiden, Ladies, Junior Youth, Juvenile*

CUTTING: *\$15,000 Non Pro, \$7,500 Non Pro, Open, Open Non Pro, Open and Non Pro Futurity, Open and Non Pro Derby, Open and Non Pro Classic, \$15,000 Novice, \$5,000 Novice, Open and Non Pro Snaffle bit Futurity, Snaffle bit, Junior Youth, Senior Youth, Novice Non Pro, Rookie*

DRESSAGE: Horse, Amateur, Youth

ENDURANCE: Horse

EQUESTRIAN WITH DISABILITIES: Rider

EVENTING: Horse

HACK: Horse, Amateur, Youth

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION: Amateur, Youth

HUNTER HACK: Horse, Amateur, Youth

HUNTER IN HAND: Horse

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Ltd Pro H/men

LED TRAIL: Yearling and 2 year old

LUNGE LINE: Yearling and 2 year old

PLEASURE DRIVING: Horse

RANCH RIDING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

RACING: Horse

REINING: AQHA Horse, Amateur, Youth

NRHA: *Open, Intermediate Open, Ltd Open, Nov. Horse Open, Intermediate NP, Ltd. NP, NP Open, Nov. Horse NP, Youth, Prime Time NP, 4yr old Futurity, Snaffle bit/Hackamore 3yrs, 4yrs or 5yrs*

RA: *NP Primetime, Intermediate NP, Ltd Non Pro, NP Open, Nov. Horse NP, Novice Horse Open, Intermediate Open, Ltd. Open, Open, Youth, Snaffle bit/Hackamore 3 year olds, Futurity 4 years old, Maturity 5 year olds; Derby 5, 6, 7 and 8 year olds.*

ROPE & TIE: Horse

SHOW HUNTER: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Senior or Junior Rider

SHOW JUMPING: Open, Youth

SHOWMANSHIP: Youth, Amateur

STEER UNDECORATING: Ladies

STEER WRESTLING: Horse – Men's, Open

STOCKMANS CHALLENGE: Classic or Classic Premiership or Open Challenge or Open Premiership

TEAM PENNING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

TEAM ROPING HEELER: Horse, Open Heeler or #12 Heeler or #10 Heeler or #8 heeler

TEAM ROPING HEADER: Horse, Open Header or #12 Header or #10 Header or #8 header

TRAIL: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Limited Pro Horsemen

VERSATILITY RANCH: Horse, Amateur, Youth

WESTERN DRESSAGE: Horse, Youth

WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP: Amateur, Youth

WESTERN PLEASURE: Horse, Amateur, Youth, Limited Pro Horsemen

WESTERN RIDING: Horse, Amateur, Youth

WORKING COWHORSE: *Non-Pro and Bridled 7yrs & over, Non-Pro and Snaffle bit 6yrs & under, Youth, Rookie*

44.3.1 The following classes are recognised but are non-point scoring:

LEAD LINE: Youth only aged 3 to 6 years

WALK AND JOG/TROT: Youth only aged 5 to 10 years

44.4 Approved Performance Bodies and Recognised Classes

The Association recognises the organisations listed in this Rule, as the Approved Performance Bodies for the disciplines listed.

Any event approved or affiliated with one of the AQHA Approved Performance Bodies will be allocated "A" points towards ROM's in that discipline and points are eligible to count towards Annual High Point Awards if applicable.

ABHA Australian Barrel Horse Association: Barrel

ABCRA Aust. Bushmen's Campdraft and Rodeo Assoc: Breakaway Roping Ladies and Youth, Campdraft, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope and Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

AERA Aust. Endurance Riders Assoc: Endurance

ARB Australian Racing Board and/or placings from racing organisations approved by the AQHA: Racing

APRA Australian Professional Rodeo Association: Breakaway Roping Ladies and Youth, Ladies Barrel, Rope and Tie, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

ASCA Aust. Stockman's Challenge Assoc: Stockman's Challenge

ATRA Australian Team Roping Association: Barrel, Rope and Tie Breakaway Roping Ladies and Youth, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope and Tie, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

CRCA Central Rodeo Cowboy Association: Ladies Barrel, Youth Sporting

EA Equestrian Australia: Dressage, Eventing, Hack, Show Jumping

FEI Federation Equestrian Internationale: Dressage

NBHA National Barrel Horse Association: Barrel, Youth Sporting

NCCA National Campdraft Council Australia: Campdraft

NCHA National Cutting Horse Association: Cutting

NRA National Rodeo Association: Breakaway Roping Ladies and Youth, Ladies Barrel, Ladies Steer Undecorating, Rope and Tie, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Youth Sporting

NRCHA/ARCHA National Reining Cow Horse Association and Australian Reining Cow Horse Association: Cow Horse, Boxing

NRHA and **RA** National Reining Horse Assoc., Reining Australia: Reining

PCA Pony Club Australia: PC Sporting (Inc. Mounted Games), PC Dressage, PC Eventing, PC Jumping

RHAA Ranch Horse Association of Australia: Versatility Ranch

SHCA Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc: Hack, Show Hunter

TPA Team Penning Australia Inc: Team Penning, Arena Sorting

WDA Western Dressage Association of Aust: Western Dressage

45. HIGH POINT AWARDS AT SHOWS

Are not compulsory for approved shows or programs.

NB: Any horse or exhibitor that has exhibited in a class but disqualified, is still counted as competing in that class.

- a) At Approved Shows, or for approved programs, High Point Awards must be advertised as either High Point Performance Horse (Performance classes excluding Halter), or High Point Horse which includes Halter and Performance;

NB: All Youth, Amateur and Select Amateur awards are for the exhibitor, not the horse.

- b) All approved Youth *classes are recommended to go towards* High Point Youth.

If only one (1) youth class is held for a specific discipline on the program, the points for youth placed will go towards their respective age Youth High Point Award if offered;

- c) All approved Amateur *classes are recommended to go towards* High Point Amateur.

If only one (1) Amateur class held for a specific discipline on the program, the points for Amateurs placed will go towards their respective Amateur High Point Award if offered;

- d) All approved Select Amateur *classes are recommended to go towards* High Point Select Amateur.

If there is no specific Select Amateur discipline on the program, and the Select Amateur enters the Amateur class for that discipline, any points gained by the Select Amateur will go towards a High Point Select Amateur if offered. Exception: Amateur Halter and Amateur Boxing;

- e) All approved Horse age division classes *are recommended to go towards High Point Horse Awards*. Eg: 3 year old classes will go towards High Point 3 year old if offered. NB: if there is no specific 3 year old discipline on the program, and the 3 year old competes in a Junior Horse or all age class, then any points gained by the 3 year old will go towards High Point 3 year old if offered.
- f) Youth, Amateurs/Select Amateurs may nominate a maximum of two (2) horses that will count toward the High Point Youth, Amateur/Select Amateur awards at the show. Nominations must be in the Show Secretary's hands prior to closing date of entries or the first two (2) horses used by the Youth, Amateur or Select Amateur in the show will be the only two (2) horses points that count towards the High Point calculations;
- g) Youth or Amateur may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes. Only the highest placing horse in the Youth or Amateur class will be allocated points towards high point awards at any approved show and end of year awards when an individual places twice in the one class;
- h) High Point Award points at Approved Shows, or for approved programs, will be awarded in the following manner:

Points to be allocated:

# in Class	Placing	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
6 or more	Points	6	5	4	3	2	1
5	Points	5	4	3	2	1	
4	Points	4	3	2	1		
3	Points	3	2	1			
2	Points	2	1				
1	Points	1					

- i) Points not to be included in High Point Awards at Shows are points earned for Champion and Reserve Champion at Halter, and special classes i.e. Futurities etc;
- j) **Tie** - In the case of a tie occurring in a High Point Award, the tie will be broken by:
 - the greatest number of first place ribbons
 - the greatest number of second place ribbons
 - the greatest number of third place ribbons and so on.
- k) Prior to the commencement of the show, the show committee must advertise the class/classes that will be used as the tie breaker if the tie cannot be broken under Rule 45 j).

45.1 Versatility Ranch

Versatility Ranch High Point Awards at shows are not compulsory, but if held must use the point scoring system as per rule 45 h) and 45 j). To gain a Versatility Ranch High Point at a show, the horse, Youth or Amateur must have competed in a minimum of one (1) class in each of the categories offered to be eligible for that High Point award. All youth classes held must count towards the Youth award, *the same applies to all other divisions.*

46. DIFFERENT TYPES OF SHOW APPROVAL

46.1 Agricultural Shows

Recognised classes held at Agricultural Shows will be allocated "A" points if the class held is run under the respective rules of the AQHA or an Approved Performance Body and is judged by an AQHA Judge or a recognised Judge from that Approved Performance body.

46.2 Versatility Ranch Show is defined as a standalone event.

Versatility Ranch Shows can be single "A" or Multi Judged "A".

The only divisions that can be run are:

Horse - All Age

Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit – Any Horse 3 years & over. Horse to be ridden 2 handed in a snaffle bit regardless of horse's age.

Equipment: Fender or stock saddle.

A horse can only compete in the All Age Division or the Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit division at the same show, not both.

Amateur - All Age

Select Amateur - All Age

Youth - if one (1) class held it is to be: 7 to 18 years old

If two (2) classes held: 7 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years

46.2.1 Judge - Refer Rules 71 d), e), f), g)

46.2.2 Categories There are four (4) categories with seven (7) classes in total as follows:

Category 1 Ranch Pleasure, Ranch Trail, Ranch Working Rail

Category 2 Ranch Reining

Category 3 Ranch Cutting, Ranch Cow Work, Ltd Ranch Cow Work

Category 4 Ranch Conformation

46.2.3 To gain approval an event must:

- run all four (4) categories **or**
- run three (3) of the four (4) categories **or**
- run one (1) of the categories and run two (2) classes from two (2) other different categories.

E.g. Run Category three (3) plus Category four (4) plus Trail from Category one (1). All classes on the program must be listed on the application when applying for approval.

46.3 "A", "AA" and Multi Judged Shows ("A" OR "AA")

There is no minimum or maximum number of days that "A", "AA" or Multi Judged shows can be held over.

46.3.1 All classes offered at the show must be listed on the program when applying for approval and the application must be done on Official Application Forms or Online.

A copy of the full program must accompany the application or if applying online, email the program to the Association, on the day that you submit your application.

46.3.2 Mandatory Halter Classes

Restricted to Quarter Horses only that are registered with the AQHA. Refer Rule 43.4 Weanlings.

- a) Two (2) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
3 years and under,
4 years and over
Champion & Reserve;
- b) Three (3) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
Yearling
2 & 3 year old
4 years & over
Champion & Reserve **OR**
1 year & under
2 & 3 year old
4 years & over
Champion & Reserve;
- c) Four (4) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
Weanling
Yearling
2 & 3 year old
4 years & over
Champion & Reserve;
- d) Five (5) age divisions are offered for each sex division they must be:
Weanling
Yearling
2 year old,
3 year old
4 years & over
Champion & Reserve.

NB: Only one (1) Performance Halter class can be added for each sex division for Open, Amateur and Youth.

46.3.3 Mandatory Performance Classes

“A” Show: a minimum of three (3) classes must be chosen from each Group in Rule 46.3.4.

“AA” Shows: a minimum of five (5) classes must be chosen from each Group in Rule 46.3.4.

46.3.4 Groups

YOUTH GROUP - Dressage, Hack, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting, Ranch Riding, Western Dressage, Working Cow Horse: 7 to 18 years only.

Showmanship: 5 to 18 years **or** 5 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years **or** 5 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years and 15 to 18 years

Trail, Western Pleasure Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining:

7 to 18 years or 7 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years or 7 to 11 years, 12 to 14 years and 15 to 18 years.

AMATEUR GROUP

Showmanship, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter, AQHA Sporting and Ranch Riding: One division only.

Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding and Reining: One Division or Amateur Junior and Amateur Senior Horse.

SELECT AMATEUR GROUP

Showmanship, Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Hack, Dressage, Hunter Hack, Show Hunter and Ranch Riding: One division only.

OPEN GROUP

AQHA Sporting: All Age.

Dressage: Preliminary, Novice, Elementary, exhibitor can compete in 2 consecutive levels only.

Hack and Show Hunter: 14hh and over or 14hh and not exceeding 15hh and over 15hh or 14hh not exceeding 15hh, over 15hh and not exceeding 16hh, over 16hh.

Hunter Hack: All Age or Junior and Senior.

Hunter in Hand: All Age or Yearling and 2 years & over or Yearling, Junior and Senior Horse.

Lunge Line and Led Trail: Yearling or 2 year old or Yearling and 2 year old.

Ranch Riding: All Age or Junior and Senior.

Reining: All Age or Junior and Senior or Junior, Senior and Snaffle Bit/Hackamore.

NB: No horse can be entered in both the Junior bit and Hackamore/Snaffle bit reining classes at the same show.

Western Dressage: Open - Basic and Levels 1 to 4 (exhibitor can compete in 2 consecutive levels only).

Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail:

From 1 August to 31 March - All Age or Junior and Senior or Junior, Senior and 3 year old.

From 1 April to 31 July - All Age or Junior and Senior or Junior, Senior, 3 year old and/or 2 year old (optional).

Western Riding: All Age or Junior and Senior.

Equestrian with Disabilities: All Age.

46.3.5 Prize money that must be offered at "AA" Shows:

Minimum \$1000 prize money, to be spread between a minimum of two (2) Open classes, two (2) Amateur classes and two (2) Youth classes.

Regardless of number of exhibitors that competed in the class, prize money must be paid as advertised.

Eg: Prize money advertised as \$100 and 1st \$50, 2nd \$30 3rd is \$20, but only 1 exhibitor, the \$50 must be paid.

46.3.6 Number of Horses at “AA” Shows

For a show to meet minimum requirements and have the results recognised as “AA” points, throughout the whole show there must be a minimum of 24 registered Quarter Horses exhibited in approved classes for QLD, NSW and VIC. All other States a minimum of fourteen (14) or show will be downgraded to “A”.

46.3.7 Beginner, Improver, Rookie or Walk/Jog type classes can be run at any “A”, “AA” or Multi Judged show. *These classes are non-point scoring.*

46.3.8 Multi Judged Show

- a) A Multi Judged show is defined as the use of two (2) judges, judging independently of each other. Each of the Judges placings will require separate results being submitted to the Association; therefore two (2) sets of points will be awarded. Two Show approval fees to be paid accordingly depending on the class of show;
- b) AQHA Affiliates will be allowed to run an unlimited number of Multi Judged Shows per show season. An AQHA recognised breed organisation can apply to run no more than two (2) multi-judged shows per show season;
- c) A Multi Judge Show can be either: Two (2) “A” Shows, same program, **or** two “AA” shows, same program, **or** one (1) “A” and one (1) “AA” Show, “AA” program must be used for both;
- d) Approved Applicant must place a notice, at the venue prior to commencement of the show, for all members to be made aware who is the Judge for both shows.

47. SPECIAL EVENT

An AQHA Affiliate can run an unlimited number of Special Events per show season and single “A” points will be allocated.

No other organisations will be given permission to run Special Events. A Special Event must be one of the following:

- a) **Amateur Show** – minimum of twenty-five (25) recognised Amateur classes, and must include Novice and Select Amateur classes;
- b) **Youth Show** – minimum of twenty (20) recognised classes and must include Novice Youth classes;
- c) **Amateur & Youth Show combined** – minimum of a) and b) above;
- d) **Halter and Led Show** – must have a minimum of twenty-five (25) classes and covers Halter, Lunge Line, Hunter in Hand and Led Trail;
- e) **Cattle Show** – any AQHA recognised cattle classes;
- f) **Reining Show** – can be run by an AQHA Affiliate or a recognised Reining Affiliate. Program must comply with RA Regulations and Rules.

47.1 NATIONAL SHOW The Board of Directors of the AQHA, will formulate the program, Rules/Regulations pertaining to the National Championship Show.

48. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS and VERSATILITY RANCH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

48.1 *An Affiliate may put forward an application to run the State Championship Show and/or the Versatility Ranch State Championship Show within their State, and it must be lodged with the Association by 1 August in any year for the coming show season.*

Any Affiliate, applying to run the State Championship Show only, must inform the Association upon application that they will not be seeking approval to run the Versatility Ranch State Championship Show within their State. Name of Judge must be lodged with the Association sixty (60) days prior to first day of show. "AAAAA" points will apply for State Shows. If no applications are received for either State Show, then the Association will inform all Affiliates within that State and extend the time frame for applications to the 30 September in that year.

- a) Applications will be approved by the Board of Directors;
- b) All Affiliates, in that State, can tender to run that State's Quarter Horse Championships *and/or Versatility Ranch State Championships*;
- c) No approval can be given to conduct State Championships *and/or Versatility Ranch State Championships*, without a program of classes being submitted which displays the amount of entry fees, prize money per class and a copy of the Affiliates Rules and Regulations for that State Show including any High Point Awards Rules and qualifying classes;
- d) At State Championships, *and/or Versatility Ranch State Championships*, the Show Secretary and the Show Manager must be financial AQHA members;
- e) All State Championship shows must fulfil "AA" Show criteria;
- f) *All Versatility Ranch State Championship Shows must fulfil the criteria for Versatility Ranch Shows*;
- g) No State Championships, in any State, will be approved to run within fourteen (14) days either side of the AQHA National Championships, unless sanctioned by the Board of Directors.

48.2 Prize Money

Minimum prize money required at State Shows is as follows: Queensland, Victoria, NSW, \$3000. All other States \$1000.

The minimum prize money is to be spread between a min. of two (2) Open classes, two (2) Amateur classes and two (2) Youth classes. Regardless of number in class, the min. prize money must be paid.

49. ENTRY, FEES, AND RECORDS

49.1 An entry fee can be charged, but if charged it must be charged uniformly to all exhibitors in the class.

49.2 No person can pay an entry fee for a class and/or take part in a class and then declare that they are not to be judged in that class. All exhibitors that enter the arena are to be judged.

49.3 No Show Management will require an owner/exhibitor to enter or pay entry fee of a horse in a halter class for that horse to be eligible for an approved performance class or vice versa. Nor will an owner/exhibitor be required to enter or pay entry fees for a horse in a performance class for that horse to be eligible for other performance classes. Provided, that this rule will not apply to futurity type classes, which require ongoing sustaining payments for future shows. Also exempt are high point awards.

49.4 The onus is on the person to have the correct names, registration numbers, etc., on the entry form(s). Failure to do so may result in no points being awarded for the entry(s).

49.5 An owner/exhibitor is responsible for errors on the entry blanks. A horse entered in the wrong class will be transferred to its correct class prior to Judging. Entry forms must be completed by each person entering the show.

49.6 Any horses entered in an approved show, or for competition in an approved program, must be listed under its registered name and number. To be eligible for points a horse must be exhibited under its complete registered name. Entries will be made in the name of the recorded owner *as per Association records*.

49.7 An owner/exhibitor may enter one (1) or more horses in a class, but each horse may have only one (1) rider per class.

49.8 A Show Committee will maintain adequate written or electronic records, enough to establish to the Association's satisfaction, upon request, that each exhibitor's entry fee was paid.

Such records will be preserved for at least twelve (12) months.

Failure on the part of a Show Committee to preserve such records, will create the assumption that the fees were not paid, with the burden of persuasion on a Show Committee and the individual exhibitor to prove otherwise.

50. SHOW RESULTS

The results of any Approved Show or Program must be completed in its' entirety on official forms (replicating those forms as prescribed by the Association) or electronic files and forwarded to the Association within fourteen (14) days after completion of the show.

AQHA Affiliates, who applied for their approval online, can lodge the results for that show for all registered Quarter Horses online within fourteen (14) days after completion of the show.

If not adhered to, a late fee will be imposed upon the Affiliate/Organisation conducting the show and future show or program approval can be denied.

Exception: Any shows held in the month of July each year, the results must be received by 14 August in that year, or the points will not be counted towards end of year awards but will be recorded towards ROM's etc;

Show Managements responsibility is to make sure that the results are reported in a clear and concise layout with the following information:

Horse classes:

Full names of horse

Registration number

Owner's name and membership number

NB: For State Shows – Exhibitors name and membership number

Youth, Amateur, Select Amateur and EWD classes

Full name of horse

Registration number

Owner's name and membership number

Youth, Amateur, Select Amateur and EWD exhibitors - name and membership numbers;

The placings for each class and the number of exhibits shown in each class. NB: Any exhibitor disqualified in a class must be counted in the number of exhibitors in that class.

If fewer than five (5) competed in the class, all horses in the class will be listed in order.

50.1 Results from any show other than "A" or "AA" approved, the member must complete an Official Show Result Form and forward to the Association, with a copy of the show program, after it has been signed as correct by the Judge or an official of the organising body within thirty (30) days of such show. If not received in this time frame the points will not be allocated.

50.2 Where the AQHA has an agreement with an Approved Performance Body, to submit results on behalf of the exhibitors at an approved show, the exhibitors do not need to submit the Official Show Result Forms to the Association.

50.3 All Approved Shows and programs must use an entry form which contains information required in accordance with Rule 50.

50.4 It is the duty of a exhibitor to report to the Association within ten (10) days, any infraction of Rules at approved and unapproved Shows.

Where an infraction is proven, points for that class may, at the Association's discretion be disallowed.

51. RIBBONS

The following schedule of ribbons is recommended:

1st place: blue; 2nd place: red; 3rd place: yellow;

4th place: white; 5th place: pink; 6th place: green;

7th place: purple; 8th place: brown;

9th place: dark grey; 10th place: light blue.

Champion: red, white, and blue; Reserve Champion: purple.

52. MISCELLANEOUS SHOW RULES

Earphones, earbuds and/or other electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the competition arena and such usage is penalised by disqualification. Exemption EWD classes.

52.1 Shows with multiple Judges and arenas may make trail classes available to exhibitors in a random order and position. Working order for this class also may be random.

52.2 Scores in go-rounds or eliminations will not be counted towards placings – only the scoring in the final will be accepted.

52.3 Combining Classes - Horse divisions, of the same discipline, can be combined at the direction of the Judge and Show Manager only when there are two or less entries in one or more divisions. A combined class can only have one set of results.

Refer Amateur Rule 62 and Youth Rule 63.

52.4 Concurrent Classes That two (2) classes of the same discipline can be run concurrently.

Show Manager and the Judge will make this decision. The Judges results will determine the placings for both classes that ran concurrently.

52.5 Reining Surface The arena surface for Reining at Approved Shows, or programs, must be SAFE, being lightly ploughed and harrowed, or a suitably soft surface (sand, loam, sawdust, tanbark etc). Hard surface, grass or uncovered trotting tracks etc. do not constitute safe arena surfaces.

52.6 Exhibition/competition is deemed to have commenced when the horse and/or rider/handler has entered the marshalling area or has come under the direct control of Show Manager (typically Marshall/Steward) prior to entering the arena.

52.7 Any person owning or leasing the grounds on which a show is being held will be prohibited from using said ownership to influence the outcome of any show held on the property.

52.8 Photography By entry and participation in AQHA Approved Shows, or in a Show that runs an approved program, an owner and exhibitor agree that the Association, Show Committee and their agents and representatives can photograph, film or tape any portion thereof, and use their likeness and that of the exhibited horses for training, promotional or other legitimate purpose of either organisation, without necessity of remuneration. Parental permission must be sought for use of Youth photos.

52.9 Show Management may request a copy or sighting of: Horse Registration Certificate, Amateur/Select Amateur permits, Novice Horse, Novice Youth or Novice Amateur permit.

52.10 Show Committee will issue separate entry numbers for each horse entered. Failure to display the number, or to display the correct number in a visible manner, will result in disqualification.

52.11 Any exhibitor withdrawing from a show after competing will forfeit any fees and all go-round money which may be accruing to them at the time of their withdrawal, except that in the case of incapacitating sickness or injury to themselves or their horse or any serious illness or death in the exhibitor's family, all prize monies won by them to that point in the show will be paid.

52.12 It is mandatory that all patterns and courses be posted at least one (1) hour prior to the class commencing.

52.13 In all performance classes, all horses shown under saddle are to be ridden astride.

52.14 The fall of a horse or rider being judged will be cause for disqualification. A horse is considered to have fallen when they are on their side and all 4 feet are extended in the same direction. Rider is considered to have fallen when they are not astride.

52.15 No exhibitor can be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means during competition. Exception: refer to Rule 96.

52.16 In all performance classes where each entry performs individually, the order of competition will be determined by the Show Manager.

52.17 Whether or not entries perform individually, all horses entered in a class must be assembled in ample time for judging to start on time and continued without delay. They must remain in readiness until dismissed by the Judge. A tardy exhibitor can be denied access to competition.

52.18 It is recommended for horses working on the rail that everyone has approximately 4.5m between themselves and the next horse.

52.19 The Management of any Show will determine whether an elimination is necessary, the number of go rounds to be held and the number of horses to be shown at each performance.

52.20 If there is elimination, each horse must be ridden by the same rider who rode it in the elimination.

52.21 Re-runs will not be allowed in instances of equipment failure.

When exhibitor equipment failure causes a delay or a run to be discontinued, the Judge will disqualify the entry.

52.22 No training equipment is allowed in the marshalling area or the performance arena one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the Show and one (1) hour after the cessation of the Show, on each day of the show.

52.23 Attire

- a) For exhibitors in the marshalling areas and show arena, whilst Show is in progress, refer to Index (Attire);
- b) For handlers in the marshalling area, whilst Show is in progress, is a minimum of cap/hat, long western style pants/jodhpurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves;
- c) For any person who has cause to enter the show arena to help set up trails etc. is a minimum of: cap/hat, long western style pants/jodhpurs, safe enclosed footwear and a shirt with sleeves;
- d) For any person using the arena or marshalling area when the Show is not in progress, but the Show has not finished, is a minimum of long western style pants/jodhpurs, safe enclosed footwear, *cap/hat*, and a shirt with sleeves.

53. SHOW OFFICIALS

53.1 Attire all Officials who have cause to enter the Show arena, at an AQHA Approved Show or an organisation running an approved AQHA program, whilst that Show is in progress, will wear western attire including western hat, western pants, long sleeved shirt with collar (band, stand- up, tuxedo etc), and western boots.

53.2 Officials

- a) All Approved Shows or Programs must have a Show Manager or Arena Director;
- b) At an "A" or "AA" Approved Show or Approved Program, the Show Manager, Arena Director Ring Steward, Show Secretaries, Announcers, ribbon presenters cannot officiate at this show until they have finished exhibiting horses;
- c) A Ring Steward must be 16 years of age and over. All other Officials must be eighteen (18) years and over with, the exception of Ribbon presenter;
- d) An approved Bit Gauge must be used by an official at Approved Shows and for approved programs.

53.3 Show Secretary

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Secretary who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability and experience and is familiar with Association Rules and Regulations;
- b) It is recommended that the Show Secretary be a financial member of the AQHA;
- c) The Show Secretary will have jurisdiction over preparing and mailing all entry blanks and catalogues;
- d) A Show Secretary can hold the position of Show Manager at the same show;
- e) The Show Secretary will be held responsible for:
 - any fees collected on behalf of the AQHA and the forwarding of these fees to the Association
 - clarification of eligibility of all entries, which includes checking the permits of Amateurs and Select, Youth ages and Novice status
 - the completion of all results that must be forwarded to the Association
 - filing with the Association any incident reports from that show, plus the pre-show Event Planning Checklist.

53.4 Show Manager

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Show Manager who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability and experience. It is recommended that the Show Manager be a financial AQHA member;
- b) *A Show Manager can hold the position also of Arena Director at the same show; or*
- c) *A Show Manager can hold the position of Show Secretary at the same show but cannot hold the three (3) positions being Show Manager, Arena Director and Show Secretary at the same show;*
- d) The Show Manager is the person in charge of the running of the show and cannot hold the position of Ring Steward at the same show;
- e) The Show Manager will have the authority to enforce all rules and regulations referring to the Show.

They may excuse any horse or exhibitor from the Show prior to, or during the judging, after consultation with the Show Committee;

- f) Show Manager will always extend every effort to satisfy the comfort of all horses, exhibitors, spectators, and officials.

They will be held responsible for maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the show.

- h) Show Manager will receive written complaints from exhibitors, trainers, owners, and other AQHA members of incidents of cruel, abusive or inhumane treatment of horses on the grounds and/or unacceptable behaviour of persons on the grounds and will forward such complaints to the Association for possible disciplinary action under these Rules and Regulations pertaining to animal welfare and unacceptable behaviour. *Refer Rule 40.2*

53.5 Arena Director

- a) Any reputable person may act in the capacity of Arena Director who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability and experience;
- b) An Arena Director is responsible to the Show Manager to carry out duties regarding the Show arena under the guidance of either the Show Manager or if no Show Manager, then responsible to the Show Committee.

53.6 Show Photographer

- a) No Official show photographer can exhibit a horse at a show that they are officiating at;
- b) They must be appropriately attired, when in the show arena, being shirt with sleeves, western style pants/jeans and closed in shoes.

53.7 Ring Steward

A competent Ring Steward will be required to officiate at all AQHA Approved Shows and for any organisation that has been given program approval.

Any reputable person or persons may act in the capacity of Ring Steward who can furnish proof that they are capable through ability or experience and are familiar with AQHA Rules and Regulations.

- a) Cannot hold any other position at a State or National Show, but can rotate between the Ring Steward/Gate Marshall positions at other Shows;
- b) Will notify the Judge when all horses are present for each class;
- c) Will report the number of horses in each class on the official sheets provided;
- d) Must mark on the result sheets/cards the time that each class has been completed;
- e) Must have in their mind that they have been selected to help the Judge – not to advise the Judge. They will carefully refrain from discussing or seeming to discuss the horses or exhibitors with the Judge.

The Ring Steward will make sure that it is not perceived that they are taking part in the outcome of the class;

- f) When not actively engaged in their duties, will place themselves in such a position so as not to interfere with the judging or the viewing of the exhibitors;
- g) Must not allow the exhibitors to crowd up in the arena and should always endeavour to keep the possibilities of an accident at a minimum;
- h) Is to act as a mediator between the Judge and the exhibitor. The Judge should request the Ring Steward to move and place horses as they advise. When the arena is small and the class entries are large, the Ring Steward should survey the situation and take every precaution to keep the horses moving until the Judge is ready for them to be judged.

53.8 Judge

A Judge has the authority to remove exhibitors from the arena.

53.9 Show Disputes Committee

Show Manager, a Show Committee Member, and an exhibitor who does not have a conflict of interest, make up the Dispute Committee.

Two (2) members of the Disputes Committee must be AQHA financial members. Youth are not permitted as part of a disputes committee. The committee is to investigate the dispute or incident and determine the validity of the dispute or incident within one hour of the last class of the day. The committee must forward all incident reports to the AQHA.

The committee does not have the power to enforce any penalties or disqualify the exhibitor or owner at the time of the incident. Exception: Animal Welfare refer Rule 39.

The Committee has the power to rule on clerical errors.

54. VETERINARIAN

Any registered/licensed Veterinarian may officiate in their capacity.

55. TIES (DRAWS) IN CLASSES In all scored classes refer to individual class rules in Section five (5).

56. POINTS AWARDED

At any Approved AQHA Show or for any approved program, only the classes on the program that have been approved will be allocated "A" points. All other classes on the program, that are recognised by the Association, but no approval has been given, will be allocated "B" points. Any exceptions please check individual class rules.

AQHA National Championships: "AAAAAA" points

AQHA State Championships: "AAAAA" points

AQHA Approved "AA" Show: "AA" points

AQHA Approved "A" Show: "A" points

Agriculture Shows meeting AQHA requirements: "A" points

"B" Points – for recognised classes at shows:

Open/All Age when there are age divisions on the program.

Futurity, Stakes, Derby, Classic etc.

No Points: Supreme Exhibit type classes

57. ALLOCATION OF POINTS

57.1 Points for horses registered with the Association will be recorded by the Association subject to the Association's Show and Performance Rules.

57.2 Points will only be allocated if owner of the horse is a financial member at the time of competition. Amateur and Youth Members refer to Rule 62 and 63. Exception National and State Show Rules.

57.3 Points will be awarded for completed classes only. Heats, cut-outs, go-rounds, eliminations will not be eligible for points.

57.4 No points will be awarded for any Show which is judged in such a way as to provide more than one result. Exception: Multi Judged shows that are approved by the AQHA.

57.5 To be eligible for points, horses must be:

- a) Registered in the Association's Stud Book, the Appendix Registry or the Performance Registry;
- b) Exhibited under their registered name and number; and
- c) Exhibited in the name of the registered owner, who must be a financial member of the Association.

57.6 The Association can, at its discretion, refuse to award Performance points if:

- a) The *exhibitor/owner* is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct or infringement of the Rules as reported in writing by the organising body and proven to the satisfaction of the Association;
- b) The use of illegal substances is proven to the satisfaction of the Association;
- c) The *exhibitor/owner* fails to comply with any of the Rules and Regulations of the AQHA.

57.7 The point's award year is from 1 August to 31 July in any year. Points will be earned on the actual number of horses exhibited in the class. Where horses compete in pairs or a team, each pair or team constitutes one (1) entry.

57.8 No points will be awarded to horses who compete in Halter or Performance classes which are restricted to horses under 142cm (14hh). Where the class is restricted to horses exactly 142cm (14hh) and under, the class will be deemed to be restricted to horses under 142cm (14hh).

