

## GENERAL GAITED RULES

1. All mules must exhibit a saddle gait other than a trot, such as a smooth, easy gait, for example; a single-foot, running walk, rack, stepping pace, paso fino, foxtrot, etc.
2. Abusive Treatment: Abusive treatment and/or training techniques to produce alteration of the gaits shall not be tolerated.
  - A. Each show in which gaited mules are exhibited in seven (7) or more classes must have present a Designated Qualified Person, D.Q.P., carded with the Horse Protection Commission or other gaited association to detect and diagnose a mule which has been sore and to otherwise inspect mules for the purpose of enforcing the A.G.M.A. humane rules. Any ruling in shows in which D.Q.P. inspects mules, the D.Q.P.'s decision is final and not subject to protest or grievance.
  - B. Each show in which gaited mules are exhibited in 6 or less classes the judge and/or a veterinarian has the authority to excuse any animal that, according to their professional opinion, appears to be sore.
  - C. Handlers must be able to lift the foot of the mule to be inspected.
3. Age Divisions: Gaited Mule classes are divided into age groups, designated by 4 years and younger and 5 years and older. The age divisions for Stock Mules designated by Junior (5 years and under) and Senior Mule (6 years and over) classifications do not apply to Gaited Mules.
4. Should classes be offered for breeding jacks, no youth may show a jack.
5. Show Approval: Any organization, club, or individual may request their show or contest and the results be recognized by A.G.M.A. Application forms must be obtained from the A.G.M.A. secretary or show-sanctioning secretary.
6. Age of Mules: For mule show purposes, a mule 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.
  - A. Two-year-old mules and donkeys may not be shown in any under saddle or driving class until after June 1st of the year they become two years old, as determined on January 1st.
  - B. A Gaited Mule 4 years and younger must be determined so by A.G.M.A. registration or mouthing by a licensed veterinarian.
    - a. Gaited Mules may be mouthed at time of birth or any time thereafter to determine their eligibility for 4 and under classes.
    - b. A veterinarian certificate must be obtained at time of mouthing stating the date of examination.
  - C. Any 4 and Under Gaited Mules may show up, but Five and Over Gaited Mules may not show down in 4 and Under Gaited Mule Classes
  - D. Any 4 and Under Gaited Mule that is entered in a Five and Over Gaited Mule Class must remain in Five and Over Gaited Mule Classes for all shows, for the rest of that calendar year, regardless of ownership.
  - E. Any owner found to be falsely entering an older mule in a younger age division is subject to disciplinary action and will forfeit all points earned in that age classification.

### **Walking Mule Gaits:**

1. Flat Walk is a true, bold, and four-cornered, with fore legs moving straight in an elevated arc, and with a pronounced and cadenced head motion. The rear legs should follow through close to the ground, comfortable and over striding the front tracks. Stiff legged front or rear leg motion and irregular gait, especially when entering the ring, are typical of the movement of a sore mule and the judge must immediately excuse any mule exhibiting this type of motion from the ring.
2. Running Walk is the same general motion as the flat walk, but with additional speed. The mule shall exhibit a smooth gliding, overstepping, four-cornered gait with the greater stride and accelerated head motion. The running walk should be a free and easy gait. Mules exhibiting an exaggerated, hesitating way of going, are not in form. Twisting the hocks or stiff-legged rear leg motion shall also be considered a deviation from the true running walk and a mule exhibiting these ways of going should be penalized.
3. Canter is to be smooth and straight on both leads, not walking behind, but cantering on both ends with a rolling, rocking chair motion, comfortable in hand. Exaggerated "pumping" of the mule at the center is not considered good form.
4. Judging Considerations: The Walking Mule should move freely in each gait and proceed in a smooth fluid, rhythmic manner, with a pronounced and cadenced head motion. At all gaits, the mule 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 mule, or any tendency to rack, pace, or other deviation from the true walk are not considered good form and shall be penalized in judging.

### **Racking Mule Gaits:**

1. Show Walk is a smooth collected showy, four beat gait.
2. Show Rack is a relaxed four beat gait showing style and grace.
3. Fast Rack shows the same style and action as the Slow Rack but with speed. Form should not be sacrificed for speed.
4. Style Rack is an accelerated version of the slow rack emphasizing showiness and pride.

