

Pleasure WWHSA Rules (2026)

Required Classes for WWHSA Sanctioned Show

Halter

Leadline

Tiny Tot - Showmanship, Equitation, and Pleasure

Youth - SMS, English Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship

Junior - SMS, English Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship

Senior - SMS, English Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship

Select - SMS, English Pleasure, English Equitation, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship

Novice Division - Novice SMS, Novice English Pleasure, Novice English Equitation, Novice Western Pleasure, Novice Western Horsemanship

W/T Division—18 & under and 19& over - W/T SMS, W/T English Pleasure, W/T English Equitation, W/T Western Pleasure, W/T Western Horsemanship

Junior Horse - Junior horse W/T and Junior horse pleasure (2 classes required, 4 recommended (English & Western split))

WWHSA Benefit Walk Trot Class

Suggested Classes

2 & 3 year W/T

Sr. Horse W/T

Sr. Horse Pleasure

Bareback

Open English Pleasure

Open English Equitation

Open Western Pleasure

Open Western Horsemanship

Open Showmanship

Solid Horse Pleasure

Spotted Horse Pleasure

Longline

Egg and Spoon

Trail

Discipline Rail/Judges Command

Ranch Pleasure

Ranch Riding

Western Riding

Age Groups (Required) for Pleasure Shows

Leadline: 8 & Under (Walk Only)

Tiny Tot: 10 & Under (Walk Trot Only)

Youth: 13 & Under

Junior: 14-18

Senior: 19-39

Select: 40 & Over

Year End Pleasure Awards

Special Awards

Special accumulative awards can be earned by horses in the pleasure division for WWHSA:

REGISTER OF MERIT (ROM): This award shall be earned in any approved class upon accumulating 50 points in said class. A certificate shall be awarded.

SUPERIOR: This award shall be earned in any approved class upon accumulating 250 points in any said class. Award to be determined.

CHAMPION: This award shall be earned upon accumulating 500 points in any number of classes except that the horse must have accumulated at least 50 points in Halter or Showmanship or a combination of these two classes, and at least 50 points in Pleasure, Horsemanship, Equitation or a combination of these classes. Award to be determined.

GRAND CHAMPION: This award shall be earned upon accumulating 1000 points in any number of classes except that the horse must have accumulated at least 100 points in Halter or Showmanship or a combination of these two classes and at least 100 points in Pleasure, Horsemanship, or Equitation or any combination of these classes. Award to be determined.

SUPREME CHAMPION: This award shall be earned upon accumulating 1500 points in any number of classes except that the horse must have accumulated at least 150 points in Halter or Showmanship or a combination of these two classes and at least 150 points in Pleasure, Horsemanship, or Equitation or a combination of these classes. Award to be determined.

Sportsmanship Award: A sportsmanship award will be presented at the WWHSA banquet. Nominees **MUST** be a member of a current WWHSA registered club or organization. Nominations may be submitted by anyone and must include a brief description as to why the nominee deserves recognition. Nominations should be submitted to a WWHSA board member or mailed to WWHSA. The WWHSA board will select the recipient of this award from nominations received. Forms are available online and in the show book.

Friend of the Horse Award: Nominees **DO NOT** have to be a member of a current WWHSA club or organization. Nominees may be ANYONE (Vet, Farrier, Parent, Trainer, Friend etc.) and may be submitted by anyone. Nominations **MUST** include a brief description as to why recognition should be made. Nominations should be submitted to a WWHSA board member or mailed to WWHSA. The WWHSA board will select the recipient of this award from nominations received. Forms are available in the show book and online.

*Year End awards will be given to the **top 5 placings**. In the event of a tie, the rider who earned their points in the fewest number of shows will be awarded the placing.*

The following awards will be presented at the yearend banquet: 1 Overall Grand Champion, 1 Overall Reserve Champion, and Overall placings for 3rd – 5th

Halter: Points earned in any Halter class, except novice halter.

Leadline: Points earned **ONLY** on the rider (may use different horses). Exhibitors are **NOT** eligible for any other riding classes.

Junior Horse: An award to the Junior Horse that earns the most points from all Junior Horse Classes. Points earned here stay with the horse and *will not* be added to the rider's age category.