57.9 Champion and Reserve

- a) Champions from Halter and Performance Halter classes can only receive Champion points;
- b) Only the winner, of each same sex halter class, is eligible to stand for Champion. After the Champion is determined, the horse that came second to that Champion, in their class, can step forward to be considered for Reserve Champion up against all the other class winners;

- c) Points for Champion and Reserve. If three (3) or more horses contest, award two (2) points for Champion, one (1) point for Reserve Champion.

If two (2) horses contest, award one (1) point for Champion, half (1/2) point for Reserve Champion. If only one (1) horse competes for Champion, no points will be given.

57.10 Points will not be awarded to horses who compete in Halter or Performance Halter classes which are restricted to horses registered or recorded with any other breed or colour registry or organisation.

57.11 Get of Sire - Must have three (3) progeny four (4) years of age or under of either sex exhibited.

57.12 Produce of Dam - Must have two (2) progeny four (4) years of age or under of either sex exhibited.

Points are awarded to the relevant Sire and Dam only as per the point's tabulation sheet. Performance Registered horses are not eligible for Get of Sire or Produce of Dam classes.

57.13 Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing EA Rules.

Show Hunter and Hack SCHA or EA Rules.

Points awarded as per Points Table on page 75.

58. ANNUAL AWARDS

58.1 The Board of Directors, of the Australian Quarter Horse Association reserves the right to decide, from time to time, the awards that will be made annually.

The making of an award to an individual member will be a matter entirely at the discretion of the Board and the Board may resolve at any time to decline to present a particular award, notwithstanding that it has previously resolved that the award concerned was to be made for that year.

58.2 The Association will make Annual Awards based upon the number of points earned by an individual horse, Amateur, Select Amateur, EWD Rider, Non-Pro or Youth during that year's competition.

Any of the above declared ineligible from participation in AQHA Approved Shows arising from violation of AQHA Show Rules is ineligible to receive any AQHA Annual Awards during that points year.

59. POINTS TABLE available on page 164.

60. ROMS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

60.1 The awards, listed in 61.5, can only be won once by any horse.

60.2 Points will be gained during the lifetime of the horse and will be accumulative.

60.3 To be eligible, horses must be registered in the Association's Stud Book, the Appendix Registry, or the Performance Registry.

60.4 When any award is made, the appropriate Association recognition will be forwarded to the person recorded as the owner of the horse *at the time of the Award*.

The Registration of any horse will be cancelled by the Association if the owner fraudulently advertises or claims that their horse is entitled to any Association Award prior to the Award being given by the Association

60.5 Horse achievements, at the discretion of the Association, may be awarded on the following basis to any Registered Quarter Horse:

- a) **Register of Merit Halter**
Twenty (20) halter points, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points;
- b) **Register of Merit Performance**
Twenty (20) points in more than one (1) performance discipline, excluding Racing, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points;
- c) **Register of Merit** (Any Single Performance Class)
Twenty (20) points in any performance discipline, of which at least fifteen (15) must be 'A' points;
- d) **Superior Halter Horse**
Sixty (60) halter points, of which at least thirty (30), must be 'A' points;
- e) **Superior Performance Horse** (Any Single Performance discipline)
Sixty (60) points in any performance discipline, of which at least thirty (30) must be 'A' points;
- f) **Century Awards** (Halter or Any Single Performance discipline)
Bronze Century 100 points Minimum of 75 "A" points
Silver Century 200 points Minimum of 150 "A" points
Gold Century 300 points Minimum of 225 "A" points;
- g) **AQHA All Round Performance Horse**
 - Register of Merit in Halter and
 - 3 Performance ROM's in 3 different disciplines;
- h) **AQHA Supreme Champion**
 - A Superior Award in Halter; and three (3) Superior Performance awards in any single discipline.

60.6 AQHA Certificate of Achievement

Awarded for twenty (20) "B" points achieved in any class. Points cannot be combined from different classes.

You can gain an Achievement Award in as many classes as you earn points in.

60.7 EWD Awards and Recognition

Rider and Horse achievements, may, at the discretion of the Association, be awarded on the following basis:

- a) **Certificate of Achievement** ten (10) "B" points or ten (10) "A" and "B" combined;
- b) **Register of Merit** twenty (20) or more points in any EWD class, fifteen (15) of which must be "A"
- c) **Superior ROM** fifty (50) or more points in any EWD class, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A"

61. MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE, ESTEEM AND SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

61.1 AQHA Medal of Excellence

May be awarded to any horse registered with the Association, which in the opinion of the Association has excelled in any phase of equestrian activity and/or promotion of the Quarter Horse.

61.2 AQHA Medal of Esteem

May be awarded to any member of the Association, past or present, which in the opinion of the Association, has made a major contribution to the Quarter Horse breed in Australia.

61.3 Special Achievement Recognition

This award has been established to give registered Australian Quarter Horses recognition for outstanding achievements in special events not approved by the AQHA. To be accepted for this Award, the following criteria must be met:

- a) The organisation sponsoring the event must be National in scope. The AQHA may, at its discretion, grant approval for any event they deem appropriate as qualifying for special recognition;*
- b) The event must be open to all breeds of horses;*
- c) The placing and/or standings must be presented to the AQHA by the relevant organisation within 60 days following the event.*

62. AMATEUR AND SELECT AMATEUR

Unless otherwise noted in Rule 62, "Amateur" will mean an Amateur and Select Amateur.

62.1 Permits

For those members of the Association, who are no longer eligible to exhibit in Youth classes, who are not professionals in the horse industry and who ride their horses for the pleasure of competing against other members who are also not professional;

- a) Select Amateur** If a person has attained the age of 50 years and provides proof of age, which must be in the form of a copy of a driver's licence or birth certificate, then an Amateur Permit will be endorsed as to allow them to compete in Select Amateur classes;
- b) Permit Application** Person must be a financial member of the Association and hold either an individual Full, Life or Honorary Life membership in their own name.
The Amateur Permit Application form must be completed in its entirety and sent to the Association with the correct fees. These Permits are to be renewed annually.
NB: You cannot show in an Amateur class until such time as your application for a permit is successful and been processed;
- c) The person applying for the Amateur permit must declare the following:**
"I have not, in the previous three (3) years from the date of application for my Permit, received remuneration or compensation for: Showing or training any horse or instructing any other person in riding, driving or exhibiting";

- d) Payment by another person for stable and or yard fees, bedding or camping fees will not be considered remuneration if the Amateur reimburses the payee;
 - e) Prize money or judging fees will not be considered as remuneration;
 - f) Amateurs may accept Sponsorship in the form of goods only. Exception would be Amateurs fundraising for a sanctioned Australian Quarter Horse Association event.
- NB:** If you are a Judge with the AQHA you cannot hold an Amateur Permit with the AmQHA.

62.2 Owning the horse

- a) An Amateur can only exhibit a horse owned by themselves or their immediate family in any class, this is any class, any discipline;
- b) Separate legal entities, such as family corporations, trusts or partnerships, are also authorised owners of the Amateur exhibitor's horse so long as all legal and equitable owners and beneficiaries of the legal entity are individuals specifically authorised by this rule;
- c) **Immediate family:**
Spouse, de facto partner, parents, child of the family, grandparents, brother(s), sister(s);
- d) Horses owned in partnership or jointly with any person other than the persons immediate family, do not fulfil the ownership requirements for Amateur;
- e) Ownership of horses exhibited by the Amateur must be evidenced by the records of the Association.

62.3 Showing

62.3.1 Combining classes: Amateur divisions and Select Amateur, of the same discipline, can be combined at the direction of the Judge and Show Manager, only when there are two (2) or less entries in one or more divisions.

A combined class can only have one set of results.

62.3.2 Concurrent classes: Two (2) classes of the same discipline can be run concurrently, and the Judge and Show Manager will make this decision. The Judges results will determine the placings for both the classes.

62.3.3 Exhibiting

- a) No horse can be shown by more than one exhibitor in any class;
- b) Amateurs may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes;
- c) An Amateur can ride a horse in an Amateur class and another Amateur can ride this same horse in a different Amateur class, if all rules pertaining to ownership of horse and age of horse rule applies;
- d) Select Amateurs, must choose which class they wish to enter at a show if the show offers Amateur, Select Amateur and Novice Amateur (if eligible see Rule 64) for the same class;

- e) Amateurs can exhibit a different horse in the Junior Amateur and Senior Amateur class if all rules pertaining to ownership of the horse and age of horse rule applies;
- f) Select Amateurs can exhibit a horse in either a Junior Amateur or Senior Amateur class on a different horse to the one they exhibited in Select Amateur classes if all rules pertaining to ownership of the horse and age of horse rule applies;
- g) Every person competing in an Amateur class must possess a current Amateur Permit or Select Amateur permit appropriately endorsed by the AQHA or the equivalent issued by their relevant breed organisation. The permit must match the registered breed of horse the Amateur is exhibiting. A permit issued by the HSAA can only be used if the breed Association, recognised by the AQHA, does not issue Amateur permits;
- h) Amateur High Point Awards at Shows, refer Rule 45.

62.4 Performance Classes for Amateur/Select refer Rule 46.3.4.

62.5 Amateur Halter Competition

There are no Select Amateur Halter classes.

- a) Amateur Halter classes are not compulsory but if held must conform to Rule 46.3.2 for age and sex divisions;
- b) In Amateur Halter competition, when an Amateur exhibitor has qualified two (2) or more horses for Champion and Reserve Champion, only another Amateur may assist that exhibitor if the Amateur who originally qualified the horses leads one (1) of the horses in the Champion/Reserve class.

62.6 Points

- a) Points earned in Select Amateur classes will only count towards Select Awards, Select Annual High Point Awards and Novice Amateur eligibility;
- b) Points earned in Amateur classes will only count towards Amateur Awards, Amateur Annual High Point Awards and Novice Amateur eligibility;
- c) To gain points, AQHA Amateurs can only show under AQHA Amateur Rules.

62.7 For further situations not covered by the Amateur Rules, the Rules for open classes will apply.

62.8 Youth

Upon application to the Association, a free Amateur Permit is made available to Youth their first year out of Youth if that Youth possesses a financial individual membership in their own name. Youth must meet the criteria in Rule 62.1 to apply for an Amateur Permit.

62.9 Amateur Showing Lease

- a) Amateurs can exhibit leased horses;
- b) Lease must be for a minimum of six (6) months;
- c) The signed lease form, must be lodged with the Association, along with the lease fee and will not come into effect until duly processed by the Association;

- d) If a lease is terminated, for any reason, prior to expiry date, notification in writing to the Association, from both the Lessor and the Lessee is required, and the horse cannot be shown in Amateur classes until the original expiry date has been reached.

NB: If no notification received by expiry date, the lease will be terminated by the Association;

- e) An Amateur showing another relevant breed, can show leased horses providing proof of lease is available and that such leasing is accepted by that relevant breed organisation;
- f) **International Leases** are permissible.

A minimum of a thirty-five (35) day lease will be made available to International Amateur visitors to Australia that wish to Show in Amateur classes at shows. Rule 62 must be adhered to.

62.10 Ineligibility or Breach of Rules

- a) If an individual, for any reason, becomes ineligible to have an Amateur Permit, they will promptly return their AQHA membership card to the Association for amendment;
- b) An individual, who holds an Amateur Permit, will be subject to possible suspension of their Amateur status if they violate any of the Amateur rules;
- c) To make a formal complaint against an Amateur, such complaint must be in writing, signed by the complainant and contain the specific facts giving rise to the complaint.

62.11 Professional to Amateur

A person wishing to relinquish their professional status with the view to holding Amateur status must inform the Association in writing.

From the date of receipt of this notification, three (3) years must pass before an application for Amateur status can be submitted.

62.12 Amateur/Select Exhibitor and Horse Awards may at the discretion of the Association be awarded on the following basis:

- a) **Register of Merit** twenty (20) or more points in any discipline, fifteen (15) of which must be "A";
- b) **Superior Register of Merit** fifty (50) or more points in any discipline, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A";
- c) **All Round Champion** four (4) Performance Register of Merits in four (4) different disciplines;
- d) **Century Awards** in any single discipline:
Bronze 100 points, minimum of 75 "A" points,
Silver 200 points, minimum of 150 "A" points
Gold Century Award 300 points, minimum of 225 "A" points

63. YOUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS

63.1 The AQHA provides competition for Youth exhibitors aged three (3) years to eighteen (18) years of age as of 1st August of the current show year.

- a) The minimum age for a youth competing in any Open class or Youth ridden class is seven (7) years old, exception Rule 63.14 and 63.15;
- b) The minimum age for a Youth competing in Youth Showmanship and Youth Halter is five (5) years of age and Open Halter classes is seven (7) years of age and over.

63.2 Youth participating or exhibiting in an AQHA sanctioned event, must have written permission from their parent/guardian to be at that event. In the case of a Show the parent/guardian must also sign the entry form. All Youth competing or taking part in an AQHA sanctioned event must be in the care of a responsible adult who is in attendance for the duration of that event, whilst the Youth attends that event.

If you are a Youth Member, and are 18 years or older, you do not have to produce an Unaccompanied Minor Form to take part in AQHA events.

63.3 Youth may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes. Refer to Rule 45 regarding Youth HP Awards at a show.

63.4 A Youth can show non-owned horses in Youth classes and Open classes. NB: This could possibly affect the Youth's transition to Amateur status if they have received remuneration or compensation for training, showing someone else's horse or giving lessons.

63.5 Points for Youth for Annual High Point Awards will only be allocated if the horse exhibited by the Youth is owned/leased by the Youth or their immediate family.

63.6 Youth Showing Lease

- a) Youth can exhibit leased horses;
- b) Lease must be for a minimum of six (6) months;
- c) The signed lease form, must be lodged with the Association, along with the lease fee and will not come into effect until duly processed by the Association;
- d) Signed Lease form, must be lodged with the Association, along with the lease fee, and does not come into effect until duly processed by the Association;
- e) If a lease is terminated, for any reason, prior to expiry date, notification in writing to the Association, from both the Lessor and the Lessee is required, and the horse cannot be shown in Youth classes until the original expiry date has been reached. NB: If no notification received by expiry date, the lease will be terminated by the Association;
- f) A Youth showing another relevant breed, can show leased horses providing proof of lease is available and that such leasing is accepted by that relevant breed organisation;
- g) International Leases are permissible. A minimum of a thirty five (35) day lease will be made available to International Youth visitors to Australia that wish to show in Youth classes at shows. Rule 63 must be adhered to.

63.7 Youth are not permitted to handle, ride or exhibit colts or stallions at any AQHA Approved show.

The only exception is NCHA/NRHA (RA) affiliated events. This rule will be strictly enforced by Show Management.

63.8 No Youth member may be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means during competition. (Exception: refer Rule 96).

63.9 A Judge may not ask a Youth exhibitor to change horses with another exhibitor in any Youth class.

63.10 No horse may be shown by more than one (1) exhibitor in any class.

Youth may exhibit two (2) horses in individually judged classes.

63.11 The Association can suspend the rights of a Youth and/or their immediate family, legal guardian or any other representative/s who are acting on behalf of the youth if guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, for such a period as is judged appropriate.

63.12 For any situation not covered by Youth Rules and Regulations see appropriate class rules.

63.13 Showing

- a) **Combining Classes** Youth divisions, of the same discipline, can be combined at the direction of the Judge and Show Manager only when there are two (2) or less entries in one or more divisions. A combined class can only have one set of results;
- b) **Concurrent Classes** That two (2) classes can be run concurrently, if they are of the same discipline and the Judge and Show Manager will make this decision. The Judges results will determine the placings for both classes that ran concurrently;
- c) **Halter - Youth 5 to 18 years only**
Only Mare and Gelding sex divisions will be contested.
Youth Halter classes are not compulsory, but if run, then they will be the following divisions only for both geldings and mares:
2 years & under
3 years & over
Performance Halter (optional)
Champion & Reserve
- d) Minimum age of any Youth exhibitor in any Working Cow Horse class or Ranch Cow Work will be *seven (7) yrs* old;
- e) Youth 7 to 18 years can compete in Ranch Limited Cow Work class. Written permission must be tendered from parent or guardian.

63.14 Youth Lead Line

- a) For Youth three (3) to six (6) years of age as at 1st August;
- b) No two (2) or three (3) year old horses can be used in this class;
- c) It is mandatory that an approved safety helmet is worn;

- d) No rider entering this class can enter any other ridden class on the program;
- e) This is a non-point scoring class.

63.15 Youth Walk Jog/Trot

- a) For Youth five (5) to ten (10) years of age as at 1st August;
- b) No two (2) or three (3) year old horses can be used in this class;
- c) It is mandatory for this class that an approved safety helmet is worn;
- d) No rider entering this class can enter any other ridden class on the program;
- e) This is a non-point scoring class;
- f) In Youth Walk/Jog Trail no gate is to be included.

63.16 Youth Points

- a) To be eligible to be awarded points for Youth classes, including Pony Club, the Youth must:
 - be a financial Youth member of the Association
 - comply with the requirements as to Youth age
 - and ride a registered Quarter Horse belonging to a financial member.
- b) Youth will be awarded points in the same manner as for Open Classes except that the points will be awarded to the Youth exhibitor and the horse as Youth Points;
- c) All of the recognised Youth classes will be eligible for points;
- d) Ownership of the horse need not be in the name of the Youth claiming points with the exception that points for Youth for end of year high point awards will only be allocated if the horse exhibited by the Youth is owned/leased by the Youth or their immediate family;
- e) Youth points will not be awarded to Youth competing in Open classes.

63.17 Youth Awards

Horse and Exhibitor may, at the discretion of the Association, be awarded on the following basis:

Youth Register of Merit twenty (20) or more points in any discipline, fifteen (15) of which must be "A"

Youth Superior Register of Merit fifty (50) or more points in any discipline, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A"

Youth Versatility Award Register of Merit in five (5) different disciplines

Youth Champion fifty (50) or more points in five (5) different disciplines, twenty-five (25) of which must be "A"

63.18 Pony Club Awards For any situation not covered by Youth Rules and Regulations see appropriate class rules.

To be eligible for any or all of the awards listed below, the horse must be registered with the AQHA and the owner of the horse must be a financial member and be ridden by a financial Youth member. The horse must be entered and exhibited under the horse's registered name as it appears in Association's register.

An official points sheet must be correctly filled in, signed by Judge or an official of the organising body and returned within thirty (30) days of such show and be accompanied by a copy of the program, or they will not be allocated. **Exception:** any Show held in the month of July each year, results must be received by 14 August in that year, or the points will not be allocated towards Annual High Point Awards but for ROM's etc. only.

Pony Club Eventing Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in a One Day Event run by a Pony Club

Pony Club Dressage Register of Merit - twenty (20) points in Dressage classes run by a Pony Club

Pony Club Jumping Register of Merit twenty (20) points in Show Jumping classes run by Pony Club

Pony Club Sporting Register of Merit twenty (20) points in any class run under Pony Club State Rules and Regulations where that class is recognised by Pony Club Australia as a Mounted Games or Sporting class

Pony Club English Register of Merit twenty (20) points in English classes run by a Pony Club.

64. NOVICE YOUTH and NOVICE AMATEUR CLASSES (no Novice Select Amateur).

Novice Amateur/Youth classes will be offered being: Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Ranch Riding, Showmanship and Boxing.

64.1 Points gained:

- a) In a Novice class will go towards Amateur and Youth ROM's and other achievements.;
- b) In Novice classes will not go towards AQHA Annual Awards.

64.2 Eligibility

Must hold a financial Full, individual Life or individual Honorary Life membership and an Amateur or Select Amateur Permit with the AQHA or a financial Youth membership.

- a) All points earned in Select Amateur, Amateur and Novice Amateur classes and points earned by Youth in Youth and Novice Youth classes will count towards Novice eligibility;
- b) Once twenty (20) points have been attained in any discipline, e.g. Showmanship, the person is no longer eligible for Novice in that discipline;
- c) Youth, Amateur and Select Amateur must apply for Novice eligibility annually. If a Youth, Select Amateur or Amateur are eligible for any Novice classes, they will be informed by letter or email which Novice classes they are eligible to compete in and notified once they are no longer eligible;
- d) Every person competing in a Novice Amateur or Novice Youth class must have a Novice Permit appropriately endorsed by the AQHA or the equivalent issued by their relevant breed organisation and the rules for gaining that Novice Permit, through their relevant breed organisation, must be rules similar to the AQHA.

The Novice Permit must match the registered breed of horse the Amateur or Youth is exhibiting;

- e) If there is a Novice Amateur class on the program, plus the Select Amateur and Amateur classes are offered in the same discipline, then the choice must be made, if eligible, for which class they wish to exhibit in, same applies for Youth classes;
- f) Novice Amateur and Novice Youth can compete in the Amateur and Youth classes on the program if no Novice classes offered;
- g) *If an Amateur, Select Amateur or Youth have not accumulated any points in a specific discipline (Open, Amateur or Youth), for a period of seven (7) years with the AQHA or any other respective breed organisation, they are eligible to re-apply as a Novice in that specific discipline.*

64.3 Programs

It is not compulsory for any Affiliate to run Novice classes on their programs. High points at Shows, it is up to the Affiliate if they wish to run Novice High Points.

64.4 Novice Achievement Award Ten (10) points in a Novice class (must have five (5) "A" points).

64.5 Youth to Amateur

From the day you are eligible to apply for an Amateur Permit you may also apply for a Novice Amateur Ticket. If a Youth has achieved twenty (20) or more points in Youth Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Showmanship, Boxing, Ranch Riding they will not be eligible to compete in Novice Amateur classes.

If a Youth from a respective breed organisation has achieved twenty (20) or more points in any of the above classes, they will not be eligible to compete in Amateur Novice classes.

64.6 Amateur or Select Amateur to Professional and back again

If you have gained Novice Amateur points and you relinquish your Amateur or Select Amateur Permit, and then reapply for Amateur or Select Amateur status in the future, then the points you had gained previously will be brought forward.

65. PROFESSIONAL HORSEMEN DIVISION

The AQHA recognises Professional Horsemen as an integral part of the Association. Being a member of the AQHA Professional Horsemen, entails carrying out the role of providing service to the AQHA industry, recognising the need to do so in a professional manner, and to deal with the public with the highest degree of integrity.

To adhere to the professional standards of the Australian Quarter Horse Association and to work to further its goals and objectives. To ensure that the welfare of the AQHA is paramount and that every horse shall, always, be treated humanely and with dignity, respect, and compassion.

Levels and Recognition of Attainment, plus application forms, fees due and details, are available on the Association website.

65.1 Limited Pro Horsemen Permit

To apply for Limited status a person must be a financial AQHA member and hold a current AQHA Professional Horsemen permit.

Criteria for eligibility

Will have not gained three (3) wins in the specified class within the last five (5) years at AQHA State and National Shows and any other show as approved by the Association, ensuring the class consisted of six (6) or more entrants.

No longer eligible

When a Limited Pro Horsemen has either three (3) open wins or six (6) limited wins in a specific class, ensuring that the class consisted of six (6) or more entrants, they will no longer be eligible to compete in this Division.

There is no fee required when applying for Limited status but must be applied for on Official Forms.

Limited Division will be offered in Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail only, and will be run concurrently with horse age divisions.

Lapsed Permit

If a Pro Horsemen does not renew their Pro Horsemen Limited permit, for any period of time, they will be required to re-apply for Limited status and any wins gained in previous Limited Pro Horsemen division will be brought forward and included in the calculations to determine their eligibility to compete in the Limited Pro Horsemen division.

66. NOVICE HORSE CLASSES

Implemented for the following recognised AQHA classes in an All Age Novice Horse division only:

- a) Trail, Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Riding, Reining and Ranch Riding;
- b) To be run as a standalone class;
- c) Equipment and Attire as per AQHA current Rules;
- d) At Affiliate shows offering Novice Horse classes, and aged classes, horses eligible may only enter in Novice Horse or aged class, not both (excluding Futurity's, Maturity's & Feature classes);
- e) Novice class points will not be counted towards AQHA Annual National and State High Point Awards;
- f) **Eligibility:**
Any horse that has not gained 20 or more points in any of the disciplines in a) above ;
- g) All placings in Novice Horse classes, and aged horse classes, will receive points as per AQHA Rulebook and go towards their 20-point total in any discipline;
- h) **Ineligible:**
Once a horse has received 20 points in any discipline, eg. Trail, the horse is no longer eligible for Novice Horse in that discipline and must cease immediately from showing in Novice Horse classes in that discipline;

- i) Application for AQHA Novice Horse permit for registered quarter horses, must be completed and recognised by the office before the horse is eligible to compete;
- j) Horses registered with the Appaloosa or Paint Association are eligible for this class if they have a Novice Horse Permit from their relevant breed association, where the rules regarding Novice eligibility are similar to those of the AQHA.

67. HORSEBACK RIDING

The AQHA Horseback Riding is an “honour system” which allows members to log hours spent riding registered Australian Quarter Horses. To participate in Horseback Riding the participant must:

- a) Be a financial member of the AQHA. Logged hours will only be recorded whilst the membership is financial;
- b) Not be currently participating in any other type of point scoring or competitive event;
- c) Ride a registered Quarter Horse belonging to a financial member. The rider does not have to own the horse/s ridden. Hours can be earned on more than one (1) horse;
- d) Complete an official Application Form, available from the Association, and return it to the Association with the application fee as determined by the Board from time to time;

On approval and processing of the application, official log sheets will be forwarded which are to be completed each time you ride. Once the required number of hours has been logged for a reward, forward the completed log sheets to the Association to receive your personalised reward. Hours that can be logged include, exercising a horse, trail riding, mustering etc.

68. RACING The Association accepts wins and placings from racing organisations approved by the AQHA.

Points for Racing can be collected in the same manner as performance points provided that an official Race Result Form is completed and returned to the Association within 30 days from the date of the race, or no points will be allocated.



SECTION FOUR (4) JUDGES

70. Designation as an AQHA Judge is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the Judging sub-committee, and ratified by the Board of Directors of the Association, according to procedures formulated by the Association, to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honour. An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor and judge, and their ability must be exemplary.

The Judging Committee has the right to contact any existing Judge regarding their Judging commitments and/or abilities.

70.1 All AQHA approved Judges must officiate at a minimum of one (1) AQHA approved show or program per show season or otherwise a letter of explanation is required for review by the Judging sub-committee.

70.2 No Affiliate or Organisation, that has gained show approval from the AQHA, can use the same Judge for two (2) consecutive shows. Exception: Versatility Ranch Show held prior to "A" or "AA" approved show.

70.3 After acceptance of a judging commitment, a judge will endeavour, with all reasonable effort, to judge the show, and will timely communicate to show management any inability to do so. If a Judge cannot fulfil their commitment, then it is the responsibility of that Judge, in liaison with the Organisation that has hired them, to find a replacement Judge.

Additionally, the judge will immediately file with the Association, a written explanation of such inability to meet the commitment, specifying the date and way they communicated it to show management.

71. DEFINITIONS

- a) **An Accredited Judge** is defined as a person who has met all the criteria required to hold an accredited judges' ticket as approved by the Judges Committee and can officiate at "A", "AA", State or National Show level;
- b) **An Associate Judge** is defined as a person who has met all the criteria required to hold an Associate Judges' ticket as approved by the Judges Committee and can officiate at "A" level only;
- c) **An Accredited Trail Judge** is defined as a person who has passed all the criteria as approved by the Judges Committee and can officiate at "A" and "AA" trails only;
- d) **A Versatility Ranch Judge Level 1** is defined by a person who has met the criteria as approved by the Judging Committee and cannot Judge VR cattle classes;
- e) **A Versatility Ranch Judge Level 2** is defined as a person who has met the criteria as approved by the Judging Committee and can Judge all four (4) VR categories, and *AQHA State Versatility State Championships*;
- f) **An AmQHA Judge** is defined as a person who resides in the USA, and approved by the AmQHA Judges Committee and can officiate at all levels;

- g) An AmQHA International Judge** is defined as a person who does not reside in the USA, and approved by the AmQHA Judges Committee and can officiate at all level of shows.

72. AGES AND MEMBERSHIP

- a)** Applicants must be at least 21 years of age. The mandatory retirement age of AQHA approved judges is 75 years of age. If a Judge wishes to continue judging past the age of 75, they must complete, and pass, an online Applicants Judges Test, bi-annually, to continue being an AQHA Judge;
- b)** Judging applicants must be a financial AQHA member;
- c)** Once a member has gained their Accredited, Associate, Accredited Trail or Versatility Ranch Judge's ticket they must hold a financial full membership in their own right;
- d)** Dues for such membership are payable on 1 August each year and are considered delinquent if not paid within 30 days thereafter;
- e)** After the delinquent date of 1 September, they will be removed from the list of AQHA Judges and will be required to reapply for inclusion to the list of judges under the current procedure for admission of new applicants.

73. OTHER APPROVED JUDGES

Judges, for approved AQHA shows or programs, must be chosen from the AQHA Judges List. All AQHA judges are endorsed to judge Hack classes.

A Judge who holds a current ticket with the EA, Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc, NCHA, NRCHA or NRHA may also be used to Judge their respective disciplines at approved shows or for an approved program.

74. JUDGES CONDUCT

An individual's conduct as a Judge must be exemplary and is subject to continual Committee reviews.

Definition of Exemplary Conduct

That a Judges conduct is of such a high standard, that it is an example for others to follow and thus worth imitating, therefore Judges must conduct themselves in a manner deemed by the Board of Directors as appropriate.

To make formal complaint against an AQHA Judge, such complaint must be in writing, signed by the complainant and contain the specific facts giving rise to the complaint, and be received by the Association within fourteen (14) days from the date of the occurrence. If the alleged complaint is substantiated, then the individual's Judge's ticket may be suspended or removed.

If a Judge is suspended from Association membership, the individual will automatically be removed from the list of Judges and there will be no provision for automatic reinstatement as an AQHA Judge. Judges having their qualifications withdrawn or downgraded, have one (1) month to fulfil existing commitments.

Upon regaining eligibility for judging credentials, the individual will apply for reinstatement after the expiration date of one (1) year from the date of their disqualification under the current procedures for admission of new applicants.

75. ONLINE JUDGING PROGRAM (OJP)

The Association has developed an "Online Judging Program".

All current AQHA Judges must complete the online refresher exam on a bi-annual basis from 1 August to 31 October.

75.1 All AQHA Judges that do not complete the bi-annual refresher course and not providing a reason considered justifiable by the Board, may be downgraded to Associate status, or have their judging privileges revoked at the discretion of the Board.

Judges wishing to upgrade can do so at the same time as their refresher or at any other time during the year.

Applicant Judges must complete the online exam and can do so at any time.

Both the Applicant Judge and a Judge wishing to upgrade will also be required to complete live horse judging assignments.

75.2 The OJP consists of two (2) Sections, Theory exam and video judging.

75.3 If a Judge fails to complete the test, their Judge's ticket may be revoked or downgraded.

75.4 Information regarding the Online Judging Program will be available on the Association's website.

76. THE EVENT

A Judge will:

- a) Upon arrival in the city where they are to officiate, contact an official of the show and advise that person of their presence and location;
- b) Not appear on the grounds where the show is being held more than one (1) hour before judging;
- c) Not visit the horse stall area, nor visit with owners, trainers, exhibitors, or owners' representatives, nor inspect or discuss any horse entered in the show before the judging (including the day prior to the show);
- d) Not review the show catalogue until after the judging has been completed, but will be furnished a schedule of classes by the show management prior to the judging;
- e) Be present to meet their responsibilities under Association rules and regulations and will be available to assist show management in meeting its responsibilities of rule compliance;
- f) At all times act in a professional manner.

76.2 Attire

Western attire, including western hat, coat (except in extreme weather conditions), western style pants/jeans, long sleeve shirt with collar (band, stand-up, tuxedo etc), tie or neckwear, and western boots are mandatory apparel for an individual to wear whilst judging an AQHA approved show or program.

76.3 Placing's

- a) Once a class has been judged, it will not be rejudged, and once the Judge has marked their record and placings are made, there will be no changing of the Judge's record;
- b) A Judge can change their judge's card/sheet if there is proper documentation and proof that a clerical error has occurred. Clerical errors must be corrected within a reasonable period, but not more than one (1) hour after the last class of the day;
- c) It is the responsibility of the Judge to ensure, prior to signing their card, that the number of entries, scores and placing's are correct.

76.4 Conflict

AQHA Judges are to be sensitive to any conflict of interest between the Association's objectives and their own personal business or pecuniary interest.

Each Judge is to refrain from using their official status to further one's own personal or financial purpose.

When such conflict of interest arises, the Judge is expected to either withdraw the personal objective from the transaction in question or resign from the Association's judges list, so that they may pursue the personal objective.

Breach of this ethical rule will be subject to review by the Judges Committee under the Association rules.

