

**HORSEMEN'S RIDING CLUB OF NORTH JERSEY, INC.  
SHOW RULES 2012**

- 1. The Show Committee shall consist of the current President, Vice-President, Secretaries, Treasurer and Trustees.**
- 2. Any questions arising from extenuating circumstances, that are not covered in the show rules, show program or class rules shall be referred to the show committee for review.**
- 3. Every horse that is on the show grounds, whether being shown or not, must have a current negative coggins. H.R.C.N.J. has the right to ask owner to show proof of coggins at any time and at any show. As part of the Back Number Registration process, a copy of negative coggins will be kept on file by show secretary for the current show year. During the class registration process any individual who has not already submitted a copy of current negative coggins will be asked to show a current negative coggins when registering for classes. Failure to be able to show a negative coggins may result in being asked to remove horse from show grounds without refund.**
- 4. H.R.C.N.J. Inc., will not be responsible for any injuries, damages, or illness to any person, animal, property or mode of transportation while attending or as a result of attending any function sponsored by H.R.C.N.J., Inc.**
- 5. Horses with a tendency to kick must have a red ribbon tied to their tail, visible to other riders.**

**6. All riders must be properly attired in Western or English attire and tack. EXCEPTION: For Participants in Halter Classes Breed Rules for attire will apply .**

*Judge of the day can choose to suspend an attire requirement due to weather conditions. When, and if this occurs, it will be announced.*

**ALL Western & Gymkhana classes: 1. Heeled Boots 2. Western Hat / Helmet 3. Long Sleeve Shirt 4. Dress Pants or Jeans (Chaps are optional except in classes specified by the judge of the day)**

**Youth Riders – Must wear approved protective riding helmet in all Gymkhana classes**

**ALL English classes (includes jumping): 1. Hunt Boots 2. \*English Helmet 3. English Shirt 4. Britches 5. Hunt Coat**

**JUMPING CLASSES: For Helmet: Approved Helmet must be worn for jumping classes-no exceptions. This also applies to anyone schooling over jumps**

**Showmanship Attire Note:** For class participants that are showing in English attire so that they can apply Showmanship points & minimum eligibility towards an English Division: 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.

**7. No foul language will be tolerated, whether in the immediate show ring or on the grounds. Persons using foul language, without regard to others, may be excused from the grounds or from a class without refund. This decision is at the discretion of the Show Committee present, the day of the function.**

**8. Inappropriate or abusive Behavior of participant or spectator to one another, animals, judges or spectators on the grounds (Show ring, practice rings, barns, etc.) will result in dismissal from the function without refund, again at the discretion of the Show Committee present that day. Repeated offenses will result in being banned from future functions sponsored by H.R.C.N.J.**

**9. No alcoholic beverages are permitted in the immediate show area. The use of alcoholic beverages of any kind on the grounds is discouraged.**

**10. Mechanical hackamore or bridle with full headstalls along with a tie down will be permitted only in SPEED EVENTS. However, the application of these appointments will be penalized by the Judge or Show Committee if too severe. Crops and bats are permitted in speed events.**

**11. Standing martingales are allowed only in Jumping classes. Crops or bats are also permitted unless denied by the Judge of the day. No drop nosebands or figure 8's are permitted.**

**12. During the course of a gymkhana class should there be an equipment failure, the rider will have the option of rerunning the course at the end of the class or take the back up time.**

**13. Any class or division, where there are specific age restrictions, example: Junior riders must be 17 years of age or younger, the age will be based on the age the rider is ON January 1 of the current year. If a contestants age is challenged by anyone present, proof of age must be supplied by parent or guardian within 15 days or forfeit any earned points or awards.**

**14. A request for refund must be submitted in writing to the Show Committee for review. NO CASH REFUNDS are given the day of the show. If a horse or rider becomes ill or injured and are unable to continue, a request for refund must also be submitted in writing to the Show Committee. Approved refunds will be mailed within ten (10) days of the Show Committee's decision.**

**15. In the event that there are less than three (3) entries in any offered HRCNJ class, it will be at the Show Committee's discretion to make a final determination whether to run, cancel or combine the class. This "status" will be announced at least 2 classes prior**

**16. Late entries for a particular class will be taken up until the time the gate closes for that class. Show office must be notified and add-on sheet submitted. Gate Steward must also be checked in with.**

