

SECTION K

PLEASURE HORSE DIVISION.

1. Brief 'Type' Standard and Common Faults

2. Tack Requirements and Rules

3. Turn-Out of Horse, Including Shoes

4. Dress Requirements of Riders

5. Classes

6. Class Routine

7. Basic Gaits and Common Faults

1. Brief 'Type' Standard and Common Faults

The Saddle Horse selected for the Pleasure Horse Division should have quality, style and presence. The horse should be comfortable and suitable to ride both in the show ring and on the trails. An easy, ground-covering action is required and emphasis is placed on good manners at all times.

Horses are judged on:

- * Manners
- * Performance
- * Presence
- * Quality
- * Conformation

Weediness is not to be confused with refinement in assessing the Pleasure Horse.

2. Tack Requirements and Rules

Appliances – Training appliances such as chains, stretchers and draw reins, tie downs and martingales in the saddle classes are prohibited. Inappropriate bridles such as a hackamore are prohibited. Leg bandages are not allowed unless application has been made to the show committee because of wet conditions.

Boots, Three-Gaited Pleasure – Quarter or bell boots are not used in the Three-gaited division.

Boots, Five-Gaited Pleasure – Quarter or bell boots are used in the Five-Gaited Pleasure Division.

Boots, Fine Harness Pleasure – Quarter or bell boots are used in the Fine Harness Division.

Boots – Brushing boots and knee boots are prohibited in all Pleasure Divisions. Taped hooves are prohibited.

Bridles – A double reined bridle is required. A full bridle consists of a curb bit and a small snaffle known as a bridoon. A combination bit with a broken mouthpiece or solid mouthpiece with single shanks where double reins are attached is acceptable. The bridle and bits must suit each horse and martingales are not allowed. Coloured brow-bands and nose-bands or plain leather nose-bands are allowed.

Bridles – Walk and Trot Pleasure Division

Walk and Trot - riders 8 years and under

Walk and Trot Equitation - riders 8 years and under

Walk and Trot Pleasure Horses - riders 10 years and under

Walk and Trot Pleasure Horse Equitation - riders 10 years and under

Exhibitors must use ---

A. a Snaffle bridle with a running martingale or German martingale.

or

B. a Bridle with a Pelham bit. Split reins and Rein connectors and the use of a running martingale with the Pelham bit will be optional.

A Pelham bit has a broken or solid mouthpiece with two reins attached to a single shank, not longer than 10cm, on each side or one rein when a Rein connector is used. The shank must be measured from the mouthpiece to the end of the shank, rings excluded.



Buggy – An appropriate, light four-wheeled show buggy with bicycle type wheels and no top is used. A cushion and floor mat must be included.

Harness, Fine Harness Pleasure – A light harness with a stainless steel, half spoon cheek, jointed mouth driving snaffle and over check bit are required. A harness must be complete with blinkers, martingale, check rein, traces and low tail crupper. Traces should not be wound around shafts. Handholds are optional on reins although ladies and children must use handholds.

Saddle – Three-Gaited and Five-Gaited Horse--. An English type saddle with a cutback head is required. Western saddles, Side saddles or Australian Stock saddles are prohibited. The use of Saddlecloths or Numnahs are optional with the understanding that it will be well concealed when used.

Saddlecloths – Saddlecloths and Numnahs are optional in the Three-Gaited and Five-Gaited division.

3. Turn-Out of Horse, Including Shoes

Cleanliness and neatness are the foremost requirements regarding the turn-out of a horse. Fine Harness Pleasure Horses are to be shown with a full mane and tail. Horses must be ribboned. *See Section H 1 for Fine Harness Turn-Out rules.*

Mane – Three-Gaited, Five-Gaited, and Fine Harness Pleasure horses are shown with a full (natural) mane and tail.

Ribbons – Three-Gaited, Five-Gaited and Fine Harness Pleasure Horses must be shown with ribbons in the mane, ribbons in the forelock or attached to the bridle are optional.

