



# **4-H HORSE & PONY PROJECT SHOW RULES/REGULATION**

**THESES RULES ARE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF EACH CLASS.**

**FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF THE RULES FOR EACH CLASS PLEASE REFER TO**

On line

**(<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/horse/horserules.html>)**

Or the

**BARRY COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE:**

# Barry County Class RULES

These rules are a brief overview of each class. For a complete listing of the rules for each class please refer to **4-H Horse & Pony Project Show Rule Regulations**, which can be acquired at <http://4h.msue.anr.msu.edu/county/barry/equine> or at the county extension office.

## *Showmanship*

- Is judged on the grooming /conditioning of the horse and handler and Proper execution of a pattern while leading the horse on the ground.
- At Fair only, A, B, or C Ribbons are awarded in addition to Placing's. These represent the presentation of the horse or pony and are tied to the fair premiums for the horse project. No B or C Ribbon winners are eligible for Medals ( gold = 1st, silver = 2nd, or Bronze = 3rd )
- At the Fair the top Six (6) showman place in the fitting and showing classes, with the top three A ribbon winners receiving medals.

## *Halter*

- Judged on the conditioning and conformation of the horse to its breed standards.

## *Color Halter (50/50)*

- Judged based on a combination score. 50% as a halter class and 50% on color. The color part is dependent on the breed standards

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## *Young Clovers:*

- Lead line classes. The rider is expected to be able to control their animal with the assistance of the "leader". The "leader" uses a halter and lead line which is placed under the bridle to assist the rider. All participants will receive participation ribbons.
- Non Lead Line young clover classes ; The rider is expected to have expert control of the animal at a walk, stop, and back.. The judge may elect to use a simple pattern for this class.
- Young clovers will have time to warm up with other young clovers, but the other rings will be in use.

## *Novice Classes*

- Are intended for those riders in their First (1) year of showing.
- Horses are shown in any seat. Hunt seat, Saddle Seat, Dressage seat, Western Seat, Speed seat.
- Novice Riders may not show in any non-novice classes. Novice classes are labeled as such.
- Novice Riders must move up to regular classes the following year.
- These classes qualify for the Novice Championship Classes. See Championship descriptions.
- Novice: accumulate points towards their high point but are not eligible for state 4-h Horse show.

### ***Walk Trot Classes***

- Are intended for those riders in their First (1) year of showing and that can only safely perform at a walk or a trot.
- Walk-Trot Riders may not show in any non- Walk-Trot Classes. Walk-Trot Classes are labeled as such.
- Walk-Trot Riders must move up to regular classes the following year. They may NOT show in novice classes.
- There will be NO SPOTTERS; you must have control of your animal.
- Walk trot 4-h' ers earn points for their high point trophy.

### ***Saddle Seat***

- Full Bridles are preferred but pelhams with a minimum of a 4" shank are permitted. Four reins on the bridle are required and no converters are permitted. Kimberwicks are not permitted. Tennessee walking horses and Gaited horses may be shown in a single rein. No braiding of forelocks, manes or tails except for Gaited horses. Breed standards apply.
- Saddle is a flat type of English saddle, Dressage saddles are permitted at a 4-H level.
- Gaits; walk, sitting trot, trot, extended trot, canter and hand gallop

### ***Hunt seat***

- Regulation snaffles, pelhams, Kimberwicks and full brides all leather brow bands and cavesson nosebands are required.
- A hunting saddle of an English forward seat is required.
- If spurs are used they may not have rowels.
- Gaits; walk, sitting trot, working trot, extended trot, canter and hand gallop

### ***Dressage***

- Plain snaffle is the required bit. The bridle is a plain English bridle with a cavesson, flash, figure eight or dropped noseband. Any English saddle is permitted.
- Judged on freedom and regularity of the gaits, harmony, lightness and ease of movement. Lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hind quarters, originating in a lively impulsion. Acceptance of the bridle, with submissiveness throughout the head.
- A rider may show in only three (3) Dressage Test.
- Dressage test A and B are for those riders or horses that have never shown dressage.

