

EMHSC RULES for 2010 SEASON

Eligibility Fees: Individual \$15.00
 Family \$25.00

In order to qualify for year end awards you must have a current eligibility. The shows you enter will not count until the eligibility fee is paid.

1. Entries will be accepted up to 2 classes prior to class. Horses need not be registered and can be of any breed. Halter class entries close at 7:30 each day.
2. Fee Schedule: \$6.00 per class - \$2.00 of entry goes towards year-end awards.
3. \$4.00 office charge per person.
4. The horse show managers will decide on awards to be given at shows:
 - a) 1st place awards and ribbons to 3 places
 - b) paybacks and ribbons to 3 places
 - c) ribbons to 3 places and end of show high point awards

****At the beginning of each season, a mailing will be sent to each individual or family containing the dates, names and phone numbers of the show managers, the rules, an eligibility application, an entry form, a list of the classes and any other information which may be available at that time. At each show information will be available for the next show that season (stall rent, whether or not bedding will be available at the show, whether or not there will be concessions on the grounds, information about camping, and the location of the show). All shows will use the same entry sheets. These will be furnished by EMHSC. This will cause less hassle for the competitors when entering and less confusion for the show managers when figuring the points. EMHSC will also furnish entry forms, eligibility forms, class lists, and patterns for each show.**

Show managers should have packets available containing show dates and rules with a class list, patterns and an entry form, and give a packet to each new eligible individual or family who signs up at their show. These will be furnished by EMHSC.

Before each show begins, the show manager should introduce their judges for the day and tell about them.

5. Points will be on horse and rider or horse and handler combination except for halter classes in which only the horse is judged.
6. One horse can only be shown once per class per age division except in youth speed events.
7. Exhibitor need not own the horse they exhibit.
8. Youth 12 & under cannot exhibit stallions.
9. Correct attire for English is required (English saddle, bridle, boots, hat, jacket).
10. Correct attire for Western is required (Western saddle, bridle, western boots, long sleeve shirt, western hat, belt, jeans). Chaps are optional.
11. To be eligible to win a year-end versatility award a contestant must compete in 2 of the 3 classes listed for yearling, Jr. Horse, and speed events. All of the 3 classes will count. For youth, novice, adult, men's, and Jack Benny versatility awards a contestant must compete in 3 of the 4 classes listed with all 4 classes to count.

YEAR END VERSATILITY AWARDS

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <u>Yearling</u> | <u>Junior Horse</u> | <u>Youth</u> | <u>Men's</u> |
| Yearling Halter | Western Pleasure | Showmanship | Cowboy Pleasure |
| Yearling Longe Line | English Pleasure | Western Equitation | Reining |
| Yearling Trail | Trail | English Pleasure | Ranch Horse |
| | | Trail | Trail (Adult or youth) |

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Novice</u> | <u>Adult</u> | <u>Jack Benny</u> |
| Showmanship | Showmanship | Showmanship |
| Western Equitation | Western Pleasure | Western Equitation |
| English Pleasure | English Equitation | English Pleasure |
| Trail | Trail | Trail |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Pee Wee Speed</u> | <u>Youth Speed</u> | <u>Novice Speed</u> | <u>Adult Speed</u> |
| Barrels | Barrels | Barrels | Barrels |
| Flag Race | Flag Race | Flag Race | Flag Race |
| Poles | Poles | Poles | Poles |

12. The year-end awards will be determined by class - the points in 2 shows will be dropped (not the entire shows - just the lowest points in that class at whatever 2 shows are the lowest). If you do not compete in more than 6 shows no points will be dropped. If you compete in 8 shows - points from two will be dropped. If you compete in 7 shows points from one will be dropped. You must compete in a minimum of 4 shows to be eligible for year-end awards. In case of a tie for any award, the horse or the exhibitor with the most first (1st) placings will have the edge. If a tie persists, the horse or exhibitor with the most second (2nd) placings, the third (3rd) placings and so on down to sixth (6th) placings will receive the edge. If a tie still persists, the horse or exhibitor beating the most competitors receives the edge.