Novice Division: An award of overall grand, overall reserve, and 3rd-5th placings to the horse/rider combination that earns the most points from all Novice classes except halter.. Points earned stay within the Novice division and will not be added to the rider's overall high point accumulation.

W/T Division: An award of overall grand, overall reserve, and 3rd-5th placings to the horse/rider combination that earns the most points from all walk/trot division classes. Points earned stay within the walk/trot division and will not be added to the rider's overall high point accumulation.

****The following will be awarded to a horse/rider combination in each Age Group: Overall Grand, Reserve, and placings 3-5**

****The following classes in each age group will be awarded 1st - 5th place: Showmanship, English, Pleasure, Eng. Equitation, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship**

****WWHSA Benefit Walk-Trot:** All age riders. An award to the horse/rider combination that earns the most points from all WWHSA Benefit Walk-Trot classes along with a Traveling Trophy. If won 3 years consecutively by the same horse/rider combination, the rider keeps the trophy.

****Disciplined Rail or Judges Command:** (Points earned go to the horse/rider combination)

****Trail:** (Points earned go to the horse/rider combination) Traveling Trophy is awarded.

Points earned in age-division classes will count toward age division awards. Points accumulated outside age division classes will be added to age division points and go toward overall high point calculations. 4-H classes will not count toward the overall WWHSA highpoint calculation. Ranch horse classes do count

toward overall high point calculations. W/T Division points, Novice Division points, and Junior Horse Division points will count toward their respective divisions ONLY and not included in overall high point calculation.

If a class is not offered in at least 50% of the shows, no award will be given. Points will go toward accumulative awards.

Pleasure General Rules Updated 2026

It is the responsibility of each member and competitor to be familiar with the WWHSA and club rules. See showbills for club specific rules.

Show bills are printed in the Handbook and posted online.

1. The WWHSA will be governed by AQHA rules, except where noted.
2. The use of the term "horse" for WWHSA purposes shall refer to grade and registered horses, miniature horses, ponies, mules and donkeys. There is no age limit to horses being shown. Horses shall be in good health. All horses considered for an award should be serviceably sound.
3. The use of drugs (ie. performance enhancement) on horses in WWHSA shows is PROHIBITED. Use of these will cost you your membership and points.
4. Negative coggins paperwork is required at each show and a copy must be given to the show secretary. Clubs shall keep copies of the paperwork and can request to see the original.
5. Exhibitor's age will be determined as of January 1. (i.e., a junior that is 13 on January 1 will ride in the 13 & under age group for the show season even though he/she may be 14 before the show season ends) Once a rider moves up to another age group, he/she may not go back to the previous age group; i.e., Tiny Tot to Youth.
6. To be eligible for yearend awards, an exhibitor must attend 2 shows or show under 3 judges.
7. Attire: Tank tops, halter tops, shorts, tee shirts and similar type clothing will not be permitted in the show ring. All exhibitors are required to wear boots or hard-soled shoes. If a contestant enters a class in any of the above garments or without boots or hard-soled shoes, he/she will be disqualified. At the show committee's discretion, adjustments to attire may be authorized due to weather related conditions. No slip-on spurs. **Each club may have additional rules which must be followed (e.g. Helmets required). Please see individual showbills.
8. If a horse is sold, points DO NOT transfer. Membership will follow the rider and points will start over for the new horse/rider combo.
9. Multiple rider events will not count toward points; e.g. tandem bareback.
10. A horse may be entered only once per class. For classes that are judged on the exhibitor's performance (e.g. showmanship, equitation, horsemanship), exhibitors may enter only one horse per class. In individual working events (e.g. ranch riding, reining, trail, western riding), an exhibitor may show a maximum of three horses per class.
11. No one 18 & under shall be allowed to exhibit a stallion that is two years or older.
12. All approved WWHSA shows must include a WWHSA Benefit Open Walk-Trot class. All proceeds will be paid to the WWHSA Treasurer within two weeks of the show. Each club may deduct the cost of ribbons from the class proceeds.
13. Each host club or WWHSA has the authority to excuse any unruly or unsafe behavior from horses or riders. Exhibitors as well as guests on the grounds are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. Each club, show committee, or judge has the right to excuse those who do not conduct themselves in this manner.
14. Any mistreatment (excessive hitting, jerking, yelling, etc.) of horses, fans, volunteers, club members, judge, or other riders may result in removal from the show or grounds. The judge or show committee will make such a determination.
15. Pleasure riders may cross enter with ranch classes but are required to exhibit in ranch attire. See AQHA Rule SHW 418. Ranch class points go toward a rider's overall accumulation.
16. To be eligible for year end awards, each member family must volunteer at an approved WWHSA show for a minimum of 3 hours. A sign up for each show will be posted and this will be tracked.
17. For any shows exceeding 2 judges, only 50% of the judge scores will be used towards year end calculation, however 100%

