

H.R.C.N.J. 2010
CLASS RULES & JUDGING CRITERIA
Changes are as of: 2/21/10

Section A: This Section Covers the Judging Criteria that apply for specific classes offered by H.R.C.N.J. : *NOTE Class Judging Criteria Rules are defined specifically for HRCNJ shows. HRCNJ does also take into consideration rules and specs of surrounding shows & organizations, usef, aqha etc...who offer similar classes.*

HALTER CLASSES: Judging Based on conformation of each horse by its individual breed regulations. Required attire for handler is also based on breed regulations. *(See Section B: Combined English Western for additional info on attire.*

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES: Scoring based on 50% appearance, 50% performance. *(See Section B: Combined English Western for additional info on attire. See Show Rules #6 & #28 for addl clarifications)*

Class shall be judged on the exhibitor's ability to fit and show a horse at halter. The horse is merely a prop to demonstrate the ability and preparation of the handler. Ideally showmanship performance should consist of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a well groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision.

LEAD LINE: Open to riders 6 years and under. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are on January 1st of current year) Riders are to be shown at a walk with another equestrian leading. Jogging or Trotting while being led may be asked for by the Judge of the day. Riders may NOT participate in any other riding (under saddle) classes. However, if a leadline child is capable, they may participate in peewee showmanship.

ENGLISH EQUITATION CLASSES: PATTERN ONLY: Riders are judged individually while working through the pattern. Riders are judged on the appropriate riding position or “equitation”, overall appearance and performance. **Equitation** refers to a rider's position while mounted (*seat, hands, torso, legs*), and encompasses a rider's ability to ride correctly and with effective aids. Judges focus is more on the rider, and the rider's position through gait transitions & maneuvers. **Maximum credit is given** to those who perform the various pattern maneuvers and gait transitions with control (*responsiveness of horse; It is correct for the riders to have a light and steady contact with their horse's mouth*) and precision (*correctness of pattern, gaits, leads and diagonals*).

Possible gaits/maneuvers: walk, posting trot, seated trot, canter, stopping, backing, pivot turns (haunches or forehand), lead changes. Criteria: 75% Rider-25% Horse.

Faults that would incur deductions (per HRCNJ rules): Incorrect lead/diagonal, break of gait, off pattern, knocking a cone

Faults that will incur a DQ (per HRCNJ rules): falling off ,missing or incorrect back number, abusive correction to horse, illegal or prohibited equipment.

ENGLISH EQUITATION CLASSES: RAIL ONLY: Riders will be judged on the rail both directions of the ring. Riders are judged on the appropriate riding position or “equitation”, overall appearance & performance.

Equitation refers to a rider's position while mounted (*seat, hands, torso, legs*), and encompasses a rider's ability to ride correctly and with effective aids. Judges focus is more on the rider, and the rider's position through gait transitions.

Maximum credit is given to those who perform the various gait transitions with control (*responsiveness of horse; It is correct for the riders to have a light and steady contact with their horse's mouth*) and precision (*correctness of gaits, leads, diagonals*).

Possible gaits: walk, posting trot, seated trot, 2 point, canter, stopping, backing, pivot turns (*haunches or forehand*). Criteria: 75% Rider-25% Horse.

Faults that would incur deductions (per HRCNJ rules): Incorrect lead/diagonal, break of gait

Faults that will incur a DQ (per HRCNJ rules):, falling off, missing or incorrect back number, abusive correction to horse, illegal or prohibited equipment.

Tip: A good equitation rider is always in balance with the horse, maintains a correct position in every gait, movement, and possesses a commanding, but relaxed, presence, able to direct the horse with nearly invisible aids

COMBINED RIDING DISCIPLINE EQUITATION CLASSES-RAIL ONLY(where rider has option to show in western or english attire)

Riders are judged on the rail both directions of the ring. Riders are judged on the appropriate riding position or “equitation”, overall appearance, performance, and ability to control a horse. **Equitation** refers to a rider's position while mounted (*seat, hands, torso, legs*), and encompasses a rider's ability to ride correctly and with effective aids.