*****In case a horse should get sick or injured and unable to compete in 1/2 of the shows, a vet certificate showing that the horse is unable to compete and why will make their points count. The points from the injured horse will continue through the first change of horses only -after that the points must start over. Contestant must notify directors what horse will be used in order for the points from that horse to count with the points from the sick or injured horse. This may be done until the sick or injured horse recovers or for the remainder of the season.**

13. Point System

The points will be the same regardless of how many horses are in the class:

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1st place | - | 6 points |
| 2nd place | - | 5 points |
| 3rd place | - | 4 points |
| 4th place | - | 3 points |
| 5th place | - | 2 points |
| 6th place | - | 1 point |

14. One of three patterns will be used for the year at all shows in reining and equitation classes. There will be no surprise patterns.

15. Should any question or dispute arise not provided for in the rules, it must be submitted in writing to the show committee with a \$25.00 deposit to be refunded only if complaint upheld. Decision of the committee is final.

Do not approach the judge. If you need a question answered go to the ring steward or to the office. If the judge wants to talk to you that is their call.

In the event that an NSF check is received by any show manager all points and awards will be

withheld until such time as restitution is made. A \$25 charge will apply. This is the EMHSC policy on NSF checks.

Dogs must be on a leash or owner will be fined \$5.00.

16. In order for a year-end prize to be given in a class that class must have at least one contestant who entered that class at least 4 times during the season. If at least one competitor has not entered that particular class at least 4 times during the season no award will be given in that class.

17. No refunds will be made on withdrawals unless a veterinary certificate is submitted for the horse or a physician's certificate for the exhibitor to the show office. Stall fees and office fees are non-refundable.

18. The show will not be responsible for any accidents to persons, horses, equipment or loss of equipment. Presentation of entry blank shall be deemed acceptance of this rule.

19. For horse show purposes, the age of an individual on January 1st will determine their age for the entire show season. Youth - 16 and under; adult - over 16; pee wee - 9 and under.

20. For competition purposes, horses are considered to be one year old on the first day of January following the actual date of foaling. They maintain that age for the entire competition year regardless of the actual birth date.

21. We recommend that a horse be three (3) years old or older to be shown in classes 49 through 60.

Junior horses are 5 years old and younger.
Senior horses are 6 years old and older.

*****Abuse of horses will not be tolerated. You will be excused from the show premises - no entry fees will be refunded. A rider's mistakes should not be taken out on the horse.**

Class Specifications

*****AQHA rules will be followed. However, each show manager shall specify to their judges that horses will be shown as their breed. Each show manager should send a copy of our rules to their judges far enough in advance so as the judges will have time to familiarize themselves with the rules.**

****Memo to show managers - show managers should get together with their judges and ask them to watch for equipment and riders using two hands when using any shank bit.**

****Memo to show managers - show managers should be sure to clarify to their judges the cowboy pleasure class is judged as a pleasure class - example leads are to count. It is imperative for a judge to know how a horse should move; example - the difference in movement of the English pleasure horse compared to the Western pleasure horse.**

For pattern classes all horses will enter the arena at the same time. For all other classes when the horses line up for placing the next class needs to enter the arena. This will help speed up the show as there are a lot of classes to go through in a day.

Halter Classes - Horses shall be shown as their breed. Halter horses may be shown by other members of EMHSC.

Yearling Longe Line Class (these rules were taken partially from the rules of NSBA - National Snaffle Bit Assoc. and partially EMHSC rules).

The **purpose** of the class is to reward: A) quality of movement, B) conformation, C) trainability. Even though appropriate levels of training will be recognized, these horses are not expected to demonstrate behavior or performance beyond that necessary for a reasonable presentation to the judge. **Equipment** -

