

General Rules

1. It is the responsibility of the owner and exhibitor to see that the proper horse is entered in the proper class.
2. Horses and ponies will not be shown in the same classes except in Equitation and Jr. Exhibitor Pleasure classes.
3. The term "horse" as used in these rules shall denote either a horse or pony. "Horse" shall designate an animal over 14.2 hands (58 inches) for English and Western, except Registered Appaloosa, Arabians, Half-Arabians, Morgans, Palominos, Paints, Pintos, Saddlebreds, and Quarter Horses.
4. Any animal that declares or shows as a "pony" must stay in pony classes. If he/she shows in a breed (hStallions shall be barred from any class in which the conditions specify that a Lady, or Jr. Exhibitor to ride or drive, except as provided for in the division rules. Unless show rules prohibit, stallions may be shown by anyone in any other class in that division.
5. For horse show purposes, a horse is considered to be one year old on January 1 following foaling. Therefore, on Jan.1, he assumes the greater age.
6. For horse show purposes, the age of an individual born on Dec 1st shall be maintained throughout the entire show year. Persons born on Dec. 1 shall assume the greater age. 8. Any exhibitor withdrawing his horse or entries from a class in progress shall request permission from the Judge or Ringmaster to be excused or any future entries will be refused, and all winnings and ribbons returned at that show.
9. No items may be used inside or outside the ring while showing a horse, except one whip per handler. They must be no longer than six (6) feet in length, including the snapper or lash. In Saddlebred and Hackney pony in-hand classes, a paper or plastic bag may be attached to the whip or used separately.
10. No one shall approach a Judge with regards to a decision unless he/she first obtains permission from the Show Steward or Show Committee, who shall arrange an appointment with the judge at the proper time and place.
11. Any person whose horse becomes unmanageable or constitutes a menace to the safety of other exhibitors or spectators shall be removed from the grounds immediately.
12. In case of misconduct on the part of any exhibitor (in the show ring or on the show grounds), said exhibitor and animal shall be asked to leave the grounds at once. Said offense must be reported to the Show Committee, Steward, and/or the ICHA Board of Directors. After a proper hearing, if found guilty, the Board shall suspend the exhibitor from all participation in future member shows for a period commensurate with the offense.
13. Cruelty or abuse to a horse or pony by any person at a show is forbidden and constitutes a violation of ICHA rules and is therefore subject to a penalty. Acting upon complaints and/or protest, the show committee shall bar violators and their horses from further participation in the show. Repeated violations shall be reported to the ICHA Board of Directors and local authorities for further action as deemed necessary.
14. The Board of Directors will be maintained as a Board of Appeals by ICHA to a written and signed protest can be made within forty-eight (48) hours. A fee of \$100.00 cash shall be posted for the

appeal and both parties shall be notified as to the time and place of the hearing. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

15. A protest may be made to the Show Committee by any exhibitor, agent, trainer, or parent for a Jr. Exhibitor for any violation of ICHA rules. It must be:
 - a. In writing and signed by the protester.
 - b. Addressed to the Show Secretary or Chairman.
 - c. Accompanied by a \$100.00 cash deposit.
 - d. Received by a member of the Show Committee within 48 hours of the alleged violation.

The protest or charge must state the full name and address of the accused and contain a complete statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation. The maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest by personal testimony at a hearing or by sworn statements, witnesses, or other evidence.

