

# SHOW

Tennessee Walking Horse

**S**ound Horses  
**H**onest Judging  
**O**bjective Inspections  
**W**inning Fairly

**RULE BOOK DIVISIONS AND CLASS  
RULES & REQUIREMENTS SECTION**

Revised May 2013

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## 1. SHOW MISSION STATEMENT

SHOW actively protects and promotes the welfare of the Tennessee Walking Horse. To this end, SHOW is committed to the following:

- Ensuring that the overall and on-going welfare of the Tennessee Walking Horse is the primary concern of all owners, trainers, breeders, and exhibitors.
- Ensuring that all owners, trainers, breeders, and exhibitors treat their horses humanely and with dignity and respect, and use proper care in training, handling and showing them.
- Continuing to work with government and industry officials to ensure that the highest standards of welfare, safety and health are maintained at all Tennessee Walking Horse events.
- Developing and enforcing stringent rules that govern the exhibiting, judging, showing, and selling of Tennessee Walking Horses, in order that the natural abilities of the animals are best reflected.
- Increasing awareness of the rules among all owners, trainers, breeders, and exhibitors, emphasizing that they are responsible for the welfare and humane treatment of the horses entrusted to their care.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

**A. Age of Horse** For horse show purposes, a horse shall be considered to be one year old on the first day of January following the date of foaling. Exception: Foals born in October, November, and December are eligible for classes along with foals born the following year.

**B. Affiliated/Sanctioned Sales.** All sales which have been accepted for this privilege by SHOW or any other of the recognized organizations that license DQP's and publish a current rule book.

**C. Affiliated/Sanctioned Shows.** All shows which have been accepted for this privilege by SHOW or any other of the recognized organizations that license DQP's and judges, and publish a current rule book.

**D. Designated Qualified Person (DQP)** A person licensed by SHOW to detect or diagnose horses which are in violation and to otherwise inspect horses for the purposes of enforcing the Horse Protection Act and SHOW Rules.

**E. Exhibitor.** Any rider, driver, handler, or contestant who shows or exhibits any horse in a horse show, horse exhibition, horse sale, or horse auction, or any person who directs or allows any horse in his custody or under his direction, control, or supervision to be exhibited, sold or auctioned.

**F. Exhibiting.** For horse show purposes, exhibiting means showing in competition at a horse show, exhibiting a horse at a sale, presenting the National Colors at a horse show or other event, or any other public exhibition of a horse.

- **Height of Horse.** The height of all animals shall be stated in hands instead of inches.

A hand is four inches. Maximum height shall be reckoned as so many hands “and under” while minimum heights shall be reckoned as “over” a given number of hands. Measurement shall include a horse’s shoes and pads.

- **Horse or Pony.** The term “horse” as used in these rules denotes either a horse or pony. When the term “horse” or “pony” is used in prize lists and catalogues of shows where height is one of the qualifications of the class, the word “horse” shall designate animals over 15 hands and the word “pony” shall designate animals 15 hands and under. A mature horse is one that is five years of age and over. Exception: Lead Line ponies are 54 inches and under.

- **Horse Protection Act (HPA).** The federal Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended by the Horse Protection Act Amendments of 1976, 15 U.S.C. § 1821 et seq.

**J. Immediate Family.** for horse show purposes, the term “immediate family” shall include the following: husband,, wife, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, brother, sister, half brother, and half sister, stepbrother, and stepsister, in-laws of the same relations stated herein, grandparents, and grandchildren.

**K. Measurement of Height of Entries.** The entry shall stand on a smooth, level surface, in such a position that the front legs are vertical and the backs of the hocks are in a vertical line with the points of the horse’s quarters. The head should be held low enough to reveal the highest point of the withers from the ground. The arm of the Measuring Standard shall be placed over the highest point of the withers. The Standard should be perpendicular from the withers to the ground and the cross piece parallel with the ground surface.

**L. Non-Affiliated Show.** A show that is not affiliated with an HIO that is recognized by the USDA.

**M. Owner.-** For horse show purposes, the term “owner” means the person shown as the owner by the records of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders’ and Exhibitors’ Association (TWHBEA) and/or a person who has a bona fide lease as approved and on file with TWHBEA on said horse, or who has legal title.

- **Serviceable Soundness** For Horse Show Purposes, all horses shown at a horse show must be serviceably sound. The official veterinarian’s decision, if requested by the Judge, as to the serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final. If the official veterinarian is not immediately available or called on, the Judge or DQP’s decision as to serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final.

- **Show Employees** - For horse show, sale, or exhibition purposes, the term “show employees” shall include and refer to the following: Managers, Announcer, Ringmasters, Secretaries, Gate Attendants, Ring Clerks, Farriers, (Optional) , and other persons engaged directly by the show.
- **Show/Sale/ Exhibition Management.** For horse show, sale or exhibition purposes, the term “show management” shall refer to the personnel representing the sponsoring organization.
- **Show Officials.** For horse show, sale, or exhibition show purposes, the term “show officials” shall include and refer to the following: Chairman of the Show Committee, Judges, DQP’s, Veterinarians, and Timekeepers.
- **Specialty Classes.** No canter required.
- **Youth Exhibitor.** For horse show purposes, a youth exhibitor is an individual who, on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the show year, has not yet reached his/her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. If an exhibitor is 17 on January 1<sup>st</sup> and turns 18 on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, the exhibitor is still eligible to show as a youth exhibitor all that year unless he/she shows in a class specified as an adult class, in which case he/she will no longer be eligible to show in youth classes. A youth exhibitor may compete in an amateur class, unless the prize list specifies otherwise.

Note: unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary, the use of one gender shall include all genders and the use of the singular shall include the plural (and vice versa).

**The above definitions may not be all inclusive and to the extent there are definitions in other Sections of the complete Rulebook those definitions will have the same force and affect as if they had been specifically set forth above.**

### **3. SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### **A. General Rules**

(1)The Rules of SHOW shall take precedence over the rules of any other committee. All divisions, sections, and classes for which rules are provided herein must be conducted accordingly and shall not be held under any rules that are not in agreement.

(2)Every affiliated/sanctioned show and every person participating therein including exhibitor, owner, lessee, manager, agent, rider, driver, handler, custodian, contestant, judge, DQP, show official, or employee is subject to the Bylaws and Rules of SHOW and to the local rules of the show. Every person participating in any show recognized by

SHOW is subject to the provisions of SHOW whether or not the particular class in which he or she participates is operated under SHOW rules.

(3) All affiliated/ sanctioned shows will be governed entirely by the SHOW Rulebook in effect at the time. It is show management's responsibility to know and adhere to the current SHOW rulebook.

(4) Class Interruptions. In the event that a class which horses or exhibitors compete, whether together or individually, is stopped while in progress due to storm, accident or other emergency, the following procedure shall govern:

(a.) The class when recommenced shall be held over in its entirety and no consideration shall be given to the performance during the original session

- If the class is continued at a succeeding session of the show, it shall be held over in its entirety

(c.) If the classes are postponed to a day not included in the original show dates, exhibitors are entitled to a refund of entry fees and are relieved of any obligation to show back in postponed classes.

(5) Stallions shall be barred from any class in which the conditions specify that a youth exhibitor is to ride. Exception: Walking Pony Division.

(6) Time Schedules

(a.) The announced order of time for classes shall not be changed unless notice is given to exhibitors, Judge(s) and DQP(s) affected.

(b.) Provided the order of events is not changed, show management shall have the privilege of calling any class up to 30 minutes ahead of its scheduled time. Exhibitors should be ready for classes in reasonable time and may not protest such advance of schedule.

- When it is found that a class is being delayed by horses not being ready to perform, the entrance gate may be closed at the order of the Judge(s) or show management, provided warning is issued and exhibitors are given three minutes in which to appear at the entrance gate ready to participate. Judging shall not commence until the gate is closed. An official timer must be appointed to enforce this rule.

(7) Classes for Horse and Exhibitor. In a class where the performances of both horse and exhibitor are considered, the horse and exhibitor together shall constitute an entry.

## **B. Entries**

(1) In order for the DQP to inspect horses, all class entry sheets must contain the following information:

- Tennessee Walking Horse classes
- Horse's official name and registration number
- SHOW Horse Card number (if applicable, see below)
- Trainer's name
- Trainer's license number
- Owner's name and address (Owner of record at the TWHBEA)
- Amateur exhibitor's name

(h) Youth exhibitor's name

Note: Each entry must be registered with the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' And Exhibitors' Association (TWHBEA) Exception: Country Pleasure

(2) SHOW Horse Card Number. Each horse must have a horse card number to be eligible to show at SHOW affiliated horse shows. **Exceptions; Academy and Lead Line and horses not competing in Tennessee Walking Horse Classes.** Horse Cards may be purchased from the office at SHOW or at the horse show in the entry office or in the inspection area from the DQP. If an exhibitor/owner prefers they may purchase a day card at the horse show which makes the horse eligible to show all day that one day

(3) Horses Names. Horses must be named and the same name and registration number must be listed in all classes. A horse must be entered under its originally recorded name unless the name has been officially changed. It must also be entered under the name of the owner or record, or of the registered farm name. A thirty (30) day grace period will be allowed after the sale of a show horse to have the papers transferred. Proof of purchase and actual sale date information are required. For double registered horses, if a horse has different names, with different breed registries, the horse must be entered using the registered name of the breed in which the horse is being shown.

(4) Combined Ownership. Horses must be entered in the names of combined owners, if so registered with the TWHBEA. Combined-ownership horses are eligible to be shown in owners' and amateur owners' classes and may be shown by either owner or any member of their immediate family.

(5) Cancellation or Withdrawal of Entries. A show may adopt its own policy covering the refunding of fees to an exhibitor who cancels his or her entries prior to the show's beginning.

(6) Fees and Fines. All fees and fines shall be paid in U.S. currency and drawn from a U.S. bank. Any returned checks shall result in an additional charge or fee, as determined by SHOW and disclosed in the schedule of fees provided in the Show Managers information materials.

(7) Unpaid Accounts. Any exhibitor, owner or trainer who fails to pay any account(s), fines or service charge due to any affiliated show management, horse sales management or SHOW shall be subject to suspension by the SHOW. Upon receipt of notice that a trainer, exhibitor or owner has not paid all accounts or charges owed as a result of participation in said affiliated show or sale, SHOW shall notify said person, firm or corporation that settlement must be made within fifteen (15) days or he, she or it shall be suspended until said accounts or charges are paid in full. If a person other than an owner, exhibitor or trainer was responsible for making said charges at any show or sale, then the owner, trainer or exhibitor on whose behalf said charges were made shall be subject to suspension until said account is paid in full.

(8) Refusal of Entries.



(a.) In addition to entries of persons suspended or expelled by SHOW, show management may reserve the right to refuse the entry of an exhibitor who has demonstrated unsportsmanlike behavior at a show or has conducted himself or herself in a manner which brings discredit to the show, its management, officials, or employees, provided that the exhibitor so excluded shall have the right to be heard on the issue by show management before the refusal of an entry is made. The excluded exhibitor shall have the right to appeal the decision of show management to SHOW.

(b.) Show management may require a horse to qualify for entry in the show or may set a limit as to the number of entries that will be accepted in any class or division, provided the method to be used is so stated in prize list.

### **C. Attire and Requirements for Exhibitors**

It is the tradition of the show ring that rider, drivers and handlers be correctly attired for the classes in which they compete, that attendants be neatly dressed. Show management may, at its discretion, bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience. Correct attire for Walking Horse presentation consists of the following, unless otherwise noted:

- (1) English riding habit (saddle suit)
- (2) English spurs (Optional)
- (3) Riding boots
- (4) Pant's tie downs, or underpasses.
- (5) Glove (Optional)
- (6) Hats: homburg, top hat, derby, snap brim (optional)
- (7) Helmets Optional in ALL classes. (SHOW strongly recommends the use of helmets in all 11 and under classes.)
- (8) The exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed.
- (9) Long hair should be styled so that the back number can be seen easily
- (10.) In Auxiliary Classes, exhibitors are required to wear an appropriate English riding hat, helmet, or their hair has to be up. Hair cannot be below collar in these classes.
- (11.) Grooms Attire. The trainers are to see that their grooms are properly attired.

### **D. General Requirements and Equipment for Horses**

Any Entry found to have prohibited equipment must be excused.

- (1) All entries shall be clean, neatly trimmed, in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance, and outfitted in clean and appropriate tack.
- (2) All horses must use an English saddle, except where divisions or class rules permit otherwise. A cutback English saddle is the traditional saddle for the walking horse, however, a dressage saddle is acceptable.
- (3) Standard Walking Horse Single Rein Bridle and Bit. While any standard Walking Horse bit may be used, a gag bit with no shanks is not considered a standard Walking Horse show bit, and is prohibited. Severe bits are discouraged and bleeding of the

mouth or muzzle must be penalized in the final judging. Quick change bridles and reins are not permitted.

(4) Full blinders of any type are not permitted on the show grounds at any time.

(5) Communication devices may be used in all classes, excluding Equitation.

(6) The use of a self adhesive elastic wrap (vet wrap) will be allowed in the cannon bone area on the front legs and on the cannon bone down onto the ankles on the rear legs. The color is to blend in reasonably with the color of the horse. ( To be applied post inspection)

(7) Names of horses, stables, trainers or exhibitors are prohibited on show equipment in the show ring; however, inconspicuous name plates on bridles and saddles are acceptable. Failure to follow this rule is cause for class dismissal from the show ring of the entry in violation or of the entry of the stables whose name is observed in the ring.

(8) Artificial Marking and Appliances. Any change in color of markings other than mane, tail or hoof is prohibited. Only clear grooming materials are allowed on the hide and hair. Material may be used to remove stains. All artificial appliances other than those set forth in this section are prohibited.

(9) Whips. Whips of four feet or less are allowed in any class where English attire and equipment are used. No item may be used inside or from outside the ring, while showing a horse, except one whip per handler no longer than four feet, including the snapper. Whips up to six feet are permitted in any class in which the horse is driven. No lashes or appendages or any other appliances of any kind are permitted to be attached to the whip. A whip of this kind is not permitted in a warm up ring or show ring. No whip may be handed across the rail to an exhibitor.

