

## Egg and Spoon

The exhibitors are given 1 egg and 1 spoon each (preferably hard boiled eggs will be used.) Regular silverware, either all teaspoons or all tablespoons, should be used. Plastic spoons and silverware shall not be mixed). After everyone has received an egg and spoon the riders must proceed at a walk around the ring. It is permissible to hold the egg in place with the thumb until everyone has entered the ring and the judge gives the word for the class to begin. The exhibitors must then hold the spoon by the handle at least one inch from the bowl, and not touch the egg with the thumb or fingers. Touching the egg with any part of the body after the class begins shall result in disqualification.

The exhibitors will be asked to walk, trot and canter their mounts. If any exhibitors have their eggs after working both directions in the ring, the judge may ask for more intricate maneuvers such as stopping, riding with the feet out of the stirrups, backing up or reverse at the trot. Leads not to count unless specified to count by the judge. Any exhibitor not riding at the gait requested by the judge will be eliminated. As exhibitors lose their eggs they will be eliminated. The last to drop the egg is first; the next to last, second, etc.

Revised 2017

# Delaware 4-H Horse Show Rulebook



Cooperative Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE &  
NATURAL RESOURCES

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Revised 2017

Dear Parents and 4-H Exhibitors,

When participating in horse show competition, your children need your whole-hearted support and encouragement. In these events, your children are competing with others their own age. Be sure you do not put them in a position where their fellow competitors will resent their winning because of direct assistance from you.

Good sportsmanship and horsemanship is expected of all exhibitors at all times. Helmets must be worn whenever mounted or driving. If the show committee feels that at any time a rider or their equipment is unsafe, they may dismiss such participants from the show ring.

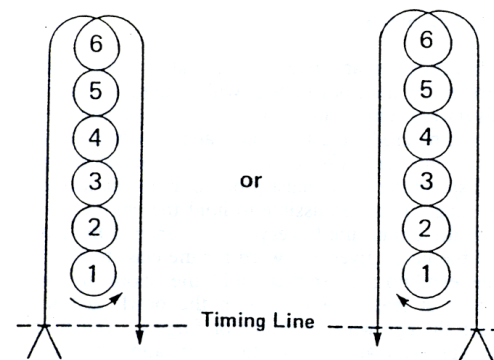
All participants are required to enter and show in Fitting and Showmanship. Exhibitors are expected to show either English or Western in the appropriate age division.

Exhibitors going off pattern, knocking over or on the wrong side of a cone, never performing specified gait, or overturning more than a quarter turn than designated shall not be disqualified but must always place below exhibitors who incur none of these errors.

This book takes precedence of all previously published rules and will govern all Delaware State and County 4-H Horse Shows. With minor exceptions, the rules described herein follow those adopted by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and the American Quarter Horse Association. Any rule not stated in this book will be regulated by rules described by the above organizations.

Classes other than the ones described in this book may be included in the prize list of any 4-H horse show. Additional classes should conform to the rules of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) or the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA).

Revised 2017



Elimination of a competitor will result if a pole is knocked or if the rider touches poles with their hands. Riders may use both hands to steer their horse. A free hand may be held in any position (for example-on the saddle horn).

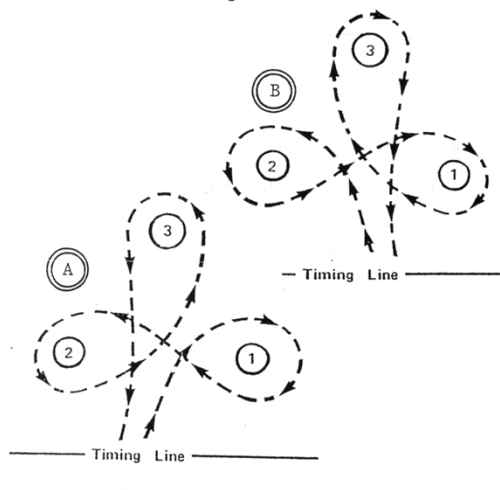
### **Game Classes**

Game classes are fun but remember safety, good sportsmanship and horsemanship should always be considered. All riders must wear a ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with a chin harness. There are many variations of game classes. Here are a few guidelines.

