

SECTION V MISCELLANEOUS

1. A fee of \$100.00 or service of comparable value shall be assessed to any one individual or organization who wishes to acquire an MSHSA membership list for the purpose of mailing members a horse-related show program or horse industry-related information. A non-horse-related request for a membership list would need to be approved by the board of directors before releasing the names. An area will be made available on our membership application form for applicants to mark that they do not wish their names to be on our mailing list, understanding that this means they will receive no mailings from our organization including newsletters and show information.

2. Should a member write a check to any member show, MSHSA sponsored function, or for annual dues that are returned, the member will be notified by the secretary by certified mail and afforded the opportunity to make payment within 14 days of the date the letter is mailed. The member shall also be responsible for bank charges. If payment is received within this time limit, no action will be taken. If payment is not received within the time limit, or if a second check is returned during the show season, the member shall automatically forfeit all points for the show season and will be expelled from membership in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 2 of the bylaws. The secretary will notify a member of expulsion by certified letter.

SECTION VI CLASS SPECIFICATIONS

- A.** All MSHSA shows are judged according to MSHSA rules.
- B. Age of Exhibitor:** For horse show purposes, the age of an individual on December 1st preceding the upcoming show season shall be maintained throughout the entire show year. Persons born on December 1st shall assume the greater age on that date.
- C. Age of Horse:** For competition purposes any horse is considered to be one year old on the first day of January following the actual date of foaling.
- D. CLASS A and CLASS B shows:**
The MSHSA promotes two types of horse shows; the Class A and the Class B. There are differences in the requirements for each show.
The Class A show may be a one or two day show and provides a more advanced show opportunity for both horse and rider. The requirements for the show are more stringent to help prepare for a more rigid competition environment as would be seen at any upper level competition horse show. Mules and soft gaited horses are not allowed in any Class A classes. The adjudication of the Class A show will be consistent with upper level horse shows in the equine industry. Year end points will be calculated **per Table A** under SECTION III POINTS AND YEAR-END AWARDS and are double what the points are for a Class B show.
The Class B show may be done in one day and provides a more lenient set of requirements and is conducted more as a schooling show. Chaps are not required. Mules and gaited horses are allowed in any

classes. Year end points will be calculated **per Table B** under SECTION III POINTS AND YEAR-END AWARDS.

E. Specifications:

1. **Open:** An Open class is open to all horses of any age, size or sex, regardless of the ribbons previously won. There are no qualifications for the exhibitor.
2. **Age Divisions:** The age divisions for exhibitors are listed below.

10 & Under	13 & Under	14-17
Adult 18 & Over		
3. **Junior Horse:** Open to horses 5 years of age and younger. Junior horses will be ridden two handed with a snaffle, bosal or non-mechanical hackamore.
4. **Senior Horse:** Open to horses 6 years old and older. Senior horses will be required to be ridden one handed in a shank bit with the exception of Green Horse. For 10 & Under rules see Section IV.
5. **Green Horse:** Horses of any age who has never been shown in any MSHSA USEF, or breed association show in the particular performance division in which they are to show prior to the first full year. Horses who qualify are considered “green” for the full year. A Green Horse, regardless of any age, may be ridden two handed with a hackamore or non-shanked snaffle bit. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit.
6. **Green Horse English Pleasure Walk/Trot 1st Year.** This class is open to any horse in their first full year of showing at any MSHSA, USEF or breed association show. Shown at a walk and trot both ways of the arena. May be shown hunt or saddle seat. Showing in either saddle or hunt type would disqualify the horse to ride in the other.
7. **Green Horse Western Pleasure Walk/Jog 1st Year.** This class is open to any horse in their first full year of showing at any MSHSA, USEF or breed association

show. Shown at a walk and jog both ways of the arena.