Rider is the main focus of the judge, and the rider's position through gait transitions, but overall appearance and manners of horse are also a consideration. **Maximum credit is given** to those who perform the various gait transitions with control (*responsiveness & willingness of horse*) and precision (*correctness of gaits, leads & diagonals*).

Possible gaits: walk, posting trot (eng), seated trot(eng), canter(eng), jog (west) extended jog (west), lope (west) – **Note: for lope and canter – refer to class schedule for specific classes that call for a lope/canter gait & those that do not** Criteria: 75% Rider-25% Horse

COMBINED RIDING DISCIPLINE PATTERN CLASSES- (where rider has option to show in western or english attire) Riders are judged individually while working through the pattern. **These are judges as Equitation classes.**

Equitation refers to a rider's position while mounted (*seat, hands, torso, legs*), and encompasses a rider's ability to ride correctly and with effective aids.

Riders are judged on the appropriate riding position, overall appearance, performance, and ability to control a horse.

Judges focus is more on the rider, and the rider's position through gait transitions & maneuvers. **Maximum credit is given** to those who perform the various pattern maneuvers and gait transitions with control (*responsiveness of horse*) and precision (*correctness of pattern, gaits, leads and diagonals*).

Possible gaits/maneuvers: walk, posting trot(eng), seated trot(eng), canter(eng), jog (west), extended jog (west), lope(west) stopping, backing, pivot turns, lead changes. **Note: for lope and canter – refer to class schedule for specific classes that call for a lope/canter gait & those that do not** Criteria: 75% Rider-25% Horse.

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE/ENG PLEASURE: Horses will be judged both directions of the ring. Horses are judged on performance, condition, and conformation. **Maximum credit shall be given** to the flowing, smooth, well balanced, “good tempered” horse. Horse should show manners, willingness, quality of movement, and functional correctness; Horse should be able to cover ground with minimal effort. Emphasis on cadence and quality of movement at all three gaits.

At a minimum, the following gaits will be called for both directions of the ring: Walk, Posting Trot, Canter. May be asked to back. – Other Possible Gaits for more advanced level classes: Extended Trot. Criteria: Horse:80% Rider: 20%.

*Tip: In Hunter Under Saddle class **Horse should not be racing around the ring** – they should be forward moving and collected – they should appear to be a “Pleasure to Ride”*

Junior Horse Hunter Under Saddle/English Pleasure – For Judging Criteria Refer to **HUNTER UNDER SADDLE/ENG PLEASURE** Open to horses age **Five (5) and under** as of January 1 of the current year (*HRCNJ rules for age: age of horse for HRCNJ is based on how old horse is as of January 1st of current year*). Criteria: Horse:80% Rider: 20%.

WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP CLASSES-PATTERN ONLY:

Class is designed to demonstrate a riders ability to execute, a set of maneuvers as prescribed by judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence

Riders are judged individually while working through a pattern.

Riders are judged on seat, hands (*proper equitation*), and ability to control a horse.

Equitation refers to a rider's position while mounted (*seat, hands, torso, legs*), and encompasses a rider's ability to ride correctly and with effective aids. The Rider is the primary focus of a Horsemanship class, but horse and rider must still work as a team. The rider is judged on precision (*correctness of pattern*) and smoothness while performing the maneuvers.

Maximum credit shall be given to riders who can demonstrate confidence, poise and balance through the pattern; cues to horse should be subtle; horse should appear relaxed, willing and responsive

Possible gaits/maneuvers: walk, jog, extended jog, lope, stopping, back, pivot turns, lead changes.

Criteria: Horse: 25% Rider 75%.

Faults that would incur deductions (per HRCNJ rules): Incorrect lead/diagonal, break of gait, off pattern, knocking a cone, excessive or inappropriate use of reins.