Horses are to be shown in a halter, regular or show type is acceptable. For the longeing demonstration, the only attachment allowed to the halter is the longe line. The longe line may not exceed 30 feet in length with a chain or snap attached to the halter. The longe line must hang free from the halter without touching any part of the horse. A longe whip is optional. Chains over the nose or under the jaw are prohibited. Mechanical or retractable longe lines are not allowed. **Attire** - Conventional western attire is mandatory except if a prospect is considered to be a Hunt Seat prospect then convention English attire is optional. **Judging** - The judge will be outside the longeing circle. Horses should be judged as performance horse prospects. The judge shall give a conformation score as the horse enters the ring. The horses are judged 80% on movement and 20% on conformation with the edge given to the horse with the smoothest movement. The exhibitor will enter the arena and await the whistle (or other signal) to start. When the whistle is blown (or other signal is given), the exhibitor will be allowed 90 seconds (1½ minutes) to present their horse. Time will begin when the horse is out on the circle. At the end of the 90 seconds the whistle will blow again (or time will be called) to signify the end of the run. There will be a "half-way (45 second)" whistle or announcement. The horse will be scored at the walk, jog or long trot, and lope or canter in both directions. The exhibitor may begin work in the direction of their choice (counter or clockwise). At the end of the 90 seconds, whistle will be blown (or time will be called) and the exhibitor shall at the request of show management either retire from the longeing area to the far end of the ring **or** leave the ring and wait nearby to return for the final lineup. If the horses remain in the ring, they are to stand quietly on the wall while the other exhibitors are being judged.

If the horse's nose, mouth or jaw areas show signs of broken skin, rawness or bleeding, the horse will be eliminated from competition.

If the horse is playing on the longeing line, it shall not count against the horse. The horse should be judged as though playing in the fields. Horses should be judged as performance horse prospects. The judge shall give a conformation score as the horse enters the ring.

Exhibitors are encouraged to exhibit their horse making full use of a 20' radius circle (measured from exhibitor to horse) as they will be scored on this.

Pony Class - open to all horses 14.0 hands and under.

Green Horse - Horse of any age in 1st year of showing. Horses who qualify are considered "Green" for the full competition year. May be shown two handed with a non-shanked snaffle or bosal hackamore.

Novice Rider - Rider of any age not to have won five first place awards in **any open or breed association show** or **have won a year-end novice award in that class**. Riders who qualify are considered "Novice" for the full competition year per event.

Western Pleasure - To be shown at a walk, jog-trot and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonable loose rein without undue restraint. To be judged on performance 60%, conformation 30% and appearance 10%. Extended gaits may be asked for upon judge's request. Maximum credit should be given to the flowing, balanced, and willing horse that gives the appearance of being fit and a pleasure to ride. Horses will be penalized for excessive slowness in any gait, loss of forward momentum (resulting in an animated and/or artificial gait at the lope); overflexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical; head carried too low (such that the tip of the ear is below the withers).

Men's Cowboy Pleasure - This is open to males of all ages. It is to be judged the same as the western pleasure class with the same criteria and the same emphasis on correct leads. The only difference is it is open only to males.

Western Equitation - Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control and show horse and suitability of horse to rider. Horses must be ridden one handed with a standard western bit. Patterns for this class

will be posted or announced.

English Pleasure - To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Rider may be dressed in hunter or saddle seat attire. To be judged on performance 60%, conformation 30% and appearance 10%. The quality of the movement and the consistency of the gaits is a major consideration. Extended gaits may be asked for upon judge's request. Horses will be penalized for excessive slowness in any gait, loss of forward momentum; overflexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical; head carried too low (such that poll is below the withers).

English Equitation - Rider may be dressed in hunter or saddle seat attire. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control and show horse and suitability of horse to rider.

Gaited Horse - The term gaited horse has come to mean horses that boast gaits other than the walk, trot, and canter.

Hunter Hack - This class is suggested for experienced jumpers only.

The hunter hack horse should move in the same style as a working hunter. The class will be judged on style over jumps, even hunting pace, flat work, manners and way of going. **The poll should be level with, or slightly above the withers, to allow proper impulsion behind. The head should not be carried behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance.**

Helmets are mandatory. Two jumps are required with the maximum height being 29 inches. If jumps are set on a line they are recommended to be in increments of 12 feet but adjusted to no less than two strides.

A ground line is recommended for each jump.

Horses are then to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring with light contact.

At the discretion of the judge, contestants may be asked to hand gallop, pull up or back and stand quietly following the last fence.

Placing shall be determined by allowing a minimum of 70% for individual jumps and a maximum of 30% for work on the flat.

