

# **SADDLE & HARNESS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **RULES**



**EFFECTIVE DATE: JANUARY 1, 2026**

## **Saddle & Harness Association, Inc.**

### **Waiver, Release and Hold Harmless Agreement**

By entering and participating in a Saddle & Harness Association, Inc. competition or event and signing this Waiver, Release and Hold Harmless Agreement (the "Agreement") as the owner, lessee, driver, rider or handler and on behalf of myself and my principals, representatives, employees and/or agents, I agree that I am subject to the bylaws and rules of Saddle & Harness Association, Inc. (the "Club") and the local rules of the competition ("Rules"). I agree to be bound by the bylaws and rules of the Club and of the competition. I will accept as final the decision of the Board of Director ("Board") on any question arising under the Rules, and agree to release and hold harmless the competition, the Club, the officials, directors, and employees for any action taken under the Rules. I represent that I am eligible to enter and/or participate under the Rules, and every equine I am entering is eligible as entered. I also agree that as a condition of and in consideration of acceptance of entry, the Club and/or the competition may use or assign photographs, videos, audios, cablecasts, or other likenesses of me and my horse taken during the course of the competition for the promotion, coverage or benefit of the competition, sport, or the Club. These likenesses shall not be used to advertise a product and they may not be used in such a way as to jeopardize amateur status. I hereby expressly and irrevocably waive and release any rights in connection with such use, including any claim to compensation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, or to misappropriation. The construction and application of Club rules are governed by the laws of the State of California, and any action instituted against the Club must be filed in the County of Riverside, State of California.

#### **Club Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification**

***This document waives important legal rights. Read it carefully before signing.***

I AGREE in consideration for my participation in this competition or event to the following:

I AGREE that I choose to participate voluntarily in the competition or event with my equine, as a rider, driver, handler, lessee, owner, agent, coach, trainer, or as parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor. I am fully aware and acknowledge that horse sports and this competition or event involve inherent risks of accident, loss, and serious bodily injury including broken bones, head injuries, trauma, pain, suffering, or death ("Harm").

I AGREE to release the Club, the competition or the event from all claims for money damages or otherwise for any Harm to me or my equine and for any Harm caused by me or my horse or equine to others, even if the Harm resulted, directly or indirectly, from the negligence of the Club, the competition or the event.

I AGREE to expressly assume all risks of Harm to me or my equine, including Harm resulting from the negligence of the Club or the competition.

I AGREE to indemnify (that is, to pay any losses, damages, or costs incurred by) the Club and the competition and to hold the Club harmless with respect to claims for Harm to me or my equine, and for claims made by others for any Harm caused by me or my equine at the competition or the event.

I have read the Club Rules concerning protective equipment and I understand that I am entitled to wear protective equipment without penalty, and I acknowledge that the Club strongly encourages me to do so. I acknowledge that no protective equipment can guard against all injuries.

If I am a parent or guardian of a junior exhibitor, I consent to the child's participation and AGREE to all of the above provisions and AGREE to assume all of the obligations of this Release on the child's behalf.

I AGREE that the "Club," "Competition" or "Event" as used above includes all of the officials, officers, directors, employees, agents, personnel, volunteers and affiliated organizations.

I represent that I have the requisite training, coaching and abilities to safely compete in this competition or event.

I AGREE that if I am injured at this competition or event, medical personnel treating my injuries may provide information on my injury and treatment to the Club.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE to be bound by all applicable Club Rules and all terms and provisions of this entry form and/or Online Entry.

#### **Rider/Handler/(mandatory)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Owner/Agent (mandatory)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Parent/Guardian Signature: (Required if Rider/Handler is a minor)**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# **RULES TABLE OF CONTENTS**

I. CONDUCT AT SHOWS AND EVENTS .....	1
II. FEES SCHEDULE .....	3
III. SHOW SAFETY RULES .....	4
IV. EQUINE CLASSIFICATIONS .....	4
V. AGE OF EXHIBITOR .....	5
VI. APPOINTMENTS .....	5
VII. HIGH POINT AWARDS .....	6
VIII. ACCOUNTING FOR YEAR END POINTS .....	9
IX. REPORTING OF POINTS .....	9
X. DESCRIPTION OF SHOW CLASSES .....	10
XI. MEMBERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP .....	15
NEWSLETTER AD FEES .....	16
XIII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS .....	16
XII. ....	