Faults that will incur a DQ (per HRCNJ rules): falling off, missing or incorrect back number, abusive correction to horse, illegal or prohibited equipment.

No Rail Work is performed in HRCNJ Western Horsemanship Classes

WESTERN PATTERN CLASS-NO RAIL: Class is judged as a Horsemanship Class (see critia for Horsemanship) Riders are judged individually while working through a pattern. Horse: 25% Rider 75% -

WESTERN PLEASURE CLASSES: Horses will be judged on the rail both directions of the ring. Rider should demonstrate that horse has free flowing stride of a reasonable length in keeping with his conformation & breed standards.

Horse should cover a reasonable amount of ground with little effort Ideally the horse should have a balanced, flowing motion, while exhibiting correct gaits that are of correct cadence. Quality of movement and consistency of gaits is a major consideration. Horse should be shown on a reasonably loose rein but with light contact and control. Horse should be responsive yet smooth in transitions when called for. When asked to extend horse should demonstrate ability to move out with same flowing motion. Horse should be willing and responsive and under control at all gaits.

Maximum credit will be awarded to the horse that moves with a balanced, flowing motion, who is willing, and who gives the appearance of being fit and a pleasure to ride.

Riders will be requested to perform various gaits as called for by the judge of the day. Gaits included: walk, jog, and lope. optional gait: extended walk, extended jog. May also be asked to stand quietly and back readily.

Faults that would incur deductions (per HRCNJ rules): Incorrect lead, break of gait, excessive or inappropriate use of reins.

Faults that will incur a DQ (per HRCNJ rules): falling off, missing or incorrect back number, abusive correction to horse, illegal or prohibited equipment.

Tip: Western pleasure is actually more about forward motion. That does not mean racing around the ring, but keeping your horse collected and engaged through the hind end while moving out.

WESTERN ROAD HACK: Judged as a pleasure class & subject to the same Judging Criteria (see Western Pleasure) however, there will be additional gaits that will be called for by the judge of the day to demonstrate the horses ability to extend their gate; horse must demonstrate ability to show a lengthen and shorten of strides. Those additional gaits to what is listed under Western Pleasure, are an extended Jog and an extended Lope (sometimes called hand gallop)

Maximum credit will be awarded to the horse that moves with a balanced, free-flowing & consistent motion and can demonstrate ability to lengthen and shorten strides. Horse should be willing and responsive and under control at all gaits. When asked to extend a gait there should be a visible change in extension/forward motion while staying collected & controlled.

Faults that would incur deductions (per HRCNJ rules): Incorrect lead, break of gait, excessive or inappropriate use of reins

Faults that will incur a DQ (per HRCNJ rules): falling off, missing or incorrect back number, abusive correction to horse, illegal or prohibited equipment.

Horse: 80% Rider: 20%.

TRAIL CLASSES: Each exhibitor begins with a score. Execution of each obstacle is scored and points can be awarded or taken away from starting score depending on execution. Judging is based on performance & precision of the horse when maneuvering over obstacles. Additional consideration on horses manners, attitude, and response to rider cues. Criteria: Horse: 75% Rider: 25% .

GYMKHANA CLASSES: These are speed events with total criteria based on time. Penalties of five (5) seconds each for any piece of equipment that is knocked over will be added onto time. Any horse that fails to include equipment specified in a pattern or who is off course will be disqualified. Class patterns are available at the show office. Hat or helmet of the rider MUST still be worn when the horse crosses the starting line.

Open Cross Rails Jumping Division- Courses

Riders will be asked to complete a course of four (4) to six (6) cross rail jumps. They will be set at 18 inches on center, not to exceed two (2) feet. Rider is to complete jumps, at either a trot or canter. Once gait of trot or canter is chosen, rider can not change mid-course. Trotting in corners will NOT be penalized unless other wise specified. Courtesy Circles are to be at the riders discretion. Rider to be judged on position; seat , hands, leg, control of the horse and ability to execute the course.