Trail - While we use AQHA rules as guidelines the managers are discouraged from using patterns as difficult or astringent as AQHA. While the patterns should be challenging our shows are for fun - we are not AQHA. We do not want to discourage anyone from entering trail classes.

Horses are required to work over and through obstacles. Course to include a jog-trot and lope of suitable duration to determine the way of going. Rail work shall be not required. Entry will be evaluated on responsiveness, willingness and general attitude. Riders hands shall be clear of horse to avoid cueing. Hand may be changed on the reins or lead to negotiate an obstacle.

a) Senior Horse - must be ridden one handed with a standard western bit.

b) Junior Horse - may be ridden two handed with a bosal hackamore or non-shanked snaffle. One hand must be used if ridden with a shanked bit.

c) Yearling Trail - yearlings are to be shown in a halter.

d) In-Hand Trail - All Ages - not a riding class. Horse or pony will be shown in a halter. Course may be the same as yearling trail.

Course to include a minimum of six obstacles and a maximum of eight obstacles. Examples of obstacles which may be required are:

- a. Negotiating gate
- b. Carrying objects from one part of arena to another
- c. Riding through water hazard/ditch or over simulated brush
- d. Riding over at least four logs/poles
- e. Crossing a bridge
- f. Backing through obstacles

- g. Sidepassing
- h. Serpentine obstacles at walk or jog
- i. Remove and replace materials from mailbox
- j. Put on and remove slicker
- k. Riding into any obstacle consisting of four logs/poles laid in a square, executing a turn and exiting square
- l. Performing over any reasonable conditions encountered along the trail

Ground ties are not permitted - neither are logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits them to roll. For a list of items not allowed refer to the AQHA handbook.

The judge shall walk the course and has the right and duty to alter the course in any manner. The judge may remove or change any obstacle he deems unsafe or non-negotiable. If at any time a trail obstacle is deemed to be unsafe by the judge, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous works for that class.

Pleasure Driving - This is not a class for year end points but show managers may choose to add it as an extra class for their show. Judged 80% on the horse's performance and suitability for assuring a pleasurable drive, with a maximum of 20% on condition and conformation.

No extended hoofs, heavy shoes or toe weights allowed.

Horses shall enter the ring in the same direction. Each horse shall be exhibited in both directions of the show ring. At the direction of the ring steward, such change of direction shall be accomplished by the horses crossing the show ring while walking only.

Each horse shall also be required to back easily and straight and stand quietly.

No exhibitor shall drive a horse while standing in the cart, nor shall any horse be unbridled or unattended while hooked to a cart.

Showmanship Class - 9 Years & Younger and Special Circumstances - This will be a regular showmanship class but open only to youth 9 years of age or younger or someone with special circumstances which make it hard for them to compete in a regular showmanship class. Each contestant may have a handler if they wish to do so.

Costume Class - This is not a working class. It will be judged **only** on suitability of horse to rider and costume. Costumes need not be elaborate. All horses, ponies, and handlers of all ages and all levels are eligible. **Handlers are allowed.** Examples might be clown/circus horse, cowboy, native american, packer, trapper, hunter jumper, Arabian costumes, etc.

Reining. If an exhibitor breaks the pattern he/she will be put to the bottom of the class. Example - excess spins.

Free Style Reining - Exhibitor must give the judge his/her pattern or talk to the judge before beginning the ride. Exhibitor must furnish own props - music, etc. Maneuvers may be performed in any order but all must be performed. These rules are taken from the **General Rules of NRHA** (couldn't find any free style reining rules from AQHA). Freestyle Reining provides an opportunity to use maneuvers creatively, and to expand them to music by means of choreography. Riders are encouraged to use musical scores which permit them to show the athletic ability of the horse in a crowd appealing way.

- (1) Required maneuvers. Will be defined as follows:
 - (a) A minimum of 4 consecutive spins to the right
 - (B) A minimum of 4 consecutive spins to the left
 - (C) A minimum of 3 stops
 - (D) A minimum of 1 lead change at the canter from right to left
 - (E) A minimum of 1 lead change at the canter from left to right
- (2) Exhibitors will only be judged astride
- (3) Exhibitors are allowed to use two hands (as well as one or no hands) and any bit approved by

the NRHA Handbook, including snafflebits and bosals approved for used in the Snaffle Bit or Hackamore classes.