## I. CONDUCT AT SHOWS AND EVENTS

*The following rules and regulations are hereby declared to be the Official Rules of the Saddle & Harness Association, Inc. for all sanctioned horse shows and events shall apply to and govern all equines and the conduct of all exhibitors, vendors, handlers, grooms, ring stewards, volunteers and anyone entering the ring or handling an equine on the show or event grounds. All persons involved in Saddle & Harness Association, Inc. (the "Club") sanctioned events, shows, riders, drivers, passengers, grooms, officials and spectators should keep safety foremost in their minds.*

1. The minimum number of entries required to hold a class shall be one (1). Classes not meeting this requirement shall be cancelled. Some classes may be combined or run concurrently in the interest of time, where safety permits, but will still be scored/placed separately.
2. The Club reserves the right to hold classes, or portions of classes, on any part of the show or event grounds if found necessary or expedient to do so.
3. Any member of the Saddle & Harness Association who works at a show or event in any capacity shall not be penalized or disqualified from showing in that show.
4. Anyone may show an equine regardless of where it is, or was, stabled, or who trains it. Professional horse trainers are permitted to compete.
5. All non-members must pay a \$15 grounds fee per equine.
6. The person signing the entry form, whether exhibitor, owner or parent or guardian, is responsible for show or event fees regardless of who shows or owns the equine.
7. All exhibitors, vendors, handlers, grooms, ring stewards, volunteers and anyone entering the ring or handling an equine on the show or event grounds must complete and sign an entry/release of liability form and in the case of a minor exhibitor (17 & under) the form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
8. Entry numbers shall be displayed and visible on each entry during all events and must be purchased from or provided by the Club on the day of the show or event.
9. Conduct on the part of any exhibitor, owner, trainer, member, or spectator of a detrimental, unsportsmanlike, excessive or abusive nature in the show ring or anywhere on the show or events ground as determined by two of the following: Judge and a member of the Show Committee or (1) Board member, two members of the Show Committee. Such determination may be penalized by official warning, disqualification and/or expulsion from the grounds and/or suspension of membership, forfeiture of all fees or such other sanctions as may be deemed appropriate. Anyone witnessing such conduct shall report the conduct to the Show Committee at the time of the incident or no later than the close of the show. Once a determination has been made any challenge to such a determination must comply with Rule I. 12.
10. All persons involved in Saddle & Harness Association, Inc. sanctioned events, shows, riders, drivers, passengers, grooms, officials, and spectators should keep safety foremost in their minds. It is the handler's ultimate responsibility to have his or her equine(s) under control at all times and to ensure that all tack is kept in a functional and safe condition for the benefit of all those present, whether human or equine.
11. All protests of class placing must be lodged with a Show Committee member or Board Member and then made in writing with a \$100 deposit **within 24 hours after end of that show**. A review of the placing and the complaint will be done by the judge and a member of the Show Committee or by two members of the Show Committee. Once a determination has been made, any challenge to such a determination must comply with Rule I.12.

12. Any challenges to Show Committee decisions must be made **within 24 hours after the show** and in writing referencing the action that is the subject of the challenge and must be accompanied by a \$100 deposit. The challenge will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. All parties to the challenge are encouraged to attend the meeting. If the Board determines, by a majority vote, that the challenge is correct, a \$50 deposit will be refunded to the complainant. If the Board determines, by majority vote, that the challenge is *incorrect*, the \$100 deposit will be forfeited to Saddle & Harness Association, Inc.

13. An exhibitor may enter more than one equine in any event in which each entrant enters the arena alone, such as timed cones and gambler's choice. No more than three different exhibitors may enter the same equine or team in the one event.

14. No person under eighteen (18) years of age is permitted to ride, drive, handle or show a stallion or jack.

15. All children must be under the supervision of a responsible adult at all times while on the event grounds.

16. **All dogs must be on a leash AND under control at all times.**

17. Properly fitted and secured SEI/ASTM certified helmets are strongly recommended in all riding and driving classes and are **mandatory** for those 17 & under whenever mounted or in an equine drawn vehicle anywhere on the show or event grounds.

- Those 17 & under riding in traditional English attire or Western attire are required to wear a properly fitted and secured SEI/ASTM certified helmet. For purposes of compliance with this rule, a schooling SEI/ASTM certified helmet shall be acceptable.
- For exhibitors of any age the use of a properly fitted and secured SEI/ASTM certified helmet in lieu of traditional attire shall not be counted against the exhibitor.

18. Exhibitors are prohibited from cross entering between the following classes:  
Note: equines are allowed to be cross entered with a different exhibitor.

- Lead line and any other riding class.
- Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog and any other riding classes which require three gaits.
- If in any Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog classes are entered you can enter the Country English Pleasure and/or the Western Country Pleasure class. If entered in the Country Pleasure Classes you will be required to Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog only. No Cantering or Loping.

19. An equine shall not be penalized for being unshod in any class.

20. Tailgating is unsafe and considered unsportsmanlike conduct. Circling or cutting across the arena to maintain a safe following distance is recommended and will not be penalized.

21. All multiples must have at least one competent adult passenger/groom in the vehicle with the driver (Exception is VSE multiples).

22. Any of the following infractions shall disqualify the exhibitor:

- Loss of course. This includes negotiating obstacles other than the specified order or in the wrong direction.
- Fall of an equine and/or exhibitor.
- Spurring, striking, or beating the equine in any manner whatsoever forward of the cinch/girth.  
Exception: (See Item 23) Driving Classes requirements for whip and usage forward of girth.
- Equines being unruly or out of control which creates a hazard.