All jump courses will be designed with equitation or hunter specifications. Martingales are permitted in jumping classes ONLY, NOT Flat. Criteria: Horse: 30% & Rider 70%. An approved helmet is required for ALL jumping classes. Crossrail classes are open to all horses, ponies and riders. HRCNJ Beginner Riders as per HRCNJ Rules/Specifications for Beginner Classes...you ARE permitted to participate in ALL Crossrail Division Classes. The Crossrail Jump Courses are the ONLY Jumping division classes you are eligible for; you may not cross enter into other jumping divisions classes.

Open Cross Rails Jumping Division – On The Flat; Walk/Trot

Judged as an Equitation Class – see *Judging Criteria details listed under Hunt Seat Equitation.* NOTE Class Judging Criteria Rules rules are defined specifically for HRCNJ shows also taking into consideration rules and specs of surrounding shows & organizations, usef, aqha etc...who offer similar classes

Horses will be judged both directions of the ring at a walk and a trot. Martingales are NOT permitted.

HRCNJ Beginner Riders: as per HRCNJ Rules/Specifications for Beginner Classes...you ARE permitted to participate in ALL Crossrail Division Classes, which does include this Flat class. For other Beginner Classes offered by HRCNJ please refer to class schedule and the specific rules for Beginner classes.

Open Cross Rails Jumping Division – On The Flat; Walk/Trot/Canter

Judged as an Equitation Class – see *Judging Criteria details listed under Hunt Seat Equitation.* NOTE Class Judging Criteria Rules rules are defined specifically for HRCNJ shows also taking into consideration rules and specs of surrounding shows & organizations, usef, aqha etc...who offer similar classes

Horses will be judged both directions of the ring at a walk, a trot & a canter. Martingales are NOT permitted.

HRCNJ Beginner Riders: as per HRCNJ Rules/Specifications for Beginner Classes...you ARE permitted to participate in ALL Crossrail Division Classes, which **does** include this Flat class. For other Beginner Classes offered by HRCNJ please refer to class schedule and the specific rules for Beginner classes.

Open 2 Foot Over Fences: Rider will be asked to complete a course of jumps no higher than 2 feet. Rider is to complete jumps at a canter. Trotting in corners will NOT be penalized unless otherwise specified. Courtesy Circles are to be at the riders discretion.

Rider to be judged on position; seat, hands, leg, control of the horse and ability to execute the course.

All jump courses will be designed with equitation or hunter specifications.

Martingales are permitted in jumping classes ONLY, NOT Flat. Criteria: Horse: 30% & Rider 70%. An approved helmet is required for ALL jumping classes. All 2 Foot Jumping Division Classes are open to all horses, ponies, and riders. EXCEPT if you are a Beginner Rider as per HRCNJ rules.

Open 2 Foot Division On the Flat

Judged as an Equitation Class – see *Judging Criteria details listed under Hunt Seat Equitation.* **NOTE Class Judging Criteria Rules rules are defined specifically for HRCNJ shows also taking into consideration rules and specs of surrounding shows & organizations, usef, aqha etc...who offer similar classes**

Horses will be judged both directions of the ring at a walk, a trot & a canter. Martingales are NOT permitted.

Open 2.3 Foot Over Fences: Rider will be asked to complete a course of jumps not to be higher than 2.3 feet. Trotting in corners will NOT be penalized unless otherwise specified. Courtesy Circles are to be at the riders discretion. Rider to be judged on position; seat, hands, leg, control of the horse and ability to execute the course.

All jump courses will be designed with equitation or hunter specifications.

Martingales are permitted in jumping classes ONLY, NOT Flat. Criteria: Horse: 30% & Rider 70%. An approved helmet is required for ALL jumping classes. All 2.3 Foot Jumping Division Classes are open to all horses, ponies, and riders. EXCEPT if you are a Beginner Rider as per HRCNJ rules.