### ***Dressage Suitability***

- This class is open to horses that have NOT competed in any tests above the first level Dressage
- This class is shown at a walk, trot and canter and judged on the horse's ability to become a dressage mount.
- This class is classified as a performance class and qualifies for the performance championship

### ***English***

- Any English seat is acceptable.
- Riders must conform to rules and regulations within each seat (hunt, dressage, saddle seat)

## ***Hunter Hack***

### ➤ Scoring

- Hunter Under Saddle (rail work) .....45% of the score
- Hunter Over Fences.....45% of the score
- Appointments of horse and rider.....10% of the score

All horses competing will first be lined up at one side of the arena for instructions from the judge for individual work. The individual work shall consist of no less than the following:

### ***Hunter Over Fences:*** Faults over fences will be scored as in working hunter classes

- Separate from the lineup, canter and proceed to jump two fences. These fences must be brush or simple post and rails, with ground poles in front of each fence. If a brush jump is used, it must be the first fence jumped. Jumps do not have to be set on a line. However, if jumps are set on a line, they must be 36 feet, 48 feet or 60 feet apart. The height of the fences must not be higher than 2 feet 6 inches.
- Hand gallop
- Stop and settle at a point at least halfway down the long side of the arena.
- Back and stand quietly.
- Return to lineup.

### ***Hunter Under Saddle:***

- The hunter hack must be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. It is the judge's option to require an exhibitor to extend any gait and to back easily. Emphasis shall be placed on actual suitability to purpose. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors.
- Walk - True and flat - footed for pleasure classes.
- Trot - Brisk, smart, cadenced and balanced without loss of form. An extended trot may be called for at the judge's option.
- Canter - Smooth, three - beat, collected and straight on both leads, with the ability to push on, if required, into a hand gallop

## ***Western***

### ➤ Horses 5 yrs or younger ( junior horse) may be shown with a

- Bosal or a smooth broken mouthpiece snaffle. Chinstraps are optional but must be leather and attached below the reins.  
\*Reins are to be crossed and bridged
- Shank bit with a  
\*Reins are held in One (1) hand

### ➤ Horses 6 yrs and over must be shown in a shanked bit with a chinstrap. Shanks are not to exceed 8.5 inches and the mouth piece port may not exceed 3.5 inches.

### ➤ Western gaits are a walk, jog (trot), extended jog, canter and hand gallop.

### ➤ Attire: a long - sleeved shirt with a collar (including standup, tuxedo, oxford, button - down, turtleneck and mock turtleneck collars) and long pants. If the pants have belt loops, a belt must be worn. One - piece equitation suits are permissible. A tie, pin, choker, necklace or scarf is required for open - collared shirts. Chaps, gloves and spurs are optional, but spurs must not harm the horse.

### ➤ Riders may be asked to execute a simple pattern in the center of the ring.

## ***Stock Type Western Pleasure***

### ➤ Stock Type horses (example Quarter Horses, Paints, Appy's etc.)

### ➤ Shown as a Western pleasure class

## ***Fine Horse Western Pleasure***

### ➤ Non - Stock Type Horses shown to breed standards. (Example: Arabians, Morgans, TB, Gaited horses, ect.)

### ➤ Shown as a Western pleasure class.

### ***Bareback***

- Riders ride with out a saddle. The rider may ride Saddle Seat, English or Western.
- Judged 90% equitation 10% horse's suitability for that seat.
- Bare back qualifies for Performance Championship Class. See Championship Descriptions.

### ***Reining***

- Execution of a pattern at a canter and hand gallop while maintaining control and collection. Pattern includes simple or Flying Lead Changes. Roll backs, Spins and Backing.
- Alternates between simple 4-H pattern 1 & 2 as stated in the 4 -H Show Rule Regulation Book.
- Western Rules apply in regards to tack and attire.
- BITS western bit standards apply, refer to the 4 - H Show Rules Regulation Book.
- Reining qualifies for Performance Championship Class. See Championship Descriptions.