- e. Cruelty, abuse or inhumane treatment of an equine in or out of the show arena. (Observed by a Judge and/or 2 Show Committee Members or 2 Board Members).
- f. Breakage of tack or equipment resulting in an inability to safely complete the course. Should the exhibitor be able to complete the course safely despite the breakage, without cruelty to the equine, he may do so without penalty. (See Appointments) Alternatively, should the exhibitor be able to complete the course by borrowing tack, he may do so. The seven (7) minute rule shall be applied.

23. An appropriate driving whip must be carried in hand at all times while driving on the show grounds. An appropriate whip is one where the thong is long enough to reach the shoulder of the furthest equine in the hitch.

24. Tack changes must be asked for at least two classes prior to the class.

25. There is a two-minute gate closure for the class. Once the gate closes it is up to the judge to allow the entrant into the class.

26. **No alcohol or alcoholic beverage is permitted or allowed at any Saddle and Harness show or event. Violators will be asked to leave and could be barred from future events.**

27. A junior driver must be seated in a manner where their feet touch the floor (or an appropriate block) such that they can brace themselves. If a junior driver is not in compliance with this rule they will be excused from the ring. This is a matter of safety.

28. All chains, poles, or single trees **must** be covered or wrapped on any vehicle that would make excessive noise as to create an unsafe environment in the ring and a potential hazard to other participants. This rule is to ensure the safety of all participants. If the show committee or judge determines a vehicle to be excessively noisy the participant will be denied access or excused from the ring.

29. The club reserves the right to disallow a vehicle that is deemed inappropriate for pleasure driving. (i.e. Cinderella carriage, Stage Coach) or any vehicle that would create an unsafe environment in the ring. This rule is to ensure the safety of all participants. If the show committee or judge determines a vehicle to be inappropriate or unsafe the participant will be denied access to or excused from the ring. If you are unsure of your vehicle, please consult the show committee prior to the show or class.

NOTE: Any Rule not covered here will be covered by USEF Rules.

## II. FEES SCHEDULE

1. Fee per Class on day of show: **\$20.00**
2. Fee per Class pre-entry (received 4 days prior to show): **\$13.00**
3. Show Committee Admin Fee per equine: **\$14.00**
4. Grounds fee (non-members only - per equine/exhibitor combination): **\$15.00**
5. Administrative fee: **\$15.00** per equine
6. Returned checks will incur an additional \$50.00 charge.
7. Class fee refund policy: There will be no refunds of class fees after the exhibitor/equine combination has shown in any class for the day and has been entered in the class sheet. The only exception is in the case of an obvious medical emergency for either exhibitor or equine. All requests for refunds must be in writing with evidence of the medical emergency. All refunds must

be pre-approved by at least one board member prior to payment. This policy does not pertain to Pre-entries if the exhibitor does not attend the show or does not show in any class. In this case all entry fees will be refunded.

### III. SHOW SAFETY RULES

*The following Rules are for the safety of exhibitors, vendors, handlers, grooms, ring stewards, volunteers and anyone entering the ring or handling an equine on the show or event grounds at all Club shows and events.*

1. Never leave an equine unattended while it is hitched to a cart or carriage.
2. Never remove lines/reins or bridle of an equine while it is hitched, even if the halter is on.
3. Never have any passengers in a cart/carriage without the driver in it. The driver must have lines/reins in hand.
4. Never tie an equine to a fixed object with a stud chain engaged on the halter.
5. The show committee is responsible for ensuring that the gate is manned throughout the day.
6. When passing another entrant in the arena, passing should be done with safety always in mind.
7. Never tie an equine to a fixed object while hitched.
8. Running, cantering, or galloping an equine while hitched to a cart is not allowed on the event grounds.
9. While on the show grounds, the wheels of any trailer that is not hitched to a vehicle, must be safely chocked as to prevent it from being moved.

NOTE: An infraction of any rule in this section will be governed by Rule I. 9.

10. **NO PARKING OF VEHICLES OR HORSE TRAILERS UNDER THE COVER OF THE ARENA.**  
Exceptions: Judge, show committee, special needs, show committee trailer (governed by the show committee,)

### IV. EQUINE CLASSIFICATIONS

*If your equine's height is borderline, we suggest measuring it at the beginning of the show year. You must be consistent about the size category you show him/her in.*

**NOTE:** For the purposes of size classification, the height / size of an equine is declared by the first show of the year in which the equine is entered. Once an equine has been shown in a specific size classification the equine **MUST** show in that classification for the remainder of the year. No equine will be allowed to cross enter between size classifications unless specifically stated in this document.

1. Minis shall not exceed 38 inches from the ground to where the last mane hair comes out of the body at the withers.
2. Ponies must measure between 38 inches and 14.2 hands (58 inches) from the ground to the highest point on the withers.
3. Light horses shall be at least 14.2 hands (58 inches) at the withers. Those breeds of horses that allow smaller animals may show in the horse classification and still be less than 58 inches, but they must NOT cross enter into any pony classes that year.
4. Draft horses shall be those of a Draft horse breed. A Gypsy, Fjord, Haflinger, (horse or pony size), may be shown as a draft.