Open 2.3 Foot Division On the Flat

Judged as an Equitation Class – see *Judging Criteria details listed under Hunt Seat Equitation.* **NOTE Class Judging Criteria Rules rules are defined specifically for HRCNJ shows also taking into consideration rules and specs of surrounding shows & organizations, usef, aqha etc...who offer similar classes**

Horses will be judged both directions of the ring at a walk, a trot & a canter. Martingales are NOT permitted.

Open Reining: Open to all riders including trainers and professionals. Riders will be asked to perform an individual reining pattern to be posted the day of the show. Riders will be judged on their ability to control & guide the horse through the pattern with little or no apparent resistance. Any deviation from the exact pattern will be faulted accordingly by the judge of the day. Credit will be given for smoothness, attitude, & quickness in performing the various maneuvers while using CONTROLLED speed. Pattern must be performed with one hand on the reins.

Novice Reining: Open to non professional/non pro riders A non pro is someone who DOES NOT collect any monies for training of horses, or riding instruction. Riders will be asked to perform an individual reining pattern to be posted the day of the show. Riders will be judged on their ability to control & guide the horse through the pattern with little or no apparent resistance. Any deviation from the exact pattern will be faulted accordingly by the judge of the day. Credit will be given for smoothness, attitude, & quickness in performing the various maneuvers while using CONTROLLED speed. Pattern CAN be performed with two hands or one hand on the reins. But the choice to use one or two hands must be sustained for the entire pattern. Simple changes may also be performed but they must be executed both directions **NOTE: A Novice Rider: See General Definition of Novice.**

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog Equitation (E/W) See Judging Criteria for **COMBINED RIDING DISCIPLINE EQUITATION CLASSES-RAIL ONLY** 75% Rider-25% Horse. **Note: No Loping or Cantering will be asked for**

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog Pleasure: See Judging Criteria for **WESTERN PLEASURE CLASSES**. Criteria: Horse:80% Rider: 20%.

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog Pattern: See Judging Criteria for **COMBINED RIDING DISCIPLINE PATTERN CLASSES** Horse: 25% Rider 75%. **Note: No Loping or Cantering will be asked for**

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog Trail: See Judging Criteria for **TRAIL CLASSES** Criteria: Horse: 75% Rider: 25% **Note: No Loping or Cantering will be asked for**

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog/Trot/Lope/Canter Class is judged as an Equitation class. See Judging Criteria for **COMBINED RIDING DISCIPLINE EQUITATION CLASSES-RAIL ONLY**

.Criteria: 75% Rider-25% Horse. **Note: This is the ONLY Beginner class that a lope or canter WILL be called for**

NOTE: Beginner Riders are also permitted to participate in the following classes not in the Beginner Division

Open Walk/Trot or Open Walk/Jog classes

Showmanship and Halter

ALL Classes offered in Crossrails Jumping Division

Please refer to the specific rules for these classes.

Junior Horse Western Pleasure (Eng & West): Open to horses age **Five (5) and under** as of January 1 of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: horses age for HRCNJ is based on how old horse is as of January 1st of current year) Judged as a Pleasure class. See Judging Criteria for **WESTERN PLEASURE CLASSES**. Criteria: Horse: 80% Rider: 20%. Horses shown in this class may be shown in a bosel or a western snaffle bit.

Senior Horse Western Pleasure (Eng & West): Open to horses age **Six (6) and over** as of January 1 of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: horses age for HRCNJ is based on how old horse is as of January 1st of current year) Judged as a Pleasure class. See Judging Criteria for **WESTERN PLEASURE CLASSES**. Criteria: Horse: 80% Rider: 20%.