### ***Versatility***

- Judged 50% Western / English Pleasure and 50% Western Horsemanship / English Equitation.
- Riders will enter the ring showing their horse under Western Horsemanship / Pleasure Rules. At the conclusion of the western portion of the class all riders are pulled into the center of the ring. A tack change and clothing change occurs within a specified time (2 Grooms are allowed to assist the riders). After the specified amount of time (3 mins), the rider then shows their horse on the rail under English Equitation / Pleasure Rules.
- Versatility qualifies for Performance Championship Class. See Championship Descriptions.

### ***Walk trot pattern***

- Similar to Basic riding but intended for the first year shower. The pattern consists of different maneuvers executed at a walk or a trot. Pattern is included in your pre registration packet and will be posted the day of the show.

### ***Basic Riding***

- A progressive riding pattern which starts with basic Riding 1 and progresses to basic riding 3. If You received 2 A ratings in the SAME CALENDAR YEAR you must advance to the next level the FOLLOWING YEAR, unless you change horses.
- Judged on the rider's ability to execute a specific pattern and demonstrate their horse's ability to change gates and leads.
- Basic Riding qualifies for Performance Championship Class. See Championship Descriptions.

### ***English / Western Riding & Green***

- Top level of Basic Riding.
- The rider is required to do a minimum of 4 flying lead changes
- The course can compose of "Ranch style" obstacles such as a long jump or a gate.
- English / Western Riding qualifies for Performance Championship Class. See Championship Descriptions.

### ***Driving***

- The horse is to be shown in a harness suitable to the vehicle used. The vehicle should be an appropriate two or four wheeled vehicle with wire or wood wheels and in sound condition.
- Reinsmanship is judged on how well the driver handles the whip, reins, posture, and overall control.
  - QUALIFIES for either Western or English Championship depending on the attire of the driver.
- Pleasure Driving is judged on manners, suitability, performance, quality and horse's presence.
  - QUALIFIES for the Performance Championship.

### ***Trail***

- Horse and rider are judged on how well they maneuver a course and a set of obstacles.
- Time limit may apply (judges discretion).
- Any seat (English or western or speed) is acceptable & speed
- Trail qualifies for Performance Championship Class. See Championship Descriptions.

### ***Speed horsemanship***

- Is Judged based on western equitation
- Speed tack and equipment allowed
- Riders must compete in three (3) other speed events to qualify for speed horsemanship. This is NOT intended for the western pleasure rider but for speed riders only.
- Bits / Reins.
  - If the bit has a jointed mouth piece and NO SHANKS you ride as if in a snaffle bit. TWO HANDS, reins are crossed and bridged.
  - If the bit has a solid or jointed mouth piece with SHANKS then you ride with ONE HAND similar to western classes.
  - If you ride with a Hackmore then you use TWO HANDS

### ***Pole bending***

- Contestants may start on either side of the line of poles. They will cross the starting line, move in an approximately straight line to pole 6 (the farthest pole), make a 180-degree turn around pole 6, pass between pole 6 and pole 5, bend through the poles to pole 1, turn pole 1, bend through the poles to pole 6, make a 180-degree turn around pole 6, and cross the starting line by moving along the poles on the side opposite that on which they first approached pole 6.
- A 5-second penalty will be assessed for each pole knocked down.
- Stop of forward motion and break of pattern is a disqualification.