### **Judging Considerations:**

In each of the first three gaits the Racking Mule must be collected and presented well, and the rider must be relaxed and smooth in the saddle. At no time should the mule exemplify a gait with animated hock action. The Racking Mule must exhibit good conformation and be free of blemishes and unsoundness. The Racking Mule should not exhibit an exaggerated head nod in the Show Walk or Fast Rack. It should not exhibit an exaggerated hock action with the rear legs, but its stride should be long and natural. The front leg action should exhibit a curved, rolling motion rather than the legs following a straight line commonly termed "pitching or pointing".

### **Gaits Other Than Walking and Racking:**

All mules must exhibit a saddle gait other than a trot, running walk, or a rack. This would include those mules that exhibit a foxtrot, paso fino gait, single foot, and stepping pace. Classes should be divided into slow gait & fast gait of show gait & favorite gait.

**Gaited Mule Classes:**

All the following classes, including the Walking Mule, Racking Mule and Gaited Mule classes can again be divided into Amateur, Youth, Ladies, Gentlemen's, Amateur Ladies, Amateur Gentlemen's, or Open classes. In addition, it is recommended that class lists specify Western or Saddle Seat tack and attire in each class.

1. Walking Mule Division:

A. 4 Years and Younger Walking Mule Class: Two Options:

- (1) Mules perform two gaits: the flat walk and the running walk both directions of the arena Mules to be backed at the judge's discretion.
- (2) Mules perform three gaits: flat walk, running-walk and canter both directions of the arena Mules to be backed at the judge's discretion.
- (3) Exhibitors are expected to show in Saddle Seat attire unless specified on the class list. To increase entries, the Show Secretary may choose to allow both types of attire and tack.

B. 5 Years and Older Walking Mule Class: Two Options

- (1) Mules perform two gaits: the flat walk and the running walk both directions of the arena Mules to be backed at the judge's discretion.
- (2) Mules perform three gaits: the flat walk, the running walk and canter both directions of the arena Mules to be backed at the judge's discretion.
- (3) Exhibitors are expected to show in Saddle Seat attire unless specified on the class list. To increase entries, the Show Secretary may choose to allow both types of attire and tack.

C. Open Grand Champion Tennessee Walking Mule:

- (1) This class may be offered at any show in which Gaited Mule classes are offered. If offered, the title conferred would be A.G.M.A. World Grand Champion Tennessee Walking Mule.
- (2) Mules perform three gaits: flat walk, running-walk and canter both directions of the arena Mules to be backed at the judge's discretion.
- (3) Open to any age mule or rider.
- (4) Winner is designated as the Open Grand Champion Tennessee Walking Mule of that show.

D. Walking Mule Western Trail Pleasure:

For any age walking mule, to be shown in the Western attire and tack and can perform two or three gaits including the flat walk, the running walk and canter both directions of the arena (canter can be optional). The class description must indicate if the class is a two or three gait class. The mule should be ridden on a looser rein and display a smooth ground covering stride that is suitable for the trail. The mule should easily turn to the outside of the ring when asked to reverse.

2. Racking Mule Classes:

- A. Style Racking: For any age or gender racking mule. Mules will be asked for three gaits, Show Walk, Show Rack, and the Style Rack, both directions of the arena. The style rack should show more animation and speed than the Show Walk.
- B. Speed Racking: Mule to perform three gaits, the Show Walk, the Show Rack, and the Speed Rack, both directions of the arena. Credit shall be given to the most consistent mule that shows excessive speed. A mule that breaks gait shall be penalized.
- C. Racking Mule Class: Mules to perform two gaits: the Show Walk and the Show Rack. Entries may show in Saddle Seat or Western attire at the discretion of the Show Secretary who must specify on

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the class description. Exhibitors are expected to show in Saddle Seat attire unless specified on the class list. To increase entries, the Show Secretary may choose to allow both types of attire and tack.