of the judge scores will be used towards ROMs.

Registration- WWHSA Clubs

1. Each Club that hosts a show will pay WWHSA a membership fee each year by the February meeting. Each club will pay their membership fee before club members will be allowed to count points toward year end points.
2. A designated person of each member club shall have the responsibility of providing the WWHSA points keeper with a membership list containing those members in good standing by April 1st. Updated lists of additional members shall be forwarded to the points keeper as needed.
3. The Secretary of each show shall send placings to the points keeper within 2 weeks of the show.

Exhibitors

1. Exhibitors must be a member of a WWHSA club or organization for their points to count and must be registered with the WWHSA treasurer or the show secretary/committee before the show begins. Membership will follow the rider. Riders may show any horse and do not need to own the horse they show.
2. Each rider must complete a registration form and pay the registration fee each year. The registration form and payment MUST be received prior to the horse being shown for points. Show dates prior to the receipt of the registration will not be counted. Additional horses can be added at any time during the show season.
3. Any contestant withdrawing from a class after entering shall forfeit the entry fee, except in case of incapacitating sickness, injury to self or horse, serious illness, or death in contestant's family. Refunds are at the show committee's discretion.
4. The correct number must be visible on the exhibitor or horse for WWHSA points to count. The number will be for a horse/rider combination. A person competing without a number will not be judged.
5. A permanent horse/rider number may be requested when submitting your membership form. The WWHSA points keeper will notify you of your permanent number.
6. If any person rides in the wrong age group, he/she will be disqualified. The entry for that class will not count.
7. At the beginning of every season, each contestant showing a junior horse must submit a record of age for their horse at the first competition attended. A registered horse should turn in a copy of the registration papers; a grade horse should turn in a copy of the current coggins papers for permanent WWHSA records. If proof of age is not turned in, points will not count toward Year End Awards.
8. All exhibition riders must pay the same fee as other participants. Entry cards must be completely filled out with the word "Exhibition Only" marked across the top of the card. The entry will not be judged in the class and no points will be earned.

Points Rules and Procedures

1. Points will be awarded on the following basis regardless of the number of entries:

First Place	5 Points
Second Place	4 Points
Third Place	3 Points
Fourth Place	2 Points
Fifth Place	1 Point

The points will count only on the horse in halter classes.

Points will be on a horse/rider combination for all riding events (including showmanship).

Judges

1. The judge shall have the authority to require the removal of any alteration of any piece of equipment or appointment which in his/her opinion would tend to give a horse an unfair advantage or which he/she believes to be inhumane.
2. Judges may judge two approved shows per season as long as the show dates are at least 30 days apart. The show committee must inform the judge of this rule when they hire him/her. Judges are required to hold a judge's card.
3. Judges need to avoid putting themselves in certain situations

that might prove uncomfortable to themselves, exhibitors, or show officials. Judges should be well rested and mentally ready for judging. Judges should refrain as much as possible from conversation with exhibitors. Judges should not judge entries of relatives, people they have recently sold horses to, trained for, or given lessons to within 3 months. Judges should be enthusiastic about their job. Exhibitors can soon tell whether a judge enjoys judging or not. The most successful judges have a sincere interest in helping the participants.

4. If a person has a physical handicap where he/she needs special aids, he/she may be allowed to use them at the discretion of the show committee.

Conduct

All exhibitors are expected to participate with a good sportsmanship attitude. If an exhibitor wishes to speak to the judge, he/she may do so by receiving permission from the ringmaster. The judge will dismiss anyone from the ring that displays unsportsmanlike conduct, such as schooling during the line-up or after the class has been dismissed. If necessary, further disciplinary action can be taken by the WWHSA disciplinary committee.