16. An exhibitor is entitled to request suspension of judging for a period not to exceed five (5) minutes in order to repair broken equipment, replace a shoe, or rectify a similar accident. An exhibitor will be allotted a maximum of three (3) minutes to find a shoe. Time shall be taken from the moment the exhibitor goes to the center of the ring except in the event of a cast shoe in which case time starts when the farrier touches the shoe. If, at the expiration of the allowed time, the repair has not been made, the exhibitor may proceed as is or be excused.
17. No exhibitor shall stop on the rail for adjustments, or he shall be charged with a time-out or further disciplinary action. If a rider is not involved with the time-out, he may make minor adjustments with the assistance of one attendant within that time and not be charged with a time-out.
18. A rider is considered to have fallen when he/she is separated from his/her horse, which has not fallen, in such a way as to necessitate remounting. A horse is to be considered as fallen when the shoulder and the haunch on the same side have touched the ground, or an obstacle on the ground. In all classes except Hunter, Western, and Equitation (in which specific rules prevail) the fall of a horse and /or rider shall not disqualify the entry unless due to bad manners of the horse.
19. ICHA accepts no responsibility for personal injuries or loss, or destruction of any property or equipment not owned by them that may occur at any ICHA run show, any member show, or at the year-end banquet. Members, non-member exhibitors, and spectators at any ICHA run show agree that they participate voluntarily in the shows and are fully aware that horse sports involve inherent dangerous risk of serious injury or death, and by participating they expressly assume any and all risks of injury and loss and they agree to indemnify and hold ICHA, their officers, and their show officials harmless from all claims.
20. In all classes/divisions, protective headgear is permitted and acceptable.

Descriptions

Amateur Classes: Must have an amateur card for exhibitors 18 years and over. Exhibitors 17 years and under do not need a card.

Ladies Class: Exhibitors must be 18 years and over. Stallions are not allowed unless breed rules permits.

Maiden, Novice, and Limit Classes: Maiden—not won one; Novice—not won three; Limit—not won six first place ribbons in specified classes.

Open Classes: Are open to all breeds of horses or ponies.

Owners Classes: Must be an amateur and the owner, or an amateur member of the owner's family. Classes may be restricted to exhibitors no longer eligible as a Jr. exhibitor. No combined ownership permitted unless all are of the same family.

Adult of Senior: Anyone 18 years and over as of Dec. 1st of the previous year

Agent: Any adult who acts on behalf of an exhibitor.

Amateur: Any exhibitor 18 years and over with an amateur card or any exhibitor 17 years and under. No family member or trainer may show a customer horse in an amateur class. Refer to Amateur status page 9 & 10.

Coach: Any adult who receives remuneration for having or sharing responsibility for instruction, teaching, schooling, or advising exhibitor.

Competitor: Horse and rider both being judged.

Competition Employees: Gate attendants, ring clerks, farriers, and others engaged by the competition.

Competition Officials: Directors, Officers, Chairman of show, Manager, Secretary, Judges, Stewards, TD, Veterinarians, Designers, Timekeeper, Announcers, and Ringmasters.

Exhibitors: Owner or lessee of horse entered in a class where merits of horse are considered. In Equitation classes the rider is considered.

Junior: Have not reached his/her 18th birthday as of Dec. 1st of previous year.

Lessee: Written agreement between owner and lessee in which the lessee becomes the owner.

Owner: Registration of horse must be listed as owner on registration papers.

Young Rider: Exhibitor age 16 until they reach age of 21

Professionals: Any trainer or person receiving remuneration for training, showing, and others. See Professional status page 9 & 10.

Trainers: Any adult who has responsibility for care, training, custody, or performance of a horse. Said person must sign the entry blank. For a minor exhibitor who has no trainer, a parent or guardian must sign and assume the responsibility of the trainer.

Hors de Concours: May not be shown without being judged.

Age of Horse: A mature horse is over four years old. A Jr. horse is four years and under. Exceptions: Jr. Breeding or In Hand classes are open to horses two years and under. Arabian and Western Divisions are open to horses five years and under. Sr. classes are open to horses three years and over.

Disqualification: To exclude a competitor or horse for cause from participation in a given class, division, or competition. A disqualification in a class may not use this class as a qualifying class for a championship.

Elimination: To exclude a competitor or horse for cause, from judging consideration in a class.

Commencement and Completion of Classes: A class where horses compete collectively. The gate will close after the first horse enters the ring and two minutes have elapsed. Also, the class is completed when the judge turns in his card.

Shown and Judged: An animal must perform at all gaits both ways of the ring and must remain in the ring until excused by the judge.

