4.4 **Horsemanship (Equitation class)**

Appointments; clean and neat.

Refer to Appendix for scoring.

Tack; clean, supple and properly adjusted

Pattern, include position, communication and control of the horse while performing an accurate pattern. Results are not more important than the form and equitation methods used to do the pattern. In both patterns, wait for judge to acknowledge before beginning pattern.

**JUDGE WILL DESIGNATE EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING PATTERNS.**

SEE *Suggested Gymkhana Horsemanship Criteria* FOR SCORING.

**Pattern A:**

1. Trot/jog from a to b.

2. Canter/lope around cones as indicated, performing lead changes in indicated area. Distance between markers: 30' - 50'.

3. Halt beside cone b, approximately 10' away; perform 360° turn on haunches.

4. Turn 90°.

5. Canter/lope on the right lead to cone a.

6. Halt five seconds, back five steps. Wait to be excused.

**Pattern B:**

1. Walk A to B.

2. Jog/trot B to opposite C.

3. Canter/lope figure 8, as diagramed, around cones C and D, performing lead changes in indicated area.

4. Canter/lope to the rail on the right lead to E.
5. Halt five seconds. Perform 360° turn on haunches. Back five steps. Wait to be excused.

**Equipment needed to run division:**
- Electronic timer or 2 stop watches
- 2 starting poles
- 6 poles and bases for pole bending
- 2 flags with alternate colors
- 5 lb. bag of lime for key hole
- 6 to 8 cones

**5. Driving Division**

**4.5.1 General**

Open to all driving animals. One equine is shown hitched to a suitable two or four wheel vehicle which must have foot boards and an enclosed front. Racing sulky type of vehicle is not acceptable. Participants are required to report wheel to wheel width of their cart on their entry.

Class size: show management will determine need for dividing classes depending upon ring size, number of entries, size and type of entries in a reasonable manner.

1. Vocal aids - It is permissible for the driver to talk to the animal in a subdued tone of voice. Clucks for starting may be used, however “walk on,” “trot,” and “whoa” are the more accepted terms. Any tendency by the driver to shout, whistle, or talk loudly to the animal should be penalized. A driver should strive to control the animal’s movement with minimum vocal aids.

2. Equipment failure - No entry may leave the arena after judging has begun without permission from the judge and/or ringmaster. If an accident or equipment failure occurs which needs attention or repair, the entry should pull to the center of the arena as soon as possible. Minor adjustments to harness may be made upon permission from the judge. Adjustments or repairs requiring more than 5 minutes will result in dismissal from the ring.

3. Headers or grooms must be qualified 4-H youth. They are allowed but must stand in front of the equine and not touch the animal unless necessary for safety.

**4.5.2 Safety**

At no time will a bridle be removed before the vehicle is completely unhitched and removed from the horse. Infraction of this rule may result in disqualification at management’s discretion.