Complaints

1. All complaints to the WWHSA must be submitted in writing to the disciplinary committee and must be accompanied by a \$10.00 fee. Complaints must be sent within 7 days of the time the complaint was lodged. If the complaint is verified, the money will be refunded; if voted down, the money will stay in the WWHSA treasury. The complaints will be decided by a majority of the quorum.
2. Any questions regarding these rules and the corresponding class rules shall be sent in writing to the WWHSA President. The WWHSA Board shall review and answer said questions.

Awards

All awards shall be presented at the designated year end awards ceremony at the time and place announced by WWHSA. WWHSA reserves the right to combine awards due to low number of entrants in a specific category.

HALTER AND PLEASURE RULES

Age of the Horse

The age of the horse or mule shall be computed on the basis of a calendar year starting January 1 of the year foaled. It is a weanling during the calendar year in which it is foaled and a yearling during the first calendar year following its foaling date, regardless of the time of year foaled. For example, a horse foaled any time in 2020 is considered 1-year-old as of January 1, 2021 and 2 years old on January 1, 2022.

Halter

Purpose: Animals are to be judged on conformation, type, soundness, way of moving and general balance and appearance.

1. It will be the duty of the ringmaster at the discretion of the judge, to remove or excuse all kicking and disruptive horses from the ring.
2. The use of a chain in a halter class is restricted to under the chin or over the nose. Stallions one year of age and older may not be shown with any chain through the mouth with the sole exception that they may be shown with lip chains with unsecured keepers so long as at least two chain links remain outside of the halter before attachment to the keeper or leather part of the lead shank.
3. Attire shall be consistent with the class (i.e. English Attire for English Type at Halter)

Showmanship

Purpose: The showmanship exhibitor is judged on his/her ability to fit, groom, and show an animal at halter. The animal is merely a prop to show the ability of the showman.

1. Individual patterns may be requested. Patterns may be posted in advance or may be announced to exhibitors in the show ring.
2. Animals are to be led into the ring at a walk in a counterclockwise direction unless otherwise directed by the judge or ring steward.
3. The animal is to be led from the left side, near the animal's throat latch, with the right hand controlling the animal. The right hand

must not hold the chain portion of the lead, nor the bit if showing with a bridle.

4. The excess lead or rein is held in the left hand in a loose coil or completely uncoiled. At no time is the lead or rein to be wrapped around the hand or held in a tight coil.
5. When reversing direction more than 90 degrees, the animal must be turned to the right, with the exhibitor walking around the animal.
6. The exhibitor must show with the lead or curb rein, without kicking or handling the animal to position the feet.
7. The judge must have a clear, unobstructed view of the animal and the exhibitor at all times. The exhibitor must be in a position that enables him/her to watch both the judge and the animal at all times but must not stand directly in front of the animal.
8. For safety and courtesy, always allow 1 horse length between you and the animal next to you or ahead of you while in the line-up or circling the ring.
9. Type, conformation and quality of the animal are not to be considered. The class is judged strictly on the contestant's ability to fit and show a halter animal: the appearance of the animal, 40%; appearance of exhibitor, 10%; and showing the animal in the ring, 50%.
10. Fitting, grooming, manners, and response to the exhibitor indicate the degree of training and preparation attained by the exhibitor and must be credited accordingly.

Junior Horse (horses 5 and under)

Purpose: The junior horse classes give the young horse, 5 and under, the opportunity to compete solely against other horses their age.

Hunt seat horses should be suitable for purpose, move in a long, low frame, on light contact, and be able to cover ground as in a hunt field. The animal should be sensible and well mannered, providing a quiet and comfortable ride.

A Western pleasure animal is a sensible, alert, bright, easy moving, well-mannered mount that can provide a quiet, comfortable and pleasant ride at a walk, jog, and lope.

1. Entries shall follow the same rules for tack and attire as for all-age classes except that Junior Horses may be ridden two-handed in all classes if using a bosal or snaffle bit. All other bits will be ridden one-handed. Entrants will be disqualified for not following this rule.
2. If separate E/W junior horse classes are not offered, entries may exhibit in English or Western attire/tack but not combined.
3. Proof of age must be available upon request.
4. The judge is to remember it is the performance of a young horse that is to be considered.