5. Warmbloods, Friesians and Draft Horse/Light Horse cross descent are classified as Heavy Horses and must show as such. Once shown in a specific classification (Heavy Horse, Light Horse, or Pony) the equine or Multiples must show in this classification for the remainder of the year.
6. Draft Horses, Heavy Horses and Multiples of the same, may show in the Horse classes for Gambler's Choice and Timed Cones.
7. Immature equines should show according to what size they are expected to reach at maturity. For instance, a weanling Paint horse may be shown in the Light Horse Halter class even though it measures as a pony.
8. Mules and donkeys must enter according to their height.
9. Gaited horses MUST perform required gaits (i.e. walk, trot and Canter) if showing in non-gaited classes.
10. An exhibitor may question the height of an equine by making a \$100 deposit to the Show Chairman and requesting the measurement of the equine. The equine shall then be measured by two members of the Show Committee or the Judge and one member of the Show Committee. The equine shall be measured standing on a hard, smooth, level surface. If the equine is wearing shoes,  $\frac{1}{2}$ " will be deducted from the measurement. Only the two people in charge of measuring and the owner and/or a handler may be present. If the owner and/or handler declines to let the equine be measured, they forfeit the rest of the entries and forfeit any points accumulated toward year end awards.

Note: If it is determined that an equine is oversized and the height can be corrected humanely prior to the gate call, the owner may do so, and the \$100 is refunded. If it is shown that an equine was already shown in the wrong category, it shall forfeit entry fees, points accumulated and winnings in the incorrect classes or divisions and may be allowed to enter and show in the correct class or division for the remainder of the show or the show year. If it should be determined that the equine is not in the correct height class or division after measurement, the \$100 deposit shall be forfeited to Saddle & Harness Association, Inc.

## V. AGE OF EXHIBITOR

1. The age of the exhibitor on December 1<sup>st</sup> (as per USEF rules) of the show year shall be maintained throughout the year.
2. The age of exhibitors shall be listed per class as required. All exhibitors must compete in their own age group unless the class is listed as Open.
3. Adult classes shall be for those 18 years and older.
4. Junior exhibitors are 17 years and under. All Junior exhibitors MUST always wear helmets when in a cart or mounted.
5. If the age of an exhibitor is in question, proof may be required.
6. No one under the age of 18 years may ride, drive, handle or show a stallion or jack.
7. Special needs exhibitors (regardless of age) will be allowed to show in walk-trot or leadline classes.

## VI. APPOINTMENTS

1. Appropriate show ring attire is required for all classes. Open toed shoes, scandals or High-heeled shoes are not allowed in any class. Short pants and tank tops are **NOT ALLOWED**. Personal

appointments are required to be clean and suitable clothing for riding and/or driving. When riding, boots are mandatory.

2. Clothes:

- a. Halter classes: attire must be appropriate. Gloves(Optional) and Long Sleeve shirts are required. No tank tops or open toed shoes.
- b. Western classes: boots, hat (helmet optional), belt, long sleeve western shirt with collar, western type pants. Chaps, gloves, and spurs are optional. Helmets are required for juniors in accordance with Rule 1.17 and are always strongly encouraged for all participants.
- c. English classes: hunt seat, dressage, or saddle seat attire (including breeches and an English style shirt, **long sleeved**), approved helmets, a derby may be worn if riding saddle seat and boots. Spurs, gloves,(optional), coats are required.. Helmets are required for juniors in accordance with Rule I.17 and are always strongly encouraged for all participants.
- d. Driving classes: drivers must wear appropriate attire to the breed and vehicle; whips must be held in hand. Carriage Driving must wear Lap robes, hats, jackets( if required by your breed). The following are suggested – Lap robes, hats and jackets and gloves. Helmets are required for juniors in accordance with Rule I.17 and are always strongly encouraged for all participants.(See USEF rules for Carriage Driving regarding regulations for your Breed).

3. Tack:

- a. Western classes: standard western saddle, or western sidesaddle, with or without a horn, may have a slick or swelled fork and a high or low cantle. Any western bit or headstall bosal, within USEF guidelines, may be used. Standard snaffle bits and hackamore (Bosal) are permitted in any class on a junior horse, five years old and under, in accordance with USEF Rules. No martingales, cavaesons or tie downs. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed. In accordance with USEF rules, two hands may be used on hackamore (Bosal)(Mechanical Hackamore- illegal) ( Bosal use for Junior horse only) and Western snaffle reins. Hands should be held at approximately the elbow height when elbows are held at rider's side and should be held no more than riders shoulder width apart. Rider's hands should be steady with very limited movement.
- b. English classes: English side saddle, dressage, hunt seat, all purpose or saddle seat saddle may be used. Crops or bats are optional. Bridles to be appropriate for each discipline. As per USEF Standards.
- c. Carriage classes: Carriage suitable to horse, appropriate harness and carriage bridle with blinders, side check and over check (if appropriate for breed).