Certain specific areas of obvious conflict of interest for Judges are as follows:

- a) Neither the judge nor members of their family will exhibit or act as agents, representatives in any capacity, or handlers of a horse at a show at which they are officiating;
- b) A horse cannot be shown under a Judge if that Judge has been the owner, trainer or agent in any capacity, or conditioner of that horse within the previous thirty (30) days. Group lessons i.e. clinics, schools and seminars are exempt from the above rule, but not Rule 76.1 c);
- c) A horse cannot be shown under a Judge if that Judge or their immediate family have exhibited that horse in the previous thirty (30) days;
- d) A horse owned by a person(s) cannot be shown under a Judge if that Judge or their immediate family have exhibited the horse owned by that person(s) in the previous thirty (30) days;
- e) A Judge will not judge a horse that is owned by anyone from whom they have received a salary, commission or any kind of remuneration for selling or buying any horse for that individual; or, whether or not the horse is concerned in a transaction, has been in any employ or has represented such individual in any capacity for remuneration, within one (1) month from the date of the subject show;

- f) Any AQHA Judge involved in the management of a show cannot officiate as a Judge at that Show;
- g) A Judge cannot judge a horse belonging to, or being exhibited by, any member of their immediate family. (Spouse, De facto partner, parents, child of the family, grandparents, brothers, sisters). If such a horse as specified in rules 76.4 (a), (b), (c) and (d) is entered in a show, its entry fee will be refunded, and it is not to be exhibited;
- h) These specified areas of disqualifying conflict of interest are not exclusive and Association Judges are ineligible to judge another's horse in other situations not designated by the rule;
- i) If a Judge cannot exercise their objective influence, because of their connection with an owner, exhibitor, or anyone else connected with the horse, or, for that matter, if such connection would appear to others as possible bias, whether or not the Judge feels that they would be affected, a Judge must disqualify themselves;
- j) An AQHA Judge may be exempt to personally exhibit a horse(s) in a class, other than the Trail class, at the same show where they are officiating at as an AQHA Trail Judge. However, all Trail class exhibits must meet the requirements of Rule 76.4;
- k) The Judge at any show may also be on any sifting or elimination committee necessary;
- l) After a Judge has accepted a judging assignment, exhibitors will not contact, by any means, nor attempt to contact, the Judge pertaining to their judging of any horse at that show;
- m) No exhibitor will visit or socialise with a Judge the day prior to, or day of, the show;
- n) No exhibitor will request information from the Judge, or decisions made by that Judge, concerning any exhibit at a show at the time of the show or within the immediate seven (7) days following the show;
- o) A Judge will not conduct a clinic/training seminar the day prior to or day of judging a show/program.

77. FEES

77.1 Minimum pay for an Accredited Judge and a Versatility Ranch Level 2 Judge is expenses plus two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) for a day of eight (8) hours or less and twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour over the eight (8) hours in one day.

77.2 Minimum pay for an Associate Judge and a Versatility Ranch Level 1 Judge is expenses plus one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) for a day of eight (8) hours or less and twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour over the eight (8) hours in one day.

It is further recommended that the Judge work no more than ten (10) hours in one day.

If the hours spent in judging are expected to run to an excessive length, the show management must consider hiring two Judges.

77.3 Minimum pay for an Accredited Trail Judge is expenses plus one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for a day of five (5) hours or less and twenty dollars (\$20) per hour over the five (5) hours in one day.

77.4 In Halter classes, the use of more than one (1) Judge is optional, provided however if multiple Judges are used, all halter classes of the one (1) sex division must be judged by the same Judge.

77.5 In a Trail class, the use of more than one (1) Judge is optional. In all other performance classes, only one (1) Judge can be used. (Exception multi judged AQHA approved shows).

78. AUTHORITY

78.1 A Judge:

- a) May disqualify an exhibitor who has not fulfilled the requirements of a class as described by the Associations Rules and Regulations;
- b) May require the backing of the finalists only in a class where backing is required.
- c) *Has the authority to remove exhibitors from the arena.*

78.2 A Judge will:

- a) Order any person or horse from the competition for bad conduct of one or both or may disqualify any exhibitor for excessive abuse of a horse;
- b) Refuse entry into the arena or remove an entry from a class for improper attire and/or equipment;
- c) Eliminate any horse/exhibitor, as an entry, which they feel is in violation of the intent of the Association's conduct rules, or which they feel has not legitimately attempted to exhibit the horse to the best of the horse's ability;
- d) Penalise a horse for excessive or exaggerated switching or wringing of the tail;
- e) Not penalise a horse for the way it carries its tail nor for normal response with its tail to cues from its rider or when changing leads; NB: If a Judge suspects that a horse's tail has been surgically or chemically altered or has had any item or appliance that restricts the movement or circulation of the tail, then the Judge must report this horse to the Association.
Judges suspicion is not cause for the Judge to not place the horse;
- f) Not call exhibitors off the rail at any gait other than a walk in rail classes;
- g) Have the authority to require the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment, or any piece of apparel, which in their opinion is unsafe and would tend to give a horse an unfair advantage or which they believe to be inhumane;
- h) Disqualify a horse that is exhibited with an open wound and/or shows traces of blood;

- i) Disqualify a horse whose mouth is tied or fastened in a performance class;
- j) Disqualify a horse who has a bleeding mouth in a performance class;
- k) Disqualify a horse if the horse appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired;
- l) Have the authority to place a horse in whatever position in a class they think is justified by the merits of the horse. The Judge's decision is final.

78.3 In the case of multi-judged shows. Judges may confer on lameness via the ring steward in a non-identifying manner.

The procedure to be followed: the judge shall inform the ring steward that they have a horse that they have deemed as lame that they wish to excuse, without identifying the horse to the other judge.

The steward shall approach the other judge and ask if they have any horse in the class, they have deemed lame. In the case that the second judge has identified a lame horse that they wish to have excused, that judge shall give the exhibitor number to the steward, the steward shall return to the first judge and ask for their exhibitor number and if both judges deem the same horse to be lame that horse shall be excused from the arena.

Should only one judge deem a horse to be lame that horse will be able to continue in the class and be judged independently by both judges.

Horses shall be brought to the walk and the horse that is to be excused shall be discreetly directed to the exit gate by the ring steward.



SECTION FIVE (5)

Class, Equipment and Attire

80. GENERAL

80.1 Reruns will not be allowed in instances of equipment failure. When exhibitor equipment failure causes a delay or a run to be discontinued, the Judge will disqualify the entry. Exemption: Rule 101.1.2

80.2 Equipment and Accoutrement that is Unsafe or Unfair

The Judge will have the authority to require the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment or accoutrement which is unsafe, or in their opinion would tend to give a horse/rider an unfair advantage or which they believe to be inhumane.

80.3 Lameness

Lameness is by definition an abnormality or unevenness of gait. Obvious lameness will be cause for disqualification. Obvious lameness includes any of the following:

- being consistently observable at the walk, jog and/or trot
- noticeable nodding, hitching and/or shortening of stride at the walk, jog and/or trot
- minimal weight bearing in motion and/or at rest
- reluctance to move forward.

The judge(s) shall visually assess all horses that participate in a class for lameness. The judge(s) has/have absolute authority to excuse any horse from the class, due to lameness, at any time while being judged.

80.4 Approved Safety helmets, which conform to the current Australian Safety Standards must be worn in all Hunter Classes, by all exhibitors. The chin strap must be securely fastened under the chin at all times during competition and practice.

80.4.1 Youth exhibitors must also wear such helmets when competing in Working Cow Horse, Boxing, any AQHA Sporting class, Lead Line and Youth Walk/Jog/Trot classes.

80.5 In all ridden classes' horses are to be ridden astride.

80.6 No training equipment is allowed in the marshalling area or the performance arena one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the show and one (1) hour after the cessation of the show, on each day of the show.

81. PERFORMANCE CLASSES

See Rule 39.4, Rule 82.3, and Rule 83.3 for Prohibited Equipment.

- a) A two (2) year old cannot be shown in any ridden classes until 1 April in the year it turns three (3) and must be a minimum of 24 months of age;
- b) A two (2) year old can only compete in a maximum of three (3) ridden classes at a show and this is restricted to Western Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle and Trail classes;
- c) No horse can be entered in both the junior class and the three (3) year old class at the same show.
No horse can be entered in both the junior class and the two (2) year old class at the same show;

- d) Western Bits for Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Trail, Reining, Ranch Riding, Versatility Ranch, Working Cow Horse and Boxing will be:
 - Senior horses, six (6) years and over must be shown in a bit
 - Junior horses, two (2) year old to five (5) year old must be shown with either a bit, Hackamore or Snaffle bit.
- e) English Bits for Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack. Horses, regardless of age, must be shown with either an English Snaffle, Kimberwick, Pelham and/or full bridle;
- f) Other Disciplines: refer to individual class rules regarding mouthpieces.

81.1 In Performance classes, the Judge:

- a) Will not call contestants off the rail at any gait other than a walk;
- b) Can, at their discretion, require the backing of only the finalists in the class where backing is required;
- c) Will disqualify a horse that has an open wound and a horse that shows traces of blood;
- d) Will disqualify a horse if the horse appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired;
- e) Will disqualify a horse any time a horse's mouth is bleeding.
- f) Is not to penalise a horse for the way it carries its tail nor for normal response with its tail due to cues from its rider or when changing leads.

81.2 The fall, of a horse or rider/handler, will be cause for disqualification in all classes except for Team Penning.

A horse is considered having fallen when it is on its side and all four feet are extended in the same direction.

81.3 A horse's mouth cannot be tied or fastened in a performance class; it will be disqualified.

81.4 An exhibitor cannot be tied, buckled, or fastened in the saddle in any manner or by any means, except EWD classes.

81.5 If there is an elimination run, each horse must be ridden in the actual class by the same rider who rode it in the elimination.

81.6 Barrels can only be used in Barrel classes and trail classes as an obstacle. Chairs cannot be used as markers or obstacles in any class.

82. ENGLISH

These rules apply to Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation and Hunter Hack. Any other disciplines see individual class rule.

82.1 Equipment

- a) An 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.
NB: Hack classes are run under EA or Hack Council rules which allow decorative brow bands.

b) Mouthpieces

- nothing can protrude by more than 1.6mm, below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions or prongs on solid mouth pieces solid and broken mouthpieces must be between 8mm to 20mm in diameter, measured 25mm from the cheek and cannot have a port higher than 40mm. They may be inlaid, synthetic wrapped, including rubber or plastic or encased, but must be smooth
 - broken mouthpieces - connecting rings of 32mm or less in diameter or connecting flat bar of 10mm to 20mm measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 50mm, which lie flat in the horse's mouth or a connecting roller 10mm to 20mm diameter, are acceptable
 - the diameter of Snaffle bit rings must be a minimum of 50mm and a maximum of 100mm
 - any bit having a fixed rein must use a curb chain
 - smooth round, oval or egg-shaped, slow twist, corkscrew, single twisted wire, double twisted wire mouthpieces and straight bar or solid mouthpieces are allowed.
- c) If a curb bit is used, the chain must be at least 12.5mm in width and flat against the jaw of the horse;
- d) Saddles must be black and/or shades of brown in colour and of traditional English (i.e. Dressage/Hack saddle), hunting or forward seat type, knee insert on the skirt is optional.
- e) Saddle pads are to be white, black, cream, or grey to fit size and shape of saddle, except where necessary to accommodate numbers on both sides.

82.2 Optional equipment

- a) Spurs of the unrowelled type that are blunt, round or that include a smooth rolling ball.
- The thickness of the spur can be no more than 1cm and the length of the shank cannot exceed 3.5cm and is measured as per diagram below;



- b) Crops or bats to measure no more than 76cm in length;
- c) English breast plate;
- d) Braiding of mane and/or tail in hunt style;

- e) Tendon boots, splint boots, leg wraps, bandages are allowed in Hunter Hack only. Glued on shoes are acceptable in all classes.

82.3 Prohibited equipment for showing and will be cause for elimination:

- a) Bits of any style (Pelham, Snaffle, Kimberwick) featuring mouthpieces with cathedrals, donuts, prongs, edges, or rough, sharp material. Square stock, metal wrapped, or polo bits;
- b) Draw reins;
- c) Rowelled spurs;
- d) Figure 8 or flash cavessons;
- e) Tendon boots, splint boot, leg wraps and bandages are prohibited in Pleasure Driving, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation and Hunter in Hand;
- f) Rubber reins;
- g) Slip on spurs;
- h) Western spurs;
- i) Synthetic spurs.

82.4 English Gaits

The following terminology will apply to Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack and Hunter in Hand.

- a) **Walk** is a natural, flat foot, four-beat gait. The horse must move straight and true at the walk. The walk must be alert, with a stride of reasonable length in keeping with the size of the horse;
- b) Loss of forward rhythmic movement will be penalised;
- c) **Trot** is a two-beat gait, comprised of long, low, ground-covering, cadenced and balanced strides. Smoothness is more essential than speed. The knees should remain relatively flat, exhibiting minimal flexion. Short, quick strides and/or extreme speed will be penalised.
When asked to extend the trot, there should be a definite lengthening of the stride;
- d) **Canter** is a three-beat gait; smooth, free moving, relaxed, and straight on both leads. The stride should be long, low and ground-covering. Over-collected four-beat canter is to be penalised. Excessive speed is to be penalised;
- e) **Hand gallop** should be a definite lengthening of the stride with a noticeable difference in speed. The horse should always be under control, and be able to halt in a smooth, balanced manner.

82.5 English Attire

Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Hack

- a) A rider must wear the following:
 - hunt coat
 - breeches (or jodhpurs)
 - high English boots or elastic-sided paddock boots with or without gaiters

- *a shirt with a collar and a minimum of short sleeves, worn with a tie or choker OR a shirt with a minimum of short sleeves worn with a dickie;*
 - Approved Safety Helmet, which must conform to the current Australian Safety Standards.
- b) Gloves, spurs, and crops that are approved by AQHA are optional;
 - c) Hair must be neat and contained (as in net or braid);
 - d) Judges can give permission for jackets to be removed in inclement weather.

82.6 English Attire for:

- a) **Endurance** – AERA Rules
- b) **Dressage, Eventing, Show Jumping** – EA Rules
- c) **Show Hunter, Hack** – SCHA or EA Rules

83. WESTERN

These rules apply to Western Pleasure, Trail, Ranch Riding, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Lunge Line and Versatility Ranch classes (*also refer to Rule 46.2*). Any other disciplines refer to individual class rules.

83.1 Equipment

- a) **Hackamore** is the use of a flexible, braided rawhide or leather, or rope bosal, the core of which can be either rawhide or flexible cable.

A Hackamore must use a complete Mecate rein which must include a tie-rein. Absolutely no rigid material is permitted under the jaws, regardless of how padded or covered. Horsehair bosals are prohibited.

This rule does not refer to a so-called mechanical Hackamore;

- b) **Snaffle Bit** means the conventional O-ring, Egg-butt, or D-ring. The diameter of Snaffle bit rings must be a minimum of 50mm and a maximum of 100mm.

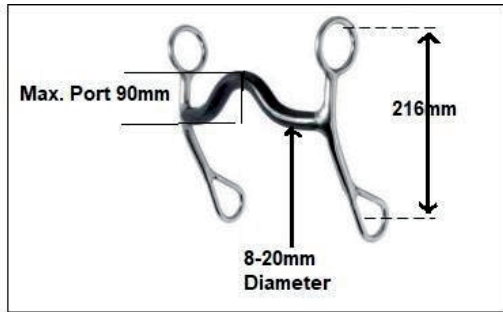
The inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments which would provide leverage. Entries ridden in a Snaffle bit must be shown with both hands on both reins. Reins must be bridged with the tails of the reins on the opposite side of the neck.

The rider's hands will be carried near the pommel and no further than approximately 50cm apart. Rider's hands must be steady with limited movement. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification;

- c) **Curb Bits** means the use of a bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage. All Curb bits must be free of mechanical device and will be considered a legal standard western bit; and
 - has a shank with a maximum length of 216mm to be measured as indicated in the diagram below. Shanks may be fixed or loose
 - the port must be no higher than 90mm maximum, with rollers and covers acceptable.

Broken mouthpieces, half- breeds and spades are acceptable; slip or gag bits, and donut and flat polo mouthpieces are not acceptable

- when using a curb bit, a curb strap or curb chain is required, but must meet the approval of the judge, be at least 12.5mm in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse. A broken strap or chain is not necessarily cause for disqualification;



d) Mouthpieces

The bars must be round, oval or egg shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal of 8mm to 20mm in diameter, measured 25mm from the cheek. They may be inlaid but must be smooth or latex wrapped.

Nothing can protrude below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions or prongs on solid mouthpieces than by no more than 1.6mm.

The mouthpiece may be two (2) or three (3) pieces. A three- piece will have a connecting ring of 32mm or less in diameter, or a connecting flat bar of 10mm to 20mm measured top to bottom, with a maximum length of 50mm, which lies flat in the horse's mouth or a connecting roller 10mm to 20mm diameter are acceptable;

- e)** Except for Hackamore/Snaffle bit classes or junior horses shown with a Hackamore, only one hand must be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed and the index finger only must be between the split reins.

Exception: To work a trail obstacle a rider may change hands on the reins, but the index finger only must be between the reins;

- f) Romal** is an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension will be carried in the free hand with 40cm spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal.

The rider's hand will be around the reins with the wrists kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top and the fingers closed lightly around the reins.

Fingers between the reins is not allowed.

In reining and working cow horse (reined work) use of the free hand while holding the Romal to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the reining hand is considered to be the use of two hands and a score of zero (0) will be applied, except during the hesitation or settling of the horse.

The Romal will not be used forward of the cinch or to signal or cue the horse in any way. Any infraction of this rule will be penalised severely by the Judge;

g) Saddles In all western classes, horses must be shown in a western *saddle with a western pad/blanket*. NB: A treeless saddle is not acceptable.

Silver equipment does not count over a good working outfit.

Horse's five-years-old (5) and younger may be shown in a Snaffle bit, Hackamore, curb bit, half-breed or spade bit.

Horse's six (6) years and older can only be shown in a curb bit, half-breed or spade bit.

83.2 Optional equipment

- rope or riata; if used, the rope or riata must be coiled and attached to the saddle
- hobbles attached to saddle
- tapaderos, except in Working Cow Horse where they are not allowed
- tendon Boots, splint boots, leg wraps and bandages are allowed in Reining, Working Cow Horse, Boxing, Ranch Riding and Versatility Ranch classes except for Ranch Conformation. Glued on shoes are acceptable in all classes
- leather strap attached below the reins on a snaffle bit is acceptable

83.3 Prohibited Equipment for showing and will be cause for disqualification.

- tendon boots, splint boots, leg wraps and bandages are prohibited in Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Halter, Western Riding, and Showmanship
- martingales
- draw reins
- nosebands and tie-downs
- chain, wire, or metal tie-down or bonnets are prohibited, regardless of how padded or wrapped
- training tack collars
- jerk lines for roping
- english spurs
- twisted mouthpieces
- no whip of any type can be used in western performance classes except for lunge line and AQHA sporting classes
- any curb strap narrower than 12.5mm.

83.4 Western Attire

It is mandatory to wear the following in Halter and other western classes:

- a) *Long sleeve shirt or jacket, with a collar (band, stand-up, tuxedo, lapel etc.)*
- b) Western hat (the hat must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena)
- c) Western pants/jeans
- d) Western boots.

83.4.1 Optional Attire

Spurs, chinks, and chaps in ridden classes. NB: Western Spurs are not to be used forward of the cinch.

83.5 Western Gaits

The horse should be ridden at a speed which is a natural way of going. The head should be carried at an angle which is natural and suitable to the horses' conformation at all gaits.

Refer Rules 83.5.1 to 83.6.

83.5.1 Walk - Is a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait.

The horse must move straight and true at the walk.

The walk must be alert, with a stride of reasonable length in keeping with the size of the horse.

- a) **Poor** - has an uneven pace and no cadence. Has no flow and may appear intimidated or appear to march;
- b) **Average** - has a four-beat gait, level top-line and is relaxed;
- c) **Good** - has a flowing four-beat gait, level top-line, relaxed and is bright and attentive.

83.5.2 Jog - is a smooth, ground-covering two-beat diagonal gait.

The horse works from one pair of diagonals to the other pair.

The jog should be square, balanced and with straight, forward movement of the feet. Horses walking with their back feet and trotting in the front are not considered performing the required gait.

- a) **Unacceptable** - cannot perform a two-beat gait and has no flow or balance in the motion;
- b) **Poor** - hesitates in motion. Does not keep an even and balanced motion or a level top-line and may appear to shuffle;
- c) **Slightly below average** - average motion but has negative characteristics such as: walking with hind legs, dragging the rear toes or taking an uneven length in stride with the front and rear legs;
- d) **Correct or average** - has a two-beat gait, a level top-line, and a relaxed appearance;
- e) **Good** - has average motion with positive characteristics such as balance and self-carriage while taking the same length of strides with front and rear legs;
- f) **Very good** - comfortable to ride while having a consistent two-beat gait. The horse guides well, appears relaxed and has a level top-line;

- g) **Excellent** - effortless and very efficient motion. Swings the legs yet touches the ground softly. Confident, yet soft with its motion while being balanced and under control. Moves flat with the knee and hock and have some cushion in the pastern. Has a bright and alert expression and exhibits more lift and self-carriage than the “very good jog”.

83.5.3 Extended Jog - When asked to extend the jog, the horse moves out with the same smooth way of going as in the jog.

- a) **Poor** - never lengthens the stride and may appear rough to ride;
- b) **Average** - moves up in its pace and appears smooth to ride;
- c) **Good** - has an obvious lengthening of stride with a slight increase in pace while exerting less effort and appears smooth to ride.

83.5.4 Lope - Is an easy, rhythmical, forward moving three-beat gait. Horses moving to the left should lope on the left lead. Horses moving to the right should lope on the right lead. The horse should lope with a natural stride and appear relaxed and smooth.

- a) **Unacceptable** - does not have a three-beat gait. Has no flow, rhythm, or balance. Uncomfortable ride. Horses travelling at a four-beat gait are not considered to be performing at a proper lope;
- b) **Poor** - appears to have a three-beat lope but has no lift or self-carriage. The horse shuffles, has no flow and bobs their head, giving the appearance of exerting a great deal of effort to perform the gait. Also, could be uncomfortable to ride;
- c) **Slightly below average** - an average motion but exhibits negative characteristics like head bobbing, not completing the stride with the front leg and leaving the outside hock well behind the horse’s buttocks;
- d) **Average** - a true three-beat gait with a level top-line and very little head and neck motion. They are relatively straight (not over-canted); guides well and has a relaxed appearance;
- e) **Good** – has an average motion but exhibits positive characteristics in their performance like self-carriage, a steady top-line, relaxed appearance and is responsive to the rider’s aids;
- f) **Very good** - more lift and flow than the average horse. Has a strong but smooth drive from behind. They may bend their knee slightly yet still has a level top-line while exhibiting self- carriage with a relaxed appearance. Appears comfortable to ride;
- g) **Excellent** - a round back with an effortless strong, deep stride with the rear legs and a flat swing with the front legs, and keeps a level top-line, a relaxed yet alert and confident appearance and correct but soft in appearance. A special horse with a great lift and self-carriage.

83.6 Back-up

- a) **Poor** - is resistant and heavy in front. May gape mouth and throw head or back crooked;
- b) **Average** - backs straight and quietly with light contact and without hesitation;
- c) **Good** – and displays balanced and smooth flowing movements. Backs straight with self-carriage without gaping the mouth, with light contact and without hesitation.

84. HALTER CLASSES

Refer Rule 46.3.2 regarding divisions that can be offered.

A halter class is defined as a class where the horse is judged based upon its conformation.

84.1 The purpose of the class is to preserve Australian Quarter Horse type by selecting well-mannered horses in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex character and muscling.

84.2 The ideal Australian Quarter Horse shown at halter is a horse that possesses the following characteristics:

The horse should possess eye appeal that is the result of a harmonious blending of an attractive head; refined throat latch; well-proportioned, trim neck; long, sloping shoulder; deep heart girth; short back; strong loin and coupling; long hip and croup; and well-defined and muscular stifle, gaskin, forearm, and chest.

These characteristics should be coupled with straight and structurally correct legs and feet that are free of blemishes.

The horse should be a balanced athlete that is muscled uniformly throughout.

84.3 Conformation is defined as the physical appearance due to the arrangement of muscle, bone, and other body tissues.

While it could be assumed that most horses with several years' seasoning and past performance have acceptable conformation, the goal in selection should always be to find the best conformed horse possible. Rating conformation depends upon objective evaluation of the following four traits: balance, structural correctness, breed and sex characteristics, and degree of muscling.

Of the four, balance is the single most important, and refers to the structural and aesthetic blending of body parts.

Balance is influenced almost entirely by skeletal structure.

84.4 Halter Equipment and Attire

- a) *The halter must be of leather and may be adorned with silver accents. The lead must be made of leather with a chain for attachment to halter. The chain on the lead may be under the chin or over the nose. Lip cord is defined as a round smooth, soft/flexible nonabrasive cotton polyblend cord with a dense core no smaller than 9.5mm that has an unsecured keeper of at least 19mm of the lead outside of the halter before attachment of keeper;*

- b) *Only Colts/Stallions one (1) year of age and older can be shown with a lip cord or lip chain in open/amateur divisions. Applying excessive pressure on or excessive jerking of an allowed lip cord or lip chain is prohibited.*
- c) *Lip cords are prohibited in Versatility Ranch Conformation classes;*
- d) *The use of any artificial mechanical aids including, but not limited to lighters, pins, clickers etc is prohibited.*
- e) *Attire refer Rule 83.4*

84.5 Procedure for Judging the Class

- a) Horses will be walked to the Judge one at a time. As the horse approaches, the Judge will step to the right (near side of the horse) to enable the horse to trot straight to a cone placed at 15 metres away. At the cone, the horse will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot toward the left wall or fence of the arena. After trotting, horses will be lined up head to tail for inspection by the Judge. The Judge will inspect each horse from both sides, front and rear;
- b) **Disruptive Behaviour**
The term "disruptive behaviour" includes, but is not limited to rearing, striking, biting, backing, or falling into others. A well-mannered horse is a horse that is under control by the exhibitor while tracking and standing for inspection, and is reasonably still and flat-footed whilst standing for inspection;
- c) Judges should disqualify and excuse from the arena prior to final placings a horse that:
 - exhibits disruptive behaviour such that it or other horses are unable to be inspected by the Judge
 - exhibits disruptive behaviour such that the safety of it, an exhibitor, a Judge, or another horse is endangered
 - is not under control of the exhibitor
 - becomes detached from the exhibitor
 - has fallen and is on its side with all four feet extended in the same direction
 - is observed with blood on its body, but not limited to the nose, chin, mouth, tongue, or gums, regardless of cause
 - is lame
 - a Judge may choose to fault a weanling or yearling rather than disqualify
 - if a horse exhibits disruptive behaviour described in this rule and causes other exhibitors to lose their horse(s), only the initiating horse will be disqualified and excused. The decision of the Judge will be final.
- d) All stallions' two-years-old (2) and over are to have two (2) visible testicles. All mares and stallions will be examined for parrot mouth, being overshot, or undershot where normal occlusion between the upper and lower incisors is absent;

- e) All lame horses, cryptorchids and parrot mouthed horses, as determined by Rule 84.5 d), are to be excused from the arena prior to final placing by the Judge;
- f) Broodmare is a mare that has produced a full-term foal in the current year or the previous year. Mares may be any age. Mares shown in the broodmare class are not eligible to compete in any other filly or mare class nor is any mare shown in any filly or mare class eligible to compete in a broodmare class.

84.6 Group Halter Classes

- a) Horses shown in a group class must be eligible to show in their respective halter class at that show;
- b) The following additional classes are recommended if interest or entries justify them, but no points will be awarded:
 - **Produce of Dam** - Two (2) produce, four (4) years of age and younger of either sex, per dam, can be shown. The dam need not be shown
 - **Get of Sire** - Three (3) get, four (4) years of age and younger of either sex, per sire, can be shown. The sire need not be shown
 - Entry at the show must be made by the owner of the dam/sire or by someone with written permission from the owner of the dam/sire, but it is unnecessary for the produce/get to be owned by the owner of the dam/sire.

84.7 Performance Halter *Horses, Amateur and Youth.*

Eligibility to enter:

- a) *Open Performance Halter, horse must have achieved a ROM in a horse performance discipline;*
- b) *Youth Performance Halter, horse must have achieved a ROM in a Youth performance discipline;*
- c) *Amateur Performance Halter, the horse must have achieved a ROM in an Amateur performance discipline.*

A horse may not show in their age division Halter class and the Performance Halter class at the same show.

84.7.1 Equipment, attire, and class procedures the same as for Halter.

84.7.2 If held, only one Performance Halter class can be offered in each sex division.

Winners and 2nd placegetters of these classes re eligible for Champion and Reserve in their respective gender Champion class.

85. PERFORMANCE CLASSES

Refer Rule 46.3.3 regarding divisions for all performance classes.

85.1 Boxing Novice Youth and Novice Amateur

Novice Youth seven (7) to eighteen (18) years. Snaffle bit, Hackamore and two-handed rigs.

Boxing consists of a reining pattern and single cow work (boxing) on the end of the arena. The goal of this class is to introduce the rider to the “boxing” phase of the cow work.

Judging begins when the contestant enters the arena.

There will be no schooling between the completion of the rein work and the cow work or between cows if a new cow is awarded. Each contestant upon receiving a cow in the arena will hold that cow on the prescribed end of the arena for fifty (50) seconds, demonstrating the ability of the horse and rider to control the cow. It is legal to hold the reins and Romal in one hand (rein hand) while boxing the cow.

Time will begin when the gate closes behind the cow after being let into the arena. The Announcer or Judge will signal the completion of the fifty (50) seconds with a whistle or horn.

85.2 If a Youth or Amateur have achieved more than twenty (20) points in Boxing or Working Cow Horse, fifteen (15) of which must be "A" type points, then they are not eligible to compete in Boxing classes.

85.3 Scoring will be based on 60 - 80, with 70 denoting an average performance. The same basis of scoring will apply to both the reined work and the boxing work.

In the event of a tie, the entry with the highest cow work will be declared the winner.

The Judge may blow the whistle at any time to terminate the work. A score of zero (0) will be given if the work is not complete at that time. Each work will be limited to 50 seconds and, the Judge may request additional work at their option.

85.4 Credits

- maintaining control of the cow always
- maintaining proper position
- degree of difficulty
- eye appeal
- timed worked.

85.5 Penalties are to be assessed, per occurrence, as follows for the boxing/cow work.

1 point

- loss of working advantage
- working out of position

3 points

- loss of control and cow leaves end of arena

5 points

- spurring or hitting in front of cinch at anytime
- blatant disobedience defined as kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking or obviously insubordinate

Zero (0)

- turn tail
- using two (2) hands on the reins in a bridle or the two-rein
- fingers between the reins in a bridle class, except in two-rein
- balking
- out of control
- bloody mouth (inside)
- illegal equipment
- leaving work area before pattern is complete
- fall of horse or rider
- schooling between rein work and cow work
- schooling between cows if new cow is awarded
- failure to quit working a cow after a new cow has been awarded.

86. CUTTING

Must be run under NCHA Rules.

87. HUNTER HACK

The purpose of Hunter Hack is to give horses an opportunity to show their expertise over low fences and on the flat.

The class will be judged on style over fences, even hunting pace, flat work, manners, and way of going. 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 restraint appearance.

- a) Horses are first required to jump two fences, 60cm to 85cm in height. Jumps do not have to be set on a line. However, if the jumps are set on a line they must be set 14.5 m or 18 m, or in increments of 3.5m, but no less than 11m. A ground line is recommended for each jump;
- b) Horses being considered for a placing are then to be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the arena with light contact;
- c) At the discretion of the judge, contestants can be asked to hand gallop, pull up and stand quietly following the last fence;
- d) When necessary to split large classes by running more than one go-round, finalists must both be re-jumped and reworked on the flat;
- e) Placing for the class will be determined by a score of 0-70 for fence work and 0-30 for flat work.

87.1 Credit – to be given for the following:

- style over fences
- even Hunting pace
- way of going
- flat Work
- manners .

87.2 Scoring for Flat Work

Walk out of 5, Trot out of 10, Canter out of 15.

87.3 Faults Flat Work to be scored accordingly, but not necessarily cause for disqualification:

- being on wrong lead and/or wrong diagonal at the trot Excessive speed and/or slowness at any gait
- breaking gait
- failure to take gait when called
- head carried too low or high
- nosing our or flexing behind the vertical
- opening mouth excessively
- stumbling.

87.4 Scoring for Fence Work

60-70: an excellent performer and good mover that jumps the entire course with cadence, balance and style.

50-59: a good performer that jumps all fences reasonably well; an excellent performer that commits one or two minor faults.

40-49: the average, fair mover that makes no serious faults, but lacks the style, cadence, and good balance of the scopier horses; the good performer that makes a few minor faults.

30-39: poor movers that make minor mistakes; fair or average movers that have one or two poor fences but no major faults or disobediences.

20-29: a horse that commits one major fault, such as a hind knockdown, refusal, trot, cross canter or drops a leg.

10-19: a horse that commits two or more major faults, including front knockdowns and refusals or jumps in a manner that otherwise endangers the horse and/or rider.

0-9: a horse that avoids elimination but jumps in such an unsafe and dangerous manner as to preclude a higher score.

87.5 Major Faults for Fence Work

- refusal
- run out
- loss of forward movement
- unnecessary circling on course
- first disobedience anywhere on course (3 points)
- second disobedience anywhere on course (6 points).

87.6 Disqualification

A total of 3 disobediences which can include any of the following:

- refusal, stop, run out or extra circle
- jumping an obstacle before it is reset
- bolting from arena
- off course
- deliberately addressing an obstacle
- head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical excessively and consistently whilst in motion or otherwise showing the appearance of intimidation.