English Pleasure

Purpose: Hunt seat horses should be suitable for purpose. Animals should be sensible and well mannered, providing a quiet and comfortable ride. Animals should move in a long, low frame, on light contact, and be able to cover ground as in a hunt field. While horses should not be eliminated for slight errors, manners are of paramount importance and may, at times, be considered more important than movement.

1. Horses to be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Light contact with the horse's mouth is recommended. It is the option of the judge to require an exhibitor to extend a gait. However, if saddleseat horses are being exhibited, horses shall not be asked to hand gallop.
2. The Judge may ask the group to halt and stand quietly on a free rein (loosened rein).
3. Horses are required to back easily and stand quietly. The judge may require, at their discretion, the backing of only the finalists in the class.
4. Hunt seat horses are to be reversed to the inside of the ring. Saddleseat horses may be reversed either way of the ring at the option of the exhibitor.
5. Horses to be shown under suitable English equipment. Riders to wear English attire suitable to their style of riding. Hackamores, martingales and tie downs are prohibited in all flat classes.

English Equitation

Purpose: The Hunt Seat Equitation class provides an opportunity for the exhibitor to display his/her ability as a rider: i.e. the seat, hand, leg position and ability to control and show the mount as judged. Hunt Seat Equitation is to be evaluated as the combined performance of the

animal and rider.

1. Riders will be judged on seat, hands and ability to control and show their horse. Results as shown by performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining them. The equitation class is to determine the riding ability of the rider and the judge will bear this in mind at all times.
2. Class routine: Riders may be asked to perform rail or individual work or a combination of both at the judge's discretion. The judge may not ask the contestant to ride another contestant's horse. Patterns for individual workouts will be left to the judge's discretion.

Western Pleasure

Purpose: A Western pleasure animal is a sensible, alert, bright, easy moving, well-mannered mount that can provide a quiet, comfortable and pleasant ride at a walk, jog, and lope. Western pleasure competition is not to be confused with an equitation or horsemanship class in which the rider is judged. Type of animal will not be considered in judging the class.

1. These classes will be judged on the performance and conformation of the horse at the discretion of the judge. Entries will be penalized for excessive speed or being on the wrong lead.
2. Horses are to be shown at a walk, jog and lope on a reasonable loose or light contact rein without undue restraint.
3. Horses must work both ways on the ring at all three gaits to demonstrate their ability with different leads. Horses shall not be asked to extend the lope.
4. Horses are to be reversed to the inside. They may be required to reverse at the walk or jog at the discretion of the judge but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope.
5. Judge must ask for the horse to back up.
6. Judges may ask for additional work of the same nature from any horse. They are not to ask for work other than listed above.
7. Rider shall not be required to dismount except in the event the judge wishes to check equipment.
8. Reins shall be held in one hand and may not be changed during the performance. Hand to be around the reins. One finger between the reins permitted. Junior horses may be excluded from this rule when following the guidelines in the Junior Horse rules above. While the horse is in motion, the rider's hands shall be clear of the horse and saddle.
9. Spurs or romal shall not be used forward of the cinch.

Western Horsemanship

Purpose: Horsemanship competition provides the exhibitor an opportunity to display his/her ability as a rider. Considerations include seat, hand, leg position and ability to control and show the mount. Western Horsemanship is to be evaluated as the combined performance of the animal and rider.

1. Riders will be judged on seat, hands and ability to control and show their horse. Results as shown by performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining them. The horsemanship class is to determine the riding ability of the rider, and the judge will bear this in mind at all times.
2. Reins shall be held in one hand and cannot be changed during the performance. Hand to be around the reins. One finger between the reins is permitted. Junior horses may be excluded from this rule when following junior horse rules as listed within the western tack requirements.
3. Class routine: Riders may be asked to perform rail or individual work or a combination of both at the judge's discretion. The judge may not ask a contestant to ride another contestant's horse. Patterns for individual workouts will be left to the judge's discretion.

Bareback Equitation

May be ridden either Western or English. This class shall have the same routine as in the equitation and horsemanship rules above. English riders do not have to post at the trot.

