

Tennessee State 4-H Horse Championships

Rule Changes for 2008

GENERAL RULES

Rule 6.9 should contain this addition:

However, a 4-H member may exhibit a 2-gait horse and a 3-gait horse (Walking/Racking horse division and Spotted Saddle Horse Division) if they are two different horses. The same horse may not be shown in both the 2-gait and 3-gait classes. Additionally, a 4-H member may show a pony in pony classes and a horse in horse classes. This concept applies to all divisions.

DIVISION RULES & CLASSES

Western Division

- No deletions, additions or changes

Hunter Division

- No deletions, additions or changes

Walking/Racking Division

- **Additions**

“Classes will be held for both Junior and Senior members in Walking Seat Equitation that are 2-gait (no canter) only.”

Classes:

Add class number: 309 Jr Walking Seat Equitation (2-gait)

Add class number: 311 Sr Walking Horse Equitation (2-gait)

“However, in Junior Walking Seat Equitation (3-gait) class 310 and Senior Walking Seat Equitation (3-gait) class 312, youth who do not canter will not be placed regardless of the number of entries. They must canter to qualify for a placing.”

Saddle/English Division

- **First paragraph, page 59** should read:

“This division will not be judged according to breed (Arabian, Morgan, Saddlebred) but by type and style of the saddle seat horse and rider. Stock type horses should NOT enter this division. Proper attire must be maintained at all times. However, in excessively hot weather, with approval from the judge, coats may be removed.”

Spotted Saddle Horse Division

- **Additions**

Classes:

Add class number: 511 Sr Spotted Saddle Horse Western
Horsemanship (2-gait, no canter)

Add class number: 519 Sr Spotted Saddle Horse English
Pleasure (2-gait, no canter)

“However, in class 512 Sr. Spotted Saddle Horse Pleasure (3-gait) and class 520 Sr. Spotted Saddle Horse English Pleasure (3-gait), exhibitors who do not canter will not be placed regardless of the number of entries. They must canter to qualify for a placing.”

Barrel Racing

- **Rule 12.10** should read “4-H members must wear an approved helmet (ie. ASTM/SEI) and chin strap (harness) in all barrel racing classes. Both helmet and harness must fit properly.

Pole Bending

- **Rule 13.8** should read “4-H members must wear an approved helmet (ie. ASTM/SEI) and chin strap (harness) in all barrel racing classes. Both helmet and harness must fit properly.”

Team Penning

- **Rule 17.3 A** should read “4-H members must wear an approved helmet (ie. ASTM/SEI) and chin strap (harness) in all barrel racing classes. Both helmet and harness must fit properly.”

Additional Classes

Ranch Horse Classes

The following Ranch Horse Classes will be added to the State 4-H Horse Championships:

- 901 Junior Ranch Riding
- 902 Senior Ranch Riding
- 903 Junior Ranch Horsemanship
- 904 Senior Ranch Horsemanship

Rules are as follows:

Attire: Western attire for all classes: Long sleeve shirts, hats or helmet and boots. Chaps and spurs are optional. Plain attire suitable for ranch work is desired and flashy show-type attire is discouraged and will be penalized by the judge.

Tack: Western working tack should be used. Silver conchos are accepted, but excessive silver tack is discouraged and will be penalized by the judge.

Ranch Riding: Classes 901 and 902

A horse will be shown at three gaits - the walk, jog, and lope. The horse will also be asked to reverse away from the rail, to stop and to back. The judge may ask for an extended trot or lope. Extended trot may be ridden by sitting in the saddle, posting, or standing in the stirrups.

A good pleasure horse has a free-flowing stride of reasonable length on keeping with his conformation and covering a reasonable amount of ground with little effort. The motion should be balanced and flowing with the head carried in a natural position in keeping with the horse's conformation. The horse should be shown on a reasonably relaxed rein, but with light contact and control. Responsive, smooth transitions should be shown when changing gaits. The walk and jog should be free-moving and void of peggy, short strided motion. The lope should be a definite three-beat gait, performed on the proper lead, and showing good use of the hindquarters.

Horse's expression should be alert, mannerly without the appearance of a dull, sullen, lethargic drawn or overly tired attitude. Maximum credit should be to flowing, balanced, and willing horse that gives the appearance of being fit, alert, and a pleasure to ride.

Horses 6 years of age or older must be ridden with a curb bit and show with one hand. Horses 5 years of age or younger may be shown 2-handed with a snaffle bit or bosal.

Credits:

- 1) Natural ground covering gaits
- 2) Consistency at all gaits
- 3) Smooth upward and downward transitions
- 4) Working off hind quarters when turning
- 5) Work on reasonably loose rein without excessive cueing to maintain moderate pace.

Fault to be scored according to severity

- 1) Lack of ground covering gait
- 2) Excessive speed or slowness of gait
- 3) Wrong lead
- 4) Failure to make upward or downward transitions when called for
- 5) Opening mouth excessively
- 6) Stumbling
- 7) Head carried with tips of ears below the withers for less than 3 strides

Ranch Horsemanship: Classes 903 and 904

1. Seat & Hands

- a. General. Exhibitor will be judged on seat, hands and ability to control and show horse, and suitability of horse and rider. Results as shown by performance of horse are not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider to obtain them.
- b. Hands. Upper arms to be in a straight line with body, one holding reins should be bent at the elbow. Reins may be held in two hands if the horse qualifies to be ridden in a snaffle or hackamore.
- c. Basic Position. Exhibitor should sit in the saddle with legs hanging straight and slightly forward to stirrups or knees bent slightly and weight directly over ball of feet. In either position the stirrups should be just short enough to allow heels to be lower than toes. Body should always appear comfortable, heels relaxed and flexible. Feet should be placed in stirrups with weight on ball of foot. Consideration should be given to width of stirrups, which may vary on western saddles. If stirrups are wide, the foot may have the appearance of being "home" when in reality the weight is being properly carried on the ball of the foot.
- d. Position in Motion. Exhibitor should sit to jog and not post. At the lope, rider should be close to the saddle. All movements of horse should be governed by the use of imperceptible aids. Exaggerated shifting of the rider's weight is not desirable.
- e. Horses 6 years of age or older must be ridden with a curb bit and show with one hand. Horses 5 years of age or younger may be shown 2-handed with a snaffle bit or bosal.

2. Class Routine

- a. Individual Work. The judge must first ask each exhibitor to work, individually using a designated pattern. The pattern shall include any maneuvers that are normally required in any stock horse class, such as figure eights and square stops. Individual pattern work must also include all three gaits and back. Horses shall be required to back a straight line. It must be remembered that, above all, a stock horse is one that responds instantly and smoothly to all aids.
- b. Rail Work or Place Class. After each exhibitor has been worked individually, the judge may recall either all the exhibitors, or the finalist for rail work, or place the class.
- c. Rail Work Procedure. Exhibitors recalled for rail work, shall enter the arena at a walk and be judged on the rail at a walk, jog and lope. They shall be worked both ways of the ring and shall always be on the correct lead. The reverse is to be executed by turning away from the rail. The horse should be in perfect balance at all times working entirely off its haunches; neck and head should be in direct line with the body, mouth closed and head at natural height.