### **Dollar Bareback**

Each exhibitor must ride bareback, without a training saddle, blanket, etc. Horses should be wearing a bridle, no halters and leads. Upon entering the ring the judge places a piece of paper (approximately 3"x5") or a dollar bill under the riders leg between the knee and the buttocks. The horses are then worked at a walk, trot and canter in both directions of the ring. Any rider not performing the gaits asked by the judge in amount of time is eliminated.

As exhibitors lose their paper they are eliminated. The last to lose the paper or dollar is first, next to last second, etc.



Counterclockwise circle barrel 1 clockwise, circle barrel 3 clockwise, and cross the timing line.

## Pole Bending

Six poles shall be placed 21' apart (18'-21' if competition is restricted to ponies) in a straight line down the approximate center of the ring. Place the first pole 21 feet from the timing line. The timing line should be 30' wide.

The entry shall cross the timing line, move in an approximately straight line to pole 6 (farthest pole), make a 180 degree turn around pole 6, pass between pole 6 and pole 5, continue to bend through the poles to pole 1, circle pole 1, bend through the poles to pole 6, make a 180 degree turn around pole 6 and cross the timing line, by moving along the poles on the opposite side which on pole 6 was first approached,

## Exhibitors

Exhibitors must be at least 8 years of age, but not yet passed their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 1st of the current year. Junior exhibitors are 13 and under, and Seniors are 14 and over as of January 1st. Cloverbuds must be 5 and not older than 7 as of January 1 of the current year. All participants must be bona fide 4-H club members from the Delmarva Peninsula in good standing as of the date provided in the show program and be able to present some form of 4-H identification. Delaware 4-H members must have been enrolled by March 1 of the current year.

Exhibitors are reminded that all of the principles set forth by 4-H should be foremost in mind while taking part in 4-H horse events. Politeness, good sportsmanship, and common courtesy is to be extended to other competitors, judges and other show officials at all times.

Riders will wear conservative, well-coordinated clothing. Special clothing is not given preference over informal clothing. Guidelines are given for each seat.

The exhibitor is responsible for having their equipment in good repair. All tack is to be clean and safe. All tack is to fit the horse and rider properly. Fancy tack is not to be given preference.

If an exhibitor questions the placing of a class, he/she should make his/her protest to the steward(s) and ringmaster of the show committee in a diplomatic manner. The judge is not to be questioned on his/her placings while judging or about to judge.

## Animals

1. All horses and ponies must be sound to show. Unsound horses will be dismissed from the ring.
2. Exhibitors will show their project animal which may be of any breed or combination of breeds the 4-H'er chooses.
3. Ponies are those animals 14.2 hands and under. Registered animals 14.2 hands and under (i.e. Arabs, Morgans, Quarter Horses, etc.) may be shown as horses or ponies.

No cross entries will be permitted. Animals of questionable height will be measured by the show steward or designated official.

4. Stallions (after their yearling year) may not be shown in 4-H classes.

## Safety Precautions

1. To minimize the risk of injury to yourself and others, please walk in hand or ride your horse or pony at a walk, except when in the ring or designated schooling area.
2. Hard Hats -At any 4-H horse event, all riders are required to wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat (so stamped on the inside) with a chin harness properly fastened whenever mounted or driving.

**English** riders must wear an ASTM/SEI hard hat whenever mounted. This includes game classes and gymkhana events as well as formal classes.

**Western** and **saddle seat** riders must wear an ASTM/SEI hard hat in whenever mounted instead of western hats or saddle seat derbies. In the interest of safety, there is no penalty at a 4-H horse show for riders wearing protective headgear in lieu of traditional hats. Western and saddle seat riders must wear approved hardhats in game classes and gymkhana events.

**4-H members and passengers in driving classes** are also required to wear an ASTM/SEI hard hat whenever in a horse drawn vehicle.

## Judges

The 4-H horse show judge must evaluate each class in conformity with the rules specified in this book. Any question on policy not covered by specific rules in this book shall be governed by the current USEF or AQHA rule book.

In any class placing, the judge's decision will be final. The judge(s) may give oral reasons (not to exceed four minutes

and a working trot which is extended). Will also be asked to stand quietly and back readily.