87.7 General

- a) Circling once upon entering the arena is permissible;
- b) After jumping the fence and prior to leaving the arena, the horse will trot a small circle on a loose rein for soundness;
- c) Horses will not be requested to re-jump the course;
- d) Manners are to be emphasised in Youth and Amateur/Select classes;
- e) When an obstacle is composed of several elements, any disturbance of these elements will be penalised; however, only a reduction in height of the top element is to be considered a knockdown;
- f) In cases of broken equipment, the rider can either continue without penalty, or stop and correct the difficulty and be penalised the same as any loss of forward impulsion;
- g) When obstacle requires 2 or more fences (in/out) faults committed at each obstacle are considered separately.
In case of a refusal or run out at one element, entry may re- jump the previous elements.

87.8 The course - must be posted at least one (1) hour before scheduled time of class.

87.9 Schooling Area - it is mandatory that a schooling area with at least one (1) practice jump is provided, or once course is set in arena, exhibitors can practice over one (1) jump only as instructed.

87.10 Head Gear - riders must wear an Approved Safety Helmet properly fitted and fastened with harness, as per Rule 80.4 in a Hunter Hack Class and whilst schooling over obstacles.

87.11 Tie breaker will be the highest score over fences.

88. HUNTER IN HAND

A class designed to assess the suitability of a horse for Hunter Under Saddle classes.

A desirable horse will demonstrate a quality of movement.

88.1 Equipment

- a) English bridle is mandatory on horses two (2) years old and over after the 1 April. Decorative bridles and halters (silver or coloured) are prohibited.
Bridle must have Egg butt Snaffle, D-ring Snaffle, O-ring Snaffle, or full cheek Snaffle bit with keepers;
- b) For two (2) year old horses, up until 31 March and horses (1) one year old and younger, halters are mandatory.
The halter and lead must be of plain leather.
The chain on the lead may be under the chin, but not over the nose, and no devices are allowed in the horse's mouth and no lip chains or lip cords are allowed;
- c) The use of a crop is optional. Maximum length of crop is 76cm.

88.2 Attire of the handler is to permit free movement

- a) *A collared polo shirt or collared dress shirt, minimum of a short sleeve, must be white or black;*
- b) Dress pants must be cream, brown, blue, or black and be loose enough in which to run. Jodhpurs can be worn.
No jeans;
- c) *Must wear safe enclosed, English style footwear, for example running shoes, elastic sided paddock boots or top boots;*
- d) Vest and ties (no patterns), gloves and hats are optional;
- e) If a belt is worn it must be plain;
- f) *Jackets are not permitted.*

88.3 Class Conduct

- a) Horses will be judged individually on the triangle, following a posted order;
- b) The horses will approach the Judging area (A) and set up for inspection in the "open" position (i.e. with all four (4) legs of the horse visible by the judge standing on either side of the horse).
The judge will inspect each horse from the front, rear and both sides;

- c) At the judge's request, the horse will walk the small triangle ABCA. The horse will continue at a trot following the large triangle ADEA;
- d) At the completion of the judging, the handler will lead the horse away from the judging area promptly;
- e) An exhibitor may show more than one (1) horse in a class on the triangle. In this case, a helper, correctly attired, may assist in bringing the horses back for ringing or final inspection.

88.4 Measurements outside triangle must be 20m each side, inside triangle must be 10m each side.

88.5 Scoring System

Conformation 0-20; Walk 0-30; Trot 0-40; Temperament 0-10

Penalties:

1 Point

- break of gait at walk or trot for 2 strides or less.

3 Points

- break of gait at walk or trot for more than 2 strides
- knocking over a cone

5 Points

- refusal
- buck, rear, strike or kicking

Disqualification – will not be placed

- fall of horse or handler
- become detached from the horse
- off pattern
- not submitting for inspection prior to pattern
- lameness
- illegal attire (must conform to Rule 88.2)
- illegal equipment (must conform to Rule 88.1)

89. HUNT SEAT EQUITATION

Available only in Amateur, Select Amateur, and Youth divisions.

89.1 Hunt Seat Equitation is an evaluation based on the ability of a rider to perform various manoeuvres in harmony with their horse. The communication between horse and rider through subtle cues and aids should not be obvious. Equitation is judged on the rider and their effect on the horse.

89.2 Pattern it is mandatory that the pattern be posted at least one (1) hour prior to commencement of the class.

The pattern should be designed so most exhibitors can perform it in a reasonable length of time (under 60 seconds). All patterns must include a trot, canter and back. Patterns used in classes for riders 13 and under will use manoeuvres from Rule 89.3.1 a) and/or b). Horses' gaits are to be ridden with the same cadence and speed as you would find in the rail phase.

89.2.1 Tie Breakers – either a) OR b) not both:

- a) *Three (3) tie breakers to be nominated prior to commencement of the class. If tie cannot be broken, using these nominated tie breakers, the Judge will break the tie at their discretion, OR*

- b) *Use the rail work to break any ties.*

89.3 Class Procedure

- a) All exhibitors will enter the arena, line up as directed and then each exhibitor separately will complete the pattern;
or
- b) Exhibitors will enter the arena from the gate one at a time and complete their pattern;
- c) A posted order is required regardless of procedure a) or b);
- d) Exhibitors are to be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their work;
- e) The entire class, or only the finalists, may work at all three (3) gaits at least in one (1) direction of the arena.

89.3.1 Acceptable Manoeuvres

- a) Walk, Sitting Trot, Extended Trot, Posting Trot, Canter, Circles, Figure 8, Halt, Back, Side-pass, Address Reins, Demonstrate Change of Diagonal;
- b) Serpentine (Trot or Canter), Turn on Haunches or Forehand, Leg Yield, Flying or Simple Change of Lead. A turn on the forehand to the right is accomplished by moving haunches to the left. A forehand turn to the left is accomplished by moving haunches to the right;
- c) Canter and Hand Gallop in a straight or curved line, Counter Canter Figure 8, Drop or Pick-up Irons without stopping;
- d) Judges will not ask exhibitors to mount or dismount;
- e) If riders are asked to drop their irons, they can leave them down or cross them over the withers.

89.4 Basic Position

- a) To mount take up reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right hand and insert left foot in stirrup and mount. To dismount, rider can either step down or slide down. The size of rider must be taken into consideration;
- b) Hands should be over and in front of horse's withers, knuckles 30° 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 bite of reins may fall on either side. However, all reins must be picked up at the same time;
- c) 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;
- d) **The Walk** should be a four beat gait, with the rider in a vertical position with a following hand;
- e) **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 their hip angle to allow their torso to follow the horizontal motion of the horse. The upper body should be inclined about 20° in front of the vertical;

- f) 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;

- g) 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;

- h) Hand Gallop** is 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° in front of the vertical.

89.5 Scoring

Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Patterns will be divided into six (6) to ten (10) manoeuvres as specified by the Judge.

Each manoeuvre will be scored from +3 to -3 with ½ point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70.

Manoeuvre scores should be determined independent of penalties, and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and presentation of the horse to result in the following scores:

+3 Excellent

+2 Very Good

+1 Good

0 Average or Correct,

-1 Poor

-2 Very Poor

-3 Extremely Poor.

Exhibitors overall form and effectiveness scored from 0 to 5:

0 to 2 Average

3 Good

4 Very Good

5 Excellent.

89.6 Penalties

An exhibitor should be penalised in the pattern independent of manoeuvre scores and deducted from the final score as follows:

3 points

- break of gait at the walk or trot up to two (2) strides
- over or under turn from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ turn
- tick or hit of cone
- missing a diagonal up to two (2) strides in the pattern or on the rail.

5 points

- not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 3m of designated location
- incorrect lead or break of gait at the canter (except when correcting an incorrect lead)
- complete loss of contact between rider's hand and the horse's mouth
- break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides
- loss of iron
- head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation
- missing a diagonal for more than two (2) strides in the pattern or on the rail
- obviously looking down to check leads or diagonals.

10 points

- loss of rein
- use of either hand to instill fear or praise while on pattern or during rail work
- holding saddle with either hand
- blatant disobedience including kicking, pawing, bucking, and rearing
- spurring or use of a crop in front of the girth.

Disqualifications (will not be placed)

- failure by exhibitor to wear correct number in visible manner
- wilful abuse of horse or schooling
- fall by horse or exhibitor
- illegal use of hands on reins
- use of prohibited equipment
- off pattern - including knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker; never performing designated gait, lead, or diagonal; over or under turning more than $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.

90. HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

Hunter Under Saddle horses should be suitable to purpose. They 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.

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.

Judging This class will be judged on performance, condition, and conformation.

Maximum credit will be given to the flowing, balanced, willing horse. A maximum of 20 percent of judging will be based on condition and conformation.

- a) Horses to be:
 - shown under saddle, not to jump
 - shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring
 - reversed to the inside away from the rail.
- b) Horses should back easily, stand quietly; and
- c) Horses can be asked to change to canter from the flatfooted walk or trot, at the judge's discretion.

90.1 Faults to be scored according to severity

- quick, short, or vertical strides
- being on the wrong lead and/or wrong diagonal at the trot
- breaking gait
- excessive speed at any gait
- excessive slowness in any gait, loss of forward momentum
- failure to take the appropriate gait when called for
- head carried too high
- head carried too low - tip of the ear is below the withers for five or less strides
- over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical for five or less strides
- excessive nosing out
- failure to maintain light contact with horse's mouth
- stumbling
- if horse appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired
- consistently showing too far off the rail.

90.2 Faults which will be cause for disqualification

- head carried too low such that poll is below the withers consistently
- over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently.

90.3 At the option of the Judge, all or just the top twelve (12) horses may be required to hand gallop, one or both ways of the ring. Never more than twelve (12) horses to hand gallop at one time.

At the hand gallop, the judge may ask the exhibitors to halt and stand quietly on a free rein (loosened rein).

91. LEAD LINE

Youth only three (3) to six (6) years of age. *Non-point scoring class.*

A lead at least 1.8 m long must be attached to a halter that is under the bridle so that while the rider is on the rail the horse is controlled by the adult.

The chain on the halter cannot be under the chin or over the nose, it must come straight off the halter ring. No two (2) or three (3) year old horses can be used in this class.

No rider entering this class can enter any other ridden class on the program.

Procedure

- a) Class will enter the arena at a flat-footed walk turning right and proceeding on a counter clockwise direction on the rail;
- b) The class will be worked on the rail at a walk in both directions;
- c) In the line-up the Judge may ask the exhibitor to back their horses;
- d) The rider will be judged on their basic position in the saddle, hand positions, leg position, seat position and back position;
- e) The horse must be led and controlled by an adult who is over eighteen (18) years of age. If the judge asks the rider to back the horse in line up, the adult is not to aid the rider.
The adult should only keep the horse under control;
- f) A saddle with suitable stirrup length must be used;
- g) It is mandatory for this class that an approved Safety Helmet is worn. Refer Rule 80.4;
- h) The rider can ride in Western or English attire in this class and attire must match the gear. Exception: Rule 91. g);
- i) The adult handler must be dressed in appropriate attire as per the Rule Book.

92. LUNGE LINE Yearlings and two (2) year old only

If a two (2) year old is exhibited in Lunge Line at a show it cannot be shown under saddle at the same show. The purpose of showing a horse on a lunge line is to demonstrate that the horse has the movement, manners/expression/attitude, and conformation to become competitive under saddle. This class defines what it means to be a "Western Pleasure prospect" or a "Hunter Under Saddle prospect." Yearlings are not expected to demonstrate the behaviour or quality of a finished show horse, but only that performance necessary for a reasonable presentation to the Judge.

92.1 Therefore, the purpose of this class is to reward:

- a) quality of movement, manners, expression, and attitude
- b) conformation suitable to future performance and the horse is to be judged with its suitability as a future performer under saddle in mind.

92.2 Class Format The class consists of two (2) sections and must be judged in the following order:

- a) **First Section Conformation/Equipment Inspection** Each horse to be inspected by the Judge on conformation, proper equipment and for evidence of abuse and inhumane treatment. Each exhibitor will walk into the arena to the Judge and halt for evaluation.

Horses will then trot off straight and around a cone and take a place on the wall inside the arena.

All entries will be inspected in this fashion and as the “trot-off” is administered, horses showing levels of lameness will be excused from the class at that time;

b) Second Section Lunging Demonstration

The Judge will stand outside the lunging circle.

The lunging demonstration will begin at the sound of a whistle or other audible indicator when the horse has reached the perimeter of the circle. Time will not begin before the horse reaches this perimeter. When the “begin” signal is given, the exhibitor will be allowed 1½ minutes to present the horse at all three (3) gaits in both directions.

At the end of the 1½ minutes, the signal will be given to signify the end of the demonstration. Show management has the option of adding a “half-way” signal if they choose.

At the completion of their 1½ minutes the entry will retire from the lunging area and walk to the end of the arena. The horses are to stand quietly on the wall, whilst the other exhibitors present their horses.

Exhibitors can begin work in the direction of their choice (counter or clockwise).

92.3 Equipment

- a) Horses are to be shown in a halter. Either a regular or show type halter is acceptable. (Rope halters are not acceptable) Exhibitors are not to be penalised for using a regular halter and plain lunge line, nor are they to be rewarded for using a show halter and show lunge line;
- b) For the conformation inspection a lead shank, such as used in halter or showmanship classes, can be exchanged for the lunge line prior to the lunging demonstration;
- c) For the lunging demonstration, the only attachment allowed to the halter is the lunge line. Lead (leather, nylon, soft rope or mecate) is attached with a clip or leather strap to be fastened to the halter underneath the jaw of the horse. The use of a lunge whip is permissible;
- d) Minimum length of the lead to be six (6) metres and must not exceed nine (9) metres;
- e) The lunge line must hang free from the halter without touching any part of the horse;
- f) No other equipment is allowed on the horse during the class. Mechanical or retractable lunge lines are not permitted;
- g) Only movement, manners/expression/way of going and conformation are being judged.

92.4 Attire

Conventional western attire is mandatory, unless showing as a Hunter prospect then conventional English attire will be required.

The type of attire worn by the exhibitor is not to be a consideration in placing the horse if the attire meets the requirements stated above.

92.5 Gaits are to be judged according to the AQHA rules for Western Pleasure and Hunter Under Saddle.

92.6 An exhibitor can show more than one (1) horse in a class providing the same handler exhibits the horse in both parts as described in Rule 92.2 Class Format. Other than in the execution of Rule 92.2, the exhibitor must have a handler correctly attired for this class, to hold any additional exhibit in the arena while awaiting finalisation of the class.

92.7 Scoring

Movement will count for 34 points of the total score. Judges are to evaluate movement based on the gaits as stated in Rule 93.5.

- a) **Walk** will be scored on a scale of 1 to 3 in each direction, with 2 being average. The horse must be walked long enough for the judge to have enough time to evaluate and score the walk.

The change of direction turnaround at the walk may count for the second walk score on the official score sheet. Lower gait scores should reflect stumbling in the gait;

- b) **Jog or Trot** will be scored on a scale of 1 to 7 in each direction. Using a 7.5 m radius, the horse is to jog or trot a minimum of half (1/2) a circle both directions of the ring. Lower gait scores should reflect stumbling in the gait;

- c) **Lope or Canter** will be scored on a scale of 1 to 7 in each direction, with four (4) being average. Using a 7.5 m radius, the horse is to lope or canter a minimum of one (1) full circle both directions of the ring. Furthermore, any entry that fails to demonstrate the correct lead for one (1) full circle will not place over another entry that has demonstrated the correct lead in its entirety. Lower gait scores should reflect stumbling in the gait;

- d) **Use of Circle** for all gaits in both directions scores should reflect positive consistent use of the radius of the circle. Extra credit will be given for full, extended use of the circle on slightly loose line. Lower gait scores should reflect lack of full use of the circle.

92.7.1 Manners/Expression/Attitude will count for up to 14 points of the total score. Horses will be penalised for obvious signs of overwork and sourness such as ear-pinning, head-throwing, striking, tail wringing, or a dull, lethargic manner of going. Horses will also be penalised for dangerous behaviour such as excessive bucking, cutting into the circle, or running off.

Additionally, incidental touching the horse with the whip, cross-cantering, balking, backing up on the lunge line and excessive urging from the exhibitor will be penalised accordingly.

92.7.2 Conformation will count for up to 6 points of the total score, using a scale of 1 to 6.

The horse will be judged on conformation suitable to future performance as a Western Pleasure or Hunter Under Saddle exhibitor. The judges are to look for a total picture, emphasizing balance, structural correctness, and athletic capability.

92.7.3 Use of the circle – overall score

Consideration will be given to how well or how poorly the horse/exhibitor team uses the 7.5 m radius of the lunging circle. A separate box on the scorecard is available to indicate an overall score, from 1 to 3 points, for use of the circle.

92.7.4 Circle Scores

It is the Judge's responsibility to evaluate the circles and incorporate use of the circle in the gait scores based on the following scale:

3 points Good to Excellent Use of the Circle

- horse consistently stays on the perimeter of the circle with slight looseness in the line. Horse turns around on the circle perimeter

2 points Average use of the circle

- horse is only slightly inconsistent in using the 7.5m radius of the circle

1 point Adequate use of the circle

- horse is shown in a circle radius of less than 7.5m

0 points general use of the circle

- potentially dangerous slack in the line
- horse pulls exhibitor out of the circle.

92.7.5 Penalties

5 point penalty per direction

- failure to walk a minimum of two (2) horse lengths
- failure to jog/trot a minimum of a quarter of a circle
- failure to demonstrate the correct lead, for a minimum of a quarter of a circle

Disqualification DQ Evidence of lameness the Judge will immediately excuse horse from the arena.

- blatant striking horse with the whip during the lunging demonstration that will cause forward or lateral movement
- fall to the ground by horse. A horse is deemed to have fallen when its shoulder and/or hip and/or underline touches the ground
- horse steps over or becomes entangled in the lunge line
- improper equipment, evidence of abuse, or other violation of AQHA rules
- failure to show at all three gaits in both directions
- exhibitor shows disrespect towards the Judge
- anytime the horse becomes detached from the handler
- failure to complete trot off for soundness in three attempts
- failure to ever demonstrate correct leads and/or gait as designated.

92.8 Tie Breaker

First tie breaker is "Movement", second is "Circle/Attitude" and third is "Penalties."

93. PLEASURE DRIVING

A pleasure driving horse should carry themselves in a natural balanced position with a relaxed head and neck. Their poll should be level with, or slightly above the level of the withers.

The exhibitor will be the only person permitted in such cart while the horse is being exhibited, and no pets will be allowed in such cart during such exhibition.

The cart will be a pleasure type two-wheel single horse cart with seats for one (1) or two (2) persons. All carts must be basket-type, equipped with 60cm to 120cm cartwheels. Stirrup-type carts or sulkies are not allowed. Dash and basket cover optional.

- a) Maximum credit is to be given to a horse that moves straight, with free movement, manners, and a bright expression;
- b) The horse will be severely penalised if they carry their head behind the vertical, is over flexed, excessively nosed out, the poll is below the withers or exhibits lack of control by exhibitor;
- c) This class will be judged 80% on the horse's performance and suitability for assuring a pleasurable drive, with a maximum of 20% on condition and conformation;
- d) Horses must be shown with standard hooves and shoes. No extended hoofs, heavy shoes or toe weights allowed;
- e) Horses are to enter the arena in the same direction. Each horse will then be exhibited at the walk, park gait and road gait in both directions of the show ring.
At the direction of the ring steward, such change of direction is to be accomplished by the horses crossing the show arena while walking only;
- f) Each horse will also be required to back easily and straight and stand quietly;
- g) No exhibitor will drive a horse while standing in the cart, either in the arena or warm-up area, nor will any horse be left unbridled or unattended while hooked to a cart.

93.1 Equipment

- a) Pleasure driving equipment will include a whip suitable to the cart, light horse breast collar harness to include surcingle with shaft tie-downs and crupper, standard bridle, overcheck or check reins;
- b) Only loose ring Snaffle, half cheek Snaffle, Liverpool, elbow driving bit and bradoon overcheck bits are acceptable.
Mouthpieces must be of the same dimensions as required in Rule 82;
- c) If a curb chain is used, it must be at least 12.5mm in width, and be flat against the jaw of the horse.

93.2 Optional equipment

- a) Blinders;
- b) Breaching, shaft keepers or thimbles;
- c) Running martingales;
- d) Cavesson nosebands.

93.3 Prohibited equipment

- a) Wire chin straps, regardless of how padded or covered;
- b) Excessive ornamentation on harness, bridle or cart will be penalised.

93.4 Gaits the following terminology will apply to pleasure driving:

Walk

Is a natural, flat foot, four beat gait. Loss of forward rhythmic movement will be penalised.

Park Gait

Is a forward, free flowing, square trot with impulsion. Loss of forward, rhythmic movement or jogging will be penalised.

Road Gait

Is an extended trot showing a definite lengthening of stride, with a noticeable difference in speed. Short, quick, animated strides and/or excessive speed will be penalised.

93.5 Attire

The exhibitor is to be neatly attired. A coat, tie and hat of choice may be worn. If female exhibitor is attired in a short dress, a lap robe is required. Exhibitor may wear rainwear or inclement weather apparel if weather conditions require.

94. RANCH RIDING

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

The horse's performance is to simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch horse. This class will show the horses ability to work at a forward, working speed while under control by the rider. Light contact will be rewarded, and the horse will not be shown on a full drape of reins.

The overall manners and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations.

94.2 Only horses three (3) years of age and older can be exhibited.

94.3 No horse can cross enter, a Western Pleasure and Ranch Riding class at the same show regardless of division (Youth, Amateur, Select or Open). *Exception: Walk/jog classes only.*

94.4 Class Requirements

- a) Each horse will work individually performing required and optional manoeuvres, and will be scored based on 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance;
- b) Each manoeuvre will receive a score that should be added or subtracted, and scored on the following basis: Excellent +1½; Very Good +1; Good +½; Correct 0; Poor -½, Very poor -1, Extremely poor -1½;
- c) The required manoeuvres will include the walk, trot, and lope both directions and the extended trot and extended lope at least one direction; as well as stops, and back;
- d) Three (3) optional manoeuvres may include a side pass, turns of 360° or more, change of lead (simple or flying), walk, trot or lope over a pole(s), or some reasonable combination of manoeuvres that would be reasonable for a ranch horse to perform;

- e) The manoeuvres may be arranged in various combinations with final approval by the Judge;
- f) The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be as those described in Gaits, Rules 83.5 to 83.10, with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness;
- g) No time limit;
- h) The use of natural logs is encouraged;
- i) Posting at the extended jog is acceptable;
- j) Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable;
- k) It is acceptable to stand in the stirrups at the extended trot.

94.5 Patterns

One of the six (6) patterns, in Section Six can be used, or a judge may utilise a different pattern if all required manoeuvres and three (3) or more optional manoeuvres are included. Should a Judge use one of their own patterns, they cannot have a stop following an extended lope.

94.6 Attire: refer to Rule 83.4

94.7 Equipment

- a) No hoof polish;
- b) No braided or banded manes or tail extensions;
- c) Trimming inside ears is discouraged;
- d) Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair;
- e) Equipment with silver will not count over a good working outfit. silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged;
- f) It is suggested that exhibitors use a breast collar and a rear cinch.

94.8 When exhibiting in a Snaffle bit or Hackamore, an exhibitor may switch between two hands and one hand on the reins at any time.

94.9 Penalties a contestant will be penalised each time the following occurs.

1 Point

- too slow (per gait)
- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)
- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less.

3 Points

- wrong lead or out of lead
- draped reins (per manoeuvre)
- break of gait at lope except when correcting an incorrect lead
- break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides
- out of lead or cross-cantering more than two strides when changing leads
- severe disturbance of any obstacle

- trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change

5 Points

- blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear etc.)

10 points

- unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre)

Off-Pattern (OP) Placed below horses performing all manoeuvres.

- eliminates manoeuvre or adds manoeuvres
- incomplete manoeuvre
- use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore)
- more than one (1) finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).

Zero (0) score will not be placed

- illegal equipment including hoof black
- braided or banded manes or tail extensions
- wilful abuse
- major disobedience or schooling
- lameness
- leaving the arena before completing pattern.

94.10 No specific penalties will be incurred for nicks/hits on logs, but deduction made in manoeuvre score. No specific penalties will be incurred for over/under spins, but deduction may be made in manoeuvre score.

94.11 Tie Breaker specific manoeuvres and/or obstacles will be selected by judge prior to start of the class and so noted on score sheets, these manoeuvres will be ranked as first, second, third etc.

95. REINING

To rein a horse is not only to guide them, but also to control their every movement.

The best reined horse should be wilfully guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance and dictated to completely.

Any movement on their own must be considered a lack of control. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control, and therefore faulted according to severity of deviation. Credit will be given for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority in performing the various manoeuvres while using controlled speed.

- a) No horse can be entered in both junior bit and Hackamore/Snaffle bit reining classes at the same Show;
- b) Any one of the twelve (12) AQHA approved reining patterns can be used and is to be selected by the judge of the class and used by all contestants in the class;
- c) Each contestant will perform the required pattern separately. All horses will be judged immediately upon entering the arena and judging will cease after the last manoeuvre.

Any fault incurred prior to the commencement of a pattern will be scored accordingly;

- d) Lead changes are the act of changing the leading legs of the front and rear pairs of legs at the lope when changing direction. The lead change must be executed at a lope with no change of gait or speed and be performed in the exact geographical position in the area specified in the pattern description. The change of front and rear leads must take place within the same stride to avoid penalty. Simple lead changes will incur a 2 point penalty (break of gait);
- e) Scoring will be based on 0-Infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance.

95.1 The following will result in no score:

- abuse of an animal in the show arena and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a horse in competition
- use of illegal equipment, including wire on bits, bosals, or curb chains
- use of illegal bits, bosals, or curb chains
- use of tack collars, tie downs or nose bands
- use of whips or bats
- use of any attachment which alters the movement of or circulation to the tail
- failure to provide horse and equipment to the appropriate judge for inspection
- disrespect or misconduct by the exhibitor.

95.2 Excess rein may be straightened at any place a horse can be completely stopped during a pattern; rider's free hand may be used to hold Romal in the normal fashion.

95.3 Penalties

Zero (0)

- use of more than index or first finger between reins
- use of two (2) hands (exception in snaffle bit or hackamore classes designated for two (2) hands) or changing hands
- use of romal other than as outlined in rule 83.1 f)
- failure to complete pattern as written
- performing the manoeuvres other than in specified order
- the inclusion of manoeuvres not specified, including, but not limited to backing more than two (2) strides and turning more than 90°
- equipment failure that delays completion of pattern
- balking or refusal of command where pattern is delayed
- running away or failing to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether the entry is on pattern
- jogging more than one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena
- overspins of more than ¼ turn
- fall to the ground by horse or rider

- neither a no score nor a zero (0) are eligible to place in a go-round or class, but a zero (0) may advance in a multi-go class while a no score will not.

5 Points

- spurring in front of cinch
- use of free hand to instil fear or praise
- holding saddle or touching horse with free hand
- blatant disobediences including kicking, biting, bucking, and rearing.

2 Points

- break of gait
- freeze up in spins or rollbacks
- on walk in patterns, failure to stop or walk before executing a canter departure
- on run in patterns, failure to be in a canter prior to first marker
- if a horse does not completely pass the specified marker before initiating a stop position.

95.4 Starting or performing circles of eights out of lead will be judged as follows:

- each time a horse is out of lead, a judge is required to deduct 1 point. Penalty for being out of lead is accumulative and the judge will deduct one (1) point for each quarter of the circumference of a circle or any part thereof that a horse is out of lead
- deduct ½ point for a delayed change of lead by one stride
- deduct ½ point for starting circle at a jog or exiting rollbacks at a jog up to two (2) strides
- jogging beyond two (2) strides, but less than half circle or half the length of the arena, deduct 2 points
- deduct ½ point for over or under spinning up to one eighth of a turn
- deduct 1 point for over or under spinning from one-eighth to one-quarter turn.

95.5 A half point (½) point penalty deduction will be given for failure to remain a minimum of six (6) mt from the wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or rollback.

95.6 Where a change of lead is specified, immediately prior to a run to the end of the arena, failure to change leads will be penalised as follows:

½ Point

- failure to change leads by one (1) stride

1 Point

- failure to change leads beyond one stride, but where lead change is completed prior to next manoeuvre
- in patterns requiring a run-around, failure to be on the correct lead when rounding the end of the arena.

2 Points

- lead is not changed prior to the next manoeuvre
- failure to be on the correct lead prior to centre point of arena.

95.7 A judge may require any contestant to repeat their performance of any or all the various parts of the pattern.

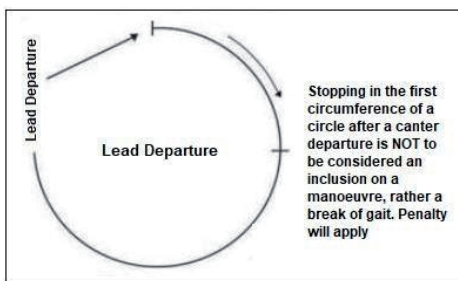
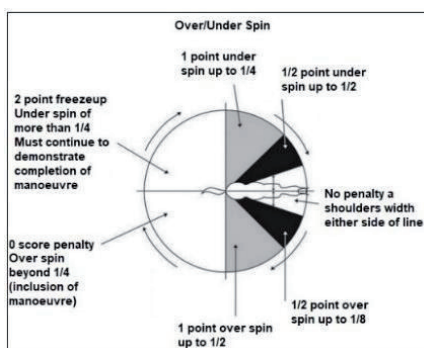
95.8 Faults against the horse to be scored accordingly, but not to cause disqualification:

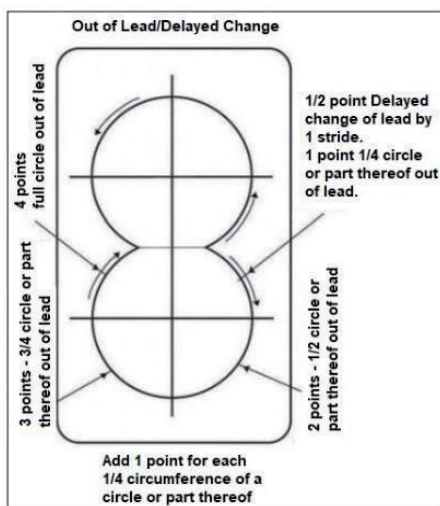
- opening mouth excessively when wearing bit
- excessive jawing, opening mouth or head rising on stop
- lack of smooth, straight stop on haunches bouncing or sideways stop
- refusing to change leads
- anticipating signals
- stumbling
- backing sideways
- knocking over markers.

95.9 Faults against the rider to be scored accordingly, but not to cause disqualification:

- losing stirrup
- any unnecessary aid given by the rider such as unnecessary talking, petting, spurring, quirting, jerking of reins, etc.
- failure to run circles or figure eights within the markers is not considered a fault depending on arena conditions and size; however, failure to go beyond markers on rollbacks and stops is considered a fault.

95.10 Tie breaker, for first place only, as per NRHA/RA rules.





96. EQUESTRIANS WITH DISABILITIES

To provide Show Management with the option to include Equestrians with Disabilities competition, the Australian Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) has adopted these rules and provided an awards system for participants.

In doing so, AQHA does not assume responsibility for safety of participants. Since it is Show Management which conducts these classes and controls both the physical facility and all aspects of the classes, responsibility for participant's safety remains solely with Show Management.

At any time in this section of the Rule Book where a handler is mentioned that handler is optional and if a handler is used then they must be dressed appropriately being western style pants/jeans, enclosed safe shoes, shirt with sleeves and a western hat. *The Judge can set their own patterns for these classes or use the patterns in the back of this rule book.*

96.1 In the case of adult participants, each participant assumes all risk of personal injury or property damage and releases and discharges AQHA, AQHA Affiliates and Show Management, their respective Officers, Directors, representatives, and employees, from all liability, whenever or however arising, as to personal injury or property. Damage occurring because of participation in these classes, except for the negligent act or omission, if any, of said indemnities.

If the participant is a minor, the parent or guardian, by allowing participation, assumes all risk of personal injury or property damage occurring as a result of the participation and does hereby release and discharge AQHA and Show Management, their respective Officers, Directors, representatives, and employees from any and all liability, whenever or however arising, from such participation, except for the negligent act or omission, if any, of an indemnity.

Further, as parent or legal guardian, they agree to indemnify and hold harmless AQHA and Show Management from such liability to the minor.