### 3. Gaited Mule Under Saddle Classes:

- A. Gaited Mule English Trail Pleasure: For any age gaited mule, to be shown in the Saddle Seat attire and tack and can perform two or three gaits including Show Gait, Favorite Gait, and the (canter, optional). Class can call for two or three gaits, including the Show Walk, Favorite Gait, and (canter, optional). The class description must indicate if this is a two or three gait class. The mule should be ridden on a looser rein and display a smooth ground covering stride that is suitable for the trail. The mule should easily turn to the outside of the ring when asked to reverse.
- B. Gaited Mule Western Trail Pleasure: For any age gaited mule, to be shown in the Western attire and tack and can perform two or three gaits including the Show Gait, Favorite Gait, and the (canter, optional). Class can call for two or three gaits, including the Show Gait, Favorite Gait, and (canter, optional). The class description must indicate if this is a two or three gait class. The mule should be ridden on a looser rein and display a smooth ground covering stride that is suitable for the trail. The mule should easily turn to the outside of the ring when asked to reverse.
- C. Gaited Mulemanship/Equitation:
  - (1) In the Equitation Division, the exhibitor, as opposed to the mule, is judged. Exhibitors are judged on their seat, hands, and their ability as it relates to the performance of the mule, appointments of the mule with the rider, ring showmanship, and overall presentation.
  - (2) A class designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced functional and fundamental correct body position. The ideal mulemanship pattern is extremely precise with the rider and animal working in complete unison, executing each maneuver with subtle aids and cues. The pattern may include, but should not be limited to the following maneuvers: gait a serpentine without breaking at the Show Gait or Favorite Gait; perform a figure eight at the Show Gait or Favorite gait; be able to track a straight line in a gait; stop when asked; back on command; canter and break to a Show Gait without trotting.
  - (3) Show management must identify the class as English or Western.
- D. Gaited Obstacle Trail:
  - (1) It is suggested that this class be divided into youth and adult classes where there are sufficient entries. The judge may grade each obstacle subtracting points for faults, refusals, excessive time, etc. Plus and minus points may also be used for each obstacle if too much time is spent on one obstacle.
  - (2) A minimum of six obstacles will be used, three of which are mandatory and at least three others selected from the approved list.
    - (a) Mandatory Obstacles:
      - I.) Gate
      - II.) Bridge
      - III.) Back Through
    - (b) Additional Obstacles:
      - I.) Water hazard
      - II.) Simulated water hazard
      - III.) Serpentine obstacles at a walk or a gait

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IV.) Carry an object

V.) Ride over at least four logs or poles

VI.) Put on and remove a slicker

VII.) Side pass obstacles (may be elevated to a 12" maximum)

VIII.) Box

IX.) Mail Box

X.) Lime Circle

XI.) Drag or Pull

### (c) Prohibited Trail Obstacles:

I.) Tires

II.) Live animals

III.) PVC pipe

IV.) Jumps

V.) Rocking or moving bridges

VI.) Water box with floating or moving parts

VII.) Flames, dry ice, fire extinguisher

VIII.) Logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll

IX.) Ground tie

X.) Dismounting

- (3) The course must be designed to require each mule to demonstrate walk, and gait somewhere between the obstacles as part of the working course.
- (4) Final consideration of the judge will include quality and smoothness of performance of the mule and neatness and ability of exhibitor. The ideal trail mule will negotiate the course with surefootedness; looks at the obstacles, but does not hesitate, yet does not rush along the course; moves willingly without excessive urging of exhibitor. Mule should show willingness to stand quietly on the bridge and not rush off. At the gate, the obstacle is not complete unless the gate is closed and should be judged accordingly. Mule should position himself at all times to enable the exhibitor to keep a hand on the gate until the gate is closed.
- (5) Entry may be either English or Western but not a combination of both. Western exhibitor must hold reins in one hand (the exception being a mule 4 or under wearing a bosal or ring snaffle) and should not be changed during the performance except while working the gate, if necessary. English entries may be ridden with both hands on the reins. A time limit may be set for the course; however, the time itself will have no bearing on the final placement except as a limit for course completion. Any type hackamore is not permitted with the exception of a bosal.