(10) Hoof Bands. Metal hoof bands, such as used to anchor or strengthen pads and shoes are permitted, so long as they are placed at least one half inch below the coronet band. Bands must be a maximum of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " and a minimum of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in width. Bands must be made of a 16 gauge or smaller flexible steel.

(11) Action Devices. As permitted according to the HPA.

(12) Acceptable Lubricants. All foreign substances are prohibited on the pastern area (above the hoof, but below the fetlock) of any horse being shown, exhibited, or offered for sale at horse show, exhibition, or horse sale or auction, except what is supplied by SHOW. Any such lubricant is permitted to be applied only after the horse has been inspected by the DQP and may be applied only under the supervision of a DQP or SHOW.

(13) Heel/Toe Measurement. Toe length must exceed the height of the heel by one inch or more. The length of the toe shall be measured from the coronet band, at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall to the ground. The heel shall be measured from the coronet band, at the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90 degree angle to the ground, not including normal caulks at the rear of the horseshoe that do not exceed  $\frac{3}{4}$ " in length. That portion of caulk at the rear of horseshoe in excess of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " shall be added to the height of the heel in determining the heel-to-toe ration. Please refer to Appendix A to this section of the rulebook for official heel/toe measurement chart.

(14) Pads. Pads shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$ " minimum and made of leather, plastic or a similar pliant material.

- (15) Pad Measurement. The amount of pad, or artificial extension, permitted on any horse two (2) years of age or older will be determined by the natural hoof length. The amount of artificial extension, whether accomplished with pads, acrylics or any other material or combination thereof, must not exceed 50 percent of the natural hoof length. The natural hoof length is measured from the coronet band at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall, to the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe. The thickness of the pad or artificial extension shall be measured from the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe at a 90 degree angle to the proximal (foot/hoof) surface of the shoe. Please refer to Appendix B of this section of the rulebook for official pad measurement chart.
- (16) Pads on Yearling Horses. Pads or other devices on yearling horses (horses up to two (2) years old) that elevate or change the angle of such horses' hooves in excess of 1" at the heel are not permitted.
- (17) Insertion of Material between the Pad and the Hoof. Any object or material inserted between the pad and the hoof is not permitted, except for acceptable hoof packing, which includes pine tar, oakum, live rubber, sponge rubber, silicone, commercial hoof packing or other substances used to maintain adequate form pressure or sole consistency.
- (18) Shoe Size. The maximum shoe size is 1 ½" wide and ½" thick. The maximum thickness of shoe and caulk is 1".
- (19) Weight on Yearling Horses. Any weight on yearling horses, except a keg or similar conventional horseshoe, and horseshoe on yearling horses shall not weigh more than 16 ounces.
- (20) Rubber foundation. A rubber foundation used in lieu of a shoe cannot be more than ½" in thickness.
- (21) Half Rubber Foundation. A half rubber foundation used in lieu of half a shoe cannot be thicker than the corresponding half shoe. Example: With a 3/8" thick shoe, rubber cannot be more than 3/8" thick. With a ½" thick shoe, rubber cannot be more than ½" thick.
- (22) Half Metal Shoe. A half metal shoe in front with rubber on the rear half used for the foundation must be in apposition (there can be no gap between the metal shoe and the rubber).
- (23) Weight Bearing Surface. The weight bearing surface of the hoof must be level.
- (24) Rockback Pads. Rockback pads cannot extend below the weight bearing surface (bottom of the shoe)
- (25) Lead or Other Weights. Lead or other weights cannot be attached to the outside of the hoof wall, the outside surface of the horseshoe, or any portion of the pad except the bottom surface within the horseshoe. Pads may not be hollowed out for the purpose of inserting or affixing weights, and weights may not extend below the weight bearing surface of the shoe. Hollow shoes or artificial extensions filled with mercury or similar substances are prohibited.
- (26) Breakover. The breakover point of the shoe cannot be any further back than the tip of the toe on the natural hoof.
- (27) Pressure Shoeing. Shoeing a horse, or trimming a horse's hoof in a manner that will cause such horse to suffer, or can reasonably be expected to cause such horse to

suffer pain or distress, inflammation, or lameness when walking, trotting or otherwise moving is punishable by a lifetime suspension.

(28) Acrylic. Acrylic can be used to repair and mend a foot where the shoe has been thrown and the foot has been damaged. Acrylic or any other material cannot be used for the purpose of extending the length of the natural hoof in any manner on both feet, which includes the toes or heels. Acrylic can be used to fill in around the nail holes or cracks on the sides of the hoof.

(29) Hot/Cold Roll Steel. Plain carbon steel (Mn 1.00% max) 1040 Cold or Hot roll steel. SAE Designation of Steel: 1040. No other material may be used in classes designated as Hot/Cold Rolled steel except SAE 1040 Steel.

## **E. Drugs and Medications**

USEF Drug and Medication Rules and Guidelines will apply to all entries. SHOW reserves the right to obtain appropriate samples from any entry at any time on a random or standard basis whether pre or post show. Medication of any type should be checked by the owners/trainers veterinarian to ensure compliance with USEF guidelines. USEF Drug and Medication Rules and Guidelines are available on line at USEF.org.

## **F. Amateur and Professional Status**

### **(1) Amateur Status**

- A person is an amateur who, after his/her 18th birthday, does not engage in any activities which would cause him or her to be classified as a professional.
- Any person who has not reached his/her 18th birthday is declared to be an amateur. For horse show purposes, a youth exhibitor is an individual who, on January 1st of the show year, has not yet reached his/her 18th birthday. If an exhibitor is 17 on January 1st and turns 18 on January 2nd the exhibitor is still eligible to show as a youth exhibitor all that year.
- Standing a breeding stallion, buying/selling and boarding horses does not affect a person's amateur status.
- The following shall not affect amateur status:
  - the writing of books or articles for horse show purposes
  - the acceptance of remuneration for judging
  - the reimbursement of exhibitor for expenses without profit
  - the acceptance of a small token of appreciation, other than money, for exhibiting
- If there is a question of whether a person is a professional or an amateur, final determination shall be made by SHOW.
- Anyone who requests a person to exhibit in an Amateur class and then pays or remunerates that person in excess of what is allowable as provided for above shall be subject to disciplinary action by SHOW.

**(2) Professional Status.** Refers to any breed of horse, not just the Tennessee Walking Horse.

(a.) Professional. A professional is any adult or adults who have the responsibility for the care, training, custody or performance of a horse. Professionals are responsible for a horses' condition and to know the bylaws and rules of SHOW, and the penalty provisions of said rules and regulations.

- A person is a professional and must obtain a trainers' card (from the Walking Horse Trainers Association) for horse show purposes if, after his/her 18th birthday, he/she accepts remuneration for any of the following activities, whether or not it is the principle means of his/her income.
  - (i)Accepts remuneration for employment in connection with horses in a show.
  - (ii)Accepts remuneration for exercising, schooling, riding, or driving. A person can retain their amateur status if they give riding lessons but do not train horses.
  - (iii)Exhibits in a horse show any horse for which he/she or a member of his/her immediate family accepts remuneration for training for a person outside of the immediate family. Exception: One may exhibit a customer's horse in an open class.
  - (iv)Accepts remuneration for employment in any capacity, rides or shows at halter in horse show, any horses which his/her employer or such member of the immediate family of such employer owns, boards or trains.
- Halter Professional. A person who shows at a halter any horse for which he/she accepts remuneration for training weanlings and yearlings for a person outside of his/her immediate family. A person who holds a trainer's licenses, or is otherwise classified as a professional, shall also be deemed to be a halter professional.

### **(3) Relative of a Professional**

(a.) Any member of a professional's family who has reached his/her 18th birthday is a professional if he/she aids or assists in the activities which make the aforesaid a professional.

(b.) Any member of a trainer's immediate family who has reached his/her 18th birthday shall be considered a professional if he/she shows a customer's horse. This provision shall apply to exhibiting at any horse show. Exception: A trainer's immediate family may show a customer's or co-owned horse in an open class and not jeopardize their amateur status.

(c.) The doing of clerical work of itself or the giving of financial aid of itself is not to be deemed "aiding or assisting".

### **(4) Change of Status**

(a.) Any person who has been a professional and who desires to be re-classified as an amateur on the grounds that he/she no longer engages in the activities which made him/her a professional must notify SHOW in writing. The person may submit to SHOW an amateur application supported and accompanied by two or more notarized letters outlining the applicant's activities for the appropriate year(s) involved and testifying that the applicant has not engaged in any activities which would make him/her a professional as outlined above.

(b.) Persons who have requested a change of status from professional to amateur and are currently serving their waiting period of ten (10) years, may show in open classes.

(c.) The burden of proving amateur status is on the applicant. Any person that can satisfactorily prove that he/she has not engaged in any activity which would make him/her a professional for ten (10) years may be declared to be an amateur.

## **G. Division and Class Rules and Requirements**

### **(1)Class Definitions**

(a.) Open Classes. An Open Class is one which is open to horses of any age, size or sex, as specified on the class sheet, irrespective of the ribbons previously won, and in which there is no limiting qualification for the rider.

(b.) Amateur Classes. An Amateur Class is one in which every contestant enjoys amateur status. Amateur Classes may be restricted to riders who are no longer eligible to compete as a youth exhibitor, in which instance the prize list shall specify "18 and over".

(c.) Youth Classes.

(i.) For horse show purposes, a youth exhibitor is an individual who, on January 1<sup>st</sup> the show year, has not yet reached his/her 18th birthday. A youth exhibitor may compete in an amateur class, unless the prize list specifies otherwise.

(ii.)In the event that Show Management wishes to divide Youth Exhibitors' Classes, it may offer separate classes for boys and girls or offer several age limits. The following three age limits are suggested but may be varied depending on local conditions:

- Youth Exhibitors 11 years and under
- Youth Exhibitors 12 -14 years of age
- Youth Exhibitors 15 -17 years of age

When divided as above, no exhibitor shall compete in more than one section. This rule does not apply to Equitation.

(iii)If a youth comes into the ring and cannot handle the horse and it is a danger to the youth, the Judge or Show Manager shall excuse the entry. If the parent determines the youth cannot handle the horse, he/she may request, after proper identification, that the entry be excused and the Judge shall comply.

(iv.)Strapping or taping youth exhibitors' shoes to their stirrups is strictly prohibited in these classes and if detected entry shall be excused.

(v.)Stallions shall be barred from any class the conditions of which specify that a youth exhibitor is to ride. **Exception: Walking Pony Classes, in which stallions are permitted.**

(d) Owners' Classes.

- (i.)An Owners' Class is one in which every exhibitor is either an amateur who owns the entry being shown, or is an amateur member of the owner's immediate family unless otherwise stated in the prize list.
  - (ii.)Owners' Classes which specify "18 and Over" shall be limited to exhibitors who are no longer eligible to show in youth exhibitor classes.
  - (iii.)Combined ownership is permitted in Owners' and Amateur-Owners' Classes. Combined ownership may be in corporate form. Any horse which is jointly owned, and one owner receives remuneration for training, is considered a customer's horse. The horse is ineligible to be shown in owner/ amateur classes by the owner (who is receiving remuneration) or his/her immediate family.
  - (iv.)Any tie where there is a question as to the ownership of a horse, the owner in question, upon request, must provide sufficient proof of purchase to the satisfaction of SHOW within the time specified. This rule shall be strictly enforced.
- (e) Ladies' or Gentlemen's' Classes.
- (i.)Ladies' Classes shall be restricted to lady exhibitors who are 18 years of age or older, which should be so stated on the prize list.
  - (ii.)Gentlemen's' Classes shall be restricted to gentleman exhibitors who are 18 years of age or older which should be so stated on the prize list.
- (f) Novice Classes. Novice Classes may be offered using specifications determined by Show Management.
- (g) Local Classes.
- (i.)A Local Class is one in which entrance is restricted by show management to horses owned by residents of a specified locale and which is so described in the prize list. Results of Local Classes shall not be considered in determining championships awarded on points, nor will they count toward end of the year awards.
  - (ii.)Any show may offer Local Classes or complete Local Division. When this is done, the meaning of the local designation must be fully and clearly defined. Class specifications shall follow those listed in the respective rules as closely as possible.
- (h) Qualifying Classes. An entry shall be deemed to have qualified for a Championship Class, if in an appropriate qualify class;
- (i.) It is excused by a Judges after or during the initial lineup without request by the exhibitor to be excused.
  - (ii.) It has completed the class.
- (i) Championships.
- (i.) Show Management must designate all qualifying classes and may require any and all winners in a qualifying class to compete in a performance championship class provided it is so stated in the prize list. Any exhibitor failing to comply shall forfeit all winnings in the qualifying class. If an exhibitor qualifies more than one horse for a Championship Class, he/she may elect to show only one.
  - (ii.)To be eligible to show in a performance championship class, except in a one night show that does not require qualifying, a horse must have been properly entered, shown and judged in one qualifying class. No two and three year old

horses that have qualified in a no canter class shall be eligible for a performance championship class requiring three gaits.

(iii.) To be "shown and judged" in any class in which horses compete together, an animal must perform all required gaits both ways of the ring in the original workout and must remain in the ring up to the point of being excused by the judge.

(iv.) A horse showing in a Specialty No Canter Class is not qualified to show in a Championship which requires three gaits.

(v.) Championship Classes for specific height or sex may be offered as set forth in the respective rules. Judging specifications shall follow those in the open championship classes.

(j) Changing Division. Within a calendar year, a horse may not be allowed to move from flat shod, park and show pleasure, or performance more than once unless there is a bona-fide and recorded change of ownership.

(k) All classes at SHOW affiliated shows fall under one of the following Divisions: Halter, Flat Shod, Park Performance and Show Pleasure, Performance, Versatility, and Equitation/ Academy. Unless otherwise specified, only the horse is judged, though eligibility of the entry for many classes is determined by the classification of the exhibitor. All under saddle classes may be either canter or specialty unless otherwise noted.