- a) Each participant, and if a minor, the consenting parent or guardian, authorises the use of any picture, still or video which may be taken in conjunction with the exhibitor's participation in these equestrians with disabilities classes for AQHA's official uses;
- b) Only horses registered with the AQHA or registered with a relevant breed society are eligible to participate in these classes. Only geldings or mares can be shown;
- c) Each exhibitor must have a financial individual membership with the AQHA or relevant breed society;
- d) An exhibitor cannot show more than one (1) horse in the same class and a horse cannot be shown by more than one exhibitor in the same class;
- e) *Exhibitors cannot compete in the Open/Amateur/Youth classes and Equestrian with Disabilities performance classes at the same show. The exhibitor must make a choice for that show;*
- f) *EWD exhibitors may show in Open/Amateur/Youth mare and gelding halter classes as long as they can compete unassisted;*
- g) For participation in these classes, an exhibitor must produce a Doctors Certificate, upon joining the AQHA for the first time, which states the disability. Exhibitors from other recognised breed organisations must have Equestrian with Disabilities endorsement from their breed. That every five (5) years an exhibitor must re-apply for a permit;
- h) Youth participants must be seven (7) years of age or older for the ridden classes and five (5) years of age and over for the Showmanship classes;
- i) **Eligible Conditions Include:**
 - Amputation
 - Anthrogyrosis
 - Aspergers Syndrome
 - Autism
 - Batten's Disease
 - Cerebrovascular Accident
 - Cerebellar Ataxia
 - Cerebral Palsy
 - Coffin Lowry Syndrome
 - Cystic Fibrosis
 - Down Syndrome
 - Dwarfism
 - Fragile X Syndrome
 - Friedreich's Ataxia
 - Guillain-Barre Syndrome
 - Hearing Impairment

Hunter's Syndrome
 Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis
 Intellectual Disability
 Microcephaly
 Multiple Sclerosis
 Muscular Dystrophy
 Post-Polio Syndrome
 Prader-Willie Syndrome
 Rhatt Syndrome
 Spina Bifida
 Spinal Cord Injury
 Tourette Syndrome
 Traumatic Brain Injury
 Trisomy Disorders
 Vision Impairment
 Other diagnoses will be considered upon request.

j) The following disorders are not eligible:

ADHD
 Anxiety Disorders
 Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
 Depression
 Dyslexia
 Eating Disorders
 Fibromyalgia
 Learning Disabilities
 Psychological Diagnosis;

- k)** The exhibitor or their family do not have to own the horse;
- l)** Handler *Optional – If required by an exhibitor*, one (1) handler per entry in the arena to facilitate the safety of the rider. The handler must be eighteen (18) years of age or over. A halter must be on the horse either over or under the bridle for use by the handler if needed. The handler must be appropriately attired and must have a suitable lead line in hand in case of need. Lead line cannot be fastened to the bit. Handlers will stand quietly as a group in a designated area of the arena unless their assistance is required and requested by the judge or ring steward;
- m)** A exhibitor with a hearing impairment can have an assistant who communicates via sign language or cue cards to the exhibitor so they can conform to the Judge's directives. This assistant will be outside the arena and their position known to the Judge and ring Steward;
- n)** Markers must be used and may be numbered. People must not be used as markers.

96.2 Tack and Equipment is to conform to the needs of the exhibitor and be suitable for the horse.

Special adaptive equipment may be used where appropriate.

96.3 Judging

The following points have equal consideration in judging a ridden class:

- a) Rider's balance;
- b) Rider's seat;
- c) Use of aids;
- d) Ability to follow directions;
- e) Ring etiquette and safety;
- f) Sportsmanlike conduct;
- g) Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the manner used in obtaining them;
- h) A rider that goes off pattern will not be disqualified but will place below any other exhibitor that executes the pattern correctly.

96.3.1 Divisions

Only two (2) divisions available in ridden classes and only one (1) division can be offered at a show:

- a) Walk/trot – Walk/jog **OR**
- b) Walk/trot/canter – Walk/jog/lope.

96.4 EWD Hunt Seat Equitation

96.4.1 Equipment and Attire

English equipment and attire refer Rule 82, with exception of authorised adaptations see Rule 96.2.

Riders must wear an Approved Safety Helmet properly fitted and fastened with harness, as per Rule 80.4.

No equipment is allowed that would in any way affix the rider to the horse or saddle except for light rubber bands.

Safety stirrups (Peacock, S-shaped irons, or Devonshire) are required if rider is unable to wear boots with a heel. Peacock irons are recommended in all cases.

96.4.2 Class Procedure

All exhibitors will complete an individual workout. Horses will be shown at gaits per Rule 96.4.

Judge can set their own patterns or use the patterns in this rule book. All exhibitors may work as a group of ten or less when competing on the rail.

96.4.3 Scoring as per Hunt Seat Equitation. Refer Rule 89.

96.5 EWD Western Horsemanship

96.5.1 Equipment and Attire

Western equipment and attire refer Rule 83, with exception of authorised adaptations refer Rule 96.2. Riders must wear an Approved Safety Helmet properly fitted and fastened with harness, as per rule 80.4.

A Western hat can be affixed over the helmet. No equipment is allowed that would in any way affix the rider to the horse or saddle except for light rubber bands.

Safety stirrups (covered or other approved safety stirrups) are required if rider is unable to wear boots with a heel.

96.5.2 Class procedure

All exhibitors will complete an individual workout. Horses will be shown at gaits per Rule 96.5 Judge can set their own patterns or use the patterns in this rule book. All exhibitors may work as a group of ten or less when competing on the rail.

96.5.3 Scoring This class is to be scored according to Rule 99.

96.6 EWD Trail

Equipment and Attire: refer to rule 96.6

96.6.1 Class procedure

All exhibitors will complete an individual workout.

96.6.2 Obstacles: five (5) obstacles for walk/jog trail and six (6) obstacles for walk/jog/lope trail. There will be no rail work.

96.6.3 Scoring this class to be scored according to Rule 99.
Exception the gate must be simulated.

96.6.4 Course Safety of riders is to be the first consideration in setting up the course. The course should be attractive with readily recognised obstacles. Enough space is to be allowed between obstacles. Obstacles are as per Rule 99. Judges can set their own patterns or use the patterns in this rule book.

96.7 EWD Showmanship at Halter

The following points have equal consideration in judging the class.

- exhibitor's poise
- exhibitor's hands
- use of aids
- ability to follow directions and instructions
- arena etiquette and safety
- sportsmanlike conduct.

Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the manner used in obtaining them.

Good points for exhibiting in a Showmanship class, refer to Showmanship Rule 97.

96.7.1 Equipment and Attire

Appropriate western attire must be worn. Exhibitor can wear an approved safety helmet properly fitted and fastened with harness as per Rule 80.4 or a Western hat.

The halter must be of leather and may be adorned with silver accents. The lead must be made of leather with a chain for attachment to halter. The chain on the lead may be under the chin or over the nose. Lip chains/cords of any type are not permitted. No equipment is allowed that would in any way attach the exhibitor to the horse or halter.

96.7.2 Class Procedure

As per Showmanship at Halter. Refer Rule 97.2.

The exhibitor's handler can take a place on the arena wall in case required.

Judge can set their own patterns or use the patterns in this Rule Book. Judges may ask the exhibitor to repeat any part of, or the entire pattern.

96.7.3 Scoring as per Showmanship at Halter. Refer Rule 97.

97. SHOWMANSHIP AT HALTER

Available only in the Amateur/Select and Youth divisions.

The Showmanship class will be judged strictly on the exhibitor's ability to fit and show a horse at halter. The horse is merely a prop to demonstrate the ability and preparation of the exhibitor.

The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness, and precision. The showmanship class is not another halter class and is not to be judged as such. 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.

97.1 It is mandatory that the Judge post the pattern(s) to be worked at least one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the class. Pattern(s) are to be designed to test the showman's ability to effectively present a horse to the Judge. All ties will be broken at the Judge's discretion.

97.1.1 Tie Breaker Three (3) tie breakers to be nominated prior to commencement of the class by the Judge. If tie cannot be broken, using nominated tie breakers, the Judge will break the tie at their discretion.

97.2 Class Procedures

- a) All exhibitors may enter the ring, line up as directed and then each exhibitor separately will complete the pattern;
or
- b) Exhibitors may enter the arena from the gate one at a time and complete their pattern;
- c) A posted order is required regardless of procedure a) or b);
- d) Exhibitors are to be instructed to either leave the arena or fall into line as directed.

97.2.1 Acceptable Manoeuvres

- a) Lead the horse at a walk, jog, trot, or extended trot, or back in a straight or curved line, or a combination of straight and curved lines;
- b) Stop; and turn 90° (1/4), 180° (1/2), 270° (3/4), 360° (full turn) or any combination or multiple of these turns. On turns of greater than 90°, 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;
- c) An exhibitor should not be penalised 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 Judge must have exhibitors set the horse up squarely for inspection sometime during the class.

97.2.2 Unacceptable Manoeuvre

A pull turn to the left is an unacceptable manoeuvre.

97.3 Equipment and Attire

Western Attire refer Rule 83.4

- a) The halter must be of leather and may be adorned with silver accents. The lead must be made of leather with a chain for attachment to the halter. The chain on the lead may be under the chin, over the nose *or directly to the ring under the chin*;
- b) Lip chains/cords of any type are not permitted.
- c) *The use of any artificial mechanical aids including, but not limited to lighters, pins, clickers etc is prohibited.*

97.4 Appearance and Position of Exhibitor

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

Exhibitors should be poised, confident, courteous, and genuinely sportsmanlike always, quickly recognising, 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. 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 across the exhibitor's chest and walk forward beside the horse with the horse moving backward.

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 always allow the exhibitor to maintain awareness of the Judge's position. 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.

97.5 Appearance of Horse

The horse's body condition and overall fitness will 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, if they are neat, clean, and free of tangles. The mane should be even in length or may be roached, but the forelock must be left unclipped. 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.

97.6 Scoring Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance.

Patterns will be divided into six (6) to ten (10) manoeuvres, as specified by the judge, and each manoeuvre will be scored from +3 to -3 with ½ point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70.

Manoeuvre scores should be determined independent of penalties, and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and presentation of horse to result in the following scores:

+3 Excellent, +2 Very Good, +1 Good, 0 Average or Correct, -1 Poor, -2 Very Poor, -3 Extremely Poor.

Exhibitors overall form and effectiveness must be scored from 0 to 5 with 0 to 2 Average, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent.

97.7 Penalties

An exhibitor will be penalised in the pattern independent of manoeuvre scores and deducted from the final score as follows:

3 points

- break of gait at the walk or trot up to two (2) strides
- over or under turning up to ¼ of a turn
- ticking or hitting cone
- sliding a pivot foot
- lifting a pivot foot during a pivot or set-up and replacing it in the same place
- lifting a foot in a set-up and replacing it in the same place after presentation.

5 points

- not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 3 meters of designated location
- break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides
- splitting the cone (cone between the horse and exhibitor)
- horse stepping out of or moving the hind end significantly during a pivot or turn
- horse stepping out of set-up after presentation
- horse resting a foot or hipshot in a set-up
- over or under turning $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.

10 points

- exhibitor is not in the required position during inspection
- exhibitor touching the horse or kicking or pointing their feet at the horse's feet during the set-up
- standing directly in front of the horse
- loss of lead shank, holding chain or two hands on shank
- blatant disobedience including pawing, kicking, rearing
- horse continually circling exhibitor
- starting on the wrong side of the horse during inspection and/or at the start of pattern.

Disqualifications (not to be placed)

- loss of control of horse that endangers exhibitor, other horses, or judge
- horse becomes separated from exhibitor
- failure to display correct number
- wilful abuse
- fall of horse
- excessive schooling or training
- use of artificial aids
- illegal equipment
- off pattern which does include knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker
- never performing designated gait
- over or under turning more than $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.

98. SPORTING AQHA

Barrel, Figure of Eight, Keyhole, Pole Bending offered in All Age Youth, All Age Amateur and All Age Horse classes only at Approved shows.

General

- a) all classes are timed
- b) if a tie occurs for first place a run-off will determine the placing's
- c) a whip cannot exceed 76cm in length excluding over and unders which must be attached to the saddle.

Equipment

Western type saddle and equipment must be used. Any approved bit can be used irrespective of the age of the horse, any rawhide bosal, mechanical Hackamore, or other types of bridles is the optional choice of the contestant.

However, mechanical Hackamore nosepieces must be covered in leather and cannot have visible or bare metal in contact with the horse's head. The Judge or Steward may prohibit the use of any bit of equipment they consider inhumane or would tend to give a horse/rider an unfair advantage.

Bonnets (tie-down that goes over the poll and/or across the forehead) made of rope, flat nylon webbing or leather only (minimum 9.5mm diameter) are permitted.

Martingales and draw reins are permitted, however martingales used with curb bits must have rein stops.

Draw reins may not be attached between or around the front legs. Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are acceptable.

Attire

It is mandatory to wear appropriate western attire, including long sleeve shirt, collar (band, stand-up, tuxedo, etc.) western hat, western pants/jeans, and western boots. The hat must be on the rider's head when the exhibitor enters the arena. Spurs and chaps are optional. Exception: refer Rule 80.4.1.

98.1 Barrel

Exhibitors race against the clock, following a course consisting of three (3) barrels in a triangular "cloverleaf" pattern. Contestants must choose either the right or left barrel, circle it, and go to the next barrel, completing the course after circling the third barrel and running home.

- a) The contestant is allowed a running start. At a signal from the starter, the contestant will run to barrel number 1, pass to the left of it, and complete an approximately 360° turn around it; then go to barrel number 2, pass to the right of it, and complete a slightly more than 360° turn around it; then go to barrel number 3, pass to the right of it, and do another approximately 360° turn around it; then sprint to the finish line, passing between barrel number 1 and 2.

This barrel course can also be run to the left. For example, the contestants will start to barrel number 2, turning to left around this barrel, then to barrel number 1, turning to the right, then to barrel number 3, turning again to the right, followed by the final sprint to the finish line;

- b) Knocking over a barrel carries a five-second (5) penalty;
- c) Failure to follow the course will cause disqualification;
- d) A contestant may touch the barrel with their hands in barrel racing;
- e) It is recommended that drags be conducted before the start of a barrel race and after every seven head. Show Management may drag more frequently;
- f) A contestant can only use a whip, rope, crop, bat, or reins anywhere on the horse twice between 1st & 2nd barrel, twice between 2nd & 3rd barrel and four times on the way home;
- g) Course must be measured exactly according to pattern and cannot exceed these dimensions.

However, if the course is too large for the available space, the pattern is to be reduced 4.5 m at a time until the pattern fits the arena. Adequate space must remain between barrels and any obstacle. The distance from barrel number three to the finish line need not be reduced 4.6 m at a time if there is enough room for the horse to stop.

When measuring the area for the barrel course, allow ample room for horses to complete their turns and stop at the finish. It is recommended there be at least 13.5 m from the starting line to the end of the arena, at least 5.4 m from barrels 1 and 2 to the fence and 10.8 m from barrel 3 to the end of the arena;

- h) Brightly coloured 200 litre steel drums with both ends in must be used;
- i) No rubber or plastic barrels or barrel pads are to be used.

98.2 Figure of Eight

- a) Timing will begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose passes over the finish line;
- b) The contestant is allowed a running start and may begin their run from either the left or right side of the first pole. Start by crossing the centre line between the upright markers, turn around the second pole, cross over the centre line again between the markers, then around the first pole and run back across the finish line;
- c) The start and finish line are 6 m wide and marked by two upright markers 3 m on each side of the centre line and short enough to not interfere with the timer if one is used. (Short pylons or cones are recommended.) The first and second poles marking the centre line are each 12 m from the start and finish line, making them a total of 24 m apart;
- d) A five-second (5) penalty will be assessed if the hat or helmet is not on the exhibitor's person for the entire time the exhibitor is in the arena in Stake Racing;
- e) Failure of a contestant to cross the start and finish line between the markers will result in no time;
- f) Failure of contestant to cross over the centre line between the markers before turning the second pole and cross back over the centre line after turning the second pole will result in no time;
- g) If an upright marker or pole is knocked down, it will result in no time.

98.3 Pole Bending

- a) Each contestant will begin from a running start, time will begin and end as the horse's nose crosses the line. A clearly visible starting line must be provided. An electric timer or at least two watches will be used, with the time indicated by the electric timer or the average time of the watches used by official timers to be the official time;

- b) The pole bending pattern is to be run around six (6) poles. Each pole is to be 6.4m apart, the first pole is to be 6.4 m from the starting line. Poles will be set on top of the ground, 1.8m in height, with no base more than 35cm in diameter;
- c) A horse can start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly;
- d) Knocking over a pole will carry a five-second (5) penalty. Failure to follow the course will cause disqualification. A contestant may touch a pole with their hand in pole bending;
- e) A five-second (5) penalty will be assessed if the hat or helmet is not on the exhibitor's person for the entire time the exhibitor is in the arena in pole bending;
- f) The Judge, at their discretion, may disqualify a contestant for excessive use of a bat, crop, whip, or rope in front of the cinch.

98.4 Keyhole

- a) A lane 12 m long and 1.2 m wide is marked with whiting, make a circle 6 m in diameter on one end of the lane;
- b) The starting line is at the end of the lane opposite the circle. Another line is made 6 m before reaching the starting line;
- c) This is a timed class and time starts at the starting line entering the lane;
- d) The rider must have their horse inside the back line and the horse must stop their forward motion before starting the race;
- e) The rider has 6m to start the horse before time begins, at the entry of the lane;
- f) Exhibitor rides down the lane turning inside the circle and returning down the lane;
- g) Time starts and stops upon entering and leaving the lane;
- h) Rider will be disqualified if a horse steps on or over the line;
- i) If a horse steps back across the first line, an additional stop of their forward motion will be required in the 6 m zone;
- j) After the original crossing of the first line, 30 seconds will be allowed to enter the lane;
- k) Three (3) Judges will be used;
- l) The 6m line is to create a 6m zone and does not have to be drawn all the way across the arena. The rider may enter the zone at any place.

99. TRAIL

Trail classes will be judged on the performance of the horse over a minimum of six (6) obstacles and no more than ten (10), with emphasis on manners, response to the rider/handler, attitude, 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.

99.1 Course must be designed to require each horse to show the required gaits somewhere between obstacles as a part of its work, quality of movement and cadence and will be considered as part of the manoeuvre score. Horses will not be worked on the rail.

Management, when setting courses, are to keep in mind that the idea is not to trap a horse or eliminate it by making an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind to eliminate any accidents. If difficult courses are set, junior trail is to be less difficult. If disrupted, the course will be reset after each horse has worked. In the case that a combination of obstacles is used, the course cannot be reset until the contestant finishes the entire course regardless of where any disruption occurs. The trail course must be posted at least one (1) hour before scheduled starting time of the class.

99.2 Attire

It is mandatory for exhibitor to wear appropriate western attire, including western pants/jeans, a shirt with long sleeves and a collar, western hat, and western boots.

99.3 Horse Equipment

Ridden Trail: as per Western Equipment Rule 83.

Led Trail: Leather halter, minimum overall width 20mm. Halter must lay flat with a smooth side against the skin. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. Lead (leather, nylon, soft rope or mecate) attached with clip or leather strap to be fastened to the halter underneath the jaw of the horse. A chain can be used under the jaw and must be attached to the lead. Minimum length of the lead three (3) m and must not exceed nine (9) m. Roller or similar objects to keep the head under control and wrapping either soft or rigid on the halter are prohibited.

Prohibited Equipment for all trails as per Rule 83.3.

99.4 Judge must walk the course and has the right and duty to alter the course in any manner. The Judge may remove or change any obstacle they deem unsafe or non-negotiable. If at any time a trail obstacle is deemed to be unsafe by the Judge, it will be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle will be deducted from all previous works for that class.

99.5 Ties - prior to commencement of the class, the Judge will nominate all obstacles in order of preference as tie breakers.

99.6 Scoring will be based on 0-100, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each obstacle will receive an obstacle score that will be added or subtracted from 70 and is subject to a penalty that will be subtracted.

99.6.1 Obstacle scores are to be determined, assessed independently of penalty points. Horses are to 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/handlers cues on more difficult obstacles.

Each obstacle will be scored on following basis, ranging from plus 1.5 to minus 1.5.

-1.5 extremely poor

-1 very poor

-.5 poor

0 correct

+ .5 good

+1 very good

+1.5 excellent

Led Trail

The Judge will give credit to the handler that does not enter an obstacle with the horse.

Ridden Trail

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

- head carried too high
- head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical excessively and consistently while the horse is in motion, or otherwise showing the appearance of intimidation
- opening mouth excessively.

99.7 Penalties

Horse will be penalised for any unnecessary delay while approaching or negotiating the obstacles. Horses with artificial appearance over obstacles are to be penalised.

Penalties will be assessed, per occurrence, as follows.

1/2 point

- each tick or contact of a log, pole, cone, plant, or any component of an obstacle

1 point

- each hit, bite, or stepping on a log, cone, plant or any component of the obstacle
- incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for two (2) strides or less
- both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or jog
- skipping over or failing to step into required space
- incorrect number of strides, if specified
- split pole in lope-over (ridden trail)
- holding horse by halter rather than lead (Led Trail).

3 points

- incorrect or break of gait at walk or jog for more than two (2) strides
- knocking down an elevated pole, cone, barrel, plant, obstacle, or severely disturbing an obstacle
- falling or jumping off or out of a bridge or a water box with one foot once the horse has got onto or into that obstacle
- stepping outside of the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (i.e. back through, 360° box, side pass) with one foot once the horse has entered the obstacle

- missing or evading a pole that is a part of a series of an obstacle with one foot
- out of lead or break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead (ridden trail).

5 points

- dropping slicker or object required to be carried on course
- first or second cumulative refusal, balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing
- letting go of gate or dropping rope gate
- use of either hand to instil fear or praise
- falling or jumping off or out of a bridge or a water box with more than one foot once the horse has got onto or into that obstacle
- stepping outside of the confines of an obstacle with designated boundaries (i.e. back through, 360° box, side pass) with more than one foot once the horse has entered the obstacle
- missing or evading a pole that is a part of a series of an obstacle with more than one foot
- blatant disobedience (including kicking out, bucking, rearing, striking)
- holding saddle with either hand (ridden trail).

DISQUALIFIED DQ - will not be placed

- performing the obstacle incorrectly or other than in specified order
- no attempt to perform an obstacle
- equipment failure that delays completion of pattern
- entering or exiting an obstacle from the incorrect side or direction
- working the obstacle in the incorrect direction, including overturns of more than 1/4 turn
- riding or leading a horse outside designated boundary marker of the arena or course area
- third cumulative refusal, balk, or evading an obstacle by shying or backing
- failure to ever demonstrate correct lead and/or gait as designated
- failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles
- excessive schooling, pulling, turning, stepping or backing anywhere on course
- failure to open and shut gate or failure to complete gate
- 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 western equipment, or to straighten reins when stopped (ridden trail)
- use of romal other than as outlined in western equipment (ridden trail)
- excessively or repeatedly touching the horse on the neck to lower the head (ridden trail)

- on the line of travel between obstacles - 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 (ridden trail)
- physically pushing or hitting horse with lead line or any object (Led Trail).

99.8 Obstacles

Use obstacles that do not endanger the horse or exhibitor.

Measuring - When the distances and spaces are measured between all obstacles, the inside base to inside base measurement of each obstacle, considering the normal path of the horse, will be the measuring point. Enough space must be provided for a horse to jog at least 9m and lope (Ridden trail) at least 15m, for the Judges to evaluate these gaits.

99.8.1 Led Trail

Mandatory obstacles choose three (3) from this list and at least three (3) different other obstacles are to be selected from the list of optional obstacles.

- a) Opening, passing through and closing gate. Use a gate that does not endanger horse or handler. Must be left hand push away gate;
- b) Horse must go over at least four (4) logs or poles. These can be in a straight line, curved or zig zag. Spacing must be: walk over 30-50cm; jog over 75-90cm;
- c) Backing obstacles to be spaced a minimum of 70cm apart. Back thru I shape, v shape, u shape or similar shape.

Optional Obstacles, but not limited to:

- a) Back through and around at least three (3) markers. Minimum ground space 70cm;
- b) Lead horse over wooden bridge;
- c) Bridge - Minimum width 90cm, minimum length 1.8m, maximum height from ground to top of bridge 30cm. Bridge must be sturdy, safe, without sides and negotiated at the walk only;
- d) Serpentine obstacles at walk and/or jog. Spacing a minimum of 1.1m or 1.5m for jog;
- e) Carry object from part of the arena to another (only objects that reasonably might be carried on a trail ride can be used);
- f) Put on and remove slicker;
- g) Remove and replace materials from mailbox;
- h) Side pass – diameter of pole is maximum height of 15cm;
- i) An obstacle consisting of 4 poles each 1.5 to 2m long, laid in a square. Each contestant will enter the square by walking over pole as indicated. When all four feet are in the square, horse is to execute a turn as indicated and depart;
- j) A circle to walk/jog in. Approximately 6m in diameter to be marked out, with four (4) cones or similar safe objects;

- k) 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 can be used;
- l) A combination of one or more of the obstacles is acceptable.

99.8.2 Ridden Trail

Mandatory obstacles choose three (3) from this list and at least three (3) different other obstacles selected from the list of optional obstacles.

- a) Opening, passing through and closing gate, (losing control of gate is to be penalised). If the gate has a metal, plastic or wooden support bar under the opening, contestants must work the gate moving forward through it. One hand only must be on the reins at all times whilst working the gate. Height 1.4m to 1.5m, gate opening 1.4m to 1.5m, latch or chain to be a minimum of 1.3m measured from the ground;
- b) Ride over at least four (4) logs or poles. These can be in a straight line, curved, zigzag or raised. All elevated elements must be placed in a cup, notched block, or otherwise secured so they cannot roll. Jogovers and Lopeovers cannot be elevated in Novice trail. Spacing as follows or increments thereof:
 - **walkovers** will be 40cm to 60cm between the poles and may be elevated to 30cm. Elevated walkovers are to be set at least 55cm apart
 - **jogovers** will be 90cm to 105cm between the poles and may be elevated to 20cm
 - **lopeovers** will be 1.8m to 2m or increments thereof between the poles and may be elevated to 20cm.

Minimum length of poles to be used in a lope over is 1.8m
- c) Backing obstacle to be spaced a minimum of 70cm. If elevated, 75cm is required. Entrants cannot be asked to back over a stationary object.
 - back through and around at least three (3) markers
 - back through an L, V, U, straight, or similar shaped course. May be elevated no more than 60cm.

Optional Obstacles, but not limited to:

- 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 1.8m for jog
- carry object from one part of arena to another, (only objects which reasonably might be carried on a trail ride can be used)
- ride over wooden bridge, minimum width 90cm, minimum length 1.8m, maximum height from ground to top of bridge 30cm. bridge must be sturdy, safe, and negotiated at the walk only
- put on and remove slicker
- remove and replace materials from mailbox

- side pass, may be elevated to a maximum of 30cm
- an obstacle consisting of four (4) poles, each a minimum of 1.5m long, laid in a square. Each contestant will enter the square by riding over pole as indicated. when all four (4) feet are inside the square, 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 may be used
- a combination of two (2) or more of any obstacle is acceptable.

99.8.3 Unacceptable Obstacles for Trails

- tyres
- animals
- hides
- pvc pipe
- jumps
- rocking or moving bridges
- flames, dry ice, fire extinguisher etc.
- straddle a rail
- water hazards (led trail) water box with floating or moving parts (ridden trail)
- elevated poles (led trail) - poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll (ridden trail)
- dismounting, ground ties (ridden trail).

100. WALK JOG/TROT

Youth only 5 to 10 years as at 1 August, *non-point scoring classes*. These classes are designed for the very inexperienced exhibitor who is capable of riding without assistance of an adult leading them. Most of these youngsters are just beginning to compete in youth classes and may not be capable of riding with more experienced contestants.

These classes can be held at "A" and "AA" approved shows.

It is mandatory that show management designate two (2) adults (other than Judge & Ring Steward) to be in the arena during the class to help any contestant who might need assistance. The two (2) adults are to be stationed to avoid disrupting class.

- a) If the rider is riding two (2) handed then the horse must be in a Snaffle (regardless of horses age);
- b) No two (2) or three (3) year old horses can be used in any Youth Walk & Jog/Trot classes;
- c) Equipment/gear and apparel must be used/worn according to the type of class contested (Western or English) Exception: It is mandatory for the rider to wear an Approved Safety Helmet. Refer Rule 80.4;
- d) When riding in a western saddle it must have fenders of a suitable length and English saddle stirrups are to be a suitable length. Buddy stirrups are acceptable;
- e) The contestant will be judged on their ability to govern, control, and properly exhibit the horse they are riding;

- f) If the Judge feels that the ability of the contestant's merits, they may request the contestants to extend the jog or trot;
- g) No rider entering any of the classes listed below can enter any other ridden class on the program.

100.1 Classes offered:

- Youth Walk and Jog Western Pleasure
- Youth Walk and Jog Western Horsemanship
- Youth Walk and Jog Trail
- Youth Walk and Trot Hunter Under Saddle
- Youth Walk and Trot Hunt Seat Equitation

Western Pleasure and Hunter Under Saddle

The classes will be worked at a walk and trot/jog both directions of the ring.

In the line-up the Judge may ask the riders to back their horses.

Western Horsemanship, Trail, Hunt Seat Equitation

Judges are to be mindful of the age and limitations of the riders when setting patterns.

A Walk and Trot or Walk and Jog must be included in these patterns accordingly.

Trail obstacles – Refer Rule 99

An exhibitor that goes off pattern will not be disqualified but will place below any other exhibitor that executes the pattern correctly.

101. VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE SHOW

General information for all Versatility Ranch Classes.

The Versatility Ranch Horse demonstrates the performance, versatility, and conformation of the Australian Quarter Horse as a working horse.

The intent is to reward an exhibitor and/or horse based on their level of expertise.

Refer to Rule 46.2 for divisions and show approval requirements

101.1 Class Participation

- a) No horse under 3 years of age may be exhibited;
- b) No hoof polish/black;
- c) No braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions;
- d) Trimming inside ears is discouraged. Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair;
- e) Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged;
- f) *Exhibitors can change from 2 handed to 1 handed to hold the saddle horn and holding the saddle horn with either hand will not be penalised in any class;*
- g) Posting or standing in stirrups at extended trot is acceptable;
- h) Snaffle Bit maybe used on Junior horses in all classes except Open exhibitors attempting the Roping section of Ranch Cow Work;

- i) Bosal or Mecate may be used on Junior horses in all classes except Open exhibitors attempting the Roping section of Ranch Cow Work;
- j) The use of two-rein is only allowed in Ranch Reining, Ranch Cow Work and Limited Ranch Cow Work;
- k) *A Bosal and a Snaffle Bit can be used in VR Cow Work*
- l) Painted logs or poles are prohibited in Versatility Ranch classes.

101.1.1 Tie Breaker

Specific manoeuvres and/or obstacles will be selected by Judge prior to start of the class and so noted on score sheets, these manoeuvres will be ranked as first tie breaker, second, third etc.

101.1.2 Equipment failure that delays competition and/or becomes unsafe, the run is stopped, and the exhibitor will be given credit for what they have accomplished prior to that point but cannot place above other exhibitors who complete the pattern correctly and will be considered off pattern.

101.1.3 Scoring

Except for the Conformation class, each exhibitor is scored between 0-100 points and automatically begins run with a score of 70 points.

The exhibitor is scored on the quality of each manoeuvre:

-1 ½ extremely poor, -1 very poor, - ½ poor, 0 correct,
+ ½ Good, +1 very good, +1 ½ excellent

Pluses and minuses reflect the smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority of the exhibitor when performing the various manoeuvres.

Penalties may be accrued for incorrect manoeuvre execution.

101.2 Versatility Ranch Pleasure - The purpose of the Ranch Pleasure class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one property horse task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse riding outside the confines of an arena.

The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits.

The horse is to be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. Overall manners and responsiveness of the Ranch Pleasure horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal Ranch Pleasure horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait.

- a) Horses will be shown individually, and the class may be conducted inside or outside of an arena. The pattern may be started either to the right or left direction.
Show Management has the option to set markers to designate gait changes.

If the class is held inside an arena, the course shall be set up to make approximately one pass of the arena in each direction. Any one of the three (3) AQHA Versatility Ranch Pleasure patterns may be used, or the Judge can provide another pattern if all elements of the class are fulfilled as follows:

- horses will be shown at three (3) gaits; walk, trot and lope in each direction of the arena
- horses will also be asked to reverse, stop and back
- the Judge must ask for an extended trot and extended lope at least one direction of the ring.

b) Credits and Penalties

Part of the evaluation is on smoothness of transitions. A horse may be collected from the extended trot as the horse moves into the lope. The transition from the extended lope down to the trot is a transition to the seated trot not the extended trot. Therefore, an extra cue to achieve this gait is expected. Horses that complete this total transition within three (3) strides calmly and obediently should be rewarded.

Horses that attempt to stop or do stop prior to trotting will be penalised.

Judges expect to see horses that have been trained to respond to cues. To see these cues applied discretely and the horse responding correctly could be a credit-earning situation;

101.2.1 Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point

- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)
- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- too slow
- break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less.

3 Points

- wrong lead or out of lead
- draped reins
- break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead
- break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides.
- out of lead or cross-cantering more than two (2) strides when changing leads
- trotting more than three strides when making a simple lead change.

5 Points

- spurring in front of cinch
- blatant disobedience
- use of either hand to instil fear/praise

10 points

- unnatural ranch horse appearance (horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre).

Off-Pattern (OP)

Exhibitors cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

- repeated blatant disobedience
- breaking pattern
- incomplete manoeuvre
- eliminating or adding manoeuvres
- use of two hands (except Junior horses shown in a Snaffle bit/Hackamore)
- more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).

Disqualification (DQ)

- lameness
- abuse
- illegal equipment, improper western attire
- disrespect or misconduct
- leaving working area before pattern is complete
- fall of horse/rider.

101.3 Versatility Ranch Trail

A Versatility Ranch Trail class should test the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered while being ridden through a pattern of obstacles generally found during everyday property work. The horse/rider team is judged on 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.