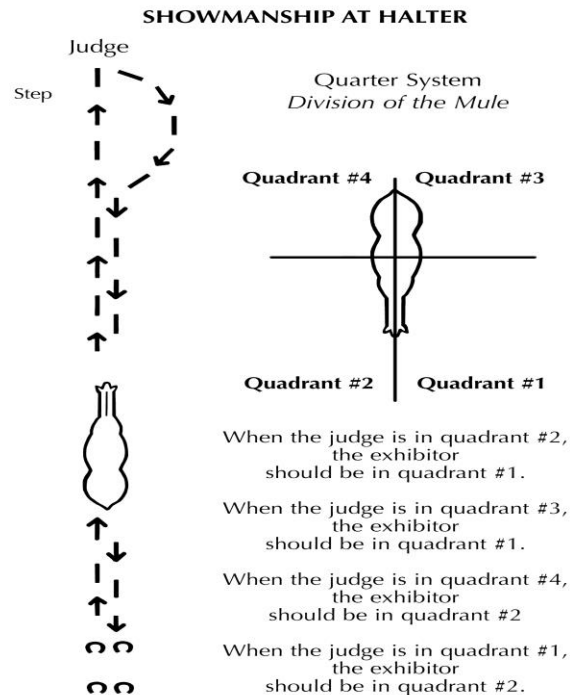
## 4. Gaited Mules at Halter:

### A. Halter Division:

- (1) Halter class entries are presented in hand, in either a halter or bridle as dictated by the specific class requirements.

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- (2) Attire for this class may be either English or Western, but not a combination of both, and must be clean and neat.
- (3) Whips not to exceed 4 feet in length including snapper are permitted for use by exhibitors, unless shown in Western. Whips are not permitted in Western showmanship.



### B. Showmanship at Halter:

- (1) Enter the ring in the direction indicated by the ring steward and Walk until the judge requests that the mules line up for inspection. Walk on the mules left side, holding the lead shank in the right hand, near halter. The remaining portion of the lead shank will be held neatly and safely in left hand. A tightly coiled or rolled lead shank or one with fingers inserted or laced through the coils, will be considered a fault in showmanship. Animal should lead readily at a walk and show walk.
- (2) After judge has lined up the class, each exhibitor will be requested to move his mule individually. When moving the mule, the exhibitor should be sure that the judge gets a clear, unobstructed view of the mule's action. Allow the mule sufficient lead so that he can move freely in a straight line with his head carried at a height appropriate to his conformation.
- (3) When posing the mule, the exhibitor should stand toward the front facing the mule with his toes pointed toward the mule's eye or neck. The exhibitor should not stand directly in front of the mule but should always stand in a position where he can keep an eye on the judge. With the quarter system, the mule is divided into four sections by drawing one imaginary line down his back and another across his middle. When the judge is looking at either hindquarter of the mule, the exhibitor stays on the same side as the judge, with his toes pointed toward the mule's eye or neck. When the judge looks at either front quarter, the exhibitor crosses to the opposite side of the mule. When posing the mule, do most of the showing with the lead shank. The exhibitor should not touch the mule's leg into position.
- (4) The exhibitor should not crowd the entry next to them in a side-by-side position. The exhibitor should not crowd the entry in front when lined up head to tail.

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- (5) The exhibitor should leave a mule's length between them and the next entry.
- (6) Poise, Alertness and Merits: Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times. Do not be distracted by persons or things outside the ring.
- (7) Class to be judged 50% on conformation and 50% on gait.

The mules will be exhibited at a slow gait both ways of the area before being brought to the center for individual inspection. The ideal gaited mule should be well proportioned, having a long neck that comes out of the shoulder at the angle of 45 to 55 degrees, short back long sloping croup and hind legs should have some set to the hock which will enable a gaited mule to stride under himself.

When tracking, the mule should carry his head above the withers and his fore legs should move from the shoulder allowing some extension and breaking in the foreleg and the hind legs should step over the front foot stride. When tracking, the mule should move very loose and free. The handler's should wear Western of Saddle Seat attire and the halter and bridle should match the exhibitor's attire.

- C. Driving Classes: Any of the driving classes found in the Driving Section of this rulebook may be offered for the Gaited Mule in harness adhering to the Driving Tack rules.