## 4. Halter Division

### A. General Description, Rules and Judging Criteria:

Halter Class entries are presented in hand in a show halter or bridle, without action devices. Show management should stipulate whether the class is padded or flat shod. Entries should be representative of the conformation and natural ability that make the Tennessee Walking Horse distinctive. Entries showing obvious outward signs of being sedated or tranquilized shall be excused by the Judge. Entries in this division should exemplify the ultimate in conformation. They should be in good flesh and present a healthy appearance, and should be immaculately groomed. Transmittable weaknesses shall be considered to be faults and shall be penalized.

In their way of moving, halter horses should reflect a natural looseness with free moving shoulders and an ample overstride, and head shake. Strong emphasis should be placed on naturalness and those characteristics that are passed through breeding. Entries in this division shall be led into the ring and proceed counterclockwise, at a flat walk, reversed at the direction of the judge, and lined up for conformation, performance, and presentation judging. **Exception: Model. Model entries shall be led into the ring, lined up as directed, then judged on conformation and presentation.**

(1) Unruly entries must be penalized or excused.

(2) No ginger or any medication may be applied to an entry.



- (3) Any exhibitor who, in the opinion of the judge, abuses an entry with a whip or other instrument shall be excused from the class.
- (4) All Halter class exhibitors must wear;
  - (a.) A collared shirt (short or long sleeves) and tie.
  - (b.) Long Pants
  - (c.) Hats are recommended at an evening performance and optional during daytime performances.
- (5) Tail braces, switches and humane tails are permitted on mares, stallions and geldings wearing pads, but are prohibited on weanlings and yearlings. (Tail braces are not allowed in any flat shod only division.)
- (6) Braids in the mane and foretop are optional when using English equipment and attire. Braids may not be used with Western tack and attire.
- (7) Whips that do not exceed four feet (including snapper) may be used by the exhibitor. (Whips may be used with either English or Western attire and equipment)

### **B. Model**

- (1) Entries shall be judged on conformation and presentation. Entries should stand quietly.
- (2) Model entries must be two years of age or older.
- (3) Model entries shall be led into the ring, lined up as directed, then judged on presentation and conformation.
- (4) In Model Classes, tack and attire may be English or Western, but not a combination of both.

### **C. In Hand**

- (1) Entries shall be judged on performance, presentation, and conformation.
- (2) In Hand entries shall be led into the ring, go counter clockwise, shown in hand at a flat walk, reversed, flat walked, lined up and judged.
- (3) In Hand Classes, tack and attire may be English or Western, but not a combination of both.

### **D. Mare and Foal**

- (1) Shall be judged 50% on the Mare and 50% on the Foal.
- (2) The mares tail may be braced and wear pads.
- (3) Entries shall be led into the ring, go counter clockwise, shown in hand at a flat walk, reversed, flat walked, lined up and judged.

### **E. Get of Sire**

- (1) Get of Sire Classes are judged 100% on get.
- (2) The stallion is shown in hand with as many as three but not more than five of his get.

### **F. Weanlings**

- (1) Entries shall be judged on performance, presentation, and conformation.
- (2) May be shown in a show halter or bridle (snaffle bit only)
- (3) Shoes on weanlings are prohibited.

(4) Entries shall be led into the ring, go counter clockwise, shown in hand at a flat walk, reversed, flat walked, lined up and judged.

### **G. Yearlings**

- (1) Entries shall be judged on performance, presentation, and conformation.
- (2) May be shown in a show halter or bridle (snaffle bit only).
- (3) Pads or other devices on yearling horses (horses up to two years old) that elevate or change the angle of such horses' hooves in excess of 1" at the heel are not permitted.
- (4) Any weight on yearling horses, except a keg or similar conventional horseshoe (not to exceed 3/8" x 3/4") and any horseshoe on yearling horses shall not weigh more than 16 ounces. Lead may not be added to the pads.
- (5) Yearlings may be shown barefoot, but must be disqualified if lame or tender footed.
- (6) Youth handlers may NOT show a yearling stallion in a Youth Yearling class.
- (7) Entries shall be led into the ring, go counter clockwise, shown in hand at a flat walk, reversed, flat walked, lined up and judged.
- (8) The Judge may ask for an accelerated/extended gait (done individually) in the Yearling Class after the initial lineup.

### **H. Lead Line**

- (1) Guidelines for Lead Line classes that are judged and placed.
  - (a.) Riders to be six years of age or younger.
  - (b.) Lead Line Ponies shall be 54" and under
  - (c.) Pads optional (Ponies may be shown barefoot or flat shod)
  - (d.) Stallions Prohibited
  - (e.) One Responsible Handler per entry. **Exception: Handicapped Riders**
  - (f.) Riders to be judged on elementary fundamentals of horsemanship
  - (g.) Manners of pony are paramount. Entry should be calm and under control at all times.
  - (h.) Any entry that is unruly or a danger to its rider or other entries must be excused immediately.
  - (i.) Equipment:
    - (i.) English or Western tack but not a combination of both
    - (ii.) Show bridle or halter with leather lead to be snapped to the top ring of bit or side ring of halter
    - (iii.) Tail brace with English equipment optional
    - (iv.) Equipment shall be clean and well kept
    - (v.) Whips Prohibited
  - (j.) Attire:
    - (i.) English or Western attire but not a combination of both
    - (ii.) English riding habits of solid matching colors are recommended but not required
    - (iii.) Attire of rider and handler shall be coordinated to present a desirable image of entry, handler, and rider
    - (iv.) English or Western boots are to be clean and shined
    - (v.) Gloves optional
- (h.) Procedure:

- (i.) Entry shall be led into the ring, go counter clockwise, shown in hand at a walk, reversed, and repeat, lined up and judged.
- (ii.) Entry shall stand quietly in line up
- (iii.) Handler to stand at head of entry during lineup and stand on opposite side from judge as much as possible
- (iv.) Lead shank to be held 12-24" from halter or bridle with handlers right hand and any remaining lead in left hand

(2) Lead Line classes that are not judged.

- (a.) Entry may be a horse or pony.
- (b.) Any entry that is unruly must be excused.
- (c.) May be lead at the walk both ways of the ring, and then lined up.

### **I. Suggested Halter Classes:**

(1) Model

- \*Model Mares
- \*Model Gelding
- \*Model Stallions
- \*Model Championship

(2) In Hand

- \*In Hand Mares
- \*In Hand Stallions
- \*In Hand Geldings
- \*In Hand Championship
- \*Mare and Foal
- \*Get of Sire

(3) Weanlings / Yearlings.

- \*Weanling Fillies
- \*Weanling Colts
- \*Weanling Geldings
- \*Weanling Championship
- \*Youth Weanlings
- \*Yearling Fillies
- \*Yearling Colts
- \*Yearling Geldings
- \*Youth Yearlings
- \*Yearling Championship

(4) Lead Line

- \*Lead Line (not to be judged)
- \*Lead Line Riders 6 and under (not to be judged)
- \*Lead Line Riders 6 and under on ponies (judged)

## 5. Flat Shod Pleasure Division

### A. General Description, Rules, and Judging Criteria:

A Flat Shod Pleasure Horse performs the gaits associated with the breed without the use of lubricants, artificial appliances, boots, pads or action devices. Braced tails are prohibited.

In all flat shod pleasure classes a four-beat walking gait with a cadenced head nod. An up and down head motion (not side to side) is desirable. A side to side head motion is not desirable and will be penalized. Manners and suitability as a pleasure mount are paramount. Transitions from one gait to another should be smooth and effortless. Horses must be obedient with prompt transitions. All Flat Shod Pleasure entries should have comfortable gaits; giving the distinct impression it is an agreeable mount to ride. Easy, ground-covering action is desired. Flat Shod Pleasure Entries should never appear mechanical, crampy, or uncomfortable. They should be effortless in their motion and for their rider.

The Flat Shod Pleasure Classes are to be judged on true pleasure qualities and the performance of the horse. Neatness and appearance of the horse and exhibitor, and conformation of the horse should be a consideration in final judging. English entries must be ridden with a light/relaxed rein at all gaits. Western entries must be ridden on a loose rein at all gaits, this along with neck reining, and a lower head set are the main factors that set the Western horse apart from the English entry. All Flat shod Pleasure entries must stand quietly in the line up and back readily. The judge must walk the line-up in all flat shod classes, and ask each entry to back individually. When asked to back, the entry should back readily. Any entry that leans back on its haunches, and drags both front feet instead of picking them up individually to back, must be heavily penalized.

Judges should value the innate grace and beauty of the TWH instead of rewarding the manufactured extravagant and exaggerated gaits. This will facilitate a more rapid return to horsemanship and training devoid of intolerable abuses.

One attendant may be allowed in the ring during the lineup in Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Classes only for the purpose of aiding, assisting and encouraging the exhibitor. The attendant may not touch the horse below the knees, unless directed to do so by the Judge. **SHOW strongly recommends that an attendant comes into the ring during the line up in ALL 11 and under classes (regardless of division).**

If any horse that has been judged comes out of a class line-up presenting an unacceptable image, the Judge shall report the class and entry number to SHOW. A "Letter of Warning" will be sent to the trainer.

Qualifying Gaits:

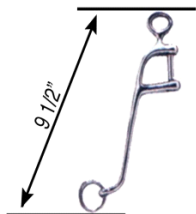
(1) The Trail Pleasure Walk is the slowest of the gaits. (also known as a “dog walk”) It is a smooth four beat gait that should be performed in a very relaxed manner. The horse should be alert, but never nervous.

(2) The Flat Walk should be a smooth four beat gait. The two factors that make this smooth gait distinctive to our breed are the overstride of the hind legs, along with a head shake. Overstride can be described as the hind foot sliding over the front tracks. While overstriding, the horse should have no vertical action with its hock, only forward motion. The head shake should be a vertical motion that is in perfect rhythm and cadence with the horses legs. The head shake, front legs, and rear legs should all be in cadence/rhythm together. The horses “rear end” should not be out behind, but up under itself. And should have not tendency to pace, rack, or trot. If he isn’t shaking, he isn’t walking.

(3) The Running Walk is also a smooth four beat gait. This is a faster gait where the horse “extends” his stride and covers more ground with each step. Excessive speed is not desirable.

(4) The Canter/Lope is a three beat gait. While traveling counter clockwise the horse should exhibit the left canter lead. The first beat of the left lead is the right rear leg, followed by the left rear and right front together, ending with the left front. On the third beat the horses left front and left rear legs will be “leading” the right. The reverse of this will be the right lead. The Tennessee Walking horse often has a distinct “rocking” motion while cantering, which has led to it being described as “The Rocking Chair Canter”.

## B. General Rules for All Flat Shod Entries:



(1) Bits with shanks over 9 ½” are prohibited. (This should be checked by the judge as they walk the line up) The bits should be measured from the very top of the metal to the very bottom of the metal.

(2) Gag bits without shanks are prohibited.

(3) Cross Chain Cavessons are prohibited.

(4) Martingales and tie downs are prohibited. Exceptions: TWH Over Fences, Barrel Racing, and Pole Bending Classes.

(5) Australian Stock Saddles are prohibited.

(6) Lubricants, artificial appliances, boots, pads, action devices, and tail braces are prohibited.

(7) Severe bits are discouraged; bleeding mouths must be penalized in final judging.

(8) Extremely tight curb chains must be penalized. Curb chains must be flat against the jaw and be at least ½” wide.

(9) Whips or crops cannot exceed four feet.

(10) At all gaits, bumping or pumping of the reins or saddle must be penalized.

- (11) A horse that does not canter both ways of the ring cannot be placed above one that does.
- (12) A horse that is on the wrong lead or is cross-cantering should be penalized.
- (13) All Flat Shod Classes must be backed individually.
- (14) Braids shall be worn in English classes, but not in Western.
- (15) To be judged on true pleasure quality and performance of the horse and neatness and appearance of the horse and exhibitor.
- (16) All flat shod shoes will be attached only by nails. Other than the shoe and nails used to attach them, no other substance or device of any nature or description including, but not limited to adhesives, shall be on the bottom of the foot.

### **C. Special Rules for All Western Flat Shod Entries:**

- (1) Cavessons **prohibited**
- (2) Australian Stock Saddle **prohibited**
- (3) Snaffle bits are permitted in all flat shod classes (English or Western)  
A snaffle bit is a bit that has no shanks and puts direct pressure on the corners of the horses mouth.
- (4) Horses four years of age and younger may be ridden with two hands provided that:
  - (a.) A snaffle bit or Bosal is being used.
- (5) A Bosal or ordinary ring snaffles may be used on four year old or younger western flat shod pleasure horses. When using a bosal or snaffle, the rider may use two hands on the reins. The ordinary ring snaffle bit has a broken mouth piece with conventional O-rings, egg-butt, or D-rings, and the ring must be no larger than four inches in diameter. Optional loose chin strap of leather or nylon only is permitted. Reins should be attached above the chin strap. A Bosal may be used in any flat shod or versatility class.
- (6) Any western horse using a curb bit **MUST** neck rein. (Regardless of its age)
- (7) Western Horses must be ridden on a loose rein.
- (8) Western horses must be reversed away from the rail (to the inside)
- (9) Reins must be held in one hand and cannot be changed during the performance.
- (10) When using split reins, a hand around the reins or index finger between reins is permitted, but the free hand is not allowed to touch the reins.
- (11) Romal reins mean an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension is allowed to be carried in the free hand with approximately 16" spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal. The Romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse in any way. When using the Romal, a hand should be around the reins, but a finger between the reins is not permitted.
- (12) The Judge may call for a halt on the rail to test for quietness. Horses must stand quietly on the rail.
- (13) At the discretion of the Judge, the horse may be asked to back clear of the line up and do a 360 degree neck reined turn preferably either right or left, exhibitor's discretion.
- (14) In Western classes, silver mounted equipment shall not count over good working equipment.

## D. Country Pleasure:

Country Pleasure is an amateur division. Country Pleasure classes may be both specialty or canter classes however, to have a country pleasure canter class at a show a specialty class must also be offered. The gaits required are the Flat Walk, Running Walk, and Canter.