8. **Maiden Rider/Horse:** Rider/Horse of any age not to have won a first place in any equitation or pleasure (horse) class in that section/division in any MSHSA USEF or breed association show. Horses/Riders who qualify are considered “maiden” for the full competition year. English equitation is open to saddle or hunt type riders of any age.
9. **Novice Rider/Horse:** Rider/Horse of any age not to have won three first place awards in that particular performance class in that section/division in any MSHSA USEF or breed association show. Horses/Riders who qualify are considered “novice” for the full competition year. English equitation is open to saddle or hunt type riders of any age. Three firsts in either saddle or hunter type would not disqualify the exhibitor to ride the other.
10. **Limit Rider/Horse:** Horse of any age not to have won six first place awards in that section/division in any MSHSA USEF or breed association show. Horses who qualify are considered “limit” for the full competition year. Six firsts in either saddle or hunter type would not disqualify the exhibitor to ride the other.

F. Tack and Equipment:

1. A hackamore includes a bosal rounded in shape and constructed of flexible braided rawhide or leather and must have a flexible nonmetallic core attached to a suitable headstall with maximum diameter of 3/4 inch at the cheek. Mechanical hackamores are not allowed.
2. A snaffle bit is any jointed or unjointed bit with a mouthpiece made of smooth metal or plastic. The diameter of the mouthpiece may be 5/16 inch or 3/4 inch diameter as measured 1 inch from the ring to which the reins are directly attached. A curb strap may not be used

in English classes but may be used in Western classes attached beneath the reins.

3. A shank bit must have a shank less than 8 ½ inches overall with a mouthpiece made of smooth metal or plastic, jointed or unjointed. The diameter of the mouthpiece may be 5/16 inches or 3/4 inches as measured 1 inch in from the shank. A rein must attach to each shank. A shank bit must be ridden with one hand. Riding a shanked bit in a class with 2 hands will result in disqualification and loss of placing and points.

4. No bit or equipment may be used that will cause the horse pain. Any equipment in violation of this rule will result in disqualification and loss of placing and points.

G. Patterns: Courses or patterns for classes that require individual performance must be posted a minimum of one hour prior to the class. The posted pattern is to be followed unless a change becomes necessary due to safety considerations. In this case, the judge will meet with all exhibitors and explain the change.

H. Broken Equipment: Any exhibitor who experiences a problem with broken equipment or loss of a horseshoe during a class will be allowed 5 minutes to repair the problem before being eliminated.

I. Falls: A fall has occurred when the rider has become separated from the horse. It will be up to the discretion of the rider if he/she chooses to continue with the class.

WESTERN DIVISION

PART I – WESTERN PLEASURE

Personal Attire:

Class A Show: Riders must wear a Western hat, long sleeved shirt with any type of collar, trousers or pants and western boots. Chaps are required. Spurs are optional.

Class B Show: Riders must wear a Western hat, long sleeved shirt with any type of collar, trousers or pants and western boots. Chaps and spurs are optional in any class.

Tack: Any standard western bit, snaffle or shank, is allowed. Martingales or similar tie-downs are prohibited. Any western saddle is allowed.

Pleasure Horse: A Green Horse, regardless of age, may be ridden two handed with a hackamore or non-shanked snaffle bit for one calendar year. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit.

1. Horses are to be shown at a flat footed four beat walk, two beat jog and three beat lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein.
2. Entries to be penalized for being shown on the wrong lead.
3. Horses may be asked to back at the judge's discretion.
4. The judge may ask for extended gaits except in Green and Junior horse classes.

PART II – TRAIL HORSE

Personal Attire: See Western Pleasure – Part I

Tack: See Western Pleasure – Part I

Mandatory minimum dimensions of Trail Obstacles for all Trail obstacles for all Trail classes. More space may be allowed.

1. Walk-overs:
 - a. Single pole, maximum height 16"
 - b. Multiple poles, maximum height 10"
 - c. Minimum width between poles 10" to 24", or multiples thereof, is good spacing for walkovers. No rolling poles.
2. Cavaletti:
 - a. Jog-overs, intermediate gait; 3' to 3'6" measured between the poles.
 - b. Lope-overs, 6' to 7' apart or multiples thereof. 6' is preferable for most horses.
3. Back throughs:
 - a. On the ground 28" measured between the poles
 - b. Elevated, 30" measured between the poles

- c. Barrels, 32" between the barrels
4. Side passes:
 - a. Single pole, up to 24" high
 - b. Minimum distance no closer than 24" wide measured between the poles. Front feet in the slot only.
5. Serpentine:
 - a. Pylons 6' apart minimum measured between the base of the pylon.
 - b. Guardrails 3' to either side of the pylons.
6. Gate:
 - a. Approximately 60" high with latch available at the height.
7. For other maneuvers figure the horse's base at 6' from front of hooves to back of hooves.