101.3.1 Course

The Versatility Ranch Trail course will include no less than six (6) and no more than nine (9) obstacles. It is mandatory that the horse be asked to walk, trot and lope during the course.

Walk can be part of obstacle score or be scored with the approaching obstacle.

Trot must be at least 12m and score with approaching obstacle.

Lope The lope must be lead-specific, at least 17m and score with approaching obstacle.

Care must be exercised to avoid setting up any obstacles that may be hazardous to the horse or rider.

Setting Courses

When setting courses, Judge/Management will be mindful that the idea is not to trap an exhibitor or eliminate them by making an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind to reduce the risk for accidents. Show Committee/Judge shall have the option of setting up the trail course to best fit the arena conditions. An outdoor course is recommended if appropriate terrain is available. Each single-performance class can be time consuming, especially with large classes, so it is imperative that time restrictions are placed on this class.

The Show Committee/Judge, either through a pilot run or estimation, shall select a course that has a continuous and positive flow that can be negotiated in four (4) minutes or less. The course must be designed using the mandatory obstacles and manoeuvres plus optional obstacles. Combining two or more of the obstacles is acceptable.

101.3.2 Mandatory Obstacles and/or Manoeuvres

- a) Ride over logs on the ground. The formation of the logs will be a straight line, curve or zig zag and can be raised to a height of no more than 30cm. Walk, trot or lope may be used but only one gait is required.

Maximum of five (5) logs to be used, with a maximum height of 25cm with spacing being:

Walkovers - between 66cm to 76cm

Trotovers - between 91cm to 107cm

Lopeovers - between 183cm to 213cm;

- b) Gate Opening, passing through and closing a hinged swinging gate (not a rope gate). Use gate that will not endanger horse or rider and requires minimum side-passing;
- c) Bridge to 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 91cm wide and at least 183cm long;
- d) Backing an L, V, U, or zig zag shape or in a straight line. Obstacles are to be spaced at a minimum width of 71cm and if elevated, maximum height must be 61cm;
- e) Side-pass 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 30cm;
- f) Drag an object – For Open and Amateur divisions only. Drag to be done at the walk or *trot*. Drag may be a complete figure of eight and may begin in either direction. The exhibitor must have the rope dallyed on the saddle horn (half or full dally) for the duration of the drag.
NB: No drag in the *Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit Trail*

101.3.3 Optional Obstacles

Optional obstacles may be used provided the obstacles can be found in everyday ranch work.

Optional obstacles from which selections can be made are:

- a jump obstacle whose centre height is not less than 35cm or more than 63cm 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 to spook a horse
- carry object from one part of the arena to another
- remove and replace materials from a mailbox
- trot through cones spaced a minimum of 183cm apart
- cross natural ditches or ride up embankments

- swing rope or throw rope at a dummy steer head
- step in and out of obstacle
- put on slicker or coat
- stand to mount with mounting block
- walk through water obstacle
- open gate on foot
- pick up feet
- walk through brush
- ground tie (hobbles are allowed)
- lead at the trot.

101.3.4 Prohibited Obstacles

- tarps
- water obstacles with slick bottoms
- pvc pipe used as a jump or walk over
- tyres
- rocking or moving bridges
- logs elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner.

101.3.5 Judges must walk the course and have the right and duty to alter the course if it is not in keeping with the intent of the class. Judges may remove or change any obstacles they deem unsafe, non-negotiable, or unnecessarily difficult.

Anytime a trail obstacle becomes unsafe during a class, it shall be repaired or removed from the course.

If the course cannot be repaired and some horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous draws in that class.

101.3.6 When a ground tie obstacle is used in VR Trail, for horses ridden using Romal reins, reins are to be looped over the horn and a get down rope and hobbles are optional.

101.3.7 Pattern must be posted at least one (1) hour prior to competition.

101.3.8 Credits and Penalties

All runs begin upon entering the arena and any infractions are subject to penalty at that time (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instil fear or praise, etc.). The rider has the option of eliminating any obstacle, however this will result in being "off pattern" (OP) and the exhibitor will not place above others who have completed the pattern correctly. A Judge may ask a horse to pass on an obstacle after three refusals or at any time for safety concerns. Credit is given to exhibitors that negotiate the obstacles correctly and efficiently. Horses should receive credit for showing attentiveness to obstacles and ability to negotiate through the course when the obstacles warrant it while willingly responding to rider's cues on more difficult obstacles. Quality of movement and cadence should be considered part of the manoeuvre score for the obstacle.

Penalties are assessed as follows

1 Point

- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)

- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone plant or any component of the obstacle
- incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less
- both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot
- skipping over or failing to step into required space
- split pole in lope-over
- incorrect number of strides, if specified
- one to two steps on mount/dismount or ground tie except shifting to balance.

3 Points

- wrong lead or out of lead
- draped reins
- break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead
- break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides
- three to four steps on mount/dismount on ground tie.

5 Points

- spurring in front of cinch
- blatant disobedience
- use of either hand to instil fear/praise
- knocking over/stepping out of or falling off an obstacle
- dropping an object required to be carried
- 1st or 2nd cumulative refusal
- letting go of gate
- five or more steps on mount/ dismount or ground tie.

10 points

- unnatural ranch horse appearance (horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre).

Off-Pattern (OP)

Exhibitors cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

- incomplete manoeuvre
- eliminating or adding a manoeuvre
- breaking pattern
- 3rd refusal
- repeated blatant disobedience
- failure to dally and remain dallied during the drag
- use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a Snaffle bit/Hackamore)
- more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein)
- failure to open and shut gate, or failure to complete gate.

Disqualification (DQ)

- lameness, abuse
- leaving working area before pattern is complete
- illegal equipment, improper western attire

- disrespect or misconduct
- fall of horse/rider.

101.4 Versatility Ranch Reining

The Versatility Ranch Reining class measures the ability of the ranch horse to perform basic handling manoeuvres with a natural head carriage in a forward-looking manner. *The ideal VR reining horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each manoeuvre.*

Patterns may be chosen from any of the Ranch Reining patterns, or the Judge may supply their own pattern if all aspects of these Rules are adhered to.

101.4.1 Credits and Penalties 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 instil fear or praise, etc. To rein a horse is not only to guide them but also to control their 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 their own must be considered a lack of control.

All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control and therefore a fault that must be marked down according to severity of deviation.

The horse/rider team's overall performance should be credited for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness, and authority of performing various manoeuvres while using controlled speed which raises the degree of difficulty and makes the horse/rider team more exciting a pleasing to watch.

Penalties

½ Point

- starting a circle or exiting a roll-back at a trot for up to two (2) strides
- delayed change of lead by one stride where the lead change is required by the pattern description
- failure to remain a minimum of 6m from the wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or roll-back
- over-spin or under-spin up to ⅙ turn.

1 Point

- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)
- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- out of lead in the circles, figure eights or around the end of the arena (this penalty is cumulative and will be deducted for each quarter of a circle the horse is out of lead)
- over or under spinning ⅙ to ¼ turn
- slipping rein.

2 Points

- break of gait
- freeze up in spins or roll-backs
- failure to stop or walk before executing a lope departure on trot-in patterns
- failure to be in a lope prior to the first marker on run-in patterns

- failure to completely pass the specified marker before initiating a stop position
- trotting beyond two strides, but less than ½ circle or ½ length of the arena.

5 Points

- spurring in front of cinch
- blatant disobedience
- use of either hand to instil fear/praise.

10 points

- unnatural Ranch Horse appearance (horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre).

Off-Pattern (OP)

Exhibitors cannot place above others who complete the pattern correctly.

- breaking pattern
- inclusion of manoeuvre (e.g. over or under-spinning, backing more than two (2) strides, etc.)
- trotting in excess of ½ circle or ½ length of the arena
- repeated blatant disobedience
- use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a Snaffle bit/Hackamore)
- more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).

Disqualification (DQ)

- lameness, abuse
- illegal equipment, improper western attire
- disrespect or misconduct
- leaving arena before pattern is complete
- fall of horse/rider.

101.5 Versatility Ranch Cutting

This class is judged on the ability of the horse to work a cow by separating it from the herd and holding it to demonstrate the horse's ability to work the cow.

A single cow is cut from the herd and the horse must demonstrate its ability to work the cow.

101.5.1 Objective is to cut one or two cows, based on the division, from the herd and work the cow(s) with the assistance of two turn-back riders and two herd holders.

Show Management may supply two herd holders and two turn back riders, or exhibitors may supply their own helpers.

If an exhibitor is a herd holder or turn back rider, they may use the horse that they are competing on or use a different horse.

NB: Announcer to notify when one (1) minute remaining.

- a) For Open and Amateur division competition, there will be a two minute time limit. Each exhibitor must work two head and has the option of ending their run before the two minute limit or working the full two minutes;
- b) For Youth competition, there will be a one and half minute time limit.

Each exhibitor may work one (1) cow only and has the option of ending their run before the one and a half minute time limit or working the full one and a half minutes. Working two (2) cows will be off pattern;

- c) Time will begin when a rider crosses a pre-determined and marked timeline prior to entering the herd. The rider will then quietly separate their cow from the herd;
- d) Unnecessary roughness or disturbing the herd excessively could result in disqualification;
- e) Ultimate credit will be given to the horses demonstrating excellence in the herd work by committing to, driving, setting up and working a cow in the centre of the arena with minimal disturbance to the herd;
- f) Horses will not be penalised for reining during the cutting portion, but should display natural ability;
- g) The hot quit shall be considered in the run content.

101.5.2 Scoring 100 percent will be judged by the horse's ability and performance.

Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point

- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)
- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- losing working advantage
- toe, foot, or stirrup on the shoulder
- working out of position.

3 Points

- cattle picked up or scattered
- spurring on shoulder
- pawing or biting cattle
- back fence
- hot quit.

5 Points

- horse quitting cow
- losing cow
- changing cattle after a specific commitment
- failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd
- blatant disobedience.

10 Points

- unnatural Ranch Horse appearance (horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre).

Off Pattern (OP)

- turn tail
- failure to cut two cows
- use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a Snaffle bit/Hackamore)
- more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).

Disqualification (DQ)

- lameness, abuse
- disrespect or misconduct
- illegal equipment, improper western attire
- excessive disturbance of herd to the point that exhibitor is asked to leave the arena
- leaving arena before run is complete
- fall of horse/rider.

101.6 Versatility Ranch Cow Work

The ideal Versatility Ranch horse must also be a cow horse and this class demonstrates and measures the horse's ability to do cow work. Holding the saddle horn is permitted. There is a time limit per exhibitor to perform the work depending on the division and the time begins when the cow is turned into the arena.

If the time has not elapsed and the Judge is satisfied that all requirements of the class have been met, the Judge should blow the whistle for the exhibitor to cease work. The Judge may blow a whistle at any time for the exhibitor to cease work for safety reasons.

Judges will give credit for what they have seen. Only the Judge may award a new cow to a contestant to replace a cow that will not honour a horse. If the Judge awards a new cow, the exhibitor has the option to refuse the new cow by continuing to work. If the exhibitor accepts the new cow, the time for working the cow will start over.

If the exhibitor intends to accept the new cow, the exhibitor must pull up immediately. When multiple Judges are scoring, any one of the Judges may terminate the work or signal for a new cow.

101.6.1 Time Limits

- a) Open, Amateur and Youth divisions are allotted three (3) minutes to complete the work;
- b) Limited Amateur and Youth are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds;
- c) When there is one (1) minute left, the announcer will announce, "one minute remaining". At end of allotted time the announcer will call "time".

101.6.2 *There are three (3) phases to the class.*

Phase 1: Boxing the Cow

The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate and signal for their cow to be turned into the arena.

The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena for enough time to demonstrate the horse's ability to hold the cow. If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate their horse's ability to drive and block the cow on the entry fence.

Phase 2: Fence Work

After the cow has been controlled on the entry end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow up and drive it down either side of the arena. The cow should be turned on the fence at least once in each direction.

The first run for a turn shall be past the half-way mark of the arena. All turns down the side shall be completed before reaching the end fence.

Phase 3: Roping or Circling

The Amateur and Youth exhibitor has the option of circling the cow in the middle of the arena in both directions in lieu of roping. An Amateur or Youth exhibitor may circle or rope the cow but cannot combine the two to get credit for this portion of the run. Roping is optional in Open class.

To rope the cow, the exhibitor must be carrying a rope when the run starts. The exhibitor may pull up after the fence work, take down the rope and proceed to rope and stop the cow. The exhibitor must then rope the cow and bring it to a stop. In the roping portion of the class, two (2) throws are permitted, and the horse will be judged on two (2) manoeuvres: tracking/rating and stopping the cow. It is not necessary that the exhibitor catch to receive a score in the roping portion.

The catch is legal if the cow looks through the loop and the rope pulls tight on any part of the animal's body except the tail. The rope may be tied on or dallied.

The exhibitor will manoeuvre the cow smoothly at least 360° in each direction without interference from the fence. The circle's size, symmetry, speed, and relative balance from right and left show control.

Tightening the circles down with fast head- to-head speed will be a credit situation. The circles should be completed before the cow is exhausted.

Once an exhibitor has committed to circling a cow, if the cow falls no new cow will be awarded. The exhibitor will complete the run by riding around the fallen cow to fulfil circling requirements. In the circling portion of the judging, one whistle will terminate the work and two whistles will award a new cow.

101.6.3 Credits

All runs begin upon entering the pen, any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instil fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.

Credit will be given:

Boxing for the horse's expression and its 'cow sense' (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow; amount of work done; and the degree of difficulty of the work.

Fence Work for making the first run past the centre of the arena; making turns right on the cow; and controlling a difficult cow.

Roping for rating and following cow to allow rider the optimal roping position; stopping hard; and staying in the ground during the hold. Credits for each element of Roping range from minus 1½ to plus 1½.

Circling when the horse works willingly; acknowledges the cow; and gets close enough to the cow to control the circles.

Credits for Circling range from minus 1½ to plus 1½ points for each direction.

101.6.4 Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point

- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)
- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- loss of working advantage
- using the corner or the end of the arena to turn the cow when going down the fence
- changing sides of arena to turn cow
- for each length horse runs past cow
- working out of position
- slipping rein
- failure to drive cow past middle marker on first turn
- two-loop catch in amateur and youth classes.

2 Points

- going around the corner of the arena before turning cow
- when working an animal in the open field (at least 6 m from the side of arena) and the animal gets within 1 m from the end fence before being turned
- failure to catch if roping in amateur and youth classes.

3 Points

- exhausting or overworking the cow before circling or roping
- hanging up on the fence (refusing to turn)
- knocking down the cow without having a working advantage
- two-loop catch when roping in open class.

5 Points

- failure to turn the cow both directions on the fence
- spurring in front of cinch
- blatant disobedience
- use of either hand to instil fear/praise
- failure to catch when roping, in open class.

10 points

- unnatural Versatility Ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre).

Off-Pattern (OP)

Cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly.

- turning tail
- failure to attempt any part of the class (*excludes no attempt at roping in the open divisions*)
- repeated blatant disobedience
- schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow
- schooling horse between cows if new cow is awarded, or complete loss of rope in open class
- use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a Snaffle bit/Hackamore)
- more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein).

Disqualification (DQ)

- bringing the cow straight over backwards landing on its back or head with all four feet in the air
- lameness, abuse
- illegal equipment, improper western attire
- disrespect or misconduct
- leaving arena before run is complete
- fall of horse/rider.

Note: If the open rider runs out of time to rope, there will be no credit for the stop/hold manoeuvre and a five (5) point penalty for failure to catch. Riders may still earn credit for tracking/rating, control/position and speed/degree of difficulty.

101.7 Versatility Limited Ranch Cow Work Amateur/Youth Exhibitors in the limited ranch cow work cannot compete in both the ranch cow work and limited cow work class, at the same Show with the same horse. Any Amateur or Select rider may fall back one time to the Limited Ranch Cow work.

Time limits refer to Rule 101.6.1.

101.7.1 There are *four (4) phases* to the cow work:

Phase One - Boxing the Cow

The rider shall ride into the arena, face the cattle entry gate, and signal for their cow to be turned into the arena. The cow shall be controlled on the entry end of the arena, for a sufficient amount of time, to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow.

If the cow does not immediately challenge the horse, the rider shall aggressively move in on the cow to demonstrate their horse's ability to drive and block the cow.

Phase Two - Set Up Cow and Drive Down Fence to Opposite End of Arena

After the cow has been controlled on the entry end of the arena, the rider shall set the cow up for driving down the side of the arena. When coming out of corner, the horse shall be close enough to cow to demonstrate control with cow against the fence. This distance and control should be maintained for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of arena. Rider will then stop and release the cow and move horse toward centre of arena to set the cow up for boxing.

Phase Three - Boxing the Cow at Opposite End of Arena

The exhibitor will regain control or hold the cow at end of arena to demonstrate the horse's ability to "hold" the cow.

Phase Four

Drive the cow back down the fence (original side) past the middle marker and continue until the judge blows the whistle to show completion. While boxing the cow at the opposite end, if the rider loses control and allows the cow to cross the centre line, the judge will whistle the end of the run. The rider will receive off pattern penalty (OP) for the run.

101.7.2 Credits All runs begin upon entering the pen; any infractions (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instil fear or praise, etc.) are subject to penalty at that time.

Boxing

Credit will be given for the horse's expression and its 'cow sense' (i.e., making moves with little rider assistance); holding, controlling, and turning the cow; the amount of work done; and the degree of difficulty of the work.

Set Up Cow and Drive Down Fence

Credit will be given for rating the cow; blocking the cow with pressure towards the end of the arena; driving the cow with control down the side of the arena; and controlling a difficult cow.

101.7.3 *Manoeuvre evaluations and penalty applications are to be determined independently.*

101.7.4 Penalties will be assessed as follows:

1 Point

- over-bridled (per manoeuvre)
- out of frame (per manoeuvre)
- loss of working advantage
- working out of position
- slipping rein.

3 Points

- knocking down the cow without having a working advantage
- losing a cow while boxing.

5 Points

- spurring in front of cinch
- blatant disobedience
- use of either hand to instil fear/praise
- use of two hands (except in Snaffle bit or Hackamore) per manoeuvre
- more than one (1) finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except two rein) per manoeuvre.

10 points

- unnatural ranch horse appearance (horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every manoeuvre).

Off-Pattern (OP) Exhibitors cannot place above others who complete the pattern correctly.

- turning tail
- failure to attempt any part of the class
- repeated blatant disobedience
- schooling after entering the arena prior to calling for cow
- schooling horse between cows (if new cow is awarded)
- leaving arena before run is complete.

Disqualification (DQ)

- lameness, abuse
- illegal equipment, improper western attire
- disrespect or misconduct
- knocking down the cow
- fall of horse/rider.

101.8 Versatility Ranch Conformation

The purpose of Versatility Ranch conformation is to preserve the Quarter Horse type by selecting well-mannered horses in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling.

The ideal Versatility Ranch conformation horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail.

- a) The Versatility Ranch conformation class must be held after the conclusion of the other classes;
- b) To be eligible to compete in the Versatility Ranch Conformation class the horse must be shown in at least one class in one of the other categories of their appropriate division on the day of the show;

101.8.1 Only one (1) conformation class can be held for each of the following divisions:

- All Age Horse
 - *Australian Heritage Snaffle Bit*
 - Amateur
 - Youth NB: If 2 Youth age divisions offered, run 2 youth conformation classes
 - Select Amateur
- a) Stallions, geldings, and mares are exhibited in the same class. Exception: Youth – geldings and mares only;
 - b) Horses are to be shown in a good working halter, rope, braided, nylon or plain leather. Horses will walk to the Judge one at a time;
 - c) As the horse approaches, the Judge will step to the right to enable the horse to trot straight to a cone placed 15 m away.
At the cone, the horse will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot toward the left wall or fence of the arena.
After trotting, horses will be lined up head to tail for inspection by the Judge;
 - d) The Judge shall inspect each horse from both sides, front and rear and place the horses in order of preference.
 - e) *It is not mandatory to inspect teeth in Ranch Conformation.*

101.9 Working Western Rail

The working western rail class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride and should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse.

The horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The movement of the working western rail horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly.

The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. Maximum credit should be given to the horse that has a natural flowing stride and consistent, ground covering gaits.

Transitions should be performed when requested, with smoothness and responsiveness.

The ideal working western rail horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait. The horse should be ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint while being responsive to the rider and making timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be soft in the bridle, yield to contact and shall not be shown on a full drape of rein. Riders are encouraged to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required.

This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working pace while under control by the rider. The horse shall be balanced and appear willing and a pleasure to ride in a group situation.

Open to horses three years of age and older. Offered as a junior, senior, or all age open division class, and as an all-age class for youth, and as a Select or all-age amateur division class.

101.9.1 *No horse may cross enter a western pleasure or walk/trot western pleasure and working western rail class at the same show regardless of division (youth, amateur or open).*

101.9.2 Class Requirements

- a)** *All exhibitors will work as a group. Individuals working off the rail will not be penalised, and passing is permissible;*
- b)** *Horses must work both ways of the ring at the walk, trot and lope;*
- c)** *Horses must work at least one way of the ring at the extended trot and extended lope, exhibitor may post or stand in stirrups;*
- d)** *At the option of the judge, horses may be asked to extend their stride at the walk;*
- e)** *Touching or holding the saddle horn during any extended gait is acceptable;*
- f)** *Horses are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). They may be required to reverse at the walk or trot at the discretion of the judge but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope;*
- g)** *Horses are required to back easily and stand quietly;*
- h)** *Horses may be brought to the centre or backed on the rail;*
- i)** *The rider shall not be required to dismount except in the event the judge wishes to check equipment.*

101.9.3 Working Western Rail Apparel and Equipment

- *No hoof polish or hoof black.*
- *No braided or banded manes/tails or tail extensions.*
- *Trimming inside ears is discouraged.*
- *Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair.*

101.9.4 *Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Excessive silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.*

It is suggested exhibitors use a breast collar and a rear cinch.

When exhibiting in a snaffle bit or hackamore, an exhibitor may switch between two hands and one hand on the reins at any time. Use of two hands (except junior horses shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two rein) shall be cause for disqualification.

101.9.5 Faults scored according to severity:

- Too slow (any gait)
- Excessive speed (any gait)
- Over-bridled (nose behind the vertical)
- Head carried too low such that the poll is below the withers
- Out of frame
- Head carried too high
- Break of gait
- Wrong lead or out of lead
- Failure to take the appropriate gait when called
- Opening mouth excessively
- Draped reins
- Use of spurs forward of the cinch
- Canted at the lope
- Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)

101.9.6 Faults which will be cause for disqualification:

Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical excessively and consistently while the horse is in motion, or otherwise showing the appearance of intimidation.

102. WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP

Available only in the Amateur, Select Amateur and Youth divisions. The Western Horsemanship class is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their horse, a set of manoeuvres prescribed by the Judge with precision and smoothness, while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional, and fundamentally correct body position.

- a) The ideal Horsemanship pattern is extremely precise with the rider and horse working in complete unison, executing each manoeuvre with subtle aids and cues;
- b) It is mandatory that the Judge post the initial pattern to be worked at least one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the class; however, if the Judge requires additional work of exhibitors for consideration of final placing, an additional pattern may be posted. Pattern(s) should be designed to test the exhibitors ability.

102.1 Tie Breakers – either a) or b) not both:

- a) Three (3) tie breakers to be nominated prior to commencement of the class. If tie cannot be broken, using these nominated tie breakers, the Judge will break the tie at their discretion, **OR**
- b) Use the rail work to break any ties.

102.2 Class Procedures

- a) All exhibitors will enter the ring, line up as directed and then each exhibitor separately will complete the pattern;
OR
- b) Exhibitors will enter the ring from the gate one at a time and complete their pattern;
- c) A posted order is required regardless of procedure a) or b)
- d) Exhibitors are to be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their work;
- e) The whole class, or just the finalists, may work at all three (3) gaits at least one (1) direction of the arena.

102.2.1 Acceptable Manoeuvres

- a) Walk, jog, trot, extended trot, lope, or extended lope in a straight line, curved line, serpentine, circle, or figure eight (8), or combination of these gaits and manoeuvres;
- b) Stop, back in a straight or curved line;
- c) Turn or pivot, including spins and rollbacks on the haunches and/or on the forehand;
- d) Side pass, two track, or leg yield, flying or simple change of lead;
- e) Counter canter; or any other manoeuvre;
- f) A back will be asked for at some time during the class. Judges will not ask exhibitors to mount or dismount.

102.2.2 Scoring will be from 0 to infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Patterns will be divided into 6 to 10 manoeuvres, as specified by the Judge, and each manoeuvre will be scored from +3 to -3 with ½ point increments acceptable that will be added or subtracted from 70.

Manoeuvre scores should be determined independent of penalties, and should reflect equal consideration of both performance of the exhibitor's pattern and presentation of horse to result in the following scores:

- +3 Excellent
- +2 Very Good
- +1 Good
- 0 Average or Correct,
- 1 Poor
- 2 Very Poor
- 3 Extremely Poor.

Exhibitors overall form and effectiveness to be scored from 0 to 5 with:

0 to 2 Average, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent.

102.3 Overall Appearance of Exhibitor and Horse

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

102.3.1 Appearance and Position of Exhibitor

The exhibitor should appear natural in the seat and ride with a balanced, functional, and correct position regardless of the manoeuvre 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 should sit in the centre of the saddle and the horse's back with the legs hanging to form a straight line from the ear, through the centre 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 penalised. 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 penalised for positioning the legs excessively behind or forward of the vertical position. Regardless of the type of stirrup, the feet may be placed home in the stirrup, with the boot heel touching the stirrup, or may be placed with the ball of the foot in the centre 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 and riding without contact of bottom of boot securely on pad of stirrup, will be penalised.

Those exhibitors that can maintain the proper position throughout all manoeuvres should receive more credit.

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 penalised. The rider's wrist is to be kept straight and relaxed, with their hand held at about 30° to 45° 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 will the reins require more than a slight hand movement to control the horse. Excessively tight or loose reins will be penalised. 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 penalised. The exhibitor is not to 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.

102.3.2 Appearance 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 penalised according to severity. Tack should fit the horse properly, and be neat, clean, and in good repair.

The exhibitor should perform the work accurately, precisely, smoothly, and with a reasonable amount of promptness. Increasing speed of the manoeuvres performed increases the degree of difficulty, however accuracy and precision should not be sacrificed for speed.

Exhibitors that perform the pattern sluggishly and allow their horse to move without adequate impulsion, collection, or cadence will be penalised. The horse should perform all manoeuvres in the pattern willingly, briskly, and readily with minimal visible or audible cueing.

Failure to follow the prescribed pattern, knocking over or working on the wrong side of the cones, or severe disobedience will result in disqualification.

Excessive schooling or training, or wilful 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 manoeuvre.

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° turn over the hocks with no hesitation. Backing during turns will be penalised 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 (2), 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 (1) to three (3) 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.

102.4 Penalties. An exhibitor should be penalised in the pattern independent of manoeuvre scores and deducted from the final score as follows:

3 points

- break of gait at the walk or jog up to two (2) strides
- over or under turn from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ turn
- tick or hit of cone.

5 points

- not performing the specific gait or not stopping within 3m of designated location
- incorrect lead or break of gait at the lope (except when correcting an incorrect lead)
- break of gait at walk or jog for more than two (2) strides
- loss of stirrup
- bottom of boot not touching pad of stirrup at all gaits including backup
- obviously looking down to check leads.
- head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical while the horse is in motion, showing the appearance of intimidation.

10 points

- loss of rein
- use of either hand to instil fear or praise while on pattern or during rail work
- holding saddle with either hand
- cueing with the end of the Romal
- blatant disobedience including kicking, pawing, bucking, and rearing
- spurring in front of the cinch.

Disqualifications (will not be placed) including:

- failure to display correct number
- abuse of horse or schooling
- fall by horse or exhibitor
- illegal equipment or illegal use of hands on reins
- use of prohibited equipment
- off pattern, including knocking over or wrong side of cone or marker; never performing designated gait or lead
- over or under turning more than $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.

103.WESTERN PLEASURE

103.1 A good Western Pleasure horse has a free-flowing stride of reasonable length in keeping with their conformation. They should cover a reasonable amount of ground with little effort. Ideally, they should have a balanced, flowing motion. They should carry their head and neck in a relaxed, natural position, with their poll level with or slightly above the level of the withers. They should not carry their head behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance. Their head should be level with their nose slightly in front of the vertical, having a bright expression with their ears alert. They should be shown on a reasonably loose rein, but with light contact and control. They should be responsive, yet smooth, in transitions when called for. When asked to extend, they should move out with the same flowing motion.

Maximum credit should be given to the flowing, balanced and willing horse which gives the appearance of being fit and a pleasure to ride.

103.2 This class will be judged on the performance, condition, and conformation of the horse; however, a maximum of twenty percent (20%) of the judging will be based on condition and conformation.

- a) Horses must work both ways of the ring at all three (3) gaits to demonstrate their ability with different leads. At the option of the Judge, horses may be asked to extend the walk, jog, or lope, one or both ways of the ring. The judge may ask all or just the top twelve (12) horses to extend at the jog; however, no more than the top twelve (12) horses can be asked to extend at the lope. Riders should sit at the extended jog. Horses are required to back easily and stand quietly;
- b) Horses are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). They may be required to reverse at the walk or jog at the discretion of the Judge, but will not be asked to reverse at the lope;
- c) Judge may ask for additional work of the same nature from any horse. The Judge cannot ask for work other than that listed above;
- d) Rider will not be required to dismount except in a class the Judge wishes to check the equipment;
- e) Horses to be shown at a walk, jog and lope on a reasonably loose rein or light contact without undue restraint.

103.3 Faults to be scored according to severity:

- excessive speed (any gait)
- being on the wrong lead
- breaking gait
- excessive slowness in any gait, loss of forward momentum
- failure to take the appropriate gait when called for
- touching horse or saddle with free hand
- head carried too high

- head carried too low - tip of ear below the withers for five (5) or less strides
- over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical for five (5) or less strides
- overly canted at the lope (where the outside hind foot is further to the inside of the arena than the inside front foot)
- excessive nosing out
- opening mouth excessively
- stumbling
- a horse which appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired
- quick, choppy or pony-strided
- if reins are draped to the point that light contact is not maintained.

103.4 Faults which will be cause for disqualification:

- head carried too low such that the poll is below the withers consistently
- over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently
- use of spurs forward of the cinch.

104. WESTERN RIDING

Western Riding is a class where the horse is judged on quality of gaits, lead changes at the lope, response to the rider, manners, and disposition. The horse should perform with reasonable speed, and be sensible, well-mannered, free and easy moving.

Lead changes are the act of changing the leading legs of the front and rear pairs of legs at the lope when changing direction.

The lead change must be executed at a lope with no change of gait or speed and be performed in the exact geographical position in the area specified in the pattern description. The change of front and rear leads must take place within the same stride to avoid penalty. Simple lead changes will incur a 3 point penalty (break of gait).

104.1 Credit will be given for and emphasis placed on smoothness, even cadence of gaits (i.e. starting and finishing pattern with the same cadence), and the horse's ability to change leads precisely, easily, and simultaneously both hind and front at the centre point between markers.

The horse should have a relaxed head carriage showing response to the rider's hands, with a moderate flexion at the poll. Horses may be ridden with light contact or on a reasonably loose rein. The horse should cross the log both at the jog and the lope without breaking gait or radically changing stride.

104.2 The Judge will select one (1) of the five (5) patterns to be performed. The Judge is responsible for the pattern being correctly set.

On the pattern:

- a) The small circles represent pylon markers which are recommended. These are to be separated by a uniform measured distance of not less than 9m or more than 15m on the sides with five (5) markers (see diagram).

- b) In pattern one, the three markers on the opposite side are to be set adjacent to the appropriate markers. It is recommended that markers be set a minimum of 4½m from the fence and with 15 to 24m width in the pattern, as the arena permits;
- b) A solid log or pole is to be used and be a minimum of 2.5m in length;
- c) The long serpentine line indicates the direction of travel and gaits at which the horse is to move. The recommended lead changing point is equal to ½ stride length before or after the centre point between the markers. The dotted line (.....) indicates walk, the dash line (- - -) jog, and the solid line (___) a lope.

104.3 Scoring will be based on 0-100 with 70 denoting an average performance. Scoring guidelines to be considered where the points will be added or subtracted from the manoeuvres on the following basis, ranging from plus 1.5 to minus 1.5:

-1.5 extremely poor

-1 very poor

-.5 poor

0 average

+ .5 good

+1 very good

+1.5 excellent

Manoeuvre scores are to be determined independently of penalty points.

104.4 Penalties

A contestant will be penalised each time the following occurs:

1/2 point

- tick or light touch of log
- hind legs skipping or coming together during lead change
- non-simultaneous lead change (front to hind or hind to front).

1 point

- break of gait at walk or jog up to two (2) strides
- hitting or rolling log
- out of lead for more than one (1) stride either side of the centre point and between the markers
- splitting the log (log between the two (2) front or two (2) hind feet) at the lope.

3 points

- not performing the specific gait (jog or lope) or
- not stopping when called for in the pattern, within 3m of the designated area
- break of gait at the lope
- simple change of leads
- out of lead at or before the marker prior to the designated change area or out of lead at or after the marker after the designated change area
- additional lead changes anywhere in pattern (except when correcting an extra change or incorrect lead)

- in patterns one and three, failure to start lope within 9m after crossing the log at the jog
- break of gait at walk or jog for two or more strides.