**Scratches to classes are permitted 2 classes prior to the start of the actual class you are removing from the entry from. Show Office must be advised and a scratch sheet submitted to allow the class fee to be considered invalid and not part of final bill. *See Rule 14 regarding refunds.***

***See Rule #29 Regarding Method of Payment***

**17. Grand and Reserve Champion of the Day will be awarded for the offered and indicated HRCNJ Divisions:**

**18a. POINT RULES: Classes – Points awarded to a horse & rider combinations are based on the total number of actual participants in the class. HRCNJ only awards points up to sixth place. For Classes with 20 + participants in the class after gate is closed: a Maximum of Eight (8) points will be awarded to First place. For Classes with 6 to 19 participants in the class after gate is closed: a Maximum of Six (6) points will be awarded to First place. For Classes with 5 or less participants see Table A Below Participants in a class that are disqualified (DQ) by the judge of the day will NOT be awarded any points, however they still count as a participant of the class. Please refer to Table A**

Table A								

**18b. POINT RULES: Year End Awards - Point accumulations for Day End and Year End awards must be accomplished on the same horse and rider combination. (Exception - In the event of the death or injury to horse another horse may be substituted for a show. But ONLY with a Veterinarian's Certificate will points continue to accrue. In the event that a rider is injured and may not compete, another MEMBER may be substituted on the same horse. A Medical Certificate/Note is required.) YEAR END Awards will be given to members who are considered in Good Standing. To be in good standing all membership & sponsorship requirements must be met & paid in full as well as there being no monies owed to H.R.C.N.J.**

**19. Membership requirements: Membership and Sponsorship(s) must be paid in full before entry in classes for points in that class to count.**

**20. Sponsorship requirements: Single Membership - minimum of one (1) sponsorship. Family Membership - minimum of one (1)**

**sponsorship per family member wishing to earn year end awards. Maximum of three (3) sponsorships needed per family with 4 or more competing family members. EXCEPTION: See rule #22 regarding the Leadline class.**

**21. Leadline is the only class where consolation ribbons will be awarded. In addition Leadline year end award eligibility requirements are as follows: A standard membership is required (Individual or Family) However, NO individual Sponsorship is required for the Leadline rider.**

**22. Any suggestions, questions or criticisms must be directed to the Show Committee in writing with your name, address and phone number. These issues will be discussed at the next membership meeting, which you are invited to attend or a reply will be sent to you.**

**23. Pets, such as dogs, cats, goats, etc.... that are brought into the horse show area, when not in a stall or in a contained area must be kept on a leash or lead.**

**Any animal kept in a stall must be provided with water. No animal should be left in a vehicle or trailer.**

**24. In the event of a tie for day end division award, class placing ( number of firsts (1st), Seconds (2nds) etc.) will determine who will be awarded Grand. Reserve will be awarded to the other participant.**

**25. In the event of a tie for year end class and/or year end division awards the following will be reviewed to determine who will be awarded Grand and who will be awarded Reserve:**

**a. Show attendance**

**b. Paid Membership with a paid Sponsor at all shows**

**c. Class Placings (number of firsts(1sts)  
seconds (2nds) etc.)**

**d. (Applies to Division only) Review actual total number of points earned in the Division at each individual horse show and compare. Horse and rider earning higher points at more shows will be awarded the Grand.**

**e. In the event of a TRUE tie for a year end division or a year end class the award will be split equally between the 2 individuals.**

**27. The Open Halter classes are the ONLY classes for which the handler has the option to apply points to any of the eligible Day &**

Year End Divisions offered by H.R.C.N.J. **RESTRICTION:** Points earned in the Open Halter Classes may be applied to Only ONE pre-chosen Division per horse and rider combination. This decision must be made and the choice of Division indicated on class entry form **PRIOR** to entry of the horse and rider combination in the Open Halter classes.

28. A participant may enter up to three (3) horses in any individual pattern class AND the same horse with a different handler/rider may also occur no more than three (3) times. Either situation will be permitted provided that:

1. It does not interfere with the proceedings of the actual class or the show day.
2. It is for one of the listed eligible classes.

For a same handler/rider that is showing multiple horses and for same horse with multiple handlers/riders: **Each horse/rider combo MUST have a different back number assignment.** Separate class entry form must be filled out and submitted to reflect each combination.