Leadline Equitation

Purpose: This class is recommended for young or inexperienced riders. The exhibitor will display his/her ability as a rider, seat, hand, leg position and ability to steer and show the mount.

1. The rider may ride English or Western in this class. The person

- leading the horse is to be dressed in accordance with the rider.
2. The horse must be led and controlled by the handler. The lead shank, at least six feet long, must be attached to the halter that is under the bridle so that while the rider is on the rail, the horse is controlled by the handler.
3. The class will enter the ring at a flat-footed walk turning to the right and proceeding in a counterclockwise direction on the rail. The class will be worked at a walk only, in both directions of the ring.
4. In the line-up the judge may ask the riders to back up their horses to help them judge the extent of the rider's horsemanship. If the judge asks the rider to back the horse in the line-up, the handler should not aid the rider. The handler should only keep the horse under control.
5. The rider will be judged on his or her basic position in the saddle, hand position, leg position, seat position and back position.
6. No contestant in the Lead Line Class will be allowed to be tied, buckled or fastened to the saddle in any manner.

Trail Class

Purpose: The Trail class displays the ability of the rider and animal to navigate obstacles such as those encountered on a trail ride. The animal should be well-mannered, quiet, and a pleasure to ride, with the ability to handle the obstacles with a calm, willing attitude. Trail is not a speed event, but rather a test of control and obedience.

1. Exhibitors in trail may use Western, Hunter, or Saddle Type tack and attire but may not be mixed.
2. Only one hand may be used on the reins for western horses in a curb bit. Junior Horses may be ridden two handed when following the junior horse tack requirements.

Disciplined Rail / Judge's Command

Purpose: The Disciplined Rail class is a command class to show the ability of a highly trained horse. This class is to be judged on performance, ability, response, and attitude of the horse.

1. Horses may be shown Western or English and riders should be properly attired according to tack.
2. All horses shall enter the ring and be shown together with no individual work off except in the case of a tie. Should the number of entries warrant more than one go-round to determine finalists, each go-round shall require the exact same sequence of work performed to determine finalists. All finalists shall be considered and judged for awards.
3. The class shall be judged or scored on the ability of the individual horse as being exhibited. The calls shall not be scored as a "fault and out" class. The judge may vary the work order of a class but shall maintain the same order of work if more than one go-round is required for the class to determine finalists. When a final go-round is being judged, the order of work requested may be varied and additional work requested from the original go-round.
4. The class routine shall be to perform work on the rail and may include the following:
 - i. A short walk, jog/trot and/or slow lope/canter at either one or both ways of the rail.
 - ii. Flying changes of leads either or each way of the ring.
 - iii. A start and travel on an incorrect lead or a counter lope/canter.
 - iv. Start to lope from a standstill.
 - v. Sliding stop to include setting on a loose rein.
 - vi. Sidepass to either or both left and/or right.
 - vii. A turn on the forehand and/or hindquarters
 - viii. A hand gallop or extended lope of no more than eight (8) horses at a time may only be used for finalists of a class.
 - ix. Extended walk or jog/trot at any time of the class including a full class.
 - x. Dismount and remount from either side with the horse to stand quiet and attentive to the rider.
 - xi. Additional work to include portions or variations of the above, with the exception of the hand gallop allowed only once for finalists, but in no way shall a horse be required to be overworked or to perform unsafely.
5. The judge shall be positioned to view the complete arena by standing at one end or corner or out of the arena when possible to view as many entries as possible during the class.
6. It is suggested, but not required, to have a judge announce the



order of work to be performed during the class.

English Type Classes

Specifically for Saddlebred, Arabian, Morgan, Thoroughbred, and exclude any stock type horses.

Color Breed Horse Classes

Color breed Halter and Western Pleasure are open to horses with Palomino, Buckskin, Dun, Grulla, Appaloosa, Paint or Pinto coloring.

Horses may show in either solid color or color breed but not both per show.

To be eligible:

1. Horses must have regular or Breeding stock papers in hand from a recognized breed association

OR

2. Have natural color or Paint, Pinto, or Appaloosa markings defined as the following: Natural paint markings that extend beyond the perimeter of a 2-inch diameter ring in the following described visible zones:

SIDE VIEW- Behind a line from the front of the base of the ear to the throat latch. Extending up to or above a horizontal line around the front leg at the floor of the chest. Extending up to or above a horizontal line around the hind leg at the center of the stifle joint. Extending up to or above a straight line from, point at the floor of the chest behind the front leg to the center of the stifle joint, outside the fold of the flank.