TRAIL HORSE OPEN

This class cannot be run on the same course as Trail Horse Novice. An exhibitor may enter multiple horses in this class but each horse may have only one rider.

1. Horses are not required to work on the rail but the pattern must require all gaits; walk, jog and lope. The pattern must require a lope on both leads of sufficient distance to allow the judge to evaluate the lope. Horses should be penalized for unnecessary delay at any obstacle and may be requested by the judge to move on. Time outs are not allowed.
2. The judge may alter the course prior to the course walk and eliminate any unsafe obstacles.
3. All exhibitors will be allowed to walk the course with the judge prior to the class.
4. There should be at least 40 feet between obstacles, except for walk overs/bridges/back through combinations.
5. Eight obstacles is the maximum number of obstacles allowed.

6. A knockdown occurs when any part of the obstacle is displaced from its original position.
7. A refusal occurs when the horse takes any action to avoid performing an obstacle or combination of obstacles.
8. A horse is off course and will be disqualified when an obstacle is taken in the wrong direction, negotiated from the wrong side, skipped unless ordered to by the judge, negotiating obstacles in the wrong order or not following the correct line of travel as indicated by the pattern or the judge.
9. A knockdown or refusal will result in loss of points. Being off course is a disqualification.
10. No rocking or elevated bridges allowed.
11. The judge may use any scoring system as long as the system is applied to every horse in the class.

TRAIL HORSE NOVICE

A novice horse is a horse of any age not to have won three first place awards in any MSHSA USEF, or breed association show in any Trail class. Horses who qualify are considered a “novice trail horse” for the full competition year. An exhibitor may enter multiple horses in this class but each horse may only have one rider. The obstacles in this class should, in general, be easier to negotiate than those in Trail Horse Open classes. The following requirements are intended to help assure that definite differences are built into the design of the trail courses.

1. No elevated obstacles allowed except for walk-overs.
2. No turns in side passes or backing obstacles.
3. Minimum width of backing obstacles made of poles on the ground should be 32 inches.
4. Minimum square size should be 6 feet 6 inches.

5. No rocking or elevated bridges or water obstacles allowed.
6. Right hand push gates only.
7. Walk, trot and lope-overs must be in a straight line.

TRAIL HORSE 10 & UNDER: Limit 3 obstacles: bridge, straight back, ground poles, mailbox, pivot in box, and weave through cones. Exclusions include side passing, backing through obstacles and transferring objects from place to another. Gaits are to be a walk/jog only.

PART III - WESTERN CONTROL

Personal Attire: See Western Pleasure – Part I

Tack: See Western Pleasure – Part I

1. This class is designed for the beginning reining horse. To rein a horse is not only to guide him, but also to control his every movement. The best reined horse should be willfully guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance. Any movement on his own must be considered a lack of control.
2. An exhibitor may enter multiple horses in this class, but each horse may have only one rider.
3. Entries will work individually on a selected MSHSA Western Control pattern. Horses to be judged on ability to perform the specific pattern in a controlled manner with little or no apparent resistance. Credit will be given for smoothness, finesse and attitude while performing the various maneuvers.
4. Scoring will be on a basis of 60 – 80 with 70 denoting average performance.
5. All horses, regardless of age, may be shown two handed with a hackamore as defined by MSHSA or a non-shanked snaffle bit. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit.