## Command Class

Open to all entries, english and western. This is an elimination contest where any entry not executing the judge's exact commands promptly and correctly will be eliminated. Spotters may be used by the judge when the class exceeds more than six (6) entries. When class is reduced to the final six (6) entries, all spotters and eliminated entries will be excused by the judge. Judge may stand outside the ring to judge this class.

## Gymkhana Classes

Classes are open to all entries, English and western. Before starting any course, the rider must be inside the ring with the gate closed and receive recognition from the judge to start.

### Clover-leaf Barrel Race

A course consists of the three barrels spread in a pattern to fit the arena when the regulation distances cannot be used. Barrels should be 15'-20' away from the fence so horses turn around the barrel, not at the fence. There are three standard patterns that could be used. Measurements are to be made to the center of the base of the barrel.

Pattern #1—Three barrels shall be placed to form an equilateral triangle with sides of 75' each, with barrels 1 and 2 each 30' from the starting line.

Pattern #2— Three barrels shall be placed to form an isosceles triangle. The distance from barrel 1 to barrel 2 shall be 90'; the distance from barrel 1 to barrel 3 shall be 105'; the distance from barrel 2 to barrel 3 shall be 105'; the distance from barrels 1 and 2 to the timing line shall be 60'

Special emphasis shall be placed on the walk. Rail work may be eliminated if all three gaits are called for in the trail pattern. Trail patterns will be posted by the show committee one hour before the class begins.

Entries shall be judged on performance, manners and suitability in that order and on neatness and cleanliness of horse or pony, tack and rider. Horses should be responsive to the rider and demonstrate a quiet way of going. Every exhibitor will be allowed three attempts to pass each obstacle and will then be signaled on to the next obstacle.

Exhibitors will negotiate a variety of obstacles that may be encountered along a trail. Horses must be ridden with a saddle. Obstacles may include but will not be limited to the following...

- Opening, passing through and closing a gate without losing control of the horse or gate
- Riding through water, over logs, over a bridge, and/or through simulated brush.
- Carrying objects from one part of the ring to another.
- Entering, mounted, into a (dead end) stall and backing out.
- Opening and closing a mailbox.
- Jumping low obstacles
- Mounting and dismounting from either side.

### **Open Pleasure Driving**

Open to all entries. Drivers and passengers must wear and ASTM/SEI approved hard hat whenever in vehicle. Additional rider over the age of 14 is permitted. Horse/pony must be shown to a suitable, pleasure type 2 or 4 wheel, one horse vehicle. To be shown both ways of the ring. Will be asked for a walk, two trots (a collected trot which is slow

per class) on the ribbon winners of each class. 4-H is a learning experience and this enhances the educational value of the show ring for 4-H'ers, as well as for people in the audience. The State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee has published a pattern book that will be utilized for the State 4-H Horse Show.

### **Stewards**

The steward is responsible for making impartial decisions independent of the show committee or the judging of the show. He/She is to point out in a diplomatic manner any instance where the rules are not enforced. He/She should not dictate to the judges or the show committee, but should immediately report to the chairperson of the show committee any violations of the rules which might invalidate a class. A steward is to keep him/herself available to judges, exhibitors, and the show committee at all times to clarify the application of State 4-H Horse Show Rules, and investigate any situation where the rules are not upheld.

The other duties of the steward include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Verify the enforcement of the state show rules.
2. Protect interests of exhibitors, judges and the show committee.
3. Report to the stewards any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a protest.
4. Measure any animal to determine horse or pony status. For the purpose of 4-H classes, a pony is any animal 14.2 hands and under.
5. Supervise and record "time out" -a limit of 7 minutes,

in the event of a horse casting a shoe or breakage of equipment—if an official timer or judge is not available. No animal shall be permitted more than one such time out per class.

6. Report to the show committee, through its chairperson, any offense or violation of the rules committed by an exhibitor, judge or official.

## **Show Committee**

1. The show committee is responsible for the operation of the show. It shall be the duty of this committee to enforce all rules as set forth in this rule book. The show program should contain the list of show officials for the event.
2. The show committee will determine the course for any class that is not clearly defined in this rule book. The course should be posted at least one hour before the scheduled time