### ***Speed and action***

- The horse and rider are to start and end the course completely within the box. They may also start the course by entering through the top of the box (that is, by running through the box). Timing begins when the entry leaves the box and stops when the entry enters the box. The rider rides through the box to the kegs or markers 200 feet away, rides through two kegs or markers, turning around the center keg and returning to the box. The rider must stop within the square of four kegs or markers.
- Spinning to a stop more than 90 degrees in the box, as determined by the judge, will result in disqualification
  - RIDERS MUST STOP UNTIL DISMISSED WITHOUT TURNING 90 DEGREES.
- Stop of forward motion and break of pattern is a disqualification

### ***Clover Leaf***

➤ Riders have the option of riding course A or B

- Course A – The entry must cross the timing line, circle barrel 1 clockwise, circle barrel 2 counterclockwise, circle barrel 3 counterclockwise and run between barrels 2 and 3 to cross the timing line.
- Course B – The entry must cross the timing line, circle barrel 2 counterclockwise, circle barrel 1 clockwise, circle barrel 3 clockwise and run between barrels 2 and 3 to cross the timing line.
- A 5-second penalty will be assessed for each barrel knocked down.
- Stop of forward motion and break of pattern is a disqualification

### ***Key Hole***

- The horse will cross the timing line, enter the circle through the door of the keyhole, turn around (in either direction) entirely within the circle of the keyhole, exit through the door of the keyhole and re-cross the timing line.
- The horse stepping over or on the chalk line at any time is a disqualification
- Starting and stopping outside the markers are a disqualification

### ***Indian Flag Race***

- Uses the Clover Leaf barrels running on the outside.
- The rider will pick up a flag at the first barrel, ride behind the second and place the flag in the bucket on the third barrel
- Stop of forward motion, break of pattern, Failure to move the flag or place the flag in the final bucket, or knocking over a bucket or barrel are disqualification

## **HIGH POINT / CHAMPIONSHIPS CLASSES**

**STATE SHOW DELEGATES ARE CHOSEN USING THE 9 CLASSES THEY SELECTED FOR LAST YEARS FAIR, AND THE 9 CLASSES THAT THEY SELECTED FOR THIS YEARS 2 POINT SHOWS. THE BEST 2 SHOWS ARE TOTALLED AND EXTRA POINTS ARE ADDED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE, QUESTIONS FROM FAIR, ETC.**

### **Walk Trot High Point**

□ All Walk Trot compete for points and are rated 1st through 6th place based on their total accumulated points from point show and the fair. The top 2 riders are placed based on their total accumulated points from both point show and the fair plus all other points accumulated.

### **Novice High Point**

□ All Novice compete for points and are rated 1st through 6th place based on their total accumulated points from both point shows and the fair. The top 2 riders are placed based on their total accumulated points from both point show and the fair. plus all other points accumulated.

### **Junior and Senior High Point**

□ All juniors / seniors complete for points and are rated 1 through 6 place based on their total accumulated points from point show and the fair. Plus all other points accumulated

- Top 14 Senior High Point winners will be Barry County 4-H State Show Representatives. Then the next highest 4 Senior riders will be Alternates.

**Showmanship Champion** – Judged solely on showmanship; Winner participates in the show of Champions

- 13 and Over (Senior) Showmanship championship –DOUBLE JUDGED
  - Medallion winners from all 13 and Over showmanship age divisions.
- 12 and Under (Junior.) Showmanship Championship –DOUBLE JUDGED
  - Medallion winners from all 12 and Under showmanship age divisions.
- Novice Showmanship Championship –DOUBLE JUDGED
  - Medallion winners from Novice and Walk Trot showmanship classes.
- Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.

**Halter Champion**– Judged solely on confirmation

- Halter Championship -DOUBLED JUDGED
  - First and Second Place winners from all halter classes

**Speed Champion** – Judged based on speed and equitation: Judges Discretion

- 13 and Over (Senior) Speed Championship
  - First and Second Place winners from all 13 and Over Speed classes
- 12 and Under (Junior)Speed Championship
  - First and Second winners from all 12 and Under Speed classes
- Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.

**Novice Overall Champion -** Judged on 50% Pleasure and 50% Equitation – DOUBLE JUDGED

- ☐ Novice Horse Championship
  - First and Second Place Novice winners from ANY NOVICE class.
- ☐ Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.