6. No martingales, tie downs or nose-bands will be allowed. Splint boots, skid boots and bell boots are optional.
7. The following will result in a no score:
 - a. Failure to complete a pattern as written.
 - b. Use of illegal equipment.
 - c. Using reins or romal as a whip.
 - d. Changing hands on reins.
 - e. Balking or refusal of a command.
8. The following will result in faults against the exhibitor to be scored accordingly:
 - a. Failure to go beyond markers on stops or rollbacks.
 - b. Break of gait.
 - c. Freeze up in 360 degree turn or haunch turn.
 - d. Starting or performing circles or eights out of lead.
 - e. Opening mouth excessively when wearing a bit.
 - f. Excessive jawing, opening mouth, head raising or tail wringing.
 - g. Refusing to change leads.
 - h. Anticipating signals.
 - i. Backing sideways.
 - j. Performing a simple lead change instead of flying lead change.
 - k. Knocking over markers.
 - l. Any unnecessary aid given by the rider such as unnecessary talking, petting, spurring, quirting, jerking of the reins, etc.

PART IV – WALK/TROT REINING

Personal Attire: See Western Pleasure – Part I

Tack: See Western Pleasure – Part I

This class is designed for the horse that is not ready for western control and has not won more than three first places in

Walk/Trot Reining. The class is open to any horse who has not previously shown in western control or any reining class.

1. The rules for western control will apply to this class, except for 8 (d), (g) and (j) in western control
2. Walk/Trot reining patterns 1 to 4 will be used.
3. Maiden Walk/Trot Reining is designed for beginner horses.

ENGLISH PLEASURE DIVISION

PART I – SADDLE TYPE

Personal Attire:

Class A: Conservative saddle seat attire is required. A jacket with matching jodphurs in colors such as black, blue, gray, green, beige, brown, dark burgundy, or dark green is suggested. Also permissible are herringbone, pin stripes, and other combinations of colors that appear to be solid. Day coat and contrasting jodphurs are also permitted. Contrasting vest is optional. Derby or soft hat, tie and jod boots are required. Gloves, spurs of the unrowelled type, and whip or crop are optional.

Entries must be penalized for incomplete attire but not necessarily disqualified.

Class B: Breeches or jodphurs and a white shirt are required along with jod or hunt boots with a heel. Derby or soft hat, gloves, spurs of the unrowelled type and a whip or crop are optional.

Tack: (Applies to both Class A and Class B)

1. Entries shall be shown in full bridles (curb and snaffle) or pelhams. A junior horse may be shown in a snaffle.
2. Martingales or similar tie-downs are prohibited.
3. Saddle is to be flat English type only. Forward seat, dressage or western saddles are prohibited.

Pleasure Horse:

1. To be shown at a walk, trot and easy canter, with the ability to push on if required and change from any gait to any other gait on command.

2. To stand quietly and back readily on command.
3. Light contact with horse's mouth must be maintained.
4. High action is not desired. Horses should give the rider the feel of "pride of ownership".
5. Horses to be penalized for hard mouth, open mouth on contact, tossing head, switching tail, or incorrect lead.

PART II – HUNT TYPE

Personal Attire:

Class A: Conservative hunt seat attire is required. A jacket in colors such as black, blue, gray, green, beige, brown, dark burgundy, or dark green is suggested. Also permissible are herringbone, pin stripes, and other combinations of colors that appear to be solid. Hunt shirt with collar is required. Pin is optional. Breeches and hunt boots with a heel are required. Protective headgear or helmet is required. Gloves, spurs of the unrowelled type and whip or crop are optional. Entries must be penalized for incomplete attire but not necessarily disqualified.

Class B: White shirt with a collar such as a polo shirt, or white blouse, breeches or appropriate pants, hunt boot with a heel and protective headgear or helmet is also required.

Tack: Regulation snaffles, pelhams, all with cavesson nose bands are required. A judge may penalize a horse with non-conventional types of bits or nosebands. Any hunt seat or dressage saddle is allowed. Martingales or similar tie-downs are prohibited.

Pleasure Horse:

1. Horses to be shown under saddle.
2. Horses to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring.
3. To stand quietly and back readily on command.
4. Over-collection or extreme speed is to be penalized.
5. Horses to be penalized for hard mouth, open mouth on contact, tossing head, switching tail, incorrect lead.
6. The judge may ask for extended gaits.

PLEASURE DRIVING DIVISION

Personal Attire:

1. Drivers should be dressed conservatively according to style of the present day.
2. Gentleman must wear a coat or jacket while appearing in any class unless excused from doing so by the judge and are requested to remove their hats when accepting an award.
3. Ladies must wear a conservative dress (apron or knee rug optional), tailored suit or slacks.
4. All drivers must wear hats and gloves.