Shoeing Regulations: A horse cannot be barred from showing unshod but in classes where it is common practice for horses to be shod, a barefoot horse may be penalized at the judge's discretion. Divisions that designate a maximum weight for shoes (Arabian, NSH, Morgan, Paso Fino, and Welsh) must provide accurate scales for weighing. If a shoe is cast, it must be weighed before leaving the ring by the judge. If over the weight limit, the entry must be disqualified for the balance of the show and all entry fees and winnings for entire show forfeited.

Time Schedule: Time announced or order may not be changed unless a 12 hour notice is given to each exhibitor and judge in writing. A session may be called 30 minutes ahead of schedule provided nothing has been changed.

Length Competition: Show may not hold classes more than 16 hours out of a 24-hour period from the first class to the finish of the last class, including intermissions. Recess of 8 hours between finish of the last class to the beginning of the first class in the morning. No classes after midnight.

Interruption of Procedure: If the show is stopped due to a storm, accident, or other emergency, the show committee will decide to re-commence or not. If classes are postponed to a day not previously scheduled, then the exhibitor is entitled to a refund.

Attire: The rider and driver must be correctly attired for the class entering. All Jr. riders in Hunter and Hunt Seat Equitation must wear protective headgear with secured harness while mounted. Exhibitors must display the correct number issued clearly and visible while showing.

English: Saddle seat attire is conservative in color, such as black, blue, gray, beige, or brown jackets with matching jodhpurs; day coats are permitted, boots and derby, soft hat, or protective headgear. Formal saddle seat attire may be worn after 6 pm or in Championship classes. Formal attire will consist of tuxedos and top hat or protective headgear. See division rules where formal attire is permitted. Saddleseat equitation riders must wear matching pants and jackets of the same material.

Hunt: Informal attire for hunting is required. Jacket, breeches, or jodhpurs, boots, dark hunting cap or protective headgear, stock choker with any colored shirt.

Western: Exhibitors must wear a Western hat, long-sleeved shirt with any type of collar, trousers, or pants and boots. Please see your division rules for additional information. Western equitation riders must wear a tie, kerchief, or brooch.

****Protective headgear may be worn in any class in addition to those requiring it.**

Equipment: English riders must use a flat English type saddle and a full bridle. Western riders must use a stock saddle and western type bridle and bit. Hunt seat riders must use a forward seat saddle with hunter bridle.

Jr Horse: Jr. horses can be shown in a snaffle that is not less than 5/16". Measurement will be completed one inch from the shank. Jr. horses may also be shown in a bosal, which is constructed of flexible, braided rawhide or leather attached to a suitable headstall with a maximum diameter of 3/4" at the check. Bosals may not contain metal. Jr. horses may switch back and forth from bridle to snaffle except Arabians and Saddlebreds.

Riders/Handlers with Disabilities: Riders/handlers who have a disability and require compensatory aids must inform the show manager and/or steward who will inform the judge. Electric communication devices are acceptable ONLY for a rider/handler who meets the criteria.

Artificial Markings/Appliances: Any change of color or markings other than mane, tail, or hoofs is prohibited. Any artificial appliances other than those permitted in division rules are prohibited. Bandages, tail sets, chains, or other training devices are prohibited in the ring in Breeding/Halter classes.

Dividing Classes: Classes can be divided by sex of the horse or by age of exhibitors. Classes may also be divided by other methods at the discretion of the Show Committee.

Headers: Must be at least 16 years of age.

Performance Championship: A horse must have been properly entered, shown, and judged in a qualifying class in the same division or section. The show committee must designate all qualifying classes and can require any or all winners in a qualifying class to compete in a championship class provided this is stated in the prize list. Any exhibitor failing to comply must forfeit all prize money in qualifying class. If the exhibitor or trainer qualifies more than one horse, he can select only one to show. If entry fails to qualify due to equipment repair, shoeing time, illness of horse (Vet Certificate), or failure of class to fill shall pay double entry fee and

make a post entry in another qualifying class. If no class is available, the horse shall be considered qualified for the championship provided the horse was previously entered in the championship class.