(4) Additional maneuvers such as rollbacks, backups, speed variations, and non-classical reining maneuvers such as half pass and side pass are appropriate in Freestyle and shall be given appropriate credit. Additional repetitions or required maneuvers are appropriate, but will only add or subtract from the existing scores already given for the required maneuvers, not as additional scores.

(5) Equipment used in Freestyle must adhere to the following standards:

(A) All equipment must be non-abusive and humane based on NRHA Rules and Guidelines.

(B) Any equipment not specifically covered by or in conflict with standard equipment guidelines must be non-abusive to the horse.

(6) Time limit. **A maximum of 3½ minutes** including any introductions. The time limit will be from the beginning of the music or from the beginning of the introduction (whichever is first) and will end with the music.

(7) Costumes. Permitted but not required. Emphasis is placed on performing the reining maneuvers to music.

(8) Props. Permitted but at no time may hinder the judges' view of the horse. The use of props will not add to the score.

Ranch Horse - Five of the nine obstacles to be used in any combination.

- a. Ground tie
- b. Open gate
- c. Rope a dummy
- d. drag something behind horse
- e. Railwork - judge's option
- f. slicker
- g. dismount and mount
- h. logs
- i. load in trailer
- j. cow work if cattle available - any type of cattle may be used - cows, steers, yearlings, calves

Flag Race - One flag will be used. The flag is to be picked up from a bucket on the first barrel and put into a bucket on the second barrel. The two barrels are to be set across from each other. Cannot touch horse with flag - to do so is disqualification.

Pee Wee Speed Events - If a contestant is led through the pattern 5 seconds will be added to his or her time. Each individual show has the option of adjusting (shortening) the pattern. This would be to conserve time. Examples - remove last 2 poles in pole bending, shorten distance between barrels, use only one barrel and either put in or remove one flag in the flag race, etc.

This AQHA Warm-up Pen Etiquette Guide Will Be Adopted, Posted, and Enforced:

The Golden Rule - This is the rule everyone of every discipline...english, western, performance, and even barrel racers/gamers should know and have been taught from a very young age. The riders walking and trotting stay to the outside of the pen on the rail while those wanting to canter should be in the center of the pen. Stay in the designated area for the speed you are going, if you want to change speeds, change your position in the pen, don't weave in and out of riders.

Rule #1 Go With The Flow - Everyone rides in the same direction for a certain number of minutes then a timer will go off and everyone will switch directions. If you are late to the pen then you are out of luck to go that direction unless the whole pen changes directions again.

Rule #2 Keep Your Eyes Open - Pay attention to what is going on around you at all times. Do not stop without looking behind you to make sure you are not in the path of someone right behind you. Give the horse on either side of you room to move. Stay at least as far away from other rider as their horse can kick. Avoid putting yourself and your horse in a dangerous situation.

Rule #3 Respect Other Riders - Do not ride up on the rear end of the horse in front of you (stay far enough behind the horse in front of you so that it can't kick you), pass on the side giving plenty of room so the horse in front of you can see you (remember, they can't see straight back). Do not ride two or three abreast to chat with friends. If you aren't in the pen to warm up, get out of the way of fellow riders. Do not bring your cell phone into the warm up pen. If you need to talk or text excuse yourself from the pen.

Rule #4 Use Common Sense - Practice safety of yourself, your horse, and those around you. Do not lounge horses during warm up in the warm up pen. It isn't a safe place to warm up the driving horses either. There should be two separate warm up times. Do not practice your sliding stops or spins in the warm up pen. Do not pretend in your mind there are three phantom barrels set up that only you can see and try to turn them. If you want to pony a horse to warm up your second mount then stay on the rail with the horse your are ponying next to the rail.

Rule #5 Do Not Park Your Horse - Do not stop anywhere and just sit there. Keep your horse moving. If you would like to have your horse just sit, take them outside of the pen.

Rule #6 If You Move It Put It Back - Example if you open a gate then shut it after you pass through.