## VII. HIGH POINT AWARDS

*To stimulate competition within all show events and to further encourage regular participation in these events, by the membership at large, individuals will be recognized for outstanding performance by the award of high point for the show year.*

1. All exhibitors must be members in good standing to be eligible for year-end awards and BEFORE their points will count towards year-end awards.
2. High Point awards shall be given at the first general membership meeting after completion of the show year OR the Awards Banquet usually held in January.
3. The same equine/exhibitor combination **must show in no less than four (4) shows in the same show year to qualify for a year-end award.**
  - a. In the event of the death or significant injury of the equine member of the combination, another equine may be substituted for the balance of the show year upon presentation of

written notification of the death or significant injury of the equine to the show chairman prior to the start of the first show in which the substituted equine will stand in the place of the deceased or injured equine. In such case, points earned by the deceased / injured equine and exhibitor combination prior to the substitution shall be applied to the substituted combination. Once a substitution has been made for the year it cannot be reverted.

b. In the event of the death or significant injury of the exhibitor member of the combination, another exhibitor may be substituted for the balance of the show year upon approval by the board or show chairman prior to the start of the first show in which the substitution is to occur. In such case, points earned by the deceased / injured equine and exhibitor combination prior to the substitution shall be applied to the substituted combination. Once a substitution has been made for the year it cannot be reverted.

4. All points are earned on the same equine/exhibitor combination. For a high point award in any class the same equine/exhibitor combination MUST compete in the subject class for at least 4 shows during the year. The year-end high point awards are determined by the total of the overall points earned in each qualifying class for the entire year. The exhibitor is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of all entry forms (name of handler and horse as it will appear in the published points) and the prompt correction thereof by notifying the individual in charge of recording the points if an error is discovered.

5. For all high point divisions to qualify the same equine/exhibitor combination **must be eligible to earn Class Year-End points** (see #1 through #4 under Section VII. High Point Awards) **for each of the “required” and /or “optional” classes as stated in the table below**. The year-end high point awards for each division are determined by the total of overall points earned for each “required” (qualifying) class and applicable optional classes for the entire year.

6. The classes offered may vary from year to year. The only classes eligible for year-end high point awards are listed with class numbers on the Show Premium.

7. The high point divisions offered may vary from year to year and will be posted at the show entry table.

the 2026 divisions along with the qualifying classes:(Participation in required classes

counts with or without points). **EXCEPTION: Effective 01/01/2026** Single horse classes will have a ribbon, but points will not be counted for Year End Awards, or High Point Award. It will have a participation acknowledgement for showing in that class at the designated show. Single horse class will not be counted in the Limited Driver status.

High Point Divisions	Qualifying Classes
English	<b>Required:</b> English Pleasure (Open), English Equitation, English Country Pleasure. <b>Optional:</b> none
Western	<b>Required:</b> Western Pleasure (Open), Western Equitation, Western Country Pleasure. <b>Optional:</b> none

Driving – Mini (Single)/Pony	<b>Required:</b> Driving – Mini (single), Gambler's Choice - Mini, Timed Cones – Mini, <b>Optional:</b> <b>one</b> Driving Stock Type <b>OR</b> Driving Pleasure Type
High Point Divisions	Qualifying Classes
Driving Mini Single/Pony Single	<b>Required:</b> If (3) or more ponies are in the Mini Class, the Class will be split and judged as 2 classes. Points for each class to qualify for year end award in this division.
Driving - Horse (Single)	<b>Required:</b> Driving – Horse (single), Gambler's Choice - Horse, Timed Cones – Horse, <b>Optional:</b> <b>one</b> Driving Stock Type <b>OR</b> Driving Pleasure Type
High Point Divisions	Qualifying Classes
Driving - Mule/Donkey (Single)	<b>Required:</b> Driving Mule/Donkey, <b>one</b> Gambler's Choice (by size: Mini, Pony, Horse), <b>one</b> Timed Cones (by size: Mini, Pony, Horse) <b>Optional:</b> <b>one</b> Driving Stock Type <b>OR</b> Driving Pleasure Type
Junior Driver	<b>Required:</b> Reinsmanship (17 & under), Juniors to Drive <b>Optional:</b> <b>One</b> of the Driving Classes (by size: Single Mini, Pony, Light Horse, Draft, or Mule/Donkey), <b>one</b> Gambler's Choice (by size: Mini, Pony, Horse), <b>one</b> Timed Cones (by size: Mini, Pony, Horse), <b>one</b> Driving Stock Type <b>OR</b> Driving Pleasure Type,
Adult Driver	<b>Required:</b> Reinsmanship (18 & over) and <b>one</b> of the Driving Classes (by size: Single Mini, Pony, Light Horse, Draft, or Mule/Donkey), <b>Optional:</b> <b>one</b> Gambler's Choice (by size: Mini, Pony, Horse), <b>one</b> Timed Cones (by size: Mini, Pony, Horse), <b>one</b> Driving Stock Type <b>OR</b> Driving Pleasure Type

## VIII. ACCOUNTING FOR YEAR END POINTS

Points shall be awarded for places 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> for all bona fide Saddle & Harness classes offered. Bona fide classes are those that require a judge or official and are regularly offered.

Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
9	10	8	7	6	5
8	9	7	6	5	4
7	8	6	5	4	3
6	7	5	4	3	2
5	6	4	3	2	1
4	5	3	2	1	X
3	4	2	1	X	X
2	3	1	X	X	X
1	2	X	X	X	X

## IX. REPORTING OF POINTS

All points earned shall be reported on a cumulative basis starting after the 4<sup>th</sup> show of the season. The cumulative results are to be made available via Facebook and the website (after 4 shows) and shall further be available for inspection by individual members at their request within a reasonable time of the request. The cumulative points will be posted 15 days after 4<sup>th</sup> show of the year. The following 3 shows will not post points. Each individual can request their points in each class after the 4<sup>th</sup> show by emailing the Saddle and Harness Gmail: [Saddleandharness16@gmail.com](mailto:Saddleandharness16@gmail.com). Cumulative points for other competitors will not be available to an individual.

Results ending in a tie will be processed as follows:

- 1) A tie occurs at end of year points tally.
- 2) Notification is made to the Board regarding tie(s).
- 3) Review and confirmation that there is a tie (verify membership and event attendance & points) 4)  
First tie breaker check is for how many shows each attended with or without points.
- 5) Second tie breaker- Review is done comparing required classes points.
- 6) Tie Breaker: If a tie then each competitor's number of 1<sup>st</sup> Places are compared. One with the most wins the tie. If there are equal 1<sup>st</sup> Places, then second places are compared and whoever has the most 2<sup>nd</sup> Place awards wins tie. After comparing 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards and still no tie breaker then there will be dual awards.

## X. DESCRIPTION OF SHOW CLASSES

*The following is a description of the classes being offered in 2026. Classes may be added or subtracted from the show premium year-to-year or run concurrently. If there is a class on the show premium that is not described below, see the Show Committee for rules.*

Any class may be entered as a schooling class by paying the appropriate entry fees and turning the entry number upside down during that class. Horses and riders entered as schooling only will **not** be judged.

<u>All Halter classes</u>	Enter per Judge's instructions. You should be asked to Walk, Trot and any other requirements from Judge. Then line up to be evaluated. Judging should be for the equine that best fits the ideal of its breed type, balance, muscling, capacity, soundness, and way of going. Note: any exhibitor (youth or adult) may be "assisted" in showing (i.e., trotting) an equine in a halter class. The exhibitor of record is the person who presents (stands) the equine for the judge. The assistant is to remain in show ring at the rail when not assisting.
Halter Weanlings – Open to all equines	Foals born in the current show year.
Halter Yearlings – Open to all equines	Starts with the first show of the year. Foals born during the previous show year.

Color Class	This class is intended for equine that do NOT have a solid color body or equine of a recognized color breed. Judged 80% on color and 20% on conformation. Enter according to judge's direction and line up for judging. Judge should <i>keep in mind</i> the equine that best fits the ideal of its breed type, balance, muscling, capacity, soundness, and way of going. May not cross enter between color and non-color classes.
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Non-Color Class	This class is intended for equine with a solid color body that is not of a recognized color breed. Judged 100% on conformation. Enter according to judge's direction and line up for judging. Judge should <i>keep in mind</i> the equine that best fits the ideal of its breed type, balance, muscling, capacity, soundness, and way of going. May not cross enter between color and non- color classes.
Halter Light Horse – Stock Type	Entries should be those equines with Stock horse type leg movement, such as that of a typical Quarter Horse, Appaloosa or Paint. May not cross enter between “stock” type and “pleasure” type.
Halter Light Horse – Pleasure Type	Entries should be those equines with an animated type of leg movement, such as that of a typical Arabian, Morgan, Saddlebred, Hackney or Andalusian. May not cross enter between “stock” type and “pleasure” type.
Halter Heavy Horse	Entries should be those equines from warmblood, Friesian or any draft cross lines.
Halter Draft Horse	Entries should be those equines from any recognized draft breed, such as Suffolk Punch, Clydesdale, Percheron, Shire, and Belgian.
Grand & Reserve Champion Halter	Free of charge to all equines who placed first or second in any Halter class at that show.
Showmanship – 17 & Under	Judged strictly on the exhibitor's ability to fit and show an equine at halter. The exhibitor should be poised, confident, neatly attired, leading a well groomed and conditioned equine that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision. This is to be judged 10% on the exhibitor's neatness and attire, 30% on fitting and grooming of the equine, and 60% on showmanship performance. The pattern will be posted the day prior to the show.
English Pleasure – Open	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. To be shown at a Walk, Trot, Canter in both directions, lineup, rein back.
English Pleasure – 17 & Under	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. To be shown at a Walk, Trot, Canter in both directions, lineup, rein back.

