

## **In-Hand Classes**

### **Halter**

Horses are judged on conformation and turnout. Horses shown in this class often wear western style show halters. A well fitted plain halter (leather or other material) or an English bridle is also acceptable.

### **Showmanship**

Rather than assessing a horse's conformation, showmanship evaluates the exhibitor's ability to fit and present a horse. Each competitor is asked to perform a pattern in which his or her ability to lead and pose a horse in a prompt and courteous fashion is judged. Competitors typically show in a western show halter and lead. Clean and well-fit regular halters are acceptable also.

### **Lunge Line**

The purpose of showing a on a lunge line is to demonstrate that the horse has the movement, manners/expression/attitude, and conformation to become competitive under saddle. Therefore, the purpose of this class is to reward:

1. Quality of movement
2. Manners/Expression/Attitude
3. Conformation

This class is for horses not yet broke to ride.

## **Riding Classes**

### **Hunter under Saddle/Pleasure Hack**

Wearing traditional English attire, riders in hunter under saddle present their horses at a flat-footed walk; a brisk trot and a smooth canter. Competitors riding in hunter under saddle perform on the rail as a group.

### **Hunt-Seat Equitation**

Hunt-seat equitation competitors are judged on their skills in the saddle. Each exhibitor performs an individual pattern that tests his or her ability to maintain correct posture in the saddle while working their mount. Depending on the judge, exhibitors may be required to perform w/t/c on the rail as well.

## **Hunter Hack**

Hunter hack is a transitional English class between hunter under saddle and working hunter. Horses are required to jump two fences then put on the rail to walk, trot and canter both directions in the ring. Emphasis is on manner and way of going on the flat and style over fences. Jump heights will depend on the entries. If the class is all children, jump heights at the first show may be 18" for the first jump and 2' for the second. Jump heights may increase to a maximum of 3' as the show series progresses.

## **English/Western**

### **Open Pony**

This class is for ponies and riders can use English or Western tack. Riders will be asked to walk/jog/lope or walk/trot/canter and work on the rail in a group.

### **Elite (45yrs and over)**

A pleasure class is for riders over 45. English or Western tack can be used. Riders will be asked to walk/jog/lope or walk/trot/canter and work on the rail in a group.

### **Command (Simon Says)**

The judge/announcer will give a series of commands for the riders to execute. Commands increase in difficulty as the class progresses. Riders not executing the command properly and quickly will be eliminated and go in to the centre of the ring. Examples of commands are: walk, jog/trot, reverse, lope/canter, reverse at the lope/canter, halt on a loose rein, turn on the forehand/haunches, reverse a circle, counter-canter, etc.

## **Walk/Jog/Trot**

All walk/jog/trot classes are intended for novice riders (less than 2 years showing) and/or green horses. ***A rider may not enter walk/jog classes and lope/canter classes with the same horse.*** It is possible to show a green horse in the walk/jog/trot classes and then another horse in the canter/lope classes.

### **Green horse walk/jog/trot (For the horse)**

A walk/jog/trot pleasure class for green horses/ponies of any age. Riders work on the rail in a group. English or Western tack may be used.

### **Open Walk/Jog/Trot (For the rider)**

A walk/jog/trot pleasure class – similar to western pleasure/hunter under saddle. Riders work on the rail in a group. English or Western tack may be used.

## **Open Walk/Jog/Trot Equitation**

Competitors are judged on their skills in the saddle. Each exhibitor performs an individual pattern that tests his or her ability to maintain correct posture in the saddle while working their mount. Depending on the judge, exhibitors may be required to perform w/j/t on the rail as well. English or Western tack may be used.

## **Walk/Jog Trail**

Riders will complete a pattern at the walk/jog over poles, a bridge, open/close a rope gate and the pattern will include a backup as well.

## **Trail**

The trail class tests the maneuverability of a horse through an obstacle course. Mandatory obstacles include one in which the rider will open, pass through and close a gate. Scoring is based on the horse's willingness, ease and grace in negotiating the course. The other two mandatory obstacles are riding over at least four logs or poles and one backing obstacle. Riders will perform a pattern provided by the judge.

## **Western Pleasure**

Riders are asked to walk, jog, lope and reverse the direction of the horse. Horses are evaluated on quality of movement while staying quiet and calm, traveling on a loose rein. Western tack is required.

## **Reining**

This class judges the horse on movements, mastery of a prescribed maneuver and attitude as he is guided through one a pattern. The horse is required to perform a number of stops, spins, rollbacks, lead changes and circles at a lope. The horse should be willing to be guided with little or no resistance. AQHA green reining patterns will be used.

## **Ranch Pleasure**

A pattern class that is judged on the horse's ability to work at a forward working speed. Maneuvers are the walk, jog and lope (both directions), the extended trot and extended lope at least one direction as well as stops, back and one change of direction. Optional maneuvers are side pass; turns of 360 degrees or more; change of lead (simple or flying); walk, jog or lope over poles or other reasonable maneuvers a ranch horse could perform. Light contact should be rewarded and the horse does not have to be shown on a full drape of the reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuvers required, and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. AQHA ranch pleasure patterns will be used.

Scoring is on a 0-100 point scale with 70 denoting an average performance.

## **Western Horsemanship**

Riders first follow a prescribed pattern of maneuvers at a walk, trot or lope. Riders then w/j/l as a group around the perimeter of the arena. Judging focuses on the rider's body position, seat in the saddle and ability to control the horse.

## **Cowboy Obstacle Class**

This class can go by many names: Extreme trail—Trail Challenge—Extreme cowboy. It is a unique event that encourages you and your horse to develop a partnership based on trust and measures your horsemanship skills. Your partnership is then scored on an obstacle course designed to challenge your skills at all levels and encourage good horsemanship.

Dwyer Hill will be offering youth, green horse/rider and open classes. The green class is intended for horses/riders with 2yrs or less showing in the cowboy obstacle classes. Riders may not cross-enter divisions. IE- a green class entry cannot go in the open division as well.

\* Course: The course is timed and scored 10-to-13 obstacles are worth up to 10 points with the average being 5 points. Time is worth bonus points. It is an open area including loping and challenging obstacles. Open to all ages and skill levels of the horse and rider. Note ...there is a time limit.

\* Obstacles: most obstacles will come from this list:

- Gate- opening passing through and closing the gate
- Crossing obstacles - poles, logs, bridge, water, tarp, plywood
- Dragging obstacles~ tires, logs, bags, pallets
- Remove carry and replace an item~ slickers, bucket, ball, flag, saddle bags
- Backing the horse - having to back around markers
- Side pass over poles
- Jump - bales of hay or an small x (lope or youth can trot)
- Mail box - retrieving an article out of the box
- Through - walk or trot through curtains, tunnels, strips of ribbon
- Natural terrain - brush, sticks, debris, mud, water sprinklers
- Mounting - from a fence ,block, log, or ground
- Circles or straight lines - trot, lope, lead changes ,slow, fast
- Loud noises or strange noises
- Mazes or tight fitting spaces
- Picking up horses feet