The Trail Pleasure Walk may be asked for at the Judges discretion. The Country Pleasure horse should represent the epitome of the flat shod pleasure horse. He displays true pleasure qualities, along with the natural gaits of the Tennessee Walking Horse. A Country Pleasure Horse should never have a tendency to rack, pace, or trot. The canter/lope should be relaxed and consistent with no sign of effort from the exhibitor. Animation is not desirable, but they should exhibit a smooth, gliding flat walk, and running walk, with a cadenced head shake. The gait should be level with both front and rear legs, never "hitchy". It should display a balanced, fluid, rhythmic motion. Manners are paramount in this division. The rider may ride with two hands in both English or Western Tack and attire, (not a combination of both) but the reins must be light or relaxed. The Country Pleasure horse should stand quietly in the line up, and back readily upon the Judges request.

(Country Pleasure horses do not have to be registered.)

**Horses entered in these classes (Country Pleasure) are not eligible to show in any of the Walking Horse Trail Pleasure, Lite Shod, Plantation Pleasure, Classic Pleasure, or Park Pleasure Classes at the same show. A registered Country Pleasure Horse is eligible for Academy, Halter, Equitation, and Versatility at the same show.**

### (1) Procedure

Possible gaits; Flat Walk, Running Walk, Canter, and Trail Walk

- (a.) Country Pleasure Horses should enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits reverse and repeat. May be asked to do a Trail Walk at the discretion of the Judge.
- (b.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the Judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.

### (2) Shoeing and Special Equipment Rules for Country Pleasure

- (a.) Maximum 3/8" thick X 3/4" wide Stamped (poured or cast) Hot or Cold Rolled steel or aluminum keg shoe. (both front and hind feet) See D. General Requirements and Equipment, rule 29.
- (b.) Poured or Cast Clips, if poured in the original cast. (May not be welded on)
- (c.) Poured or cast heels, (caulks) if poured in the original cast (may not be welded on)
- (d.) Borium is allowed on the toe (1 1/2" wide at the toe and spots on heels no more than 1/8" thick)
- (e.) Cavessons are allowed with both English and Western tack.

(f.) Cross chain cavessons are prohibited.

(3) Tack and Attire

(a.) Riders tack and attire may either be English or Western, but not a combination of both.

(4) Suggested Classes

- Amateur Country Pleasure
- Youth Country Pleasure
- English Country Pleasure
- Western Country Pleasure
- Championship Country Pleasure
- Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and/or exhibitors.

## **E. Trail Pleasure**

The Trail Pleasure horse, like the country pleasure horse, should also represent the epitome of the flat shod pleasure horse. Although there are similarities between the two, there should also be distinct differences. A trail pleasure entry should display a true four beat gait at the flat walk and running walk and never have any tendency to trot, rack or pace. These gaits will be more pronounced than that of a country pleasure horse. They should display a more defined flat walk, and running walk, which may include a longer stride and more pronounced head shake. Although animation is not desirable, the trail pleasure horse may be slightly more animated than the country pleasure horse.

The trail pleasure horse may be asked to complete four different gaits; the flat walk, the running walk, the trail pleasure walk, and the canter/lope. The Judge should expect these entries to have effortless gaits geared toward encouraging stamina and longevity on the trail. The canter/lope should be relaxed and consistent with no sign of effort from the exhibitor. There should be no bumping or pumping of the reins at any gait.

In the Western Trail Pleasure class the Judge may also ask for a “halt” at any time during the class. In the line up, the Judge may also ask the rider to complete a 360 degree neck reined turn, either to the right or left, exhibitor’s discretion. The Western Trail Pleasure horse will have a lower, more natural headset, than the English Trail Pleasure Horse. Western exhibitors must ride on a loose rein at all gaits, this along with neck reining and the lower head set are the main factors that set the Western horse apart from the English entry.

Trail Pleasure is an Amateur division and are not allowed to show in country pleasure, lite shod, plantation pleasure, classic pleasure, or park pleasure classes during the same show. They are eligible to show in halter, equitation, academy, and versatility classes at the same show. A show may add an open 4 and under trail pleasure class IF they also offer an amateur 4 and under trail pleasure class.



## (1) English Trail Pleasure

### Possible Gaits - Trail Walk, Flat Walk, Running Walk, Canter

#### (a.) Procedure

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits (Flat Walk, Running Walk, Canter) reverse and repeat. May be asked to do a Trail Walk at the discretion of the Judge.
- (ii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the Judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.
- (iii.) Entries must work on a light/relaxed rein at all gaits.

#### (b.) Shoeing Requirements for English Trail Pleasure

- (i.) Maximum 3/8" thick x 3/4" wide Hot or Cold Rolled Steel or aluminum shoe (both front and hind feet) See D. General Requirements and Equipment, rule 29.
- (ii.) Borium allowed on the caulks of shoe but the thickness of shoe, caulk, and borium must not exceed 7/8" in thickness.
- (iii.) Maximum 1 1/2" turn back (measured from front to back of caulk)
- (iv.) Clips Optional when drawn from the original steel, or poured.

#### (c.) Tack

- (i.) Standard English bridle with single rein
- (ii.) Cross chain cavessons **prohibited**.
- (iii.) Gag bits with no shanks **prohibited**

#### (d.) Attire

- (i.) English riding habit (saddle suit) under passes on pants.
- (ii.) Riding boots
- (iii.) Spurs (optional)
- (iv.) English riding hat/helmets (optional)
- (v.) Exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed. Long hair styled so that the back number can be easily seen.
- (vi.) Whips/crops not to exceed 4 feet.

#### (e.) Suggested Classes

- Amateur English Trail Pleasure Adults 18 and over (Specialty)
- Amateur English Trail Pleasure Adults 18 and over (Canter )
- Youth English Trail Pleasure 11 and under (Specialty)
- Youth English Trail Pleasure 17 and under (Specialty)
- Youth English Trail Pleasure 17 and under (Canter )
- English Trail Pleasure Championships
- Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and/or exhibitors.

## (2) Western Trail Pleasure

### Possible Gaits - Trail Walk, Flat Walk, Running Walk, Lope

(a.) Procedure

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits, Flat Walk, Running Walk, and Lope (unless it is a specialty class) reverse and repeat. May be asked to do a Trail Walk at the discretion of the Judge.
- (ii.) The Western Trail Pleasure horse should reverse toward the center of the ring. (Away from the rail) This is a test to see if the horse neck reins.
- (iii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the Judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.
- (iv.) The Judge may also ask for a "halt" at any time during the class. In the line up, the Judge may ask the rider to complete a 360 degree neck reined turn, either to the right or left, exhibitor's discretion.
- (v.) Western entries must work on a loose rein at all gaits.

(b.) Shoeing Requirements for Western Trail Pleasure

- (i.) Maximum 3/8" thick x 3/4" wide Hot or Cold Rolled Steel or aluminum shoe (both front and hind feet) See General Requirements and Equipment, rule 29.
- (ii.) Borium allowed on the caulks of shoe but the thickness of shoe, caulk, and borium must not exceed 7/8" in thickness.
- (iii.) Maximum 1 1/2" turn back (measured from front to back of caulk)
- (iv.) Clips Optional when poured or drawn from the original steel.

(c.) Tack

- (i.) Western saddle and bridle. (Silver equipment shall not count over good working equipment)
- (ii.) Split reins, romal reins, or bosal.
- (iii.) No colored brow-bands.
- (iv.) Cavessons **prohibited**
- (v.) Australian saddles **prohibited**

(d.) Attire

- (i) Mandatory
  1. Western hat or helmet
  2. Long sleeved shirt
  3. Boots
- (ii.) Optional
  1. Chaps
  2. Spurs
  3. Jackets/vests

(e.) Suggested Classes for Western Trail Pleasure

(see classes for English Trail Pleasure) Replace canter with Lope.

## F. Lite Shod

The lite shod horse should display elegant and classic beauty while performing the flat walk and running walk effortlessly. Manners are also paramount in this class. The lite shod horse will reflect more animation than the country pleasure, or trail pleasure horse. This entry should be “light and airy” on its front feet. It should have a long, gliding overstride, that never exhibits a “crampy” way of going. This horse should never show tendencies to pace, trot, or rack. The lite shod horse’s hind legs should always be in a forward motion and should never have vertical hock motion or be “out behind” itself.

The English Lite shod horse should be high headed and alert, but never nervous. The Western Lite Shod horse should have a lower head set (not an English horse in Western Equipment) and work on a loose rein. This, along with neck reining, are qualities that set the Western horse apart from the English horse.

The lite shod horse should display show “presence” while still exhibiting true pleasure qualities.

## **(1) English Lite Shod**

### **Possible Gaits - Flat Walk, Running Walk, Canter**

#### **(a.) Procedure**

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits, Flat Walk, Running Walk, and Canter, (unless a specialty class ) reverse and repeat.
- (ii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the Judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.
- (iii.) Entries should work on a light/relaxed rein at all gaits.

#### **(b.) Shoeing Requirements for English Lite Shod**

- (i.) Maximum 1/2” thick x 1” wide Hot or Cold Rolled Steel or aluminum shoe (both front and hind feet)see D. General Requirement and Equipment, rule 29.
- (ii.) Maximum 1 1/2” turnback. (measured from front to back of caulk)
- (iii.) Borium allowed on the caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8”.
- (iv.) Clips Optional when drawn from the original steel, or poured.
- (v.) Maximum 1/2” thick x 1” wide (open to any steel): This class may be offered as long as the traditional (open to hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe) Lite Shod class is also offered. (Added May 2013)

#### **(c.) Tack**

- (i.) English saddle
- (ii.) Standard English bridle with single rein
- (iii.) Gag bits with no shank **prohibited**
- (iv.) Cross chain cavessons **prohibited**

(d.) Attire

- (i.) English riding suit - underpasses on pants
- (ii.) English boots
- (iii.) English hat or helmet

(e.) Suggested Classes for English Lite Shod

- English Lite Shod Canter
- English Lite Shod Specialty
- English Lite Shod Championship
- English Lite Shod Youth
- English Lite Shod Owner-Amateur Trained
- English Lite Shod Ladies or Gentlemen
- English Lite Shod Two Year Old (Maximum of 10 minutes total workout.)
- English Lite Shod Three Year Old
- English Lite Shod Four Year Old
- Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and/or exhibitors. Classes may be divided into open and amateur classes.

## **(2)Western Lite Shod**

### **Possible Gaits- Flat Walk, Running Walk, Lope**

(a.) Procedure

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits (Flat Walk, Running Walk, Lope) reverse and repeat.
- (ii.) The Western Lite Shod Horse should reverse toward the center of the ring. (Away from the rail) This is a test to see if the horse neck reins.
- (iii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the Judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.
- (iv.) The Judge may also ask for a "halt" at any time during the class. In the line up, the Judge may ask the rider to complete a 360 degree neck reined turn, either to the right or left, exhibitor's discretion.
- (v.) Western horses should work on a loose rein at all gaits.

(b.) Shoeing Requirements for Western Lite Shod

- (i.) Maximum 1/2" thick x 1" wide Hot or Cold Rolled Steel or aluminum shoe (both front and hind feet) see D. General Requirement and Equipment, rule 29.
- (ii.) Maximum 1 1/2" turn back. (measured from front to back of caulk)
- (iii.) Borium allowed on the caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8".
- (iv.) Clips Optional when drawn from the original steel, or poured.
- (v.) Maximum 1/2" thick x 1" wide (open to any steel): This class may be offered as long as the traditional (open to hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe) Lite Shod class is also offered. (Added May 2013)

- (c.) Tack
  - (i.) Western saddle and bridle. (Silver equipment shall not count over good working equipment)
  - (ii.) Split reins, romal reins, or bosal.
  - (iii.) No colored brow-bands.
  - (iv.) Cavessons - **prohibited**
  - (v.) Australian saddles - **prohibited**
  
- (d.) Attire
  - (i.) Mandatory
    - 1. Western hat or helmet
    - 2. Long sleeved shirt
    - 3. Boots
  - (ii.) Optional
    - 1. Chaps
    - 2. Spurs
    - 3. Jackets/Vests
  
- (e.) Suggested Classes for Western Lite Shod  
See suggested classes for English Lite Shod and replace canter with lope

## **G. Plantation Pleasure**

The Plantation Pleasure horse should display the same characteristics as the lite-shod horse, elegant and beautiful while effortlessly performing the flat walk and running walk in a true rhythmic four beat gait. Lots of head shake is quite desirable in this class. The Plantation horse will be slightly more animated in the front than the Lite-Shod horse. It should have a long, gliding overstride, with its hind legs always in a forward motion. This horse should never show tendencies to pace, trot, or rack.

The English Plantation Pleasure horse should be high headed and alert with show horse qualities. The Western Plantation Pleasure horse should have a natural head set and work on a loose rein. This, along with neck reining, are qualities that set the Western horse apart from the English horse. Manners and disposition are paramount for this horse.

### **(1) English Plantation Pleasure**

#### **Possible Gaits - Flat walk, Running walk, Canter**

- (a.) Procedure
  - (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gaits (Flat Walk, Running Walk, Canter) reverse and repeat.

(ii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line-up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.

(b.) Shoeing Requirements For English Plantation Pleasure

- (i.) Maximum 1/2" thick x 3/4" Wide Open to any steel. (both front and hind feet)
- (ii.) Borium allowed on caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8"
- (iii.) Maximum 1 1/2" Turn back (measured from front to back of caulk)
- (iv.) Clips optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

(c.) Tack

- (i.) English saddle
- (ii.) Standard English bridle - single rein
- (iii.) Cross chain cavessons **prohibited**
- (iv.) Gag bits without shanks **prohibited**
- (v.) Bit not to exceed 9 1/2" in length

(d.) Attire

- (i.) English riding suit - under passes on pants
- (ii.) English boots
- (iii.) English hat or helmet

(e.) Suggested Classes for English Plantation Pleasure

- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Canter)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Specialty)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Championship)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Youth)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Owner-Amateur Trained)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Ladies or Gentlemen)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Two Year Old)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Three Year Old)
- \* English Plantation Pleasure (Four Year Old)
- \* Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and and/or exhibitors.
- \*Classes may be divided into Open and Amateur.