### Time Outs:

Time Outs interrupt the show; therefore unauthorized time outs will not be permitted.

- 1. A rider desiring a time out will ride to the center of the arena, remain mounted, and request it of the Judge. The Judge will ascertain the reason for the time out and either grant or deny the request.
- 2. After an exhibitor pulls into the center, he/she must obtain a time out before dismounting. Failure to do so shall require the Judge to excuse the entry; the Judge has no discretion in this regard. Further, the entrance of a trainer or an assistant into the show ring before a time out is granted shall require the Judge to excuse the entry. The sole exception to this rule shall be a mule and/or rider in immediate danger of injury in the opinion of the Judges.
- 3. If the Judge grants a time out, mules on the rail will go at ease, and a groom or farrier will be ordered in as required. The rider may then dismount. Riders granted a time out may not make adjustments to any equipment other than that for which the time out was authorized except for adjustments, as they would make while mounted.
- 4. Riders at ease on the rail during timeouts may make such adjustments as they can while mounted, but assistance over the rail is not permitted; physical assistance (touching the mule) is not permitted and mule must be excused.
- 5. If the Judge finds the reason for the time out not valid, he/she must order the entry back to the rail immediately.
- 6. Time outs may be granted by the Judge for replacement of shoes by a farrier, replacement of broken equipment, or in other instances where the Judge finds reason. However, time outs for adjustments of equipment, such as curb chains and bridles are not allowed.
- 7. A total of ten minutes in aggregate shall be allowed for each entry for authorized time outs, but no more than two time outs per class.

### Workouts:

All mules chosen for a workout must be worked both ways of the arena, each gait asked for by the Judge. A Judge shall not place any entry in a workout unless the entry has performed all required gaits both ways of

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the arena in the initial performance. Any Judge ignoring this rule shall have subjected himself/herself to disciplinary action. Workouts shall be judged as a separate class. Any and all mules shall be judged as a separate class. Any and all mules performing in the arena must be considered for first place.

### **Falls:**

1. A rider is not considered to have fallen when he/she is separated from a mule that has not fallen in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle.
2. A mule is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground.
3. The fall of a mule and/or rider shall not disqualify the entry, unless due to bad manners of the mule or unless the safety of the rider is threatened.

### **Unruly Mules:**

Mules being unruly, rearing, balking, running off, or leaving the Arena must be excused.

### **Rider Class Divisions:**

- a. Open Classes: Classes are open to all Rider/Exhibitor Divisions.
- b. Amateur Classes:
  - A. Amateur is any rider nineteen years old and older on January 1 of the calendar year of the show.
  - B. Amateurs must hold a current A.G.M.A. Amateur card.
  - C. A.G.M.A. Amateur card and A.G.M.A. registration papers in 2008 must accompany the amateur's entry form.
  - D. A.G.M.A. Amateur riders, riding a mule they own are permitted to show in open classes.
  - E. Class description must specify for Amateur exhibitors only and can be further broken down into Amateur Ladies Class as well as Amateur Gentlemen's Class. All above-mentioned classes, including the Walking, Racking and Gaited Classes may be held for Amateur exhibitors.
  - F. Amateur application must be completed and an Amateur card must be purchased before entering an Amateur class
- c. Youth Classes: Youth classes are defined as a rider who is eighteen years and younger on January 1 of the calendar year of the show.

### **Attire and Tack:**

Saddle Seat or Western Attire depending on the class.

1. In all Gaited Mule Western classes, western attire and tack is to be used, Mules will be shown in a western saddle.
  - A. Optional equipment: spurs, chaps, gloves, rope or riata.
  - B. Prohibited equipment: Australian saddles, crops, mechanical hackamores, martingales, training paraphernalia, action devices, tie downs, tack collars, jerk lines.
2. In all Gaited Mule English type classes, Saddle Seat attire and English type saddles are mandatory.