FRONT VIEW – Head: behind line from the base of the ear forward horizontally to the base of the front.

REAR VIEW – Extending up to or above a horizontal line passing around the horse from the center of one stifle joint to the center of the other stifle joint as viewed from the rear.

3. On Paint or Pinto horses, the white markings shall have watch eye(s); blue zone around a "natural Paint marking"; two color mane, one color being natural white.
4. Appaloosa: white around the eye, sclera, striped hoof and mottled skin.

Tiny Tot Pleasure/Equitation (10 & Under Walk/Trot)

Exhibitors aged 10 and under may show in either 10 & Under Walk/Trot **OR** 13 & under, but not in both. Once a decision is made for the Tiny Tot (10 & under) to move up to Youth (13 & under) or ride in ANY 3 gaited classes at an approved WWHSA show, they will no longer be eligible for points as a Tiny Tot and cannot go back to that division for that show year.

Walk Trot Division

Purpose: These classes are recommended for young or inexperienced horses or riders who are not ready to enter 3 gait classes. The exhibitor will display his/her ability as a rider, using seat, hand, and leg position to steer and show the mount. This class is to be evaluated by the performance of the horse as a reflection of the ability of the rider.

Once a decision is made for the horse/rider combo to move up to ANY 3 gaited classes at an approved WWHSA show, they will no longer be eligible for points in the W/T division **that year**. Horse/rider combination cannot cross enter from walk/trot into loping class. Walk Trot division is split between 18 & under and 19 & over.

Novice Division (all ages)

Purpose: These classes are recommended for young, inexperienced horses or riders, or those riders that are getting back into showing. The exhibitor will display his/her ability as a rider, using seat, hand, and leg position to steer and show the mount. This class is to be evaluated by the performance of the horse as a reflection of the ability of the rider.

To enter into the novice class type, the horse/rider combination should never have won first place in that type of class prior to the current show season. If the horse/rider combination is eligible for the novice class at the beginning of the current show season, they may stay in novice the entire season. The horse/rider combination becomes ineligible for a novice class the show season after they have won first place in that class or discipline.

*The following equipment rules are for PLEASURE shows only (not Hunter/Jumper and/or Dressage shows)

Hunt Attire: The exhibitor must wear knee-high hunt boots or Jodhpur shoes, and hunt breeches or jodhpurs. A hunt coat is required, unless the judge/show committee determines otherwise. A long-sleeved shirt or blouse is required when a coat is not worn, but a short-sleeved shirt or blouse may be worn under a hunt coat. Hunt coats should be of a conservative color. Hair should be neat and contained.

The saddle must be hunter or forward seat style, with or without knee rolls or padding. Bridle is to be hunter style with plain or rolled leather browband and regular cavesson noseband

In reference to mouthpieces, nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece (bar). Solid and broken mouthpieces may have a port no higher than 1 ½ inches. On broken mouthpieces only, connecting rings of 1 ¼ inches or less in diameter or connecting flat bar of 3/8 to ¾ inches (measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2 inches) and which lie flat in the horse's mouth are acceptable. All mouthpieces must be a minimum of 5/16 inches in diameter with snaffles to be measured 1 inch from the cheek of the ring. Smooth round, oval, egg shaped, slow twist, corkscrew, single twisted wire, double twisted wire, straight bar and solid mouthpieces with a maximum of 1 ½ inch high ports are allowed.

Optional Equipment

- English type spurs
- Crops or bats.
- Gloves.
- Hunt type breastplate.
- Braiding of mane and/or tail in hunt style.

Prohibited Equipment

- Draw reins.
- Roweled spurs.
- Standing or running martingales.
- Equine Boots of any description.
- Leg wraps, figure-8 or flash nosebands.
- Driving bits/equipment is covered in a different section.

Bits of any style (Pelham, snaffle or kimberwick) featuring mouthpieces with cathedrals, donuts, prongs, edges or rough, sharp material shall be cause for elimination. If a curb bit is used, the chain must be at least ½ inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.