## (2) Western Plantation Pleasure

### Possible Gaits - Flat Walk, Running Walk, Lope

(a.) Procedure

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counter clockwise and continue at the required Gaits (Flat Walk, Running Walk, Lope)
- (ii.) The Western Plantation Pleasure horse should reverse toward the center of the ring (away from the rail). This is a test to see if the horse neck reins.

- (iii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually
- (iv.) The judge may also ask for a “halt” at any time during the class. In the lineup, the judge may ask the rider to back clear from the line up and perform a 360 degree neck rein turn either to the right or left at the exhibitors discretion

(b.) Shoeing Requirements for Western Plantation

- (i.) Maximum ½” thick x ¾” Wide Open to any steel. (both front and hind feet)
- (ii.) Borium allowed on caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8”
- (iii.) Maximum 1 ½” Turn back (measured from front to back of caulk)
- (iv.) Clips optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

(c.) Tack

- (i.) Western saddle and bridle (Silver equipment should not count over good working equipment)
- (ii.) Split reins, romal reins, or bosal
- (iii.) No colored brow-bands
- (iv.) Cavessons **prohibited**
- (v.) Australian saddles **prohibited**
- (vi.) Bit not to exceed 9 ½” in length

(d.) Attire

- (i.) Mandatory
  1. Western hat or helmet
  2. Long sleeve shirt
  3. Boots
- (ii.) Optional
  1. Chaps
  2. Spurs
  3. Jackets/vests

(e.) Suggested Class for Western Plantation

See suggested class for English Plantation Pleasure and replace canter with lope.

## H. Classic Park Pleasure

The Classic Park Pleasure horse should display a true four beat gait at the flat walk and running walk. This horse will be slightly more animated than the Lite-Shod and Plantation horse, so they should have a more defined flat walk and running walk which should include a longer stride with its rear legs, and animated in the front with a natural reach, along with a more pronounced head shake. Tendencies to trot, rack, or pace are not desirable in this horse.

The English Classic Park horse should be high headed, alert and display show horse qualities. The Western Classic Park horse should have a natural head set and work on a loose rein. This, along with neck reining, are qualities that set the Western horse apart from the English horse.

## **(1) English Classic Park Pleasure**

### **Possible Gaits- Flat walk, Running walk, Canter**

#### **(a.) Procedure**

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counter clockwise and continue at the required Gaits (Flat walk, Running walk, Canter) Reverse and repeat.
- (ii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually

#### **(b.) Shoeing Requirements for English Classic Park**

- (i.) Maximum ½" thick x 1 ½ "wide Hot/Cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe . See D. General Requirement and Equipment,rule 29.
- (ii.) Borium allowed on caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8"
- (iii.) Maximum 1 5/8" turn back (measured from back to front of caulk.)
- (iv.) Clips optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

#### **(c.) Tack and Attire**

- (i.) English Saddle
- (ii.) Standard English bridle - single rein
- (iii.) Bit not to exceed 9 ½" in length
- (iv.) Gag bits without shanks **prohibited**
- (v.) Cross chain cavessons **prohibited**

#### **(d.) Attire**

- (i.) English riding suit - under passes on pants
- (ii.) English boots
- (iii.) English hat or helmet

#### **(e.) Suggested Classes for English Classic Park**

- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Canter)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Specialty)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Championship)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Youth)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Owner-Amateur Trained)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Ladies or Gentlemen)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Two and Three Year Olds)
- \* English Classic Park Pleasure (Four Year Old)
- \* Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and/or exhibitors.
- \*Class may be divided into Open and Amateur classes.



## (2) Western Classic Park Pleasure

### Possible Gaits - Flat walk, Running walk, Lope

#### (a.) Procedure

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat walk and go counter clockwise and continue at the required Gaits (Flat walk, Running walk, Lope) reverse and repeat
- (ii.) The Western Classic Park horse should reverse toward the center of the ring, away from the rail. This is a test to see if the horse neck reins.
- (iii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.
- (iv.) The judge may also ask for a "halt" at any time during the class. In the line-up, the judge may ask the rider to back clear of the line up and perform a 360 degree neck reined turn, either to the right or left, exhibitors discretion.

#### (b.) Shoeing Requirements for Western Classic Park Pleasure

- (i.) Maximum ½" thick x 1 ½ "wide Hot/Cold rolled steel or aluminum shoe . See D. General Requirements and Equipment,rule 29.
- (ii.) Borium allowed on caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8"
- (iii.) Maximum 1 5/8" turn back (measured from back to front of caulk.)
- (iv.) Clips optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

#### (c.) Tack

- (i.) Western saddle and bridle (Silver equipment shall not count over good working equipment)
- (ii.) Split reins, romal reins, or bosal
- (iii.) No colored brow-bands
- (iv.) Cavessons **prohibited**
- (v.) Australian saddles **prohibited**
- (vi.) Bits not to exceed 9 ½" in length

#### (d.) Attire

- (i.) Mandatory
  1. Western hat or helmet
  2. Long sleeved shirt
  3. Boots
  
- (ii.) Optional
  1. Chaps
  2. Spurs
  3. Jackets/vests

#### (e.) Suggested Classes for Western Classic Park Pleasure

See suggested classes for English Classic Park Pleasure and replace canter with lope.

## **I. Park Pleasure**

The Park Pleasure horse is the most animated of the flat shod divisions. This horse should roll out of its shoulders with a natural reach with its front legs. It should have a long gliding overstride and be slightly elevated. The Park horse should display more definition when performing its gaits, along with a more pronounced head shake. Although more animated than the other horses in the flat shod division, this horse should never look artificial or cramped in its way of going. The Park horse should perform its required gaits effortlessly. This horse should display a true four beat gait, and should never display tendencies to trot, rack, or pace, as these are undesirable qualities. Always remember manners are paramount in all Flat Shod classes.

The English Park horse should be high headed, alert, and a show horse at all times. The Western Park horse should have a lower, more natural head set which better depicts a western mount.

### **(1) English Park Pleasure**

#### **Possible Gaits - Flat walk, Running walk, Canter**

##### **(a.) Procedure**

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk and go counterclockwise and continue at the required gates (Flat Walk, Running Walk, and Canter) reverse and repeat.
- (ii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.

##### **(b.) Shoeing Requirements for English Park Pleasure**

- (i.) Maximum 1/2" thick x 1 1/2" wide Open to any Steel
- (ii.) Borium allowed on caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8"
- (iii.) Maximum 1 5/8" turn back (measured from back to front of caulk.)
- (iv.) Clips optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

##### **(c.) Tack**

- (i.) English cut back saddle
- (ii.) Standard English bridle - single rein
- (iii.) Bit not to exceed 9 1/2" in length
- (iv.) Gag bits without shanks prohibited
- (v.) Cross chain cavessons prohibited

##### **(d.) Attire**

- (i.) English riding suit - under passed on pants

- (ii.) English boots
- (iii.) English hat or helmet

(e.) Suggested Classes for English Park Pleasure

- \* English Park Pleasure (Canter)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Specialty)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Championship)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Youth)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Owner-Amateur Trained)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Ladies of Gentlemen)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Two and Three Year Old)
- \* English Park Pleasure (Four Year Old)
- \*Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of the horses and/or exhibitors.
- \*Classes may be divided into Open and Amateur.

## **(2) Western Park Pleasure**

### **Possible Gaits - Flat Walk, Running Walk, Lope**

(a.) Procedure

- (i.) Enter the ring at a Flat Walk, and go counter clockwise and continue at the required Gaits (Flat Walk, Running Walk, and Lope) reverse and repeat
- (ii.) At the completion of the class, the entries will be lined up for the judge to walk the line up and ask each entry to back (readily) individually.

(b.) Shoeing Requirements for Western Park Division

- (i.) Maximum ½" thick x 1 ½ "wide Open to any Steel
- (ii.) Borium allowed on caulks of shoe, but the thickness of the shoe, caulk and borium must not exceed 1 1/8"
- (iii.) Maximum 1 5/8" turn back (measured from back to front of caulk.)
- (iv.) Clips optional when drawn from the original steel or poured.

(c.) Tack

- (i.) Western saddle and bridle (Silver equipment shall not count over good working equipment)
- (ii.) Split reins, romal reins, or bosal
- (iii.) No colored brow-bands
- (iv.) Cavessons prohibited
- (v.) Australian saddles are prohibited.
- (vi.) Bits not to exceed 9 ½" in length

(d.) Attire

- (i.) Mandatory
  1. Western hat or helmet
  2. Long sleeved shirt

### 3. Boots

#### (ii.) Optional

1. Chaps
2. Spurs
3. Jackets/vests

#### (e.) Suggested Classes For Western Park Pleasure

- \* Western Park Pleasure (Lope)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Specialty)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Championship)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Youth)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Owner-Amateur Trained)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Ladies or Gentlemen)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Two and Three Year Olds)
- \* Western Park Pleasure (Four Year Olds)
- \* Classes may be divided further by age and/or sex of horses and and/or exhibitors.
- \*Classes may be divided into Open and Amateur.

## **J. Flat Shod Pleasure Driving**

Performance of the horse shall be paramount and in no way overshadowed by equipment turnout. Horse to enter the ring (counter clockwise) and work both ways of the ring at flat walk and running walk. Reverse to be executed on the diagonal at a walk or at the direction of the ring master. The horse is to line up, stand quietly, and back readily. Pleasure horse qualities paramount. The horse should be judged with the same general qualities as the flat-shod pleasure horse. The following are suggestions to be used in judging. 70% on manners, performance, condition, style and way of going; 20 % on fit, condition and appropriateness of harness and vehicle; 10% on conformation and neatness of exhibitor.

Snaffle Bit is required; separate overcheck bit is optional. Fine Harness vehicles are prohibited in pleasure driving. Strongly recommended pleasure driving appointments and rules:

(1) Harness is traditionally black or brown leather with square patent leather blinkers, snaffle bridle with side check or overcheck, and running martingale.

(2) Driving vehicle may be two or four wheel and of suitable appearance and safety. Show management may choose to limit classes to two wheel carts or four wheel vehicles. It is recommended that large classes be divided by show management. Breeching is not used with wire wheels and is recommended with wooded wheel vehicle. Exhibitor only allowed in cart except youth exhibitor may have one adult attendant in cart.

(3) Header should be called in at the line up for safety reasons, and be allowed to unfasten over check and wipe the horse off, but shall not hold the horse. If the header holds the horse, the horse must be penalized.

(4) Ladies shall wear conservative dress, blouse and skirt, shirt and jods with apron, saddle suit or day coat and jods. Men should wear business suit, saddle suit, sport jacket and slacks. Gloves are recommend, apron and hats are optional.

(5) An uncontrollable horse must be immediately dismissed with assistance if necessary. The judge must excuse an exhibitor with unsafe vehicle or harness.

(6) Show management may offer other classes such as antique or period, drive and ride, and obstacle.

## **6. SHOW PLEASURE AND PARK PERFORMANCE**

### **A. General Rules for Show Pleasure and Park Performance**

(1) Performs two gaits – flat walk and running walk

(2) Allowed use of acceptable pads and action device

(3) Horses shall be shown with a light and steady rein without pulling, pumping or jerking

(4) Braids to be worn

(5) English tack and attire are mandatory

(a.) Tack

(i.) English saddle

(ii.) Standard English bridle with single rein

(iii.) Standard walking horse bit

(iv.) Cross chain cavessons prohibited

(v.) Gag bits without shanks are **prohibited**

(b.) Attire

(i.) English riding suit (saddle suit) underpasses on pants

(ii.) English riding hat or helmet

(iii.) Boots

(6.) Whips or crops are allowed and shall be four feet (4') or less

(7.) Braced tails and humane tails prohibited

### **B. SHOW PLEASURE**

#### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION, RULES AND JUDGING CRITERIA**

The Show Pleasure horse should demonstrate show qualities in the ring but foremost the horse should be a pleasure to ride. Emphasis should be placed on manners, quality and suitability to the exhibitor while performing the gaits.

The performance of the horse should present an effortless ride for the exhibitor. The flat walk should be a four-cornered movement with the front legs showing breaking and reaching. The

rear legs shall follow through close to the ground and overstriding the front tracks. The running walk should be the same motion as the flat walk but with additional speed.

The Show Pleasure horse should be high headed with his neck arched and tucked at the muzzle and his head shaking in cadence with his leg movement. In the execution of gaits this horse should not be compared to horses in the Performance Division.

A laboring, square going horse or a horse hitting on its heels will not be accepted in the Show Pleasure class and this type of horse may be excused.

The Show Pleasure horse is allowed pads and action devices that are acceptable in the Performance Division.

Judges should value the innate grace and beauty of the TWH instead of rewarding the manufactured extravagant and exaggerated gaits. This will facilitate a more rapid return to horsemanship and training devoid of intolerable abuses.

One attendant may be allowed in the ring during the lineup in Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Classes only for the purpose of aiding, assisting and encouraging the exhibitor. The attendant may not touch the horse below the knees, unless directed to do so by the Judge. **SHOW strongly recommends that an attendant comes into the ring during the line up in ALL 11 and under classes (regardless of division).**

If any horse that has been judged comes out of a class line-up presenting an unacceptable image, the Judge shall report the class and entry number to SHOW. A "Letter of Warning" will be sent to the trainer.

## **C. PARK PERFORMANCE**

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION, RULES AND JUDGING CRITERIA**

The Park Performance horse should exhibit natural animation and smoothness in its gaits. In the execution of gaits this horse should not be compared to horses in the Performance Division. Emphasis should be put on manners, quality and suitability to the exhibitor while performing the gaits.

The gaits are to be performed with the exhibitor having an effortless ride. The flat walk should be a four cornered movement showing slight elevation with breaking and reaching of the horses front legs. The rear legs should follow through close to the ground and overstriding the front tracks.

The running walk should be the same motion as the flat walk but with additional speed. In the performance of his gaits the head should be high, arched at the neck and tucked at the muzzle with his head shaking in rhythm with the leg movement.

The Park Performance horse is allowed to have flat pads, wedge pads, or a combination of both that do not exceed a thickness of one inch (1"). Rock back pads are not allowed. Acceptable action devices are allowed.