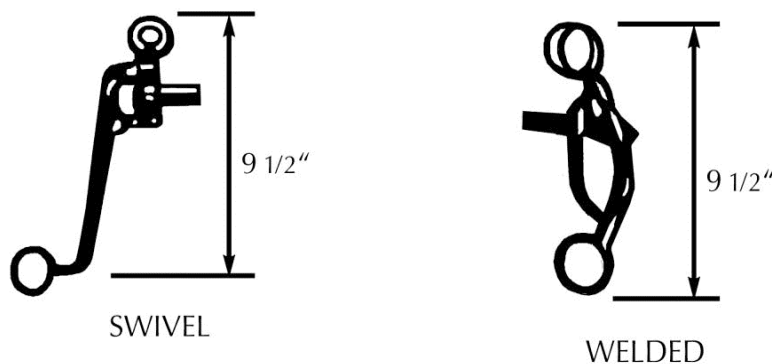


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3. In Saddle Seat classes a saddle seat habit of two or three button saddle suit of a solid conservative color is correct both day and evening.
4. In all Gaited Mule Western type classes, exhibitors in all approved A.G.M.A. shows are required to wear long-sleeved shirts, Western hats, pants, and boots in stock type halter, gymkhana events and western performance classes.
5. In all Gaited Mule Driving type classes, drivers should be dressed conservatively according to the style of present day; either Western or English is acceptable. Ladies wearing a skirt should wear a lap apron, a hat of choice, long sleeves, and gloves are required.
6. In all Gaited Halter Mule type classes, either English or Western attire adhering to the above rules is acceptable.
7. Safety helmets are optional.

### Tack:

All mules must use English tack, except where division or class rules permit otherwise. All mules must use Standard Walking Mule Single Rein Bridle and Bit, except where division or class rules permit otherwise. Neither quick-change bridles and reins nor gag bits with no shanks are allowed. Curb chains are permitted.



### Bits:

Gaited bits are recognized as any standard Walking Mule bit. Severe bits are discouraged and bleeding from the mouth or muzzle is reason for disqualification. These bits are curbs with a solid or broken mouthpiece. A description of a legal Gaited Mule bit for Mules 5 years and older and Mules 4 years and younger includes:

1. A 9 1/2-inch length shank to be measured as indicated. Shanks are measured from the very top of the metal to the very bottom of the metal, including the rings to which the cheeks and reins are attached. Shank may be fixed or loose.
2. With regard to mouthpieces, nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece. Solid or broken mouthpieces may have a port no higher than three inches. Smooth round, rubber, wrapped copper wire, twisted wire, double-twisted wire, or Tom Bass ports are acceptable. Bits featuring mouthpieces with cathedral, donuts, prong edges or rough, sharp material shall be cause for elimination.
3. Gag bits with shanks are acceptable.

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### **Bridles:**

Mules will be shown in standard Walking Mule Bridles with closed English type reins in English classes and split or Romal reins in Western classes. Curb chains must meet the approval of the Judge and be at least one-half inch in width and must lie flat against the jaw of the mule.

### **English Tack:**

1. SADDLE: English Type saddles of the flat or deep seat, forward seat, Australian and stock seat saddles are prohibited.
2. BRIDLE: All mules must use a Standard Walking Mule Single Rein Bridle and Bit.
3. WHIPS: Whips can be used in under saddle classes (English Only) and halter classes but must not exceed 4 feet in length including the snapper.

### **Western Tack:**

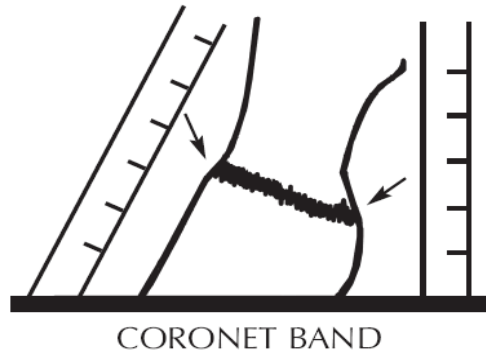
1. SADDLE: Western tack requires a Western Style Saddle.
2. BRIDLE: Western tack requires a Western Style Saddle Bridle with no caveson. The length of the bit must not exceed nine and one half (9 ½) inches. Curbs are allowed, chain or leather, but must be at least one half (1/2) inch wide and must lay flat against the mule's jaw. Split or Romal reins are also allowed.
3. WHIPS: Whips are not allowed in Western classes.