English Equitation – Open	Judged on the rider's ability. To be shown at a Walk, Trot, Canter in both directions, lineup, rein back.
English Country Pleasure – Open	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. All breeds - Walk and your favorite gait in both directions, lineup, rein back. Walk/Trot participants may <b><u>ONLY</u></b> Trot as favorite gait.
Walk/Trot English & Walk/Trot Western	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. All breeds - Walk and Trot /Jog. To be ridden English or Western according to the class entered. Note: Rider may NOT cross enter into Leadline or any riding class that requires three gaits. Equine may cross enter.
Leadline – one equine, one rider, and one adult; disabled riders may be accompanied by two adults Age: 2 yrs to 8 yrs	Walk only. Horse must wear saddle and bridle and <b>have a halter or cavesson underneath the bridle</b> . For safety reasons the equine is to be led by one adult (18 & over) holding a separate lead line, to be attached to the halter or cavesson. Riders <b>must have a properly secured and fitted helmet</b> as stated in Rule I. 17. Riders must be able to hold the reins and have their feet in the stirrups (Buddy stirrups will be allowed.). Riders (not leaders) may, at the Judge's discretion, be asked to <b>demonstrate control of their equine</b> . May be ridden English or Western. May not cross Enter with any other riding classes (Rider only). Once rider has entered a riding class they are no longer eligible for leadline.
Western Pleasure – Open	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. To be shown at a Walk, Jog, Lope in both directions, lineup, rein back.
Western Pleasure – 17 & Under	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. To be shown at a Walk, Jog, Lope in both directions, lineup, rein back.
Western Equitation – Open	Judged on the rider's ability. To be shown at a Walk, Jog, Lope in both directions, lineup, rein back.

Western Country Pleasure – Open	Judged on what a pleasure the equine seems to be to ride. All breeds - Walk and your favorite gait in both directions, lineup, rein back. Walk/Trot participants may <b><u>ONLY</u></b> Trot as favorite gait.
<u>Driving Classes</u>	To be shown both directions of the arena at a Walk, Slow Trot, Working Trot and Strong Trot (Trot On), lineup and rein back. Judged on 85% performance, manners, and way of going; 10% on condition and fit of harness and vehicle; and 5% on neatness of attire.
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Green – Open	Open to all equine for which the equine is showing in a driving class for their first or second year. <b>(consecutive years, at Saddle &amp; Harness Show)</b>

Driving Driver Only	Limited	Open to all equines for which the Driver only has not won more than 6 First Places in <u>any</u> Saddle & Harness Driving classes (not including First Places received when there was only 1 in the class). This class will be run as a Pleasure Driving Class. 1st place counts in 2 or more horse classes only.
Minis, Ponies, Light Horse, Draft Horse, Mule/Donkey – Open		Enter in your respective division.
Junior to Drive – 17 & under		It is recommended that all Junior Drivers have a competent adult groom. Junior Drivers 14 & under <b>must</b> have a competent adult groom. The judge has the discretion to require a competent adult groom for all juniors. A second set of lines may be held by the competent adult groom, but it must be clear to the judge that the junior is in control of the equine. A properly secured and fitted <b>helmet is required for all competitors in Junior classes.</b>
Driving Stock Type - Open		Walk, Slow Trot, Working Trot and Strong Trot (Trot On) in both directions, lineup and rein back. Entries should be those equines with Stock horse type leg movement, such as that of a typical Quarter Horse, Appaloosa, Paint or Multiples of these types. Most minis, drafts and donkeys fit in this category. May not cross enter between “stock” type and “pleasure” type.
Driving Pleasure Type – Open		Walk, Slow Trot, Working Trot and Strong Trot (Trot On) in both directions, lineup, and rein back. Entries should be those equines with an animated type of leg movement, such as that of a typical Arabian, Morgan, Saddlebred, Hackney, Andalusian or Multiples of these types. May not cross enter between “stock” type and “pleasure” type.
Driving- Single Horse 14.2 and over		Walk, Slow Trot, Working Trot and Strong Trot (Trot On) in both directions, lineup, and rein back. Entries can be those equines with an animated type of leg movement, such as that of a typical Arabian, Morgan, Saddlebred, Hackney, Andalusian or Multiples of these types. This class is open to draft and heavy horse types.
Reinsmanship Classes – Junior and Adult Classes		Walk, Slow Trot, Working Trot and Strong Trot (Trot On) in both directions, lineup, and rein back. Drivers should expect to be asked to do an individual work-off. To be judged 75% on handling of reins and whip control, posture and overall appearance of driver; 20% on performance; and 5% on the condition and fit of harness and vehicle and neatness of attire. A properly secured and fitted <b>helmet is required for all competitors in Junior classes.</b>
Costume Class – October only		Leadline rules apply to riders that would normally be leadline entrants. Costumes must not interfere with the ability to control the horse. Safety is paramount. A properly secured and fitted <b>helmet is required for all Junior competitors.</b>