**All back numbers must be registered for in the horse show office. This is to avoid same back number being used by multiple exhibitors**

Wearing of incorrect back number will result in a DQ – no exceptions.

Omission of a back number will result in a DQ – no exceptions

The changing of horses/handlers or riders between classes must be done without any disruption to other participants of the class.

If the handler/rider is not ready to go & causes a delay in the class they may receive a DQ from the judge regardless of performance. In addition, a prolonged delay may result in the participant not being allowed to perform the pattern and there will not be a refund for the class.

Those handler/riders involved in the above mentioned may NOT request a tack change.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** For classes that are combined English and Western (example Showmanship) the same horse/rider combination may not change tack/attire and show twice.

**Eligible Classes for Show Rule 28:** All Showmanship, “Pattern ONLY” classes with NO Railwork, Jumping, Trail classes, Reining classes, Gymkhana classes – **Equitation and Horsemanship are NOT included** since there may be railwork requested by the judge of the day.

29. **Method of Payment:** H.R.C.N.J. accepts cash and check as method of payment. Cash payments will be given a copy of a receipt from the office. **Payment of classes MUST BE received when registering for classes- & prior to entry into any class.** When adding yourself into classes not registered for on entry form, use of add-on sheet is

required. You must also check in with Gate Steward to advise you are an “add-on”, but submission of form to office is **STILL REQUIRED**. H.R.C.N.J. accepts “Open” checks as a method of payment. A **VALID Open Check MUST** be 1. made out to H.R.C.N.J., 2. signed, 3. dated, and 4. the payment amount must be left **BLANK** in order for this check to be accepted as an **OPEN** check. For those who wish to pay in full at time of entry for classes on submitted entry form – This is the same as paying in Cash – All Add-on’s must then be paid for with the submission of an add-on sheet. **No Exceptions.**

*See Rule # 16 Regarding Late Entries & Scratches*

**30. Monies Owed:** Any member who fails to make good any indebtedness written to HRCNJ, shall have all membership privileges suspended from the date the check was submitted as payment to HRCNJ. All members included under that membership (if Family) shall remain suspended until such payment is made good and is cleared by the current treasurer of HRCNJ. This shall include all members (youth and adult) whose bills are paid by another party as well as those who pay their own bills. Members in this status are not considered in good standing & as mentioned in Show Rule 18b points and awards will be withheld until membership status is restored. Written notification is sent to such individuals & failure to comply can result in forfeit of earned points and awards.

Any non-member who fails to make good any indebtedness written to HRCNJ, will not be permitted to participate at any future HRCNJ open horse shows and events until such payment is made good and is cleared by the current treasurer of HRCNJ. For any returned check the payee will be charged an additional \$25.00 fee for bank charges.

Option of a check as payment is a privilege and convenience offered to participants at HRCNJ shows. Therefore, the Executive Committee of HRCNJ can decide to not except payment by check as an option for any individual, member or non-member, if it is determined that this privilege has been abused.

**31. Legal and Illegal Bits to Show Horse in:** As a general rule HRCNJ follows the standards recognized by the American Quarter Horse Rule Book with regards to legal and illegal bits. HRCNJ will also recognize and accept other specific breed rules for legal and illegal bits in the event that they differ from Quarter Horse. However – HRCNJ does **NOT** accept/permit **ANY** form of a twisted wire bit to be used in any Western Riding Class offered. Anyone wishing to challenge the status of a bit used in a class, must approach the Ring Steward to request that the

judge view bits during line up. Judge of the day may also decide on their own to ask to see bits at conclusion of a class.

32. **Splitting of Classes** It is at the discession of HRCNJ Show Management to determine whether a split of any class will be done. A Split will be considered for any rail classes that exceeds 20 riders. Each split will ride and be judged separately. The Judge will select riders from the split who will be asked to show back for final placings. Classes that are split are still only placed first to sixth place. It will be announced just prior to the class if a split will be done and back numbers will be called. We can only anticipate the total number of riders in a class based on what the show office has as the EXPECTED number of riders for the class. Add-on's that are not done in advance may not be known until class is already in process. In cases like this, the class may NOT be split, however points awarded will still reflect total number in class.