Judges should value the innate grace and beauty of the TWH instead of rewarding the manufactured extravagant and exaggerated gaits. This will facilitate a more rapid return to horsemanship and training devoid of intolerable abuses.

One attendant may be allowed in the ring during the lineup in Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Classes only for the purpose of aiding, assisting and encouraging the exhibitor. The attendant may not touch the horse below the knees, unless directed to do so by the Judge. **SHOW strongly recommends that an attendant comes into the ring during the line up in ALL 11 and under classes (regardless of division).**

If any horse that has been judged comes out of a class line-up presenting an unacceptable image, the Judge shall report the class and entry number to SHOW. A "Letter of Warning" will be sent to the trainer.

#### **D. Suggested classes for Show Pleasure or Park Performance**

- Open
- Amateur
- Ladies
- Gentlemen
- Four and Under
- Youth Exhibitor
- Classes may be further divided by sex/age of horse or exhibitor.

## **7. PERFORMANCE, FINE HARNESS, SPECIAL CLASSES**

### **A. Performance Division**

(1) General Description, Rules, and Judging Criteria:

A Performance Horse is a horse that has received training to accentuate the natural gaits associated with the breed. Such horses must perform with action devices to give an added dimension to their performance in the ring. Performance Horses must be shown in pads as required by the shoeing rules and regulations. The Performance Horse pads must exceed those of the Park Performance division. Performance Horses are shown with braced tails, either Walking Horse or humane type. (Caps and Switches are optional).

The Performance Horse should move freely in each gait and proceed in a smooth, fluid, rhythmic manner. At all gaits the horse should be flexed at the poll with muzzle slightly tucked. Stiff front or rear leg motion, stumbling, bucking knees, lack of rhythmic timing, pointing or favoring a particular leg, necessity for excessive pumping or bumping of the horse, or any tendency to rack pace or other deviation from the true walk are not typical of the breed. The preceding mannerisms are not considered good form and shall be penalized in judging.

Presentation. All entries should be presented clean, neatly trimmed, braided, and in good flesh presenting a healthy appearance. Each entry should be outfitted in clean and appropriate tack. The exhibitor of each entry should be neat in appearance, attired in properly fitted riding habits and shall conduct themselves in sportsman like manner at all times. A horse that has not performed all required gaits shall not be placed over a horse that has performed all gaits.

(2) Attire

- (a.) English riding habit (saddle suit) underpasses on pants.
- (b.) Riding boots
- (c.) Spurs (Optional)
- (d.) English riding hat/helmets (Optional)
- (e.) Exhibitor's hair must be neat and well groomed. Long hair styled so that the back number can be seen easily
- (f.) Whips/Crops not to exceed four (4) feet.

(3) Tack

- (a.) English saddle
- (b.) Standard English bridle with single rein
- (c.) Gag bits with no shanks **prohibited**
- (d.) Severe bits are discouraged (Bleeding mouths should be penalized in final judging)
- (e.) Quick change bridles and reins are not permitted

(4) Conformation. In general appearance, the Tennessee Walking Horse should have an intelligent look, neat head, well- shaped and pointed ears, clear and alert eyes, and a tapered muzzle. The neck should be long and graceful and the shoulders muscular and well sloping. The back should be short with good coupling at the loins. The animal should be deep in the girth and well ribbed and the chest should be of good proportion and width. The croup should be generally sloping and the hips well muscled.

(5) Qualifying Gaits

- (a.) The Flat Walk should be a smooth four beat gait. The two factors that make this smooth gait distinctive to our breed are the overstride of the hind legs, along with a head shake. Overstride can be described as the hind foot sliding over the front tracks. While overstriding, the horse should have no vertical action with its hock, only forward motion. The head shake should be a vertical motion that is in perfect rhythm and cadence with the horses legs. The head shake, front legs, and rear legs should be in cadence/rhythm together. The forelegs should move straight, breaking at the knees and reaching forward in an elevated arc. The horse "rear end" should not be out behind, but up under itself. The horse should not have a tendency to pace, rack or trot. If he isn't shaking he isn't walking.



(b.) The Running Walk is also a smooth, four beat gait. This is a faster gait where the horse “extends” his stride and covers more ground with each step. Excessive speed is not desirable.

(c.) The Canter is a three beat gait. While traveling counter clockwise the horse should exhibit the left canter lead. The first beat of the left lead is the right rear leg, followed by the left rear and the right front together, ending with the left front. On the third beat, the horses left front and left rear legs will be ‘leading” the right. The reverse of this will be the right lead. The Tennessee Walking Horse has a distinct “rocking” motion while cantering, which has led it to being described as “The Rocking Chair Canter”. The canter should be smooth and straight on both leads comfortably in hand. Exaggerated “pumping” of the horse at the canter is not considered good form.

Judges should value the innate grace and beauty of this breed instead of rewarding the manufactured extravagant and exaggerated gaits. This will facilitate a more rapid return to horsemanship and training devoid of intolerable abuses.

One attendant may be allowed in the ring during the lineup in Amateur and Youth Exhibitor Classes only for the purpose of aiding, assisting and encouraging the exhibitor. The attendant may not touch the horse below the knees, unless directed to do so by the Judge. **SHOW strongly recommends that an attendant comes into the ring during the line up in ALL 11 and under classes (regardless of division).**

If any horse that has been judged comes out of a class line-up presenting an unacceptable image, the Judge shall report the class and entry number to SHOW. A “Letter of Warning” will be sent to the trainer.

Open Classes are open to all exhibitors in keeping with specified class requirements outlined above.

(6) Suggested classes are:

\*Two Year Old Class (No Canter) Maximum 10 minutes continuous work-out time.

\*Three Year Old Class (No Canter)

\*Four Year Old Class (Canter Required) Exception: Shows offering a Four Year Old Open Canter class may also offer Four Year Old Open Specialty Classes.

\*Five Year Old and Over Class

\*Fine Harness Class (No Canter)

\*Over 15.2 Hands Class

\*Specialty Classes

\*Championship Classes

\*Walking Horse Stake

Note: Open Classes may be divided further by sex/age of entries and offer Championships.

Amateur Classes are open to amateur riders in keeping with specific class requirements. Suggested classes are:

- \*Amateur Exhibitors on Two Year Olds (No Canter)
- \*Amateur Exhibitors on Three Year Olds (No Canter)
- \*Amateur Exhibitor on Four Year Olds (No Canter)
- \*Walking Horse Trainer's Auxiliary Members' Class
- \*Amateur Exhibitors 50 and Over
- \*Amateur Exhibitors 60 and Over
- \*Amateur Exhibitors 70 and Over
- \*Ladies' Amateur, Exhibitors 18 and Over
- \*Ladies' Amateur Fine Harness (No Canter)
- \*Gentlemen Amateur Exhibitors 18 and Over
- \*Gentlemen Amateur Fine Harness (No Canter)
- \*Amateur Open Classes
- \*Amateur Fine Harness (No Canter)
- \*Amateur Trained, no professional training within 90 days\*
- \*Amateur Trained, no professional training ever\*
- \*Amateur Exhibitors on 15.2 Hands and Under Walking Horses
- \*Amateur Ponies
- \*Championship Classes
- \*Amateur Stake

\*Professional training shall include grooming, warming up or riding the horse, bracing, coaching or giving instructions by a professional on the show rounds. Bracing is not allowed by a professional

Note: Amateur Classes may be limited to Owner-Amateur Exhibitors. Amateur Classes may be divided up by sex/age of entries or combination of sexes, and offer Championship Classes.

Youth Exhibitors Classes are open to youth exhibitors 17 years old and under, in keeping with specific class requirements. Suggested classes are:

- \*Youth Exhibitors 11 and under on Walking Mares and Geldings (Specialty)
- \*Youth Exhibitors 12-14 on Walking Mares and Geldings (Specialty)
- \*Youth Exhibitors 15-17 on Walking Mares and Geldings (Specialty)
- \*Youth Exhibitors Championships (Specialty)
- \*Walking Ponies, Youth Exhibitors 11 and Under (Specialty)
- \*Walking Ponies, Exhibitors 12-14 (Specialty)
- \*Walking Ponies, Exhibitors 15-17 (Specialty)
- \*Youth Walking Pony Championship (Specialty)
- \*Youth Challenge (Canter) Judged 50% on Flat Walk and Running Walk, 50% on Canter

Note: Walking Pony Classes are 15 hands and under Stallions are permitted. (Classes may be further divided by sex/age of entry)

## **B. Fine Harness**

### (1) General Description, Rules, and Judging Criteria

The Fine Harness entry should be the epitome of the performance show horse and carry itself with class, style and “show presence”. The Fine Harness entry should have a long, keen neck and a beautiful head and ear. It should have good conformation, and be in good flesh. Proper turn out of the horse, harness, cart and driver are paramount and will be considered in final judging.

The Fine Harness horse will be judged both ways of the ring at the flat walk and running walk. The entry should not deviate from the four beat walking gait, and have a rhythmic head shake. Excessive speed shall be penalized.

During the lineup, one properly attired attendant is permitted to enter the show ring, and may uncheck the horse during the lineup.

The Fine Harness entry should be judged 70% on the Walking Gaits, and 30% on conformation and turn out of horse, equipment and driver.

### (2) Equipment

- (a.) Four wheeled buggy with wire spoked wheels (no top)
- (b.) Light harness with martingale and blind bridle
- (c.) Overcheck
- (d.) Snaffle, kimberwick, or liverpool bit. Bit not to exceed 4 ½”
- (e.) Curb chain optional
- (f.) Braced Tail

### (3) Attire:

- (a.) Men
  - (i.) riding suit, formal wear or business suit with hat
  - (ii.) Gloves recommended but optional
- (b.) Ladies
  - (i.) Riding suits, formal wear, or cocktail attire
  - (ii.) Skirts or dresses with slits above the knee should use a lap blanket
  - (iii.) Gloves recommended but optional

## **C. Special Classes**

Special classes may take any form determined by the sponsoring organization. Open to exhibitors in keeping with the general requirements and in conformance with the special rules below. Such classes may include, but are not limited to:

### (1) Walking Horse Trainers’ Auxiliary Class.

To be eligible to show in the Walking Horse Trainers' Auxiliary Class, one must be a member in good standing with the Walking Horse Trainers' Auxiliary. This is a two gait/no canter class (Flat Walk and Running Walk). Horses are to be judged in accordance with criteria for Amateur Classes.

Auxiliary exhibitors are required to wear a snap brim hat, homburg, derby, or their hair up. Hair cannot be below the collar.

## (2) Racking Horse Classes

A Racking Horse is one which has received training to enhance this gait. Braced tails are prohibited. Horses may be shown with pads on feet unless class designation is "Flat Shod".

### (a.) Criteria for Judging Racking Horse Classes:

- General Judging Procedure. All horses enter to the right at a Show Walk and continue at this gait until the entrance gate is closed after which the Judge shall call for performance gaits in the following order: Show Walk, Slow Rack, and Fast Rack. When horses are reversed, the order of the gaits shall be the same. Other elements of judging and class procedure will be the same as for any similar situation covered elsewhere in SHOW Rules and Regulations.

#### (ii.) Qualifying Gaits:

1. Show Walk. The Show Walk is a smooth collected, showy four beat gait.
2. Slow Rack. The Slow Rack is a relaxed four beat gait showing style and grace.
3. Fast Rack. The fast Rack shows the same style and action as the Show Rack, but with speed. Form should not be sacrificed for speed.
4. Style Rack. The Style Rack is a comfortable, easy going rack at which speed is not a factor in judging. Style Racking classes perform two gaits only: Show Walk and Style Rack.

#### (iii.) Classes:

1. Open Classes- May be divided by age/sex of horse/rider and size of horse.
2. Amateur Classes - May be divided by age/sex of horse/rider and size of horse
3. Youth Exhibitor Classes - May be divided by age/sex or horse/rider

## (3) PRO - AM Class

The "PRO - AM" is a performance class with any age horse or professional or amateur rider (does not have to be from the same barn). The professional rider must accompany the amateur rider that is on the horse in the ring to ride the 2<sup>nd</sup> way. At the lineup, the amateur is asked to stand with their horse and the professional rider that is mounted. This is a specialty class.

#### (4) Young Trainers Class

Is a performance class for all Professional Trainers (age to be left up to show management). This is a specialty class.

#### (5) Field Trial Class.

The Field Trial Tack & Attire” class will be judged on its own set of rules. The following criteria will be used for the Field Trial Class; the horse will be judged on a four beat walking gait with an effortless gear toward encouraging stamina and longevity on the trail or at a field trial, rear legs following through close to the ground, head motion in time with the horses movement, manners and responsiveness to the rider; standing quietly and ability to back. The gaits required will be flat walk and favorite gait. If canter is the favorite gait it should be slow, relaxed and consistent with judges giving extra consideration in judging for those horses that canter as their favorite gait. Over striding won't be necessary and animation will not be desired and neither will be an unnatural way of going. Neatness and taste and appropriateness in attire and tack will be encouraged and should be considered in final judging. Any tendency to pace, rack or trot will be penalized. Tack for the class will be the tack necessary for field trialing such as a water jug, field trial saddle, (trooper, Buena Vista or saddle similar), regular walking horse bridle, road rope, gun & gun sheath, saddlebag & etc. Attire will be blue jeans or hunting pants. Horses will be judged 85% on manners, performance condition, style and way of going, fitness and suitability for field trials and responsiveness to rider, 5% on proper attire and neatness of rider; horses will be judged 10% on conformation & beauty. Shanks over 9-1/2” are prohibited. Horse must be shod to meet trail pleasure or country pleasure shoeing requirements.

## **8. EQUITATION, FLAT SHOD WALKING SEAT AND STOCK SEAT**

### **A. Equitation**

#### (1) General Rules, Description and Judging Criteria

In the Equitation Division, the exhibitor, as opposed to the horse, is judged. Equitation is open to youth exhibitors 17 years old and under and adults 18 years old and over.

The term “Equitation” specifically means “The act or art of riding horse back”. In the Walking Horse Industry it is referred to as Walking Seat Equitation.