Tack:

1. Single animals only in any suitable 2 or 4 wheeled vehicle.
2. The method of driving and holding the reins is optional except the use of handholds, which is prohibited.
3. Harness must be in good repair, clean and fit properly; all metal furnishings should be secure and polished.
4. Breast collars are appropriate with lightweight vehicles.
5. Standing martingales and tie-downs are permitted only if appropriate for the vehicle being used.

Class Requirements:

1. Open to any horse or pony of any breed or combination of breeds.
2. Minor adjustments to harness may be made upon permission from the judge.
3. At the discretion of show management, headers/grooms may be utilized to ensure the safety of exhibitors. Headers/grooms are instructed to approach horses from the front for safety purposes.
4. Entries will enter the ring at the discretion of the judge and will be shown at a walk, normal trot and strong trot both ways of the ring. Must back readily upon

request of the judge. To be judged on manners, quality and performance. Extreme speed is to be penalized.

EQUITATION DIVISION

- A. Western Equitation:** Tack, personal attire and conduct of the class is the same as for Western Pleasure. The judge may ask the riders for extended gaits or to perform simple tests. The rider will use two hands on a hackamore or on a non-shanked bit. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit.
1. Basic Position. The heels to be lower than the toes. Body should always appear comfortable, relaxed and flexible. Feet should be placed in the stirrups with weight on ball of the foot. Arms are in a straight line with the body, the one holding the reins is bent at the elbow. With a shanked bit, only one hand is to be used for reining regardless of the type of bit used and the hands shall not be changed. Hand is to be around the reins. When split reins are used and the ends of the split reins fall on the same side as the reining hand, one finger between the reins is required. When using romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no finger between the reins is allowed. The position of the hand not being used for reining is optional but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment and held in a relaxed manner with the rider's body straight at all times. Rider can hold romal or end of split reins to keep from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins, provided it is held with at least 16 inches of rein between the hands. Hand to be above horn and as near to it as possible. When riding in a snaffle bit or hackamore two hands may be used with arms in a straight line with the body, bent at the elbow at approximately 90 degree angle

with hands 6-16 inches apart. Bracing against the horn or a coiled riata is penalized.

2. Position in Motion. Rider should sit to jog and not post. At the lope, rider should be close to saddle. All movements of horse should be governed by the use of the imperceptible aids and the shifting of rider's weight is not desirable.
3. Any rider not having his mount under sufficient control will be penalized.

B. Western Horsemanship:

Personal Attire: See Western Pleasure – Part I.

Tack: See Western Pleasure – Part I. A green horse or junior horse may be ridden in equitation classes. The rider will use two hands on a hackamore or on a non-shanked snaffle bit. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit.

1. Contestants to be worked individually on one of the current MSHSA Horsemanship patterns.
2. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control and show the horse, appointments of the horse and rider and suitability of horse to rider.
3. Horsemanship ONLY to count and performance of the horse is not to count unless the result of the rider's ability.
4. Horse to be under control at all times. Horses determined to be out of control will be penalized.
5. It is to be remembered at all times by the show, judge and exhibitor that the rider is being judged, not the horse. Therefore, flying changes, fast spins and the like are not expected or required. Consistent smoothness is preferred, even with simple changes and walk-around pivots, over a sloppy run with flying changes and spins.

6. Riders will be allowed to ride only one horse and one horse may be ridden by only one rider.
7. A senior horse must be ridden one handed with a shank bit unless the horse qualifies as a green horse. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit regardless of age or status.
8. **Class A** – Chaps required.
Class B - Chaps are not required.

C. Saddle Seat Equitation: Tack, personal attire and conduct of the class is the same as for English pleasure. The judge may ask the riders for extended gaits or to perform simple tests.