Timed Cones – Open	Drivers are to negotiate a memorized course consisting of about ten sets of cones at the fastest Trot they can do. Enter according to the size of your equine. The driver with the fastest time is the winner. Five (5) seconds are added to the total time each time the driver knocks down a cone. If a driver and equine go off course, break into the canter three or more times or for three strides or more they are disqualified. In a multiple entry, a break into canter by any equine in the hitch shall be counted against the entire entry. The gates are to be driven in order. Once the entrant has passed through a gate – they may not return through it in either direction. If this is done it will be considered, off course and the exhibitor will be disqualified.
Gambler's Choice – Open	Drivers have 2 minutes to negotiate a trail course consisting of about six obstacles with differing amounts of points in any order. Each obstacle may be driven more than once, but not more than twice and not back-to-back. After an obstacle has been disturbed it is considered dead and may not be re-driven unless it was designed to be knocked down. After 2 minutes the ring steward sounds an alarm or bell and the driver must go through the finish line unless they are committed to an obstacle, in which case they may finish the obstacle (with the points from that obstacle to count) and then go to the finish line. Enter according to the size of your equine. Cantering or Loping is not permitted. In a multiple entry, a break into canter by any equine in the hitch shall be counted against the entire entry.

***UNsound horses will be excused. Effective February 1, 2025 Tennessee Walking Horses and racking horses will be subject to the new regulations under USDA, regarding Horse Safety.***

### Definition of Gaits

Walk - A flat-footed 4 beat gait in which each foot strikes the ground at a separate time. The feet fall in the sequence: (1) right fore, (2) left hind, (3) left fore, (4) right hind. The body of the horse is not lifted during the walk. There are always at least 2 feet on the ground.

Trot - A 2 beat diagonal gait in which the front foot and opposite hind foot strike the ground simultaneously. The rate of speed varies, as does the leg action; some breeds use a higher stepping action than others. The legs impart an upward swing to the body at this gait. The trot is used in English style classes and Driving classes.

- a. Slow Trot - a trot performed with smaller strides, less ground covering
- b. Working Trot - the medium speed trot at which most equines are most comfortable
- c. Strong Trot - an extended, more ground covering trot with larger strides (the announcer will call for it by saying, "trot on")

NOTE: A significant difference should be apparent between the Slow Trot, Working Trot and Strong Trot.

Jog - the same 2 beat diagonal gait as the Trot, but with less forward motion and less action. It is used in Western style classes.

Canter - a 3 beat gait in which two diagonal legs are paired, falling between the beats of the other two legs. The hind foot (say, in this case, the Left), makes the first beat, then the other hind foot (the Right) and the diagonal opposite forefoot (the Left) make the second beat simultaneously, and the last foot to fall

(beat number 3) is the Right fore. Then there is a pause when the equine has all feet clear of the ground to start the cycle over again. The weight should be primarily on his hindquarters. The canter can be done on the Right (explained above) or Left Lead. The Canter is asked for in English style classes.

Lope - the same as the Canter, but a more collected, less ground covering speed. The Lope is asked for in Western style classes.

Other Gaits - Gaited horses show at gaits in accordance with the specific breed standard.

## XI. MEMBERSHIP

1. There are 3 types of Memberships, and each will receive banquet tickets for the Year-End Membership and Awards Banquet held in January, following the end of the show year. The following are the membership types:
  - a) Single Adult Membership, fee is \$35.
  - b) Single Youth Membership (under 18 years of age), fee is \$20.
  - c) Family Membership, fee is \$50
2. A family membership consists of all persons residing at the same address as listed by *full* name on the membership form, up to a limit of 5, which consists head of household or married couple and any other persons up to age 17 years. After reaching the age of 18 a youth membership is required.
3. The membership year is from January 1 through December 31. There is no pro-rating of memberships.
4. Proof of membership may be required at the time of show entry.
5. Returned checks will incur an additional \$50.00 charge.

## XII. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Saddle & Harness Association, Inc. holds quarterly Board meetings and an annual General meeting. Quarterly meetings are closed to members. Annual meeting is open to all members.

1. The following positions shall be officers: President, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. The following positions shall be the advisory committees: Show Chairman, Assistant Show Chairman, Membership/Sponsorship Chair, Newsletter Chair, Hospitality Chair, Historian, Advertising Chair, City Liaison Chair, Web Site Chair, Show Points Chair and immediate past President.
3. In matters of an urgent nature, where the entire board cannot be convened to vote, the vote of the officers shall be sufficient to act. In all matters, it is preferable to have the vote of the directors.
4. These rules are to be amended only once per year, *provided however*, that the board shall have the discretion to implement safety rules at any time the board shall, by the vote of 66% of the board, deem reasonable and necessary.
5. An annual election of Directors shall be held at the December Board and General Meeting. The new board members shall be installed at the annual banquet.