The Walking Horse's unique center of gravity and gaits require an equitation seat of its own; it is characterized by balance, grace and form. Exhibitors are judged on their seat, hands, ability as it relates to the performance of the horse, appointments of both horse and rider, ring showmanship, and overall presentation.

#### (2) General

- (a.) Horses in this division should be immaculately groomed and properly tacked.
- (b.) All exhibitors in Equitation classes must conform to the rules for personal appointments or be severely penalized.
- (c.) Stallions may be shown by adult exhibitors age 18 and over and may not be shown by youth exhibitors 17 and under.
- (d.) Any exhibitor not having his mount under sufficient control shall be dismissed from the ring.
- (e.) Fall of the exhibitor will eliminate the entry. **Exception** when the rider falls because of contact interference from another rider or horse. In this situation the rider and horse at fault will be excused.
- (f.) No attendant shall be allowed in the ring except at the request of the Judge.
- (g.) When additional tests are desired the Judge's instructions to the exhibitors shall be publicly announced. Tests should be posted one hour before show time. If a pattern is needed in 11 and Under Equitation, or at a one night show, Pattern #1 is to be used.
- (h.) Exhibitors should be familiar with various parts of the horse, tack and rules on Equitation.
- (i.) Unsoundness of the mount shall not penalize an exhibitor unless it is sufficient to impair the required performance, except such unsoundness that violates the HPA and other Rules mentioned elsewhere which shall disqualify both horse and rider.
- (j.) The use of a communication device is strictly prohibited in all Equitation Classes.
- (k.) Equitation is an English class unless specified Stock Seat Equitation
- (l.) Both Flat Shod and Performance horses may be used in Equitation unless class sheet specifically states Flat Shod Equitation.
- (m.) In Equitation 11 and under, one attendant may come into the ring during the line up for safety only.

### (3) Appointments

#### (a.) Personal and Attire

- (i.) The Equitation exhibitor should set the standard in the Walking Horse industry for good taste, and immaculate turn out. Close attention should be paid to the most minute details, including the fit of the riding habit. It should be well fitted with the jodhpur pants covering the heel of the boot (only the toe of the boot should show). Underpasses must be worn to hold the pants in place. The English style riding boots (either calf or patent leather) should match or coordinate with the riding habit and should be polished and shined. Spurs with a small rowel or blunt end, or slip-ons. English riding whips of not more than four feet are allowed.
- (ii.) Informal saddle seat type suit where the riding jacket and jodhpur pants are of the same fabric, which should be a solid color or conservative print or pinstripe. This suit is correct both day and evening. The vest may be of the same fabric as the jacket and pants, or may be a coordinating color. The shirt and tie (of the "four in hand" type) must be neat, well fitted, and clean. Gloves of the same or coordinating color must be worn.

- (iii.) A matching or coordinated hat must be worn. This includes: derby, homburg, or snap brim. It should be clean and rolled to shape.
- (iv.) The semi-formal or tuxedo type one button coat suit is suitable to be worn after 6 p.m. only. Top hat or homburg, dark bow tie, cummerbund, and gloves complete the outfit.
- (v.) The formal or tuxedo type one button coat suit is also acceptable only after 6 p.m. Top hat, white bow tie, cummerbund, matching or white gloves complete the outfit.
- (vi.) The Equitation exhibitor's hair must always be neat and well groomed. Long hair must be styled above the collar. Small post earrings can be worn.
- (vii.) Whip and/or small rowelled spurs are optional.

(b.) Tack

- (i.) All tack must be clean and well kept with shining bits and stirrup irons.
- (ii.) A standard English Walking Horse bridle with a single rein must be used. Bit shanks with multiple rings are prohibited. Colored brow bands are appropriate, but should be of good taste. Cavessons and breast straps should be of black or brown leather.
- (iii.) English saddles (deep or flat seat) with a four inch cut back are to be used. They should be of the correct size to fit the rider. Dressage or forward seat saddles are prohibited.
- (iv.) Braids should be of the strait plaited variety with no butterflies or other ornamentations.

(4) Seat and Hands

- (a.) When the rider is viewed from the side, a straight line should be drawn from the rider's ear, to shoulder, to hip, to heel. (Putting the riders leg directly below his/her seat)
- (b.) The stirrup should be of a length that when the rider "drops their stirrups", the bottom of the stirrup would rest just below the riders ankle bone.
- (c.) The rider's back should be flat with ribs drawn out of the waist. (The rider should not have a "sway back" or a "humped back").
- (d.) The ball of the foot should sit squarely in the stirrup, with the heel being below the stirrup iron to draw the rider's body deep into the center of the saddle.
- (e.) The rider's knee and thigh should be in contact with the saddle, and have slight flare in the lower leg with toes pointing straight ahead.
- (f.) The rider should be looking forward (through the horses ears) and be aware of his/her position/situation in the ring at all times.
- (g.) The arms should fall naturally from the shoulder with the elbow on the vertical or slightly forward. (The elbows should not be "sticking out" away from the rider's side, nor "clamped down" to the riders side)
- (h.) The hands should sit in a position to aid the horses natural head set, but should never be in the "praying mantis" position. The hands should form a "V" when viewed from above. They should be held over the horse's withers and far enough apart so that the thumbs almost touch when extended. The hands should be balanced, quiet, light and in unison with the horse, showing adaptability as

well as control. The rein should be held between the thumb and index finger with the rest of the fingers closing gently around the rein. The reins must be buckled, and may be crossed.

(i.) When viewed from the front the rider should be balanced in the saddle, never leaning to one side or the other, with shoulders square.

(j.) An equitation rider should never look stiff, fake or artificial.

(5) Position Cha



CORRECT

TOO MUCH ARCH  
IN BACK

HANDS TOO  
HIGH AND TOO  
MUCH ARCH  
IN BACK

LEGS ARE TOO  
FAR FOWARD

LEANING TOO  
FAR FOWARD



CORRECT

PANTS TOO SHORT

LEG TOO FAR  
FOWARD

WEIGHT ON LITTLE  
TOE

LEG TOO FAR BACK

rts







CORRECT



TOO MUCH FLAIR IN LOWER LEG



TOES POINTED TOO FAR OUTWARD



WEIGHT ON LITTLE TOE



CORRECT



ELBOWS FLAIED AWAY FROM SIDES



UNBALANCED



CORRECT  
CROSSED REINS

## (6) Position in Motion

(a.) A truly gifted equitation rider will perform all gaits, flat walk, running walk, and canter while maintaining proper form (as set out above), using inconspicuous cues, and using their skill as a horseman to present their horse to the judges to it's best advantage. Although the horse is not judged in this division, it is the rider's responsibility to show each entry to the best of its ability.

(b.) Each exhibitor will proceed in the ring and go counterclockwise at each required gait, reverse (toward the rail) and do the same. The exhibitors should use the proper amount of leg aid, along with rein adjustment for each desired gait.

(c.) The canter should be smooth, and rolling. The equitation exhibitor should give the proper cue for his/her mount (which may include stopping the horse, or going straight from the flat walk into the canter) A voice command is acceptable, but the rider showing obvious pumping motion with the hands or body is not acceptable. The equitation rider's body should show little motion, and be moving with the three beat gait of the canter. (Riders seat should stay in contact with the saddle at all times) The Equitation rider should be able to put their mount on the correct canter lead, but in the event that a lead is "missed" the Equitation rider should quickly recognize the error, and correct the lead.

(d.) All transitions should be smooth keeping the body quiet, when completed by the horse and rider.

(e.) In the English division the Equitation Rider should reverse toward the rail.

## (7) Class Routine

(a.) Each exhibitor will proceed in the ring and go counterclockwise at each required gait, reverse and do the same

(b.) After performing the required gaits, both ways of the ring, the riders will be lined up for close inspection.

(c.) The judge should walk the line up in all equitation classes and view each rider individually. At that time the judge may ask each rider to: (Tests)

(i.) Address their reins. (A test used to see how well a rider could collect their reins if they were dropped accidentally)

(ii.) Ask each Equitation entry three identical questions. One each about the anatomy of the horse, tack, and Equitation.

(iii.) Ask the riders to drop and pick up their stirrups.

A judge may choose to only require riders to perform one of the above tests, traditionally, that would be addressing the reins.

(d.) Following the line up, the Judge may ask riders to perform individual patterns. These work outs should be used to break ties. The pattern should be posted one hour prior to show time, and be publicly announced during the class. (before the riders begin their patterns)

(e.) The patterns should be used to further determine the equitation rider's skills in "off the rail" maneuvers. When judging patterns, the Judge must look for the same correct form as the rail work, but now with additional, more difficult requirements.

The judge should be looking for specific details in the pattern work, such as:

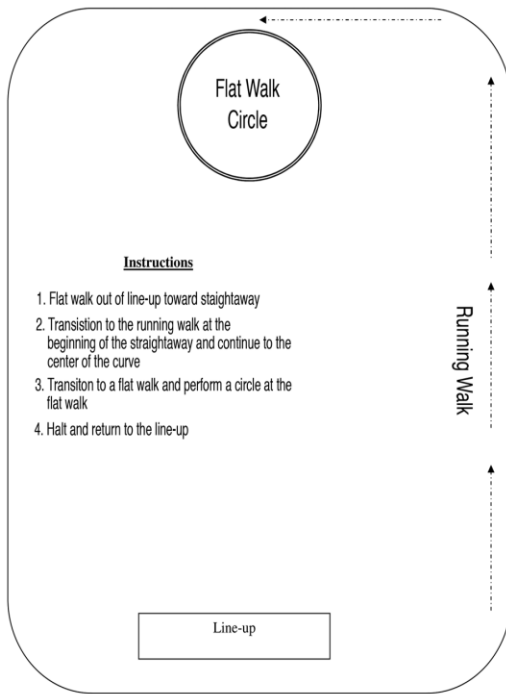
(i.) rider's ability to stay poised and calm during the individual work out.

- (ii.) efficiency in completing the pattern.
  - (iii.) make circles round and uniform.
  - (iv.) perform serpentine that are uniform in width and depth.
  - (v.) control of mount.
  - (vi.) form without stirrups
  - (vii.) smoothness of transitions from one gait to another.
  - (viii.) accuracy of gait (show difference between flat walk and running walk)
  - (ix.) correct canter leads.
- (f.) Unless it is specifically stated in a pattern, the judge should not expect the rider to address the Judge at the beginning or end of a pattern. This will expedite the work out time.
- (g.) Equitation riders SHOULD NOT be asked to back unless in a flat shod specific class. This includes Pattern Work.
- (h.) Patterns are not mandatory but should be used to break ties or close decisions.
- (i.) When a pattern is needed in Equitation 11 and under and at one night shows, Judges must use Pattern 1.
- (j.) If patterns are used, the Judge should remember that the rail work will count as 50% of the final score, and the pattern will be the remaining 50%.
- (k.) Riders not chosen to do additional pattern work, CANNOT be placed above riders who have been chosen to do pattern work.

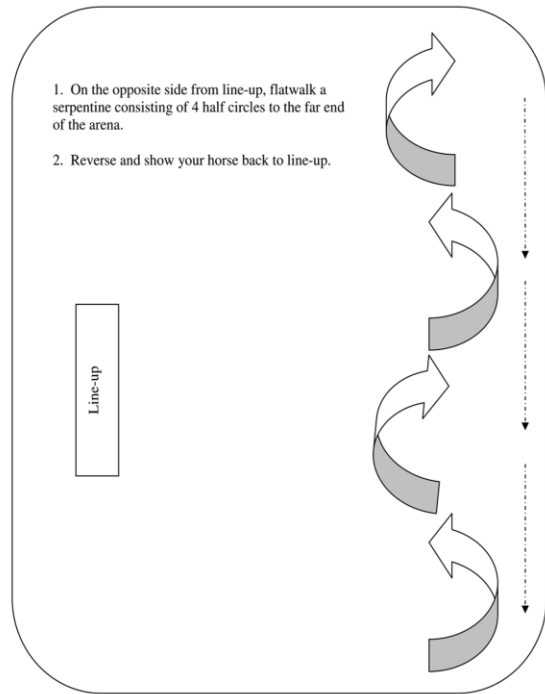
(7) The following Patterns are recommended by SHOW

### Pattern 1

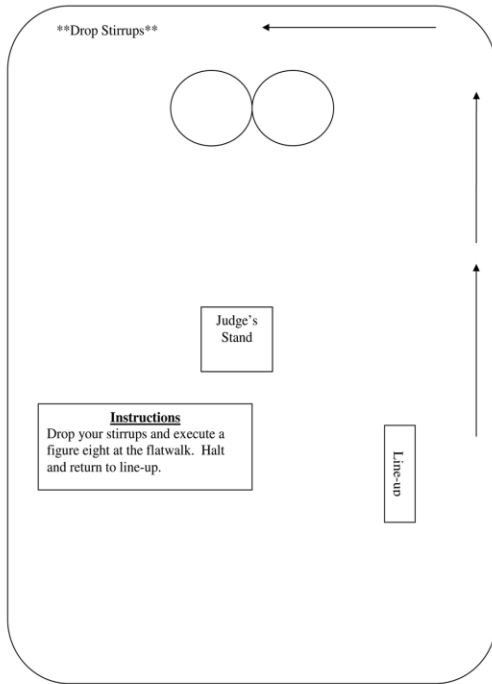
When a pattern is needed, use Pattern 1 at one night shows and in Equitation 11 and under.



