

Halter Classes

RULE 1: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Halter classes will be held for Quarter Horses, Arabians, Paints, Appaloosa, Miniature horse and AOB & Grade horses.
- B. Halter Breed divisions having more than 20 horses at the state show for two consecutive years will have classes offered for yearlings, 2-year-olds, 3 year-olds, and 4 year-olds and older for mares and geldings, plus a broodmare class for mares that have had a foal.
- C. Halter Breed Divisions having less than 20 horses at the state show for two consecutive years will have one all aged mare and one all aged gelding class.
- D. AOB and Grade classes are not eligible for additional classes.
- E. Exhibitors may show as many halter horses as desired but only one per class.
- F. Only yearlings and older horses may be shown.
- G. Stallions are **not** allowed to show.
- H. Brood mares will be determined as mares which have produced a full-term foal in the current or previous year. Mares may be any age. Mares shown in the brood mare class are not eligible to compete in any other mare class, nor is any mare shown in another mare class eligible for the brood mare class.
- I. Mares nursing foals will not be allowed to show (enter arena) with foal at side.

RULE 2: TACK AND ATTIRE

- A. Appropriate tack and attire as specified in division rules must be worn in all classes. Halter horses may be shown in attire appropriate for their breed. A hat and boots are required in all halter classes. AOB/Grade exhibitors must choose attire appropriate for the type of horse (western, hunt seat or saddle seat).

Special Needs Division

EXHIBITOR MENTORING PROGRAM

Exhibitors with special needs who do not own a horse can be partnered with a parish horse exhibitor and their horse, to participate in the two special needs classes only. If an exhibitor with special needs wishes to participate in any other class events, they must go through the regular entry process and possession requirements.

Horse project members serving as mentors with assistance from project leaders, are encouraged to provide learning experiences between the horse and special needs exhibitor. These experiences should include hands on opportunities with the horse to help exhibitors prepare for the two Special Needs classes.

Current deadlines, entry dates and entry forms will apply to this program.

SHOWMANSHIP

4-H and FFA State Horse Show special needs classes will be offered to bona fide 4-H or FFA members who have intellectual disabilities or have a closely related developmental disability. Physically handicapped youth will also be eligible for special needs classes.

- A. General Information
 1. The emphasis in the Showmanship class should be on the exhibitor's ability to handle and show the horse, with safety as the main consideration. The horse is merely a prop to show the ability of the showman.
 2. Exhibitors showing horses under Western Tack Style may use a halter and lead shank made of leather or nylon. Chain leads are acceptable. Western attire, including an approved safety helmet, is appropriate.
 3. Exhibitors showing horses under English Tack Style may use a suitable English bridle or halter of either leather or nylon. (See English rules for acceptable bridles) English attire, including an approved safety helmet, is appropriate.
 4. The Quarter method of showmanship will be used. The following suggested guidelines of movement are meant to serve as an illustration of movement around the horse while showing in Showmanship classes and are for the exhibitors'/coaches' information.
 - a. Imaginary lines bisect the horse into 4 equal parts, as seen in the figure. (Note: The quadrants will be numbered, 1,2,3 and 4 for ease of identification).
 1. One line runs across the horse just behind the withers

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2. The other imaginary line runs from head to tail
- b. The exhibitor should move around the horse in the following manner:
 1. When the judge is in 1, the handler should be in 2.
 2. As the judge moves to 3, the handler should move to 1.
 3. When the judge moves to 4, the handler moves to 2.
 4. As the judge moves up the horse to 2, the handler returns once more to 1.
- c. This method of showmanship is based on safety, as the handler can keep the horse's hindquarter from swinging toward the judge should the horse become fractious.
5. Show management must post showmanship patterns before the class is to be held.
6. The following maneuvers are considered acceptable elements for individual test patterns:
 - a. Lead the horse at a walk or jog/trot
 - b. Back in a straight or curved line
 - c. Halt
 - d. Pivot or turn—quarter, half or full (360 degrees)
 - e. Set up square



TRAIL

4-H and FFA State Horse Show special needs classes will be offered to bona fide 4-H or FFA members who have intellectual disabilities or have a closely related developmental disability. Physically handicapped youth will also be eligible for special needs classes.

A. General Information

Guidelines for this event were obtained from the Special Olympics Equestrian rule book.

1. Course designers should keep in mind that all courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind so as to eliminate any accidents.
2. Judges must walk the course with the exhibitors before competition. The judges have the right/duty to alter the course in any manner or to remove or change any obstacle deemed unsafe or non-negotiable.
3. Management is encouraged to design obstacles that can be safely negotiated in 90 seconds.
4. Exhibitors must ride with an approved equestrian helmet (ASTM/SEI approved) with a chin strap when riding a horse on the show grounds.
5. Exhibitors are allowed side walkers (spotters) if needed to complete the course
6. When designing a course for assisted riders, the course designer must remember to include adequate space for the side walkers.

B. Judging Guidelines

1. Each entry will be judged on the rider's ability to guide the horse through a designated course. Credit will be given to horses negotiating the obstacles correctly while responding to the rider's cues. If a horse takes an excessive amount of time at an obstacle, the judge is encouraged to advance that horse to the next obstacle
2. Horses should be penalized for any unnecessary delay in approaching an obstacle
3. Off course is defined as:
 - a. Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction or from the wrong side
 - b. Taking an obstacle in a manner other than described in the pattern
 - c. Skipping an obstacle, unless directed by the judge
 - d. Negotiating obstacles in the wrong sequence
 - e. Failure of the rider to attempt an obstacle as directed by the judge
4. For errors of the course, the rider will receive no score for that obstacle, but will not necessarily be eliminated from the class. Those riders having errors of the course should place below riders who follow the prescribed course.

C. Suggested Western Trail Obstacles

Recommend having at least 5 of the following obstacles for exhibitors to maneuver.

1. Walk over at least 4 logs or poles (poles can be in straight, curved or zigzag line)
2. Ride through serpentine obstacles (obstacles may include: cones, poles, barrels)
3. Carry an object from one part of the arena to another (stuffed animals). Plastic bags and metal cans should not be used
4. Ride over a wooden bridge (optional) Suggest a piece of ¾" plywood laid directly on the ground. Recommended dimensions: 1.22m by 2.44m (4' X 8')
5. Sides pass (optional)

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6. Ride into a square consisting of 4 logs (rails) a minimum of 1.53m (5') long. The exhibitor will enter the square over a designated log, execute any maneuver as indicated and depart over a designated log.
7. Pass between 2 obstacles (barrels, poles, cones etc.)
8. Guide horse through an L, V, or Z pattern of ground poles