Shoes – Pleasure Horses may be shod with pads and/or wedges according to their needs. The length of hoof with or without pads is 12.5 cm, shoe excluded. Shoeing of hind hooves will be optional, BOTH hind hooves must be shod or BOTH must be unshod. Loss of a hind shoe will be subject to the same rules as the loss of any shoe during a class.

Tails – Tails are not set and should be clean, long, healthy, and picked. Crooked tails do not make a good impression and every effort should be made to correct them. Pleasure horses must not wear tail sets, bustles or braces. Switches are allowed. The fact that a horse's tail has once been set does not exclude participation in the Pleasure division.

Tail Sets - Permanently set tails are strictly forbidden in the Pleasure Horse Division. Any evidence that shows a horse may be wearing a tail set in the stable can lead to disqualification.

Tails – With regards to Equitation Classes, see Cross Entries on page 7.

4. Dress Requirements of Riders

Informal riding wear is correct for both day and night.

Three-Gaited, Five-Gaited and Fine Harness Rider/Drivers – A Kentucky riding suit of matching jacket and flared Jodhpur pants with a waistcoat. The waistcoat may be either matching or of a tasteful contrast. The suit must be of conservative colour with any pattern being of small design, giving the appearance of a solid colour, (herringbone, pin stripe, conservative plaid). A shirt with a collar and tie is used.

Lady Drivers – A lady may wear any suitable clothing to drive, attire shall be suited to the time of day.

Handler's Dress – Men are required to wear a dress shirt, (plain white, single colour or small checks) tie and neat pants. Women are to wear suitable clothing that is considered to be in good taste for the occasion. There will be no stud names displayed on clothing.

Hat – A tasteful hat is worn, a bowler (derby), snap-brim, (felt or straw) or homburg variety. Ladies may wear hats that match their attire when driving.

Gloves – Gloves may be worn.

Boots – Solid coloured leather or patent leather Jodhpur boots of a low-heeled variety are worn.

Spurs – Spurs are optional. All exhibitors, including ladies and children 11 years and over may use spurs. Spurs in equitation must be blunt and unrowelled. The obvious use of spurs is a severe discrimination and the abusive use of spurs will be a disqualification. Spurs are prohibited in the 10 year old, 9 year old and 8 year old classes.

5. Classes

Classes are divided according to the division of the horse being shown and the ages of exhibitors: Three-gaited horses, Five-gaited Horses, Fine Harness horses, Western horses, Equitation, and Children's age groups, as well as adults.

Classes are subject to the number of entries available.

Classes available in the Pleasure Horse division are:

- * Three-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Stallion, Mare or Gelding, rider 19 years and over.
- * Three-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Mare or Gelding, rider 18 years and under.
- * Three-Gaited Pleasure Horse, riders 14 years and under.
- * Three-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Equitation, riders 14 years and under.
- * Three-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Equitation, rider 18 years and under.
- * Three-Gaited Grand Champion Pleasure Horse.
- * *Three-Gaited Show Pleasure Horse (Junior Horses)*
- * Five-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Stallion, Mare or Gelding, rider 19 years and over.
- * Five-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Mare or Gelding, rider 18 years and under.
- * Five-Gaited Pleasure Horse, riders 14 years and under.
- * Five-Gaited Pleasure Horse Equitation, riders 18 years and under.
- * Five-Gaited Pleasure Horse, Equitation, riders 14 years and under.
- * Five-Gaited Grand Champion Pleasure Horse.
- * *Five-Gaited Show Pleasure Horse (Junior Horses)*
- * Fine Harness Pleasure Horses, Stallion, Mare or Gelding. Driver 19 years and over
- * Fine Harness Pleasure Horses, driver 12 to 18 years. Mares, Geldings.
- * Fine Harness Pleasure Horse Grand Champion.
- * Walk and Trot Pleasure Horse, rider 10 years and under.
- * Walk and Trot Pleasure Horse, Equitation, rider 10 years and under.

Professional Trainers – Professional Trainers may not show in the Pleasure Horse divisions.