SECTION B: The Specifics Listed in this Section Applies to the Specific Class/Division Rules & Restrictions of HRCNJ:

Pee-Wee: Open to riders 10 & under as of January 1st of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are **on January 1st** of current year) The Judging guidelines stated in the H.R.C.N.J. class rules for an individual riding disciplines, will apply to the specific classes offered in English and Western for PeeWee, **WITH THE EXCEPTION** of there being no cantering or loping in any PeeWee class. PeeWee riders may not compete in any other classes or divisions (**this Exclusion includes Open Walk/Jog classes**). Exception: Pee-Wee participants may participate in Halter classes

General Definition of a Beginner Rider: Being eligible for a Beginner class is based on the experience and ability of the Rider and NOT the Horse. A Beginner is considered someone NEW to riding on horseback, new to loping, and also new to Showing. These classes are offered to give a beginner rider the opportunity to build confidence and gain riding experience in the show pen.

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog YOUTH: Open to riders age 11 - 17 as of January 1st of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are **on January 1st** of current year) **Riders who are showing at Breed Shows are not eligible for any Beginner Class.**

In order for a Rider to be considered a “Beginner”, they must not have been loping and/or cantering at any other Open Horse Shows for more than a two year period. A Rider is eligible to compete in HRCNJ Beginner Classes for a period of two consecutive years or until they Blue Ribbon out, whichever comes first.

If during the 2 year period, A rider receives three (3) Blue ribbons in one specific Beginner class, they are no longer eligible to compete in that specific Beginner class the next show season. A rider who begins the year as a Beginner may complete the year as a Beginner.

Beginner Rider participants ARE permitted to also compete in Halter, Showmanship, ALL classes offered in Jumping Crossrails Division and any Open Walk Jog or Open Walk Trot class offered by HRCNJ, NOTE these classes are not part of the Beginner Division. Beginners are NOT eligible to compete in any other Loping/Cantering rail or pattern classes NOT designated/labeled as “Beginner. If at anytime a rider participates in a loping/cantering class that is NOT designated/labeled as “Beginner” (exception – non division listed classes) they are no longer eligible for any Beginner class.

Beginner Rider Walk/Jog ADULT: Open to riders age 18 and up as of January 1st of the current year, (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are **on**

January 1st of current year) **Riders who are showing at Breed Shows are not eligible for any Beginner Class.**

In order for a Rider to be considered a “Beginner”, they must not have been loping and/or cantering at any other Open Horse Shows for more than a two year period. A Rider is eligible to compete in HRCNJ Beginner Classes for a period of two consecutive years or until they Blue Ribbon out, whichever comes first.

If during the 2 year period, A rider receives three (3) Blue ribbons in one specific Beginner class, they are no longer eligible to compete in that specific Walk/Jog class the next show season. A rider who begins the year as a Beginner may complete the year as a Beginner.

Beginner Rider participants ARE permitted to also compete in Halter, Showmanship, ALL classes offered in Jumping Crossrails Division and any Open Walk Jog or Open Walk Trot class offered by HRCNJ, NOTE these classes are not part of the Beginner Division. Beginners are NOT eligible to compete in any other Loping/Cantering rail or pattern classes NOT designated/labeled as “Beginner. If at anytime a rider participates in a loping/cantering class that is NOT designated/labeled as “Beginner” (exception – non division listed classes) they are no longer eligible for any Beginner class.

GENERAL DEFINITION OF A NOVICE RIDER:

Open to all non-professionals: A non professional is someone who does not collect monies for training of horses or riding instruction.

A Novice is an individual who lopes or canters, but is relatively new to showing or is still gaining show pen experience.

Please NOTE, an HRCNJ Novice is NOT the same as being a Novice at Breed Shows. An individual who competes at Breed Shows, in similar classes and is consistently placing in the top 6, should not be competing in HRCNJ Novice classes – they should instead be in the Open, Junior or Senior level classes

It may also be the case that a rider is new to a specific discipline (English , Western) or even a specific class (for example: you may be an accomplished English rider but are new to showmanship.) Being new to a discipline does qualify you as a Novice.