5 points

- out of lead beyond the next designated change area NB: failures to change, including cross-cantering, at two consecutive change areas would result in ten (10) penalty points
- blatant disobedience including kicking out, biting, and bucking, rearing and excessive schooling.

Disqualified - 0 score

- illegal equipment
- wilful abuse
- off course
- knocking over markers
- completely missing log
- major refusal - stop and back more than two (2) strides or four (4) steps with front legs
- failure to start lope prior to end cone in patterns one and three
- four (4) or more simple lead changes and/or failures to change leads
- overturn of more than 1/4 turn.

104.5 Credits

- changes of leads, hind and front simultaneously
- changes at designated point
- accurate and smooth pattern
- even pace throughout
- easy to guide and control with rein and leg
- manners and disposition
- conformation and fitness.

104.6 The following characteristics are considered faults and are to be judged accordingly in manoeuvre scores:

- opening mouth excessively
- anticipating signals or early lead changes
- stumbling.

104.7 Ties In the case of a tie, penalties will be used to break the tie.

105. WORKING COW HORSE

Will be run under the rules of the Approved Performance Bodies as listed in Rule 44.4 being ARCHA and NRCHA

106. WESTERN DRESSAGE

No points will be awarded for any Western Dressage class that is not Affiliated or approved with Western Dressage Australia.

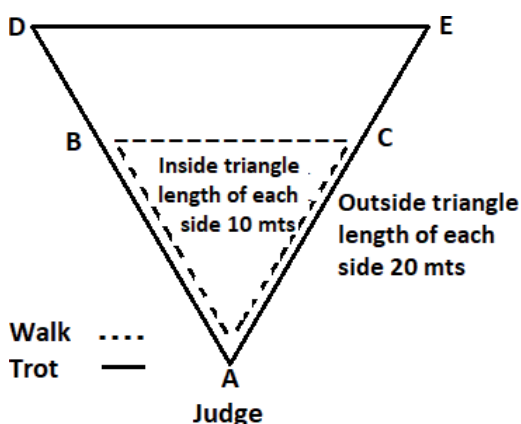
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2.5	0.5	1	0.5	0.5																										
6-10	2	1	0.5																											
11-15	3	2	1	0.5																										
16-20	4	3	2	1	0.5																									
21-30	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																								
31-40	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																							
41-50	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																						
51-60	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																					
61-70	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																				
71-80	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																			
81-90	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																		
91-100	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																	
101-110	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5																
111-120	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5															
121-130	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5														
131-140	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5													
141-150	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5												
151-160	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5											
161-170	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5										
171-180	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5									
181-190	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5								
191-200	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5							
201-210	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5						
211-220	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5					
221-230	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5				
231-240	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5			
241-250	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5		
251-265	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5	
265-280	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0.5
281-300	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1



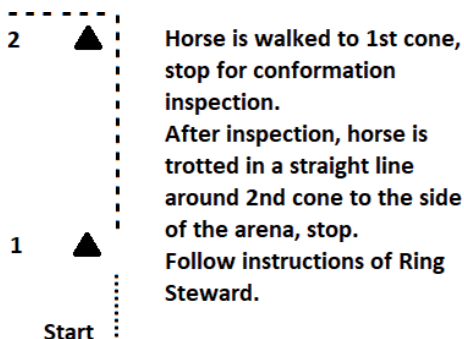
SECTION SIX (6) PATTERNS

HUNTER IN HAND

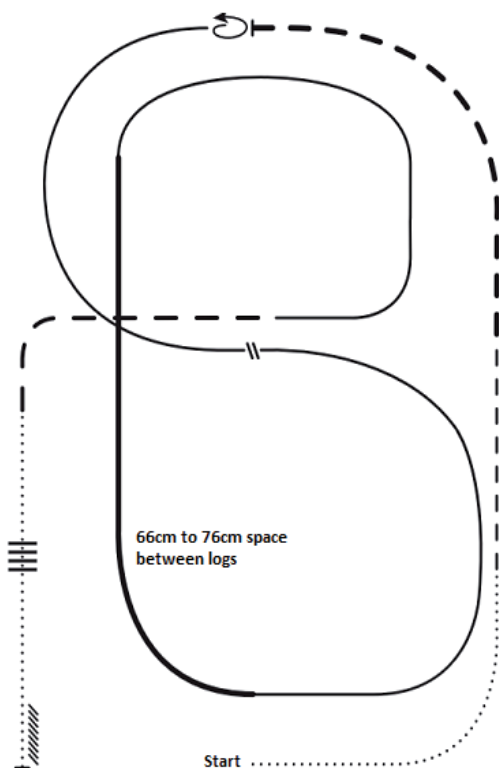
The horse will approach judging area (A) and set up for inspection in the “open” position. (all four legs of the horse visible by the Judge standing on either side of the horse). The Judge shall inspect each horse from the front, rear and both sides. At Judges request the horse will walk the small triangle ABCA. The horse will continue at a trot following the large triangle ADEA. At completion of the judging, the handler will lead the horse away from the judging area promptly.



LUNGE LINE

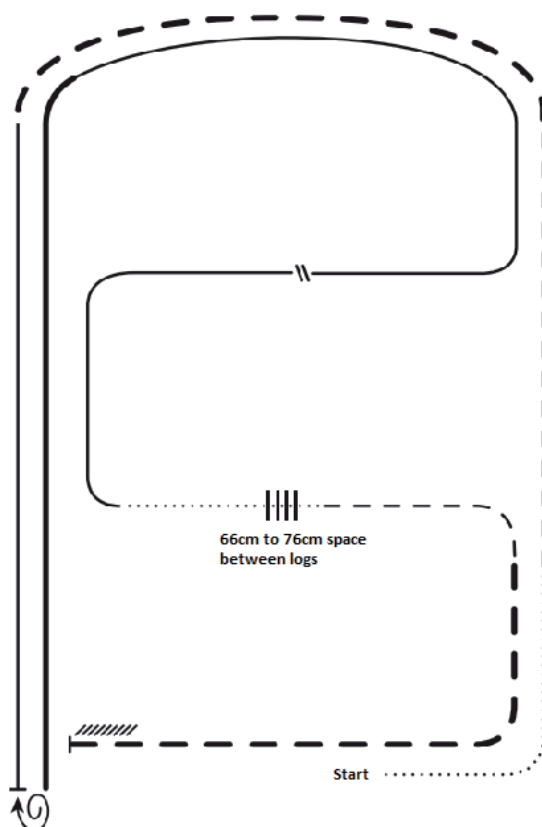


RANCH RIDING - Pattern 1



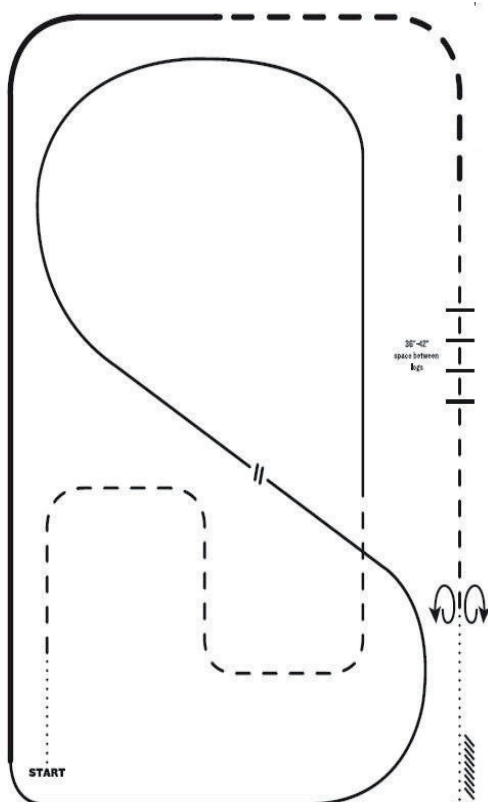
1. Walk
2. Trot
3. Extend the trot, at the top of arena, stop
4. 360° turn to the left
5. Left lead ½ circle, lope to centre
6. Change leads (simple or flying)
7. Right lead ½ circle
8. Extended lope up the long side of the arena (right lead)
9. Collect back to a lope around the top of the arena and back to centre
10. Break down to an extended trot
11. Walk over logs
12. Stop and Back

RANCH RIDING – Pattern 2



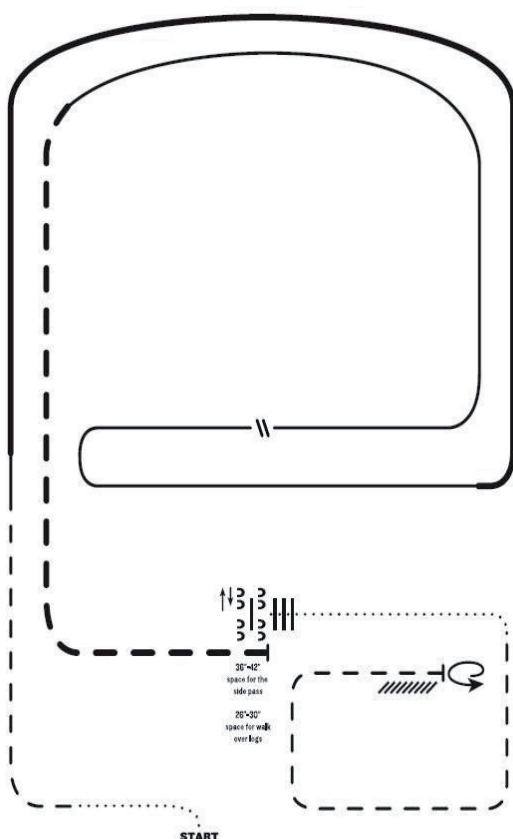
1. Walk
2. Trot
3. Extended Trot
4. Left lead lope
5. Stop. 1½ turn right
6. Extended lope
7. Collect to working lope, right lead
8. Change leads (simple or flying)
9. Walk
10. Walk over logs
11. Trot
12. Extended trot
13. Stop and back

RANCH RIDING - Pattern 3



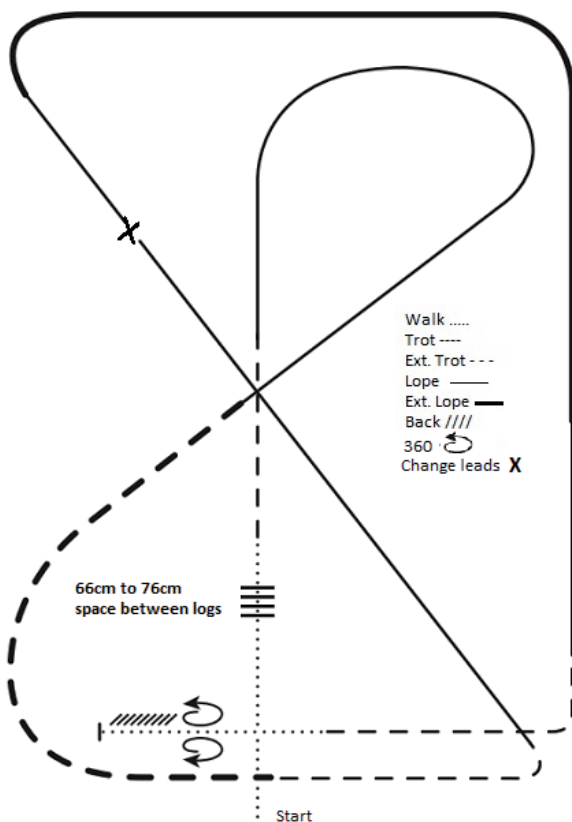
1. Walk
2. Trot serpentine
3. Lope left lead around the arena and then left lead diagonally across the arena
4. Change leads (simple or flying)
5. Lope right lead around end of the arena
6. Extend lope on the straightaway and around corner to the centre of arena
7. Extend trot around corner of arena
8. Collect to a trot
9. Trot over logs
10. Stop, 360 turn each direction (either direction first) L-R or R-L
11. Walk, stop and back

RANCH RIDING - Pattern 4



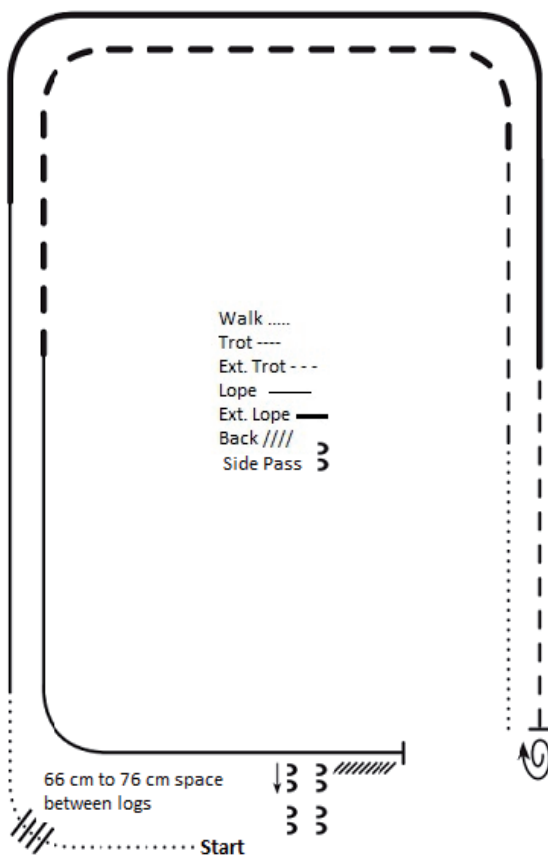
1. Walk
2. Trot
3. Extended lope right lead
4. Lope right lead
5. Change leads (simple or flying)
6. Lope left lead
7. Extended trot
8. Stop, side pass left, side pass right, ½ way
9. Walk over logs
10. Walk
11. Trot square
12. Stop, 360° turn left, and back

RANCH RIDING - Pattern 5



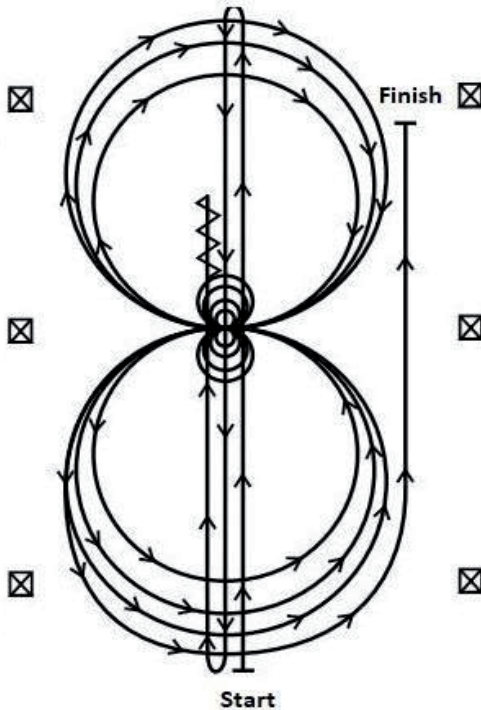
1. Walk
2. Walk over logs
3. Trot
4. Lope right lead
5. Extended trot
6. Trot
7. Lope left lead
8. Change leads (simple or flying)
9. Right lead, extended lope
10. Collect Lope
11. Trot
12. Walk
13. Stop and back
14. 360° turn each direction, either direction first (L-R or R-L)

RANCH RIDING – Pattern 6



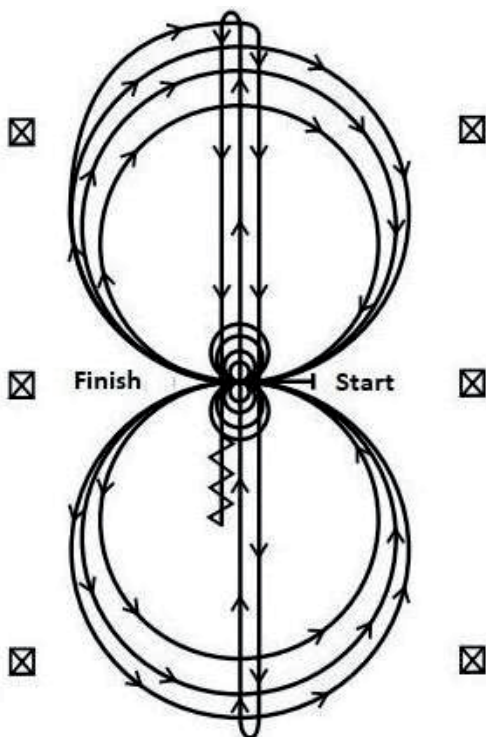
1. Walk
2. Walk over logs
3. Lope right lead
4. Extended lope right lead
5. Trot
6. Stop, 1½ turns right
7. Walk
8. Trot
9. Extended trot
10. Lope left lead
11. Stop and back
12. Side pass right

REINING - Pattern 1



1. Run at speed to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation
2. Run to the opposite end of the arena past end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
3. Run past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to centre of arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate
4. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
5. Complete 4¼ spins to the left so that horse is facing left wall. Hesitate
6. Beginning on left lead, complete three (3) circles to the left, first large and fast, second small and slow, third large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
7. Complete three (3) circles to the right, first large and fast, second small and slow, third large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
8. Begin a large circle to the left but do not close the circle. Run straight up the right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from wall. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

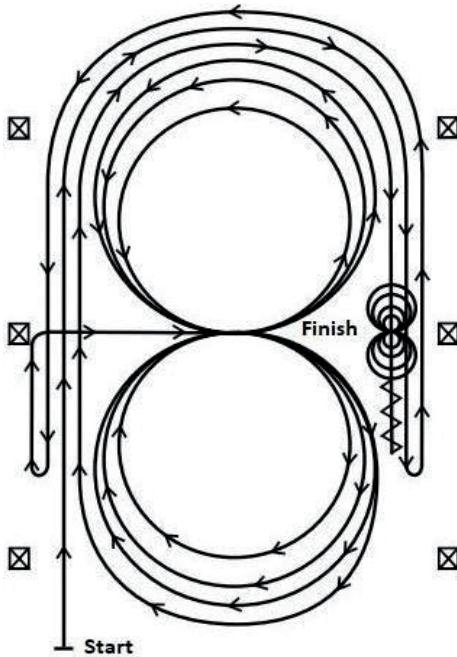
REINING - Pattern 2



Horses may walk or jog to centre of arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Begin at the centre of the arena facing the left wall.

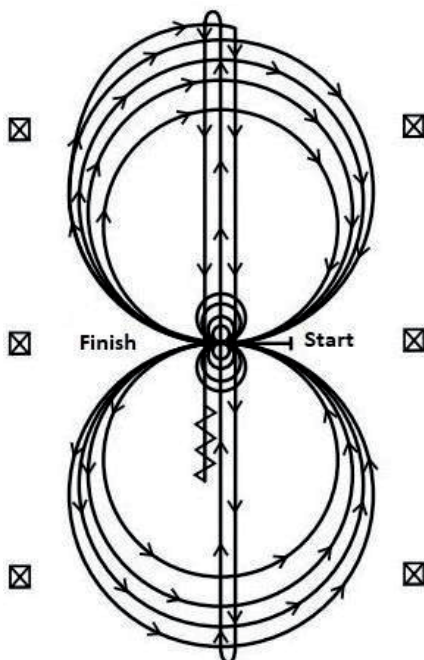
1. Beginning on right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right; first small and slow, the next two (2) large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
2. Complete three (3) circles to the left; first small and slow, the next two (2) large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
3. Continue around previous circle to the right. At top of the circle, run down the middle to the far end of the arena past end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
4. Run up middle to the opposite end of arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation
5. Run past the centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to the centre of the arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate
6. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
7. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

REINING - Pattern 3



1. Beginning, lope straight up left side of arena, circle the top end of arena, and staying at least 6 m from walls, runs straight down the opposite or right side of arena past centre marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation
2. Continue straight up the right side of arena, circle back around top of arena and staying at least 6 m from wall run straight down left side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
3. Continue up left side of arena to centre marker. At centre marker the horse should be on the right lead. Guide horse to the centre of arena on right lead and complete three (3) circles to the right: first two large and fast, third small and slow. Change leads at centre of arena
4. Complete three (3) circles to the left: first two circles large and fast, third small and slow. Change leads in centre of arena.
5. Begin a large circle to the right but do not close this circle Continue up left side of arena, circle top of arena and staying at least 6 m from walls, run straight down the opposite or right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up at least 3 m. Hesitate
6. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
7. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

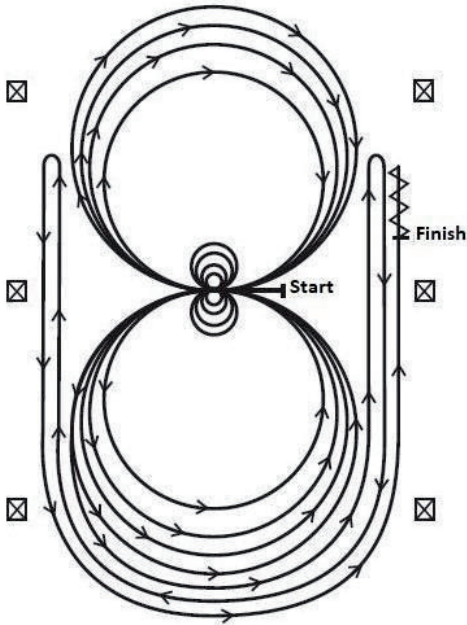
REINING - Pattern 4



Horse may walk or jog to centre of arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Begin at centre of arena facing left wall.

1. Beginning on right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right: first two large and fast, third small and slow. Stop at centre of arena. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
3. Beginning on left lead, complete three (3) circles to the left; first two large and fast, third small and slow. Stop at centre of arena. Hesitate
4. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate
5. Beginning on right lead, run a large fast circle to the right, change leads at centre of arena, run a large fast circle to the left and change leads at centre of arena. (figure 8)
6. Continue around previous circle to the right. At top of circle, run down the middle to the far end of arena past end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
7. Run up middle to the opposite end of arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation
8. Run past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to centre of arena or at least 3m. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

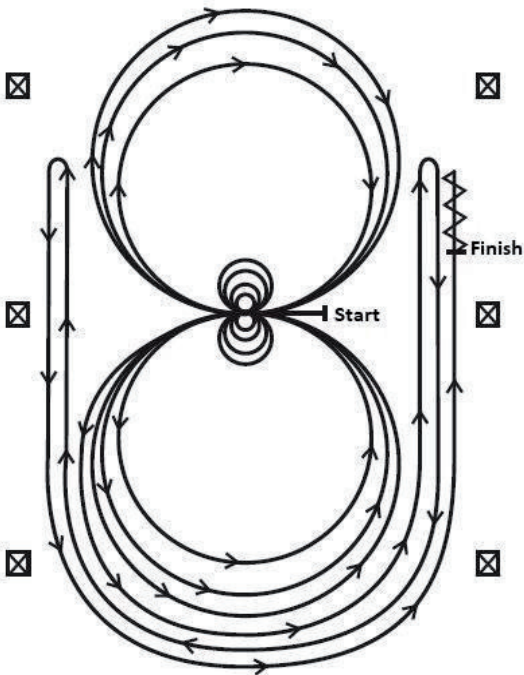
REINING - Pattern 5



Horses may walk or jog to centre of arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Begin at centre of arena facing left wall.

1. Beginning on left lead, complete three (3) circles to the left: first two large and fast, third small and slow. Stop at centre of arena. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate
3. Beginning on right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right: first two large and fast, third small and slow. Stop at centre of arena. Hesitate
4. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
5. Beginning on left lead, run a large fast circle to the left, change leads at centre of arena, run a large fast circle to the right, change leads at centre of arena. (figure 8)
6. Continue around previous circle to the left but do not close this circle. Run up right side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from wall – no hesitation
7. Continue around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up left side of arena past centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from wall – no hesitation
8. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from wall. Back up at least 3 m. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

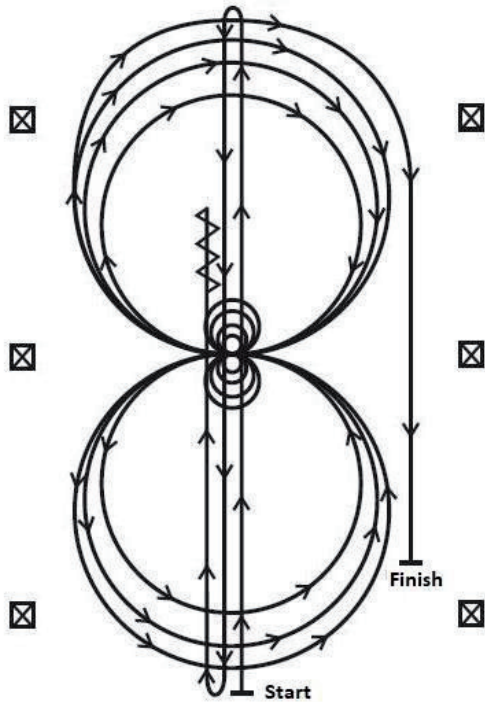
REINING - Pattern 6



Horses may walk or jog to centre of arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Begin at the centre of the arena facing the left wall.

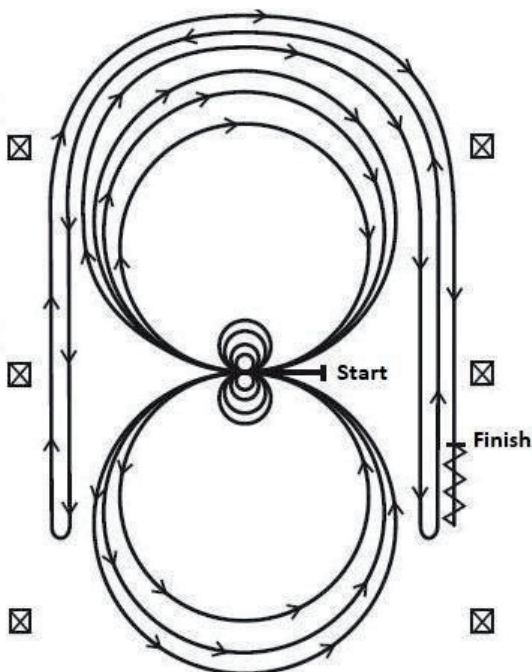
1. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate
3. Beginning on left lead, complete three (3) circles to the left: the first two large and fast, the third small and slow. Change leads at the centre of the arena
4. Complete three (3) circles to the right: the first two large and fast, the third small and slow. Change leads at the centre of the arena
5. Begin a large circle to the left but do not close this circle Run up right side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from the wall – no hesitation
6. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up left side of arena past the centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from the wall – no hesitation
7. Continue back around the previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up the right side of the arena past the centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from the wall. Back up at least 3 m. Hesitate to demonstrate the completion of the pattern

REINING - Pattern 7



1. Run at speed to the far end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation
2. Run to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
3. Run past the centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to the centre of the arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate
4. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
5. Complete 4¼ spins to the left so that the horse is facing the left wall. Hesitate
6. Beginning on the right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right: the first two large and fast, the third small and slow. Change leads at the centre of the arena.
7. Complete three (3) circles to the left: the first two large and fast, the third small and slow. Change leads at the centre of the arena
8. Begin a large fast circle to the right but do not close this circle. Run straight down the right side of the arena past the centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6m from the wall. Hesitate to demonstrate the completion of the pattern

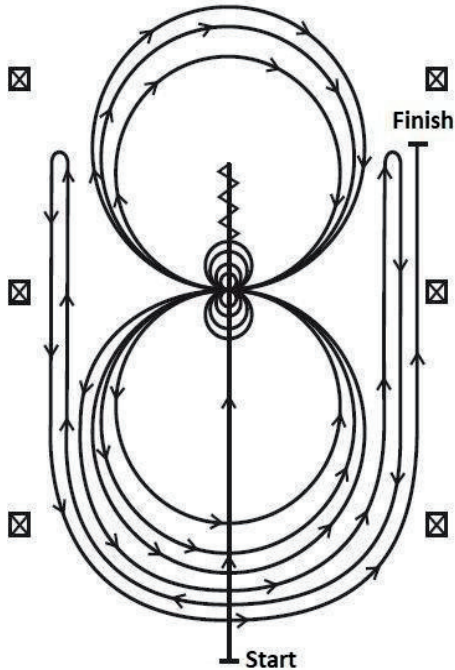
REINING - Pattern 8



Horse may walk or jog to the centre of arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Begin at centre of the arena facing left wall.

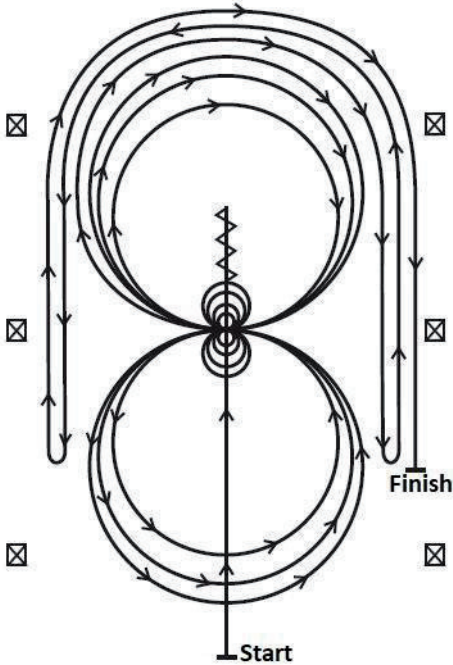
1. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
3. Beginning on right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right: first large and fast, second small and slow, third large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
4. Complete three (3) circles to the left: first large and fast, second small and slow, third large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
5. Begin a large fast circle to the right but do not close this circle. Run straight down right side of arena past centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from wall – no hesitation
6. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down left side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from wall – no hesitation
7. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from the wall. Back up at least 3 m. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

REINING - Pattern 9



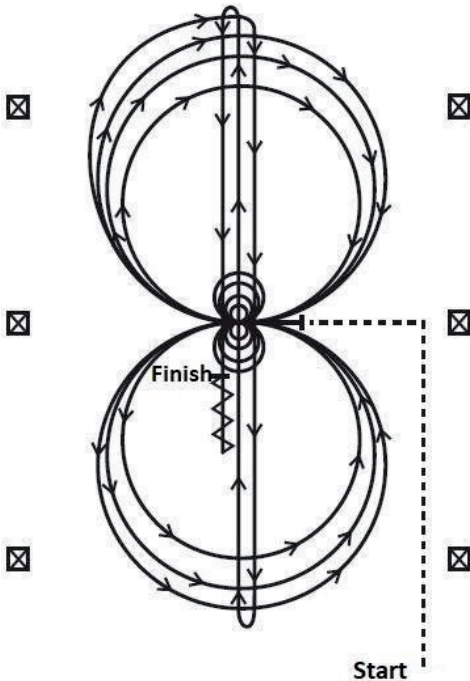
1. Run past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to centre of the arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
3. Complete 4¼ spins to the left so that horse is facing left wall. Hesitate
4. Beginning on left lead, complete three (3) circles to the left: first small and slow, the next two (2) large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
5. Complete three (3) circles to the right: first small and slow, the next two (2) large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
6. Begin a large fast circle to the left but do not close this circle. Run up right side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from the wall – no hesitation
7. Continue back around the previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up left side of arena past the centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from the wall – no hesitation
8. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run up right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from the wall. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of the pattern

REINING - Pattern 10



1. Run past the centre marker and do a sliding top. Back up to the centre of the arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate.
2. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
3. Complete 4¼ spins to the left so that the horse is facing the left wall. Hesitate
4. Beginning on right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right: first two large and fast, third small and slow. Change leads at centre of arena
5. Complete three (3) circles to the left: first small and slow, next two (2) are large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena.
6. Begin a large circle to the right but do not close this circle. Run down the right side of arena past the centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from the wall – no hesitation
7. Continue back around the previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down left side of arena past centre and do a right rollback at least 6 m from the wall – no hesitation
8. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from the wall. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

REINING - Pattern 11

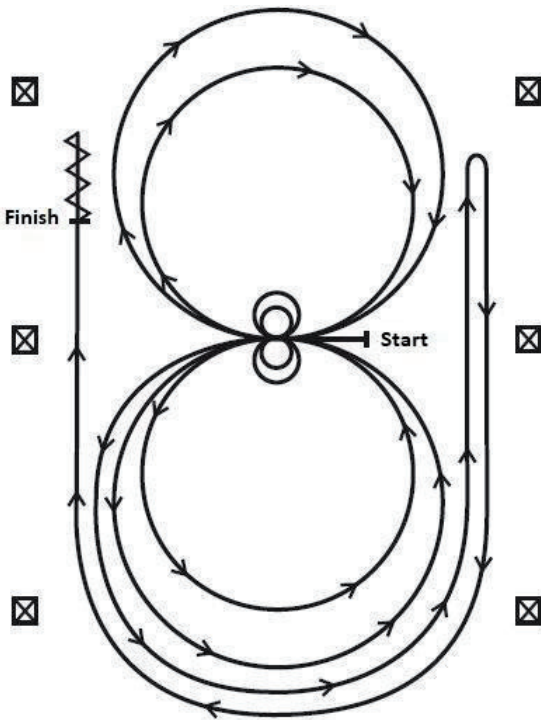


Horses must jog to the centre of the arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Begin at the centre of the arena facing the left wall or fence.

1. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate
3. Beginning on the right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right; first small and slow; the next two (2) large and fast. Change leads at the centre of the arena
4. Complete three (3) circles to the left; first small and slow; the next two (2) circles large and fast. Change leads at the centre of the arena
5. Begin a large circle to the right, but do not close this circle. Run down the centre of the arena past the end marker and do a right rollback – no hesitation
6. Run up the middle to the opposite end of the arena past the end marker and do a left rollback – no hesitation
7. Run past the centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up to the centre of the arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of the pattern

REINING - Pattern A

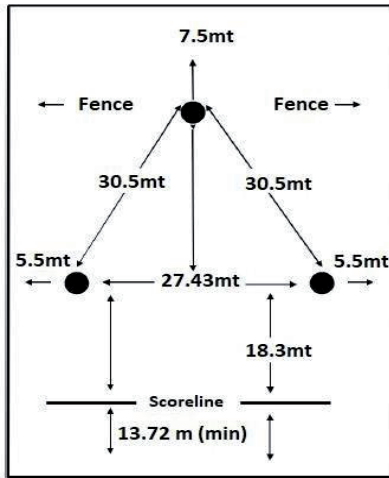
Not to be used at State or National Level



Horses may walk or jog to centre of arena. Horses must walk or stop prior to starting pattern. Beginning at centre of arena facing the left wall.

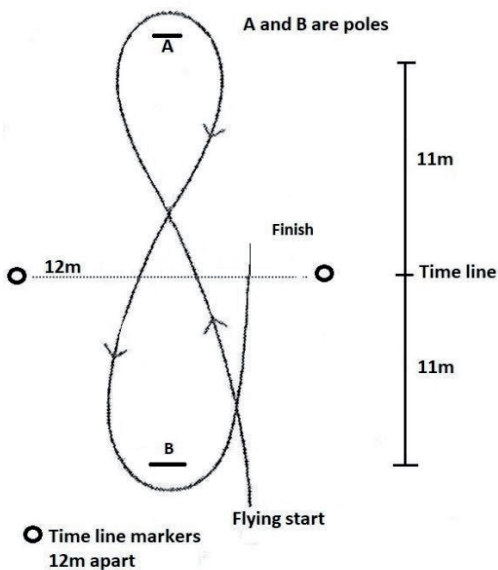
1. Beginning on left lead complete two (2) circles to the left. Stop at centre of arena. Hesitate
2. Complete two (2) spins to the left. Hesitate
3. Beginning on right lead complete two (2) circles to the right. Stop at centre of arena. Hesitate
4. Complete two (2) spins to the right. Hesitate
5. Beginning on left lead, go around the end of arena, run down right side of arena past centre marker, stop and rollback right
6. Continue around the end of arena to run down the left side of arena past centre marker. Stop. Back up. Hesitate to demonstrate completion of pattern

SPORTING - Barrel

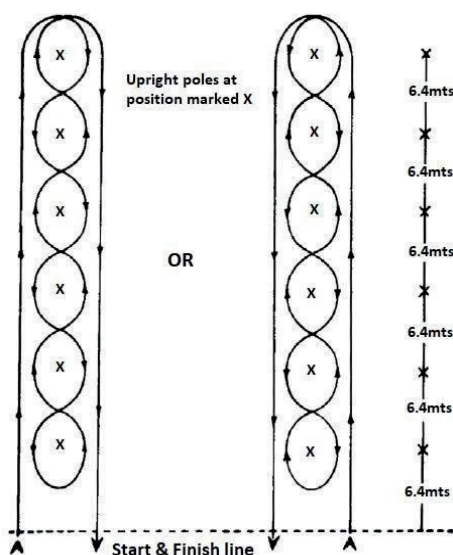


Right or left - Competitors may go either to the right or the left barrel first but must take one right and two left turns **OR** one left and two right turns, followed by final sprint home.

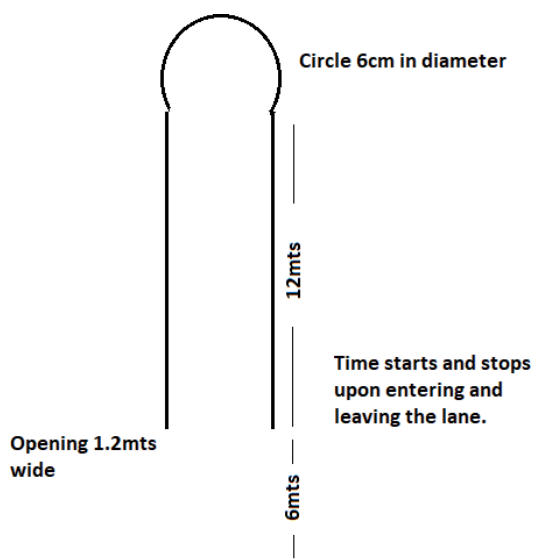
SPORTING - Figure of Eight



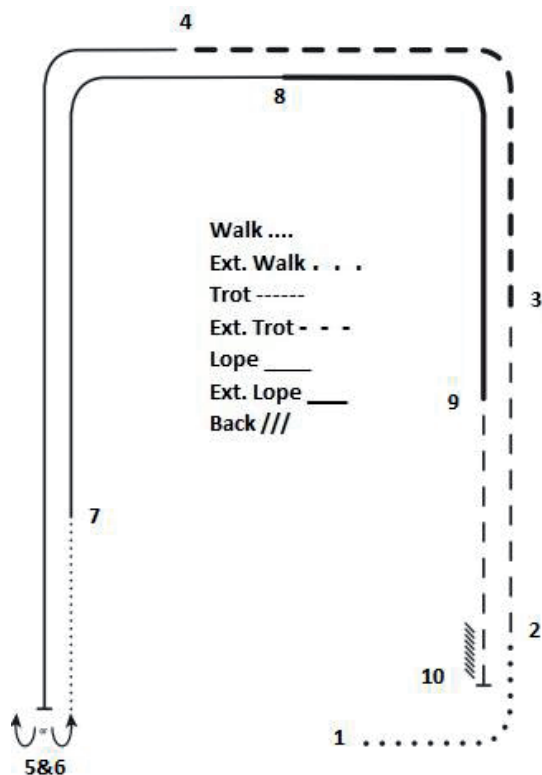
SPORTING - Pole Bending



SPORTING - Keyhole



VERSATILITY RANCH PLEASURE - Pattern 1



Markers Optional

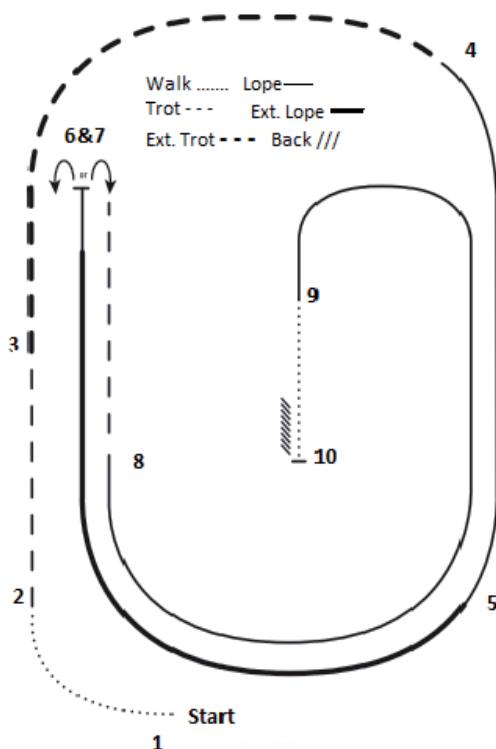
1. Extended walk from 1 to 2
2. Trot from 2 to 3
3. Extended trot from 3 to 4
4. Lope from 4 to 5
5. Stop at 5; reverse (either direction)
6. Walk from 6 to 7
7. Lope from 7 to 8
8. Extended lope from 8 to 9
9. Trot from 9 to 10
10. Stop at 10 and back approximately one (1) horse length

Diagram of a rectangular dressage arena with numbered corners and lines. The corners are numbered 1 (bottom-left), 2 (bottom-right), 3 (top-right), and 4 (top-left). Lines are numbered 5 & 6 (left side), 7 (left side, inner), 8 (top side), 9 (right side), and 10 (bottom side). A legend in the center lists various gaits and their corresponding line styles: Walk (solid), Ext. Walk (dotted), Trot (dashed), Ext. Trot (long dashed), Lope (solid with a horizontal line), Ext. Lope (solid with a horizontal line), and Back (dotted with a horizontal line). The diagram shows a path starting at 1, going to 2, then 3, then 4, and back to 1, with various line styles indicating different gaits.

Walk
 Ext. Walk . . .
 Trot -----
 Ext. Trot - - -
 Lope ____
 Ext. Lope ____
 Back ///

1. Walk from 1 to 2
2. Lope from 2 to 3
3. Extend lope from 3 to 4
4. Trot from 4 to 5
5. Stop at 5, reverse (either direction)
6. Extend walk from 6 to 7
7. Trot from 7 to 8
8. Extend trot from 8 to 9
9. Lope from 9 to 10
10. Stop at 10 and back approximately one (1) horse length.

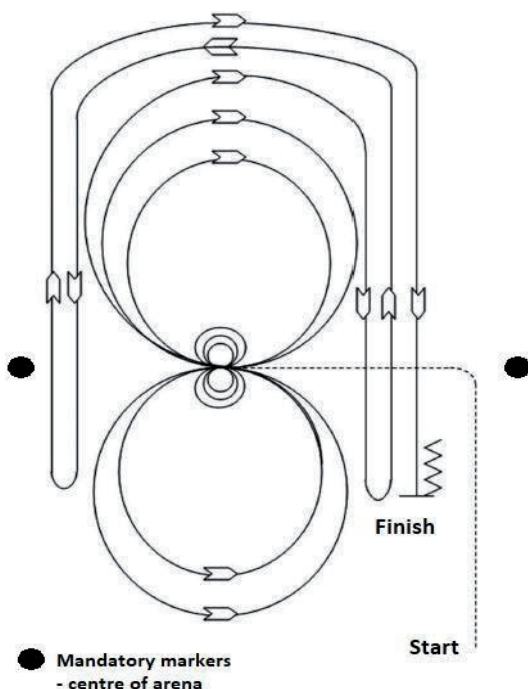
VERSATILITY RANCH PLEASURE- Pattern 3



Markers Optional

1. Walk from 1 to 2
2. Trot from 2 to 3
3. Extend trot from 3 to 4
4. Lope on right lead 4 to 5
5. Extend lope from 5 to 6 (collect lope before stopping)
6. Stop at 6 and reverse either direction
7. Trot from 7 to 8
8. Lope on left lead from 8 until even with 9, turn towards middle of arena and continue on left lead to 9
9. Walk from 9 to 10
10. Stop at 10 and back approximately one (1) horse length.

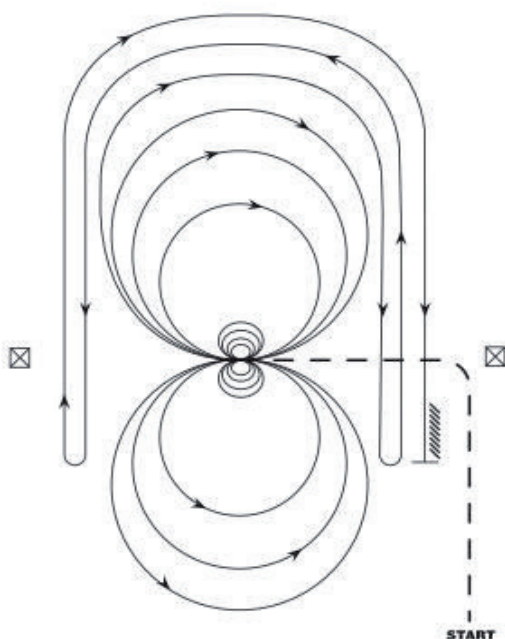
VERSATILITY RANCH REINING - Pattern 1



Ride pattern as follows: Trot to centre of arena and stop.

1. Complete three (3) spins in one direction. Hesitate
2. Complete three (3) spins in the opposite direction. Hesitate
3. Beginning on right lead, complete two (2) large fast circles to the right. Change leads at centre of arena
4. Complete two (2) large fast circles to the left. Change leads at centre of arena
5. Begin a large circle to the right but do not close this circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from the wall, no hesitation
6. Continue back around the previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down left side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from wall, no hesitation
7. Continue back around previous circle, but do not close this circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from the wall. Back up at least 3m. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

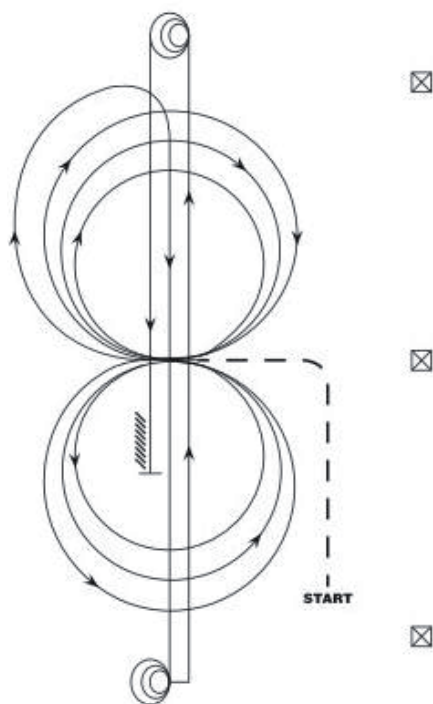
VERSATILITY RANCH REINING - Pattern 2



Ride pattern as follows: Trot to centre of arena and stop or walk before departure.

1. Beginning on right lead complete two (2) circles to the right, the first one large and fast, the second small and slow. Stop at centre
2. Complete four (4) spins to the right. Hesitate.
3. Beginning on left lead complete two (2) circles to the left, the first large and fast, the second small and slow. Stop at centre
4. Complete four (4) spins to the left. Hesitate
5. Beginning on right lead complete a large fast circle to the right and change leads at centre of arena. Complete a large fast circle to the left and change leads at centre of arena
6. Begin a large fast circle to the right, but do not close this circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from wall
7. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down left side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from wall
8. Continue back around previous circle but do not close this circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from wall. Back up at least 3m. Hesitate to show completion of pattern

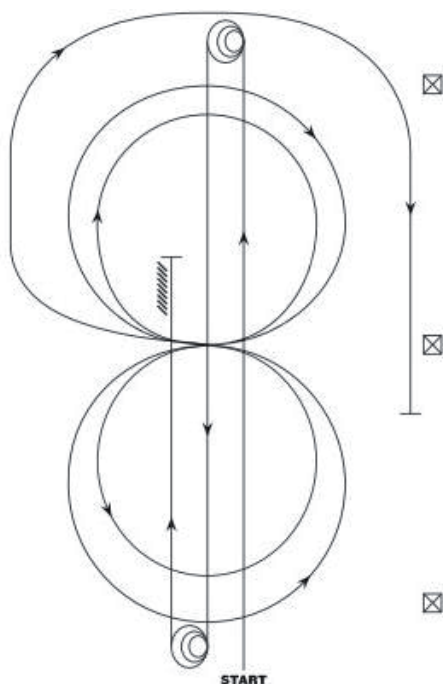
VERSATILITY RANCH REINING - Pattern 3



Ride pattern as follows: Trot to centre of arena and stop or walk before departure. Start pattern facing toward the Judge.

1. Beginning on right lead, complete three (3) circles to the right – the first two large and fast; the third small and slow. Change leads at centre of arena
2. Complete three (3) circles to the left: the first two large and fast, the third small and slow. Change leads at centre of arena
3. Begin a large circle to the right, but do not close this circle. Run down centre of arena, past end marker, and do a sliding stop
4. Complete 3½ spins to the right
5. Run up centre of arena to the opposite end, past end marker, do a sliding stop
6. Complete 3½ spins to the left
7. Run back to middle of arena, past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back up at least 3 m. Hesitate to show completion of pattern

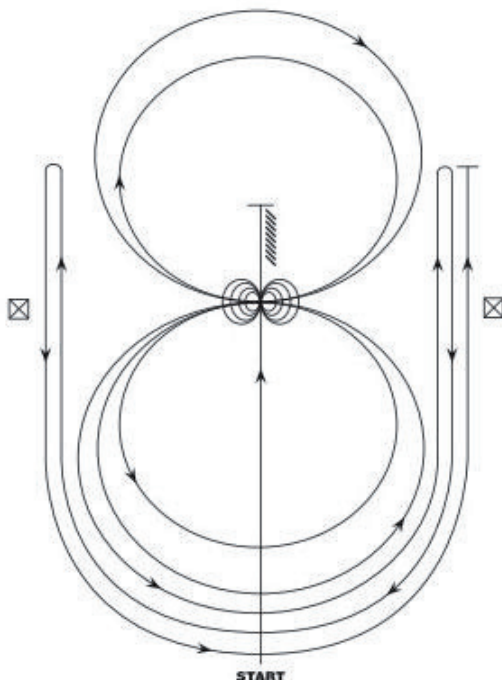
VERSATILITY RANCH REINING - Pattern 4



Ride pattern as follows:

1. Run up centre of arena past end marker and do a sliding stop
2. Complete $3\frac{1}{2}$ spins to the left
3. Run down to opposite end of arena, past end marker and do a sliding stop
4. Complete $3\frac{1}{2}$ spins to the right
5. Run past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back at least 3 m. Complete $\frac{1}{4}$ turn to the left. Hesitate
6. Beginning on right lead, complete two (2) circles to the right – the first small and slow, the second large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
7. Complete two (2) circles to the left – the first small and slow, the second large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
8. Begin a large circle to the right, but do not close circle. Run down right side of arena past centre marker and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from the fence. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

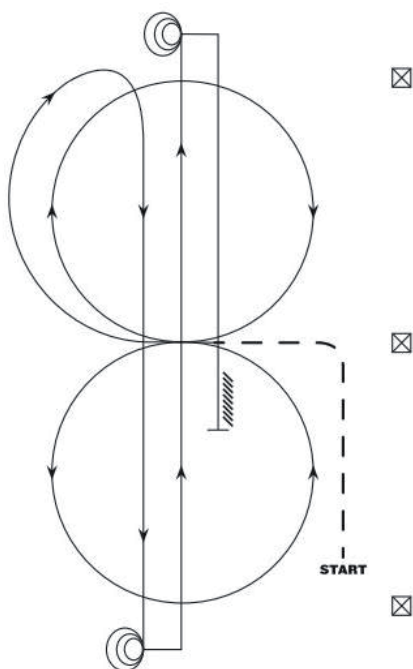
VERSATILITY RANCH REINING - Pattern 5



Ride pattern as follows:

1. Run past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back to centre of arena or at least 3 m. Hesitate
2. Complete four (4) right spins. Hesitate
3. Complete 4¼ left spins. Hesitate. Horse to be facing left wall
4. Beginning on left lead, complete two (2) circles to the left – the first small and slow, the second large and fast Change leads at centre of arena
5. Complete two (2) circles to the right – the first small and slow, the second large and fast. Change leads at centre of arena
6. Begin a large circle to the left, but do not close circle. Run up right side of arena past centre marker and do a right rollback at least 6 m from wall
7. Continue back around the previous circle, but do not close circle. Run up left side of arena past centre marker and do a left rollback at least 6 m from wall
8. Continue back around previous circle but do not close circle. Run up right side of arena past centre marker, and do a sliding stop at least 6 m from wall. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

VERSATILITY RANCH REINING - Pattern 6

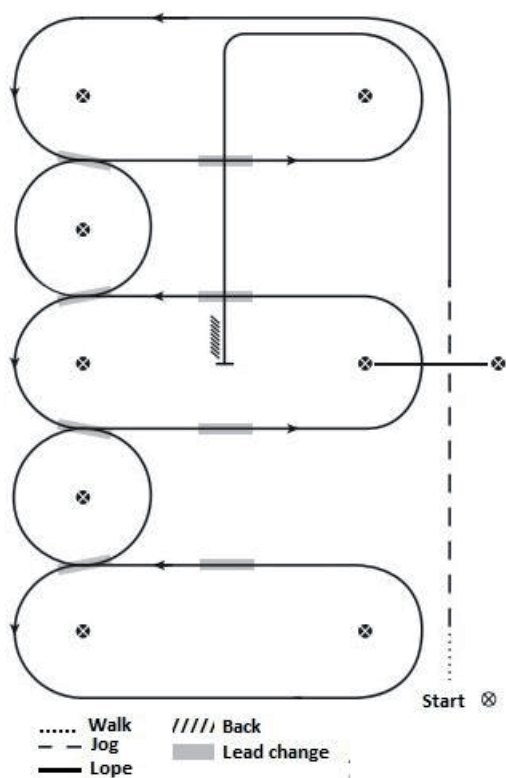


Mandatory markers – centre and 15mts from each end of the arena

Ride pattern as follows: Trot to centre of arena and stop or walk before departure. Start pattern facing toward Judge.

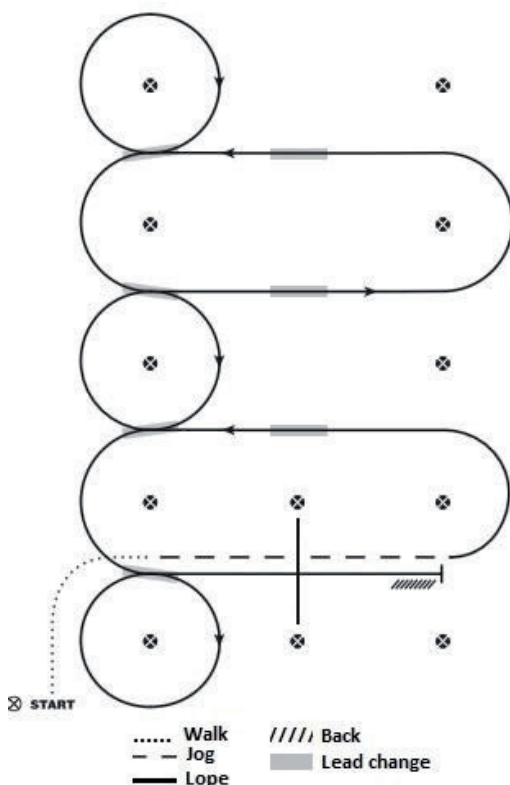
1. Beginning on right lead, lope one (1) circle to the right. Change leads at centre of arena
2. Complete one (1) circle to the left. Change leads at centre of arena
3. Begin a circle to the right but do not close this circle. Run down centre of arena past end marker and do a sliding stop
4. Complete 3½ spins to the right
5. Run up to the other end of arena, past end marker and do a sliding stop
6. Complete 3½ spins to the left
7. Run past centre marker and do a sliding stop. Back at least 3 m. Hesitate to show completion of pattern.

WESTERN RIDING – Pattern 1



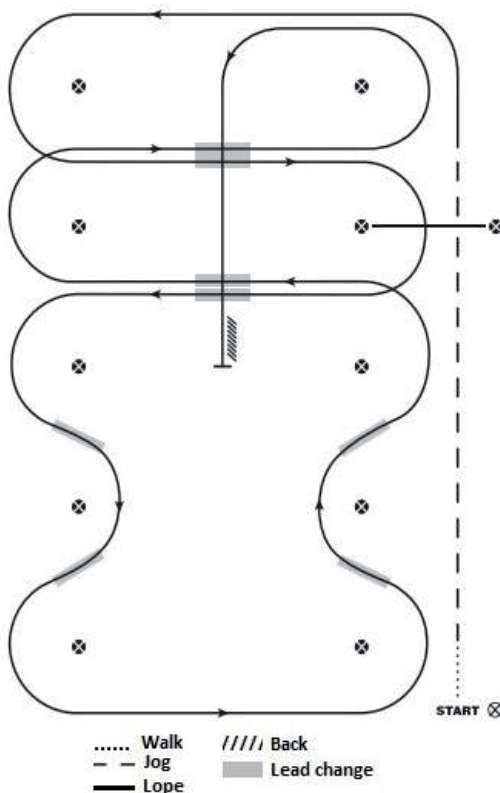
1. Walk at least 4.5m from start cone to the first marker. Start jogging at first marker and jog over log
2. Transition to left lead and lope around end
3. First line change
4. Second line change
5. Third line change
6. Fourth line change
7. First crossing change
8. Second crossing change
9. Lope over log
10. Third crossing change
11. Fourth crossing change
12. Lope up the centre, stop & back

WESTERN RIDING – Pattern 2



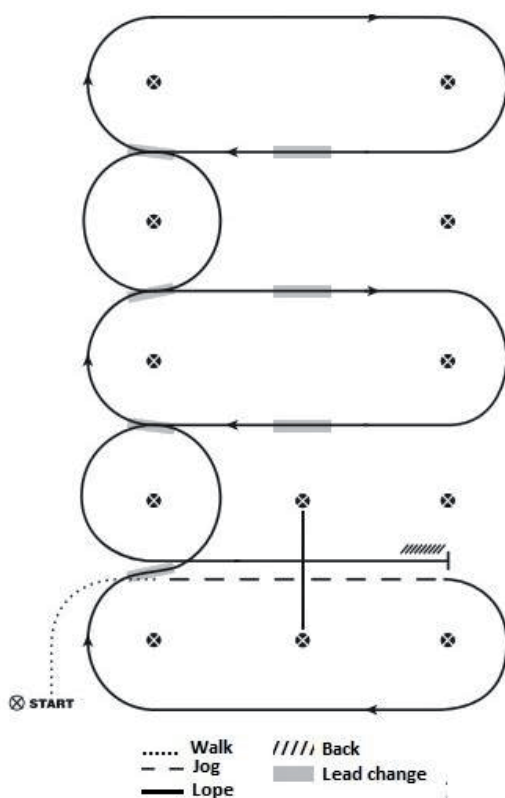
1. Walk at least 4.5m from start cone to first marker, transition to jog, jog over log
2. Transition to the lope left lead
3. First crossing change
4. Second crossing change
5. Third crossing change
6. Circle and first line change
7. Second line change
8. Third line change
9. Fourth line change and circle
10. Lope over log
11. Lope, stop and back

WESTERN RIDING – Pattern 3



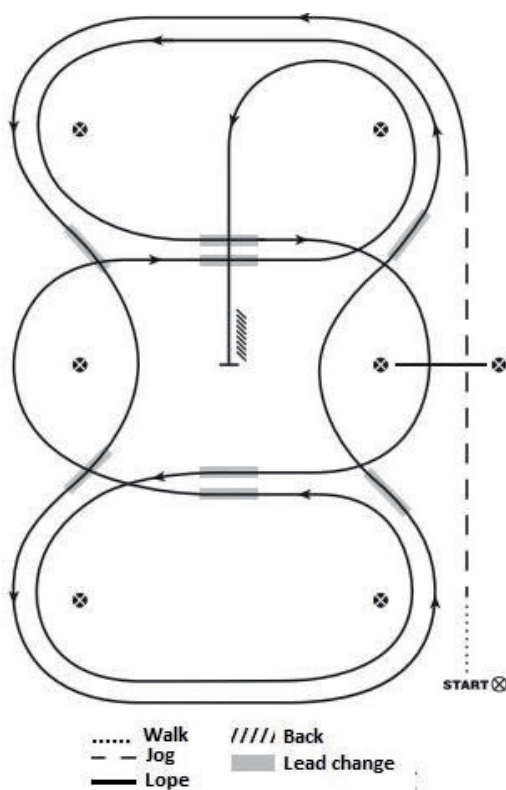
1. Walk at least 4.5m from start cone to 1st marker, transition to jog, jog over log
2. Transition to the lope, on the left lead
3. First crossing change
4. Lope over log
5. Second crossing change
6. First line change
7. Second line change
8. Third line change
9. Fourth line change
10. Third crossing change
11. Fourth crossing change
12. Lope up the centre, stop and back

WESTERN RIDING – Pattern 4



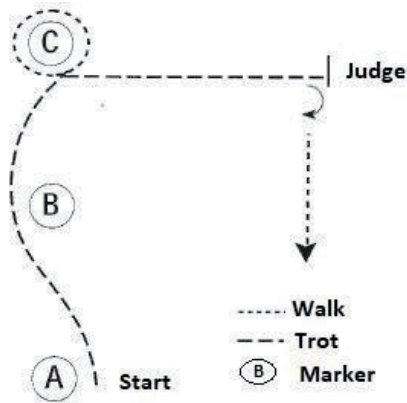
1. Walk at least 4.5m from start cone to 1st marker, as drawn, transition to jog, jog over log
2. Transition to the lope, on the right lead
3. First line change
4. Second line change
5. Third line change
6. Fourth line change
7. First crossing change
8. Second crossing change
9. Third crossing change
10. Lope over log
11. Lope, stop and back

WESTERN RIDING – Pattern 5



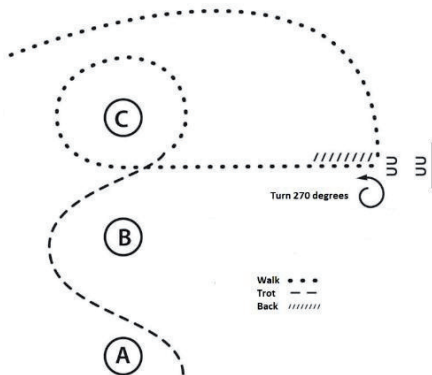
1. Walk at least 4.5m from start cone to 1st marker, as drawn, transition to jog, jog over log
2. Transition to the lope, on the left lead
3. First line change
4. Second line change
5. Third line change
6. Fourth line change
7. First crossing change
8. Lope over log
9. Second crossing change
10. Third crossing change
11. Fourth crossing change
12. Lope, stop and back

EWD SHOWMANSHIP - Pattern 1



Be ready at A

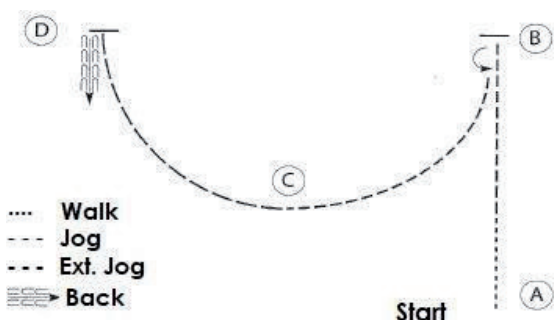
1. When acknowledged, trot from A, around B to C
2. Walk a tight circle around C
3. Trot to Judge
4. Stop and set up for inspection
5. When dismissed, perform a 90° turn and walk away from Judge



EWD SHOWMANSHIP - Pattern 2

1. Be ready at A, when acknowledged; trot from A, around B and to C
2. Walk a tight circle around C. Walk on to judge.
3. Stop and set for inspection.
4. When dismissed, back one horse length.
5. Perform a 270° turn and walk away.
Then return to line up.

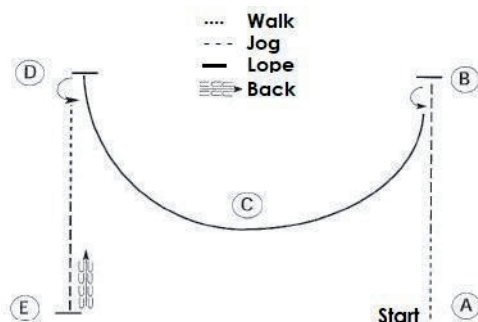
EWD Walk, Jog Western Horsemanship



Be ready at A

1. Walk approximately two (2) strides from A
2. Jog B
3. Stop and perform a 180° turn to the left
4. Jog a half circle
5. Extend the jog to D
6. Stop at D, back approximately 1 horse length

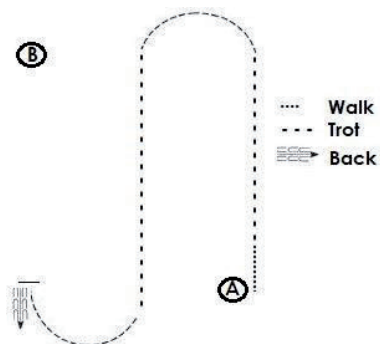
EWD Walk, Jog, Lope Western Horsemanship



Be ready at A

1. Walk approximately two (2) strides from A
2. Jog to B
3. Stop and perform a 180° turn to the left
4. Lope on right lead around C and to D
5. Stop and perform a 180° turn to the left
6. Walk halfway to E
7. Jog to E, stop and back approximately 1 horse length

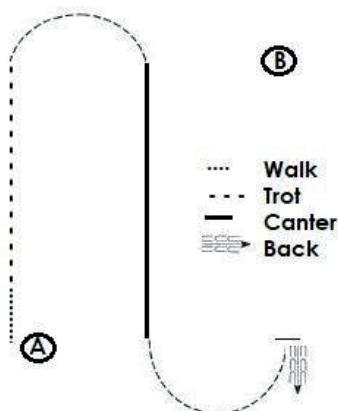
EWD Walk, Trot Hunt Seat Equitation



Be ready at A

1. Walk two (2) horse lengths
2. Trot forward and a half circle on right diagonal until even with B
3. Change diagonal and trot straight and then a half circle until even with A
4. Stop and back approximately 1 horse length

EWD Walk, Trot, Canter Hunt Seat Equitation



Be ready at A

1. Walk two (2) horse lengths from A
2. Trot forward and a half circle on the left diagonal until even with B
3. Canter on left lead until even with A
4. Trot a half circle on right diagonal until even with A
5. Stop and back approximately one horse length

NOTES