### **Driving Tack:**

Also see Driving Rules.

1. FINE HARNESS: A correctly fitting harness is essential for the comfort of the harness mules and donkeys. A wider harness saddle is suggested for two wheeled vehicles as more weight rests on the mules and donkey's back.
2. BRIDLE: Should fit snugly to prevent catching on the vehicle or other pieces of harness. A throatlatch and a nose and/or cavesson are mandatory.
  - A. Martingales and over checks are prohibited in obstacle classes
  - B. Failure to comply incurs elimination.
3. BITS:
  - A. Snaffle bits and other types of traditional driving bits are allowed.
  - B. Bits may be covered with rubber or leather.
  - C. Legal bits include:
    - (1) Half cheek snaffle
    - (2) Liverpool
    - (3) Elbow Driving
    - (4) Bradoon Over Checks

4. WHIPS: An appropriate whip shall be carried at all times while driving. The thong on the whip must be long enough to reach the shoulder of the farthest mules and donkeys. A driver not in compliance will be disqualified.



5. SHOEING: Toe length must exceed the height of the heel by one (1) inch or more. The length of the toe shall be measured from the coronet band, at the center of the front pasterns along the front.
6. BAREFOOT: Barefoot mules may be shown in classes; however, judges must disqualify lame or tender footed mules.

#### **Flat Shod Mules:**

Applying to all four feet, the mule is shod with a shoe no wider than one and one half (1 ½) inch, and no thicker than a half (1/2) inch. No tungsten is allowed, hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum, with no bare plate or other weight inside the shoe. The shoe is not to extend beyond the bulb of the mule's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the mule's heel to the ground and the shoe must not extend more than a quarter (1/4) inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The caulk must not exceed one (1) inch turn back. The use of borium or drill tech is permitted on the caulks of the shoes, but the thickness of the shoe and caulk with the borium or drill tech must not exceed one (1) inch. Welded on clips are not permitted on flat shod mules. Clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are permitted. No pads allowed. No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe and nails. Lubricants in the pastern area, action devices, pads, bands, boots and artificial appliances are prohibited on the flat shod mules in the show ring and on the show grounds

#### **Keg Shoe Shod Mules:**

Applying to all four feet, the mule is to be shod with an unmodified stamped keg shoe cast or poured. Shoe must be sized to fit the mule's foot. No over sized shoe modified smaller. Borium or drill tech is allowed on the toe and caulk. One dot is allowed on each caulk and two dots are allowed on the toe. The amount of borium or drill tech may be no more than a quarter (1/4) inch thick. No pads allowed. No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe and nails. Lubricants in the pastern area, action devices, pads, bands, boots and artificial appliances are prohibited on the keg-shod mules in the show ring and on the show grounds.

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### **Light Shod:**

Applying to all four feet, the mule is shod with a shoe no wider than three-quarters ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) inch, and no thicker than three-eighths ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ) inch. No tungsten is allowed, hot or cold rolled steel or aluminum, with no bare plate or other weight inside the shoe. The shoe is not to extend beyond the bulb of the mule's heel when a perpendicular line is drawn from the bulb of the mule's heel to the ground and the shoe must not extend more than a quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) inch beyond the hoof at the toe. The caulk must not exceed one (1) inch turn back. The use of borium or drill tech is permitted on the caulks of the shoes, but the thickness of the shoe and caulk with the borium or drill tech must not exceed seven-eighths ( $\frac{7}{8}$ ) inch. Welded on clips are not permitted on flat shod mules. Clips that are drawn from the shoe itself are permitted. No pads allowed. No additional weight shall be allowed on or in the hoof, other than the shoe and nails. Lubricants in the pastern area, action devices, pads, bands, boots and artificial appliances are prohibited on the light shod mules in the show ring and on the show grounds.

### **Show Mules Are Not to be Shown at A.G.M.A Approved Events:**

A Show Mule (shown with pads) is a mule that has received training to enhance the natural gaits associated with its breed type. Such mules perform with boots or action devices, which give an added dimension to their performances in the ring.