**Western Champion–** Judged on 50% Pleasure and 50% Equitation

- ☐ 13 and Over (Senior) Western Championship
  - First and Second Place winners from all 13 and Over Western classes
- ☐ 12 and Under (Junior) Western Championship
  - First and Second Place winners from all 12 and Under Western classes
- ☐ Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.

**English Champion –** Judged on 50% Pleasure and 50% Equitation

- ☐ 13 and Over (Senior) English Championship
  - First and Second Place winners from all 13 and Over English flat classes
- ☐ 12 and Under (Junior) English Championship
  - First and Second Place winners from all 12 and Under English flat classes
- ☐ Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.

**Performance Champion –** Judged on 90% Pattern and 10 % Equitation – DOUBLE JUDGED

- ☐ 13 and Over (Senior) Performance Championship
  - First and Second Place 13 and Over Horse/Pony winners from all performance (800) classes
- ☐ 12 and Under (Junior) Performance Championship
  - First and Second Place 12 and Under Horse/Pony winners from all performance (800) classes
- ☐ Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.

**Over All Champion –** Judging criteria to be determined by the team of judges that judge these events.

- ☐ All Champions and Reserve Champions are qualified to show in the Overall Champion Class.
  - Except Novice and Walk Trot Champions
- ☐ Championship patterns will be posted prior to the class at the announcing booth.
- ☐ DOUBLE JUDGED

### **Show of Champions - TOP 4-H HONOR AT THE FAIR**

- The Senior Showman champion or one of the top 3 Senior showman champions are required to attend
- Every champion from the different animal divisions competes against each other for an overall title.
- Reference books are available from the 4-h office or Fair Office
- Champion must learn how to show an animal from each animal division at the fair
- Champion's Knowledge of the different animals will be tested.
- There are many kids in each area that are willing to share their knowledge with others.

## **HIGH POINT SELECTION SYSTEM**

**POINTS; 1st -6, 2nd - 5, 3rd - 4th, 4th - 3, 5th - 2, 6th - 1**

**\*\*\*FAIR WEEK - MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE EXTRA SHOWMANSHIP POINTS FOR FAIR ONLY!** For those that receive a medal will get extra points and all members will get an A, B, or C ribbon for showmanship at fair, receive extra points as well.

**GOLD MEDAL - 3 POINTS**

**A ribbon award - 3 points**

**SILVER MEDAL -2 POINTS**

**B ribbon award - 2 points**

**BRONZE MEDAL - 1 POINT**

**C ribbon award - 1 point**

**\*\*\*\*\*EACH MEMBER THAT DOES SHOWMANSHIP AT THE POINT SHOW AND FAIR RECEIVES 2 EXTRA POINTS.**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE: Each member receives 10 points.**

**QUESTIONS: Members are asked 3 questions and for each correct answer they will receive 2 points each. Questions are given Thursday morning of Fair Week. Questions come from the Horse Science Book and Horse and Horsemanship Book.**

## **HIGH POINT**

**SENIORS 1st - 6th placing**

**JUNIORS 1st - 6th placings**

**NOVICE 1st & 2nd placings**

**WALK / TROT 1st & 2nd placings**

**Total points are accumulated from last year's fair and questions, this year's point show, and community service. Whoever receives the highest total scores is eligible to attend the State Show. Each year is determined by the State on how many Delegates and Alternates we are allowed to send.**

**Ages for State Show (determined as of January 1st) 12 - 19 years.**

**(Juniors 12 -15 years, Seniors 16 -19 years)**

**\*\*\*\*\*NOVICE AND WALK / TROT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR STATE SHOW.**

## **SHOW OF CHAMPIONS**

**The Grand Champion Senior and Junior Showmanship winners are eligible for the Show Of Champions which is held the last Saturday of Fair. If you are unable to compete or will compete with a different species, please contact one of the board members or the Reserve Champion as soon as possible, in order to give them time to work with the other species as well. Once you have won the Show Of Champions as Grand Champion, you are no longer able to compete in this event.**