It is the Rider who is considered the Novice and not the horse. The determination of a “novice” is based on the ability & experience of the rider. Once you have placed out of a novice class you are not eligible to compete back in the division/class on a different horse. This includes the Novice Pleasure class.

Placing out of Novice:

A. A Rider participating in Novice Classes and accumulating points for a Novice Division will no longer be eligible to compete in any Novice class for that Division the following season if the novice rider achieves HRCNJ Grand Champion, BUT this must be achieved against six(6) or more qualifying members also competing in same division to make the novice ineligible the following season.

B. HRCNJ also follows a “blue ribbon rule”: we track all members and non members who compete in Novice classes and once the individual has accumulated three (3) Blue ribbons in a specific class (regardless of horse) they are no longer eligible to compete in that specific class with any horse. A rider who begins the year as a Novice may complete the year as a Novice.

NOVICE RIDER YOUTH: Open to riders age 17 and under as of January 1st of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are on January 1st of current year) **A Novice Rider is: See General Definition Above**

NOVICE RIDER ADULT: Open to riders age 18 and older as of January 1st of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are on January 1st of current year) **A Novice Rider is: See General Definition Above**

JUNIOR RIDER: Open to riders age 17 and under as of January 1st of the current calendar year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are on January 1st of current year)

JUNIOR HORSE: Open to Horses age five (5) and under as of January 1st of the current calendar year. **ONLY** A junior horse is permitted to be shown in a western snaffle bit without curb chain or a bosal.

SENIOR HORSE: Open to Horses age six (6) and over as of January 1st of the current calendar year. Senior horses may NOT be shown in a western snaffle bit or a bosal.

SENIOR RIDER: Open to riders age 18 and older as of January 1st of the current year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are on January 1st of current year)

OPEN RIDER: Open to any rider regardless of age or current riding ability or level.

LEADLINE RIDER: Open to riders six (6) years of age and under as of January 1st of the current calendar year. (HRCNJ rules for age: riders age for HRCNJ is based on how old they are on January 1st of current year)

COMBINED ENGLISH & WESTERN CLASSES

For Classes in which Western or English is an option, the rule for applying points towards a Division is based on the outfitting of horse and rider. Western attire and tack; Points must be applied to applicable Western Division, English attire and tack, Points must be applied to the applicable English Division.

SHOWMANSHIP NOTE: Attire and Tack can be based on the rules of the individual breed and still be able to apply points towards an eligible English or Western division. For example, it is normal that a Quarter Horse is shown in a western halter and their handler is dressed western attire with a hat for a Showmanship class. Showing in that attire/tack does NOT exclude the exhibitor from being able to apply points earned towards an eligible English Division. If however, exhibitor is not going to follow the specific breed rules, than they need to choose their attire and tack according to the HRCNJ Attire Rules with regards to points application and Divisions (Western Div, Western tack & attire; English Div, English tack & attire)

For class participants that are showing in English attire and are also choosing to apply Showmanship points & minimum eligibility towards an English Division (as opposed to western): In addition to the use of an English Bridle w/reins, you also are permitted the use of a plain Leather Halter with a lead & chain **IF** that is the tack used and accepted by the breed for similar class.

HALTER NOTE: For Participants in Halter Classes with regards to allowed attire: Participants can base their tack and attire on rules of the individual breed and still apply it towards any eligible English or Western division. If however, they are not going to follow the breed rules, than they need to choose their attire and tack according to the HRCNJ Attire Rules with regards to points application and Divisions (Western Div, Western tack & attire; English Div, English tack & attire) For class participants that are showing in English attire and are also choosing to apply Halter points & minimum eligibility towards an English Division (as opposed to western): In addition to the use of an English Bridle w/reins, you also are permitted the use of a plain Leather Halter with a lead & chain **IF** that is the tack used and accepted by the breed for similar class.