WESTERN EQUIPMENT

In all western classes, horses will be shown in western saddles. Silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. Horses five years and younger may be shown in a snaffle bit, hackamore, curb bit, half breed or spade bit

References to a hackamore means the use of a flexible, braided rawhide, leather, or roped bosal, the core of which may be either rawhide or flexible cable. Absolutely no rigid material permitted under the jaws, regardless of how padded or covered. This rule does not refer to a so- called mechanical hackamore.

References to snaffle bits in western performance classes mean the conventional O-ring, egg-butt or D-ring, with a ring no larger than 4". The mouthpiece should be round, oval, egg-shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal. It may be inlaid, but smooth or latex-wrapped. The bars must be a minimum of 5/16" in diameter, measured one inch in from the cheek with a gradual decrease to the center of the snaffle. The mouthpiece may be two or three pieces. The connecting ring of 1 ¼" or less in diameter, or a connecting flat bar of 3/8" to ¾" (measured top to bottom, with a maximum length of 2"), which lies flat in the horse's mouth is acceptable.

References to a bit in western performance classes means the use of a curb bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical devices and should be considered a standard western bit. Chain chin straps are permissible, but must meet the approval of the judge, be at least one-half inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.

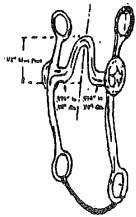
A description of legal, standard western bits include:

- 8 ½" maximum length shank to be measured as indicated

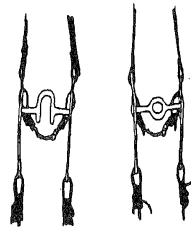
ENGLISH PLEASURE EQUIPMENT*

in the diagram. Shanks may be loose or fixed.

- Mouthpieces: bars must be round, oval, egg-shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal of 5/16" to 3/4" (measured 1" from the cheek). They may be inlaid but must be smooth or latex wrapped.
- Nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions or prongs on a solid mouthpiece.
- A three-piece, connecting ring of 1 1/4" in diameter, or a connecting flat bar of 3/8 to 3/4" (measured top to bottom with a maximum length of 2"), which lies flat in the horse's mouth is acceptable.
- The port must be no higher than 3 1/2" maximum, half breed and spades are standard.
- Slip or gag bits and donut or flat polo mouthpiece are not acceptable



Legal bit:



Illegal Bits:

Prong Bit Donut Bit

Except for hackamore, snaffle bit classes and junior horses shown with hackamore/snaffle bit, only one hand may be used on the reins and the hand must not be changed. The hand is to be around the reins, index finger only between split reins is permitted. Violation of this rule is an automatic disqualification.

Whenever this handbook refers to romal, it means an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension may be carried in the free hand with a 16 inch spacing between the rein hand and the free hand holding the romal. The romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or to signal or cue the horse in any way. Any infraction of this rule shall be penalized severely by the judge.

Animals five years of age and younger may be shown in a curb bit, snaffle bit or bosal (hackamore).

- Snaffle bits (no shanks) must have a straight or broken (2 or 3 pieces), smooth (not sharp), round mouthpiece with no leverage applied and may have D-ring, O-ring, or eggbutt cheekpieces no more than 4 inches in diameter.
- The mouthpiece should be round, oval or egg-shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal, but must be a minimum of 3/8 inch in diameter, measured 1 inch in from the cheek piece.
- An optional loose **chin strap of leather or nylon only** is permissible and must be attached below the reins.
- Bosals may be of braided rawhide or leather, with no metal under the jaw or on the noseband. There must be a minimum of one finger-space between the bosal and the animal's nose.

Optional Equipment:

- Coats, vest, jackets, gloves, and approved headgear or vests in all classes. Chaps and spurs in performance classes.
- Spurs: not to be used forward of the cinch

Prohibited Equipment:

- Wire chin straps; regardless of how padded or covered.
- Chin strap narrower than one-half inch.
- Martingales and draw reins; Nosebands and tie-downs,
- Protective leg wraps or boots
- Crops, bats, whips
- Chaps or spurs in halter and showmanship classes.
- Ball caps, riding sneakers, or hats other than western or protective headgear.
- Saddles, pads, and chaps for any bareback classes
- Slip on spurs of any kind