1. Any rider not having his mount under sufficient control will be penalized.
2. Judges should note that the required Equitation Seat should in no way be exaggerated but be thoroughly efficient and most comfortable for riding the type of horse called for at any gait and for any length of time. In Saddle Seat Equitation classes, riders should convey the impression of effective and easy control. To show a horse well, he should show himself to the best advantage. A complete picture of the whole is of major importance.
3. Hands should be held in an easy position, neither perpendicular nor horizontal to the saddle.
4. To obtain proper position, the rider should place himself comfortable in the saddle. Foot position should be natural with heels down.

D. Hunter Seat Equitation: Tack, personal attire and conduct of the class is the same as for English

pleasure. The judge may ask the rider for extended gaits or to perform simple tests.

1. Any rider not having his mount under sufficient control will be penalized.
2. Rider should have a workmanlike appearance, seat and hands light and supple.
3. Hands should be over the front of the horse's withers.
4. The eyes should be up and shoulders back. Toes should be at an angle best suited to the rider's conformation: ankles flexed in, heels down, calf of leg in contact with the horse and slightly behind the girth. Iron should be on the ball of the foot.
5. Body should be a couple of degrees in front of the vertical at the walk, sitting trot and canter, posting trot, inclined forward; galloping, same inclination as the posting trot.

E. Showmanship at Halter:

1. **Personal Attire:** Exhibitors will dress appropriately in Western, Hunt Seat or Saddle Seat attire. However, chaps are not allowed and English coats are optional provided a long-sleeved shirt is worn.

2. **Tack:**

- a. Entries shall be shown with halters appropriate to breed or with regulation snaffles/full bridles if shown in English attire as appropriate to breed.
 - b. Tack should be neat, clean and in good repair.
3. Only the exhibitor to be judged. The horse is merely a prop to show the ability of the exhibitor.
4. Entries may be shown with full mane or mane. Manes, tails, foretops and wither tufts may be English braided or Western braided if exhibitor so desires or the schedule of classes dictates.

5. One contestant/one horse combination per class.
Horse may cross enter other Showmanship classes.

6. SHOWMANSHIP SCORING:

- a. APPEARANCE OF HORSE 40 points
 - 1) Condition and Fitness (15 points)
 - 2) Grooming (15 points)
 - 3) Trimming (5 points)
 - 4) Tack (5 points)

- b. APPEARANCE OF EXHIBITOR 10 points

- c. SHOWING HORSE IN RING 50 points
 - 1. Leading (15 points)
 - a. Enter ring leading animal at an alert walk in a counter-clockwise direction unless otherwise directed by judge. Walk on animal's left side, holding lead shank in right hand, near halter. The remaining portion of lead is held neatly and safely in left hand. A tightly coiled or rolled lead shank will be considered a fault. Animal should lead readily at a walk or trot.
 - b. Contestants will be worked individually on one of the current MSHSA Showmanship patterns. When moving the horse, be sure the judge gets a clear, unobstructed view of the horse's action.
 - 2. Posing (15 points)
 - a. Pose horse according to current standards for breed. Do the showing with lead strap.

- b. Be natural. over-showing, undue fussing and maneuvering are objectionable.
- 3. Poise, alertness, and merits (20 points)
 - a. Keep alert and be aware of the position of the judge at all times.
 - b. Show the animal at all times, not yourself.
 - c. Respond quickly to requests from the judge and officials.
 - d. Recognize quickly and correct faults of your horse.
 - e. Keep showing until the entire class has been placed and excused.
 - f. Exhibitors should be able to perform whatever additional test the judge may deem advisable to ask of them (i.e. name parts of the horse and/or tack, pick up the horse's foot, etc.).

HALTER DIVISION

A. General:

1. Horses to be shown in-hand at the walk and trot or intermediate gait. Horses to be shown according to the judge's request. Horses are to be shown and judged by their breed standards, with emphasis on conformation, substance and quality. Horses to exhibit good manners and a pleasant attitude. The judge shall make individual examination of each horse.

B. Class Specifications:

- 1. Halter Mares – Junior. Mares of any breed. 5 years old and younger.
- 2. Halter Mares – Senior. Mares of any breed, 6 years old and older.

3. Halter Stallions and Geldings – Junior.
Stallions and geldings of any breed 5 years old and younger.

4. Halter Stallions and Geldings – Senior.
Stallions and geldings of any breed 6 years old and older.