Qualification for Championships – Horses may qualify in any of the Three-Gaited or Five-Gaited divisions for the Grand Championships. A horse may also qualify in the children's performance classes for the Grand Championships but only if the show does not offer a Championship for children. *Professionals may partake in the Show Pleasure Horse Classes for junior horses, but will not be allowed to participate in any of the Pleasure Horse Championship Classes.*

Horses that qualify in the Show Pleasure Horse Classes with an Amateur or child up may enter into the Pleasure Horse Championship Classes, but children will not be allowed to participate in the Child's Pleasure Horse Championship Classes with the same horse he or she qualified in the Show Pleasure Horse Class.

Bad Luck - Exhibitors experiencing "Bad Luck" in the qualifying class will be required to remain in the line-up, request the permission of the Ringmaster (without fail), seconded by at least two Judges, to enter the Grand Championship and pay the equivalent of the eighth place prize money. If allowed, the number of such an exhibitor must be recorded and handed to the Records Clerk for control purposes See "Bad Luck" in General Show Rules.

Cross-Entries – There shall be no cross-entries between Three-Gaited and Five-Gaited classes.

Cross-Entries - Pleasure Horses may cross enter in the Equitation Division, Children's Classes and Breeding Classes but *must be turned out like a Pleasure Horse* described in section K, 3.

An exception to this rule is made for Pleasure Horses used in the National Equitation competitions, Saddle Seat SA (SSSA) Equitation tests, Champion of Champion division, and in Equitation Classes where a Show does not offer Pleasure Horse Equitation Classes.

6. Class Routine

Entrance – All divisions enter the arena at a trot moving in a counter clockwise direction or the right hand direction through the gate.

Order of Gaits, Three-Gaited Pleasure Horses and Pleasure Equitation – See section G 6.

Order of Gaits, Walk and Trot Pleasure Division, 10 years and under –See section G 6.

Order of Gaits, Five-Gaited Pleasure Horses and Pleasure Equitation –See section F 6.

Line-Up –See section F 6 and note that handlers must attend all entries in the Walk and Trot Pleasure Horse and Equitation, 10 and under classes.

7. Basic Gaits and Common Faults

Pleasure Horse Riding

Walk – A flat-footed walk is required in all Pleasure Divisions. The tendency towards and animated walk, amble or jog is not acceptable.

Trot – The trot is a two-beat gait performed with a high, natural, free moving action. The trot should be performed in an alert and responsive manner, neat and true, any loss of form, over-reaching, going wide behind, dragging hocks or mixing gaits is not acceptable.

Canter – A three-beat gait, comfortable and easy rhythm. Horses must use the correct lead and retain the correct head setting. Incorrect leads, excessive speed, pounding action, loss of balance and hanging in the bridle are not acceptable.

Slow-Gait – The slow-gait is a collected, showy four beat (with broken cadence) gait. The slow-gait is characterized by its slow speed and elegant setting and should not be merely a slow rack. Any loss of form, the tendency to pace, overreaching, mixing gaits, crabbing is not acceptable. A horse that is consistently pacing will be disqualified.

Rack – The rack is a four beat, lateral gait performed at speed. Although lateral legs move, they do not move in unison but one at a time. Any loss of form, the tendency to pace, over-reaching, mixing gaits, crabbing is not acceptable.

Consistent pacing is a disqualification.

Setting – The horses must be set and responsive through mouth at all times. Hard mouthed horses, horses hanging in the bridle or rooting are not acceptable.

Transitions – Poor or rough transitions from one gait to another will be discriminated against.

Fine Harness Pleasure Horse

Walk – A flat-footed walk is required in all Pleasure Divisions. The tendency towards and animated walk, amble or jog is not acceptable.

Park Trot – The park trot is a two-beat gait performed with balance, rhythm, collection and style. It is characterized by the horses' ability to drive forward from a well placed hock with impulsion but without unnecessary speed. Any loss of form, interfering, going wide behind, dragging hocks, mixing gaits will be discriminated against.

Setting – A Fine Harness horse must have the ability to wear an over-check. The setting is emphasized at all times.

Refer to General Showing Rules, section C.

oOo