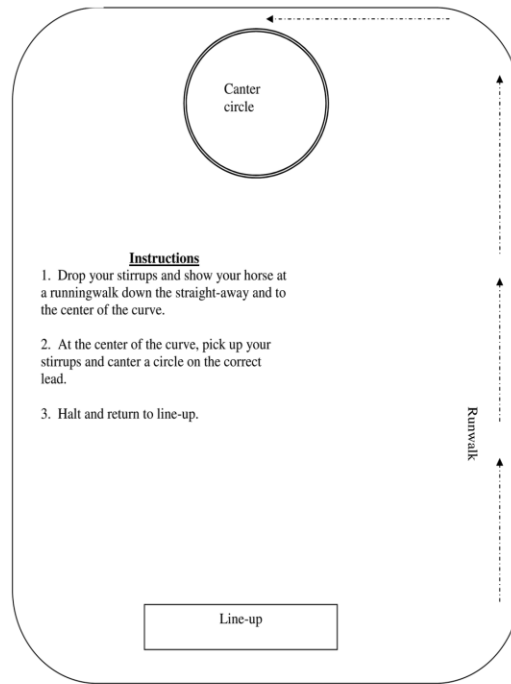
### Pattern 2



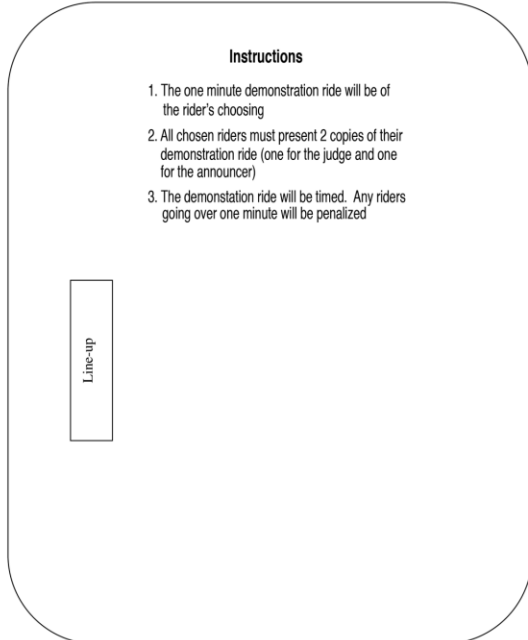
### Pattern 3



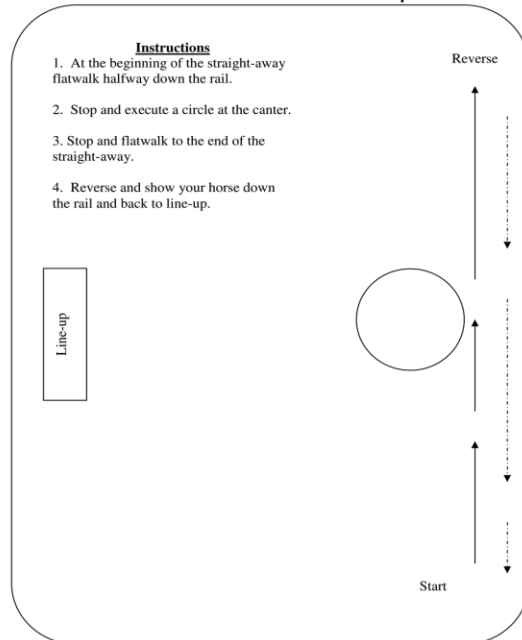
### Pattern 4



### Pattern 5 One Minute Demonstration Ride



### Pattern 6 To be used in Flat Shod or Stock Seat Equitation



## (8) Class Divisions and Appropriate Test for Divisions

### (a.) Walking Seat Equitation Youth 11 and under (Specialty)

They should perform on the rail in both directions at the flat walk and running walk.

They may be asked to perform Pattern # 1 only.

### (b.) Walking Seat Equitation Youth exhibitors 12 - 14 (Canter or Specialty)

They should perform the required gaits on the rail in both directions.

They may be asked to perform Patterns 1 -5

### (c.) Walking Seat Equitation Youth exhibitor 15-17 (Canter or Specialty)

They should perform the required gaits on the rail in both directions.

They May be asked to perform Patterns 1-5

### (d.) Walking Seat Equitation Championship (Canter or Specialty)

They should perform the required gaits on the rail in both directions.

They may be asked to perform Patterns 1 - 5.

### (e.) Walking Seat Equitation Adults Riders 18 years of age or older (Canter or Specialty)

They should perform the required gaits on the rail in both directions.

They may be asked to perform Patterns 1 -5

When a pattern is needed, in Equitation 11 and under and at one night shows, use Pattern 1.

Equitation classes that do not require the canter cannot be asked to execute a pattern which requires the canter.

## **B. Flat Shod Walking Seat Equitation Classes**

Shows may offer the same classes with stated specifications listed for Performance Walking Seat Equitation classes. Flat Shod Equitation Classes are open to riders mounted on Flat Shod type horses. Exhibitors must back the horse during the line up.

## **C. Stock Seat Equitation**

The general rules that apply to Walking Seat Equitation will apply to Stock Seat Equitation.

The general rules of a flat shod western horse will also apply to Stock Seat Equitation.

### (1) Attire - Must Include:

- (a.) Western hat
- (b.) Long sleeved shirt or jacket
- (c.) Gloves
- (d.) Long Pants
- (e.) Boots
- (f.) Chaps (Optional)



(2) Tack

- (a.) Western bridle with no cavesson
- (b.) Western saddle. No Australian sock saddles

(3) Basic Position

Should be that of Walking Seat Equitation with the following exceptions:

(a.) Proper hand position with a split rein:

Reins may be held in either the right or left hand, but may not be switched during the class. With a split rein, the exhibitor may place only the index finger between the reins and the remainder of the reins must fall on the same side as the hand the reins are in. The remainder of the rein must never be touched by the off hand during the class. The hand holding the rein should be placed slightly in front of, and just above level with the horn. The position of the hand not holding the rein is optional, but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment and held in a relaxed manner, with the exhibitor's body straight at all times. The "off hand" may also be held in a "mirror position to the rein hand.

(b.) Proper hand position with a romel rein:

The right or left hand may hold the reins, with the remainder of the rein coiled neatly in the off hand. There should be approximately 16 inches between hands, with the off hand behind the cinch. The rein hand an have no fingers between the reins and should be behind in a fist position just in front of the horn.

(c.) Stock Seat Equitation Riders using horses 4 years of age and under may use two hands on reins when using a snaffle bit or bosal. The western flat shod rules will apply.

(d.) Elbows should be quiet; close to the exhibitor's side

(e.) One should be able to draw a vertical line through the exhibitor's ear, shoulder, hip and heel.

(f.) Position in motion:

Will be the same as in walking seat equitation with the exception of the horse being worked on a loose rein and reversing away from the rail.

(g.) The gaits and rules that apply in the Western Fat Shod Division will apply in Stock Seat Equitation

(h.) The Judge may ask for a halt during any gait. The exhibitor should respond quickly and quietly without altering his or her basic position

(i.) The Judges will ask all exhibitors to back individually, and may as them to do a 360 degree turn. (rider may choose direction of turn)

(j.) The Judge should ask for a "lope" instead of the canter.

(4) Stock Seat Equitation Suggested Classes:

- \*SSE 11 and under (Specialty) Pattern 1
- \*SSE 12-14 (Lope or Specialty) Pattern 1-6
- \*SSE 15-17 (Lope or Specialty) Pattern 1-6

\*SSE Adult riders 18 and over (Lope or Specialty) Pattern 1-6

\*SSE Championship (Lope or Specialty) Pattern 1-6.

## 9. ACADEMY RULES

THESE RULES ARE PROVIDED COURTESY OF THE WALKING HORSE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION AND TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE BREEDERS' & EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION. ANY RULE CHANGE, ADDITION, OR MODIFICATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE WHOA -TWHBEA ACADEMY COMMITTEE AND AVAILABLE AT WALKINGHORSEOWNERS.COM OR TWHBEA.COM

Purpose: The purpose of the Academy program is to create an enjoyable and affordable division for the beginning rider.

Definition: Any class or classes designated as "Academy" in a show in which one or more stables participate with their students.

### A. Academy Division General

- (1) Performance/Pleasure Classes: To be judged on showmanship, ring generalship, and presentation of the horse to its best ability.
- (2) Equitation: To be judged on the basic seat, hands and form along with effective control of the horse. Riders are not required to address their reins.
- (3) Riders may show in any Academy Canter class until they have shown in a non-Academy Canter class.
- (4) Instructors/Trainers will be allowed in the ring with students to assist/instruct riders for safety.
- (5) Instructors must be a CRI or hold a valid Trainers' license.
- (6) Participants must have a current WHOA Academy Card.

### B. Horse Eligibility:

- (1) Performance horses must be registered Tennessee Walking Horses.
- (2) The horse must earn his living as a school horse.
- (3) The horse must be a gelding or mare. Absolutely no stallions.
- (4) The horse may be owned or leased by a rider as long as the above criteria are met.
- (5) School horses may enter Amateur and/or Professional classes; however, these horses must be regularly used as Academy mounts.
- (6) Horses must be neatly presented with clean coat and clipped bridle path, face, ears, and legs.
- (7) No ringed shanks or shanks longer than 10" may be used.
- (8) SHOW rules will prevail pertaining to inspections in accordance to the HPA.
- (9) No braids or braced tails.

### C. Rider Eligibility and Attire

- (1) A rider is no longer eligible for Academy competition if he/she has shown in a riding suit in any affiliated horse show class, with the exception of the Country Pleasure Class.
- (2) Long sleeved shirts with a tie and vest. In cooler weather a sweater or sweatshirt may be worn over the shirt or a turtleneck.
- (3) Jodhpurs, breeches, or black pants in good condition. No blue jeans. Tie downs are mandatory.
- (4) Footwear - paddock or Jodhpur boots.
- (5) Headgear- Helmets are Mandatory
- (6) Riding suits are prohibited.
- (7) Hair must be neatly pulled back in a bun or braid styled above the collar
- (8) Gloves are optional.
- (9) Whips and show spurs are permitted.
- (10) No barn logos or identifying marks of any kind on any student or horse.
- (11) No communication devices may be used.

## **12. VERSATILITY**

SHOW Versatility Rules will follow the 2010 TWHBEA Versatility Rulebook with the exception that horses four years of age or younger may be ridden with two hands provided that a snaffle bit or bosal is being used.

# SHOW JUDGES SCORE CARD

Judge \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Pattern \_\_\_\_\_

MANEUVER SCORES: -1 1/2 Extremely Poor -1 Very Poor -1/2 Poor 0 Correct +1/2 Good +1 Very Good +1 1/2 Excellent

MANEUVER DESCRIPTION			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	PENALTY TOTAL	SCORE
DRAW	EXH#	PENALTY										
		SCORE										

DRAW	EXH#	PENALTY										SCORE
		SCORE										

DRAW	EXH#	PENALTY										SCORE
		SCORE										

DRAW	EXH#	PENALTY										SCORE
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		SCORE										

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

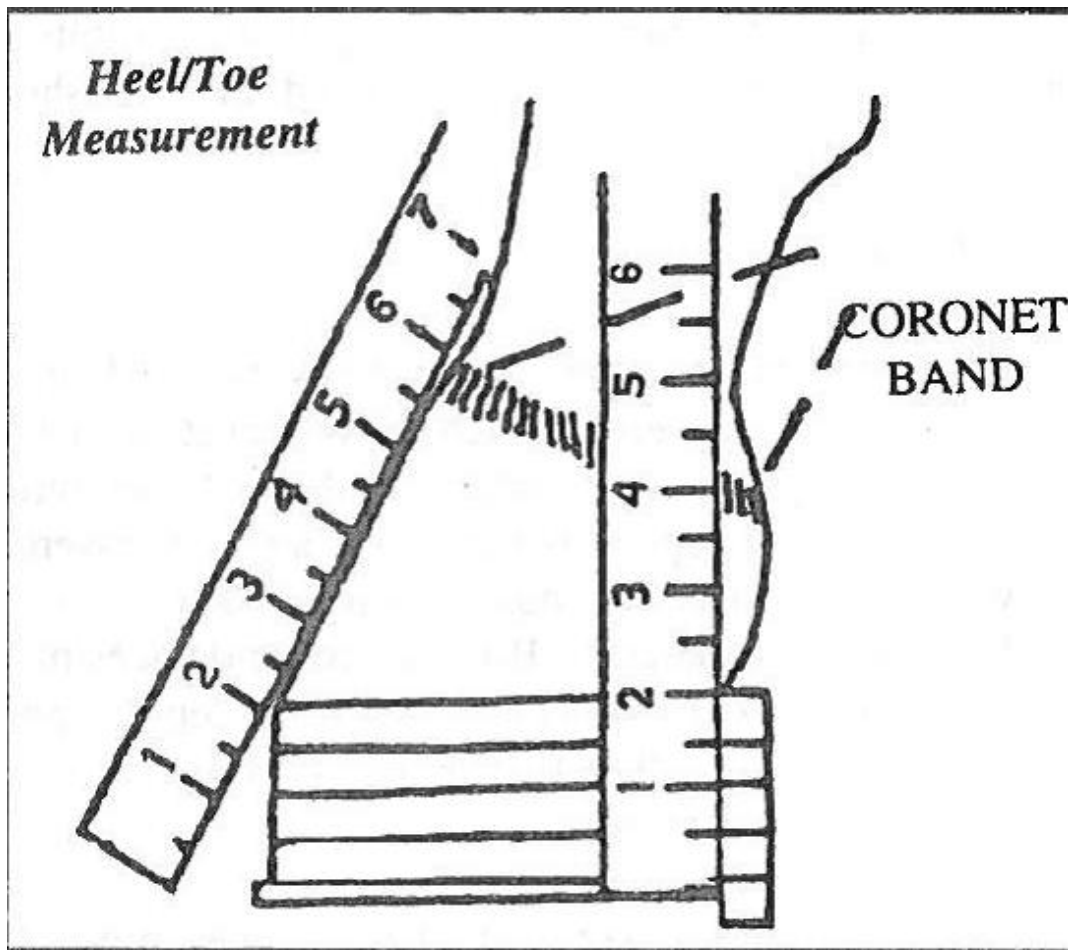
# SHOW WESTERN RIDING SCORE SHEET PATTERN I

JUDGE
CLASS
DATE

WORKING ORDER	ENTRY NUMBER	MANEUVRE DESCRIPTION	W/J/Log	Trans LL	1 L	2 L	3L	4L	1 X	2 X	LOG	3X	4 X	STOP/BACK	PENALTY TOTAL	FINAL SCORE
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
		PENALTY														
		MANEUVRE SCORE														
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JUDGES SIGNATURE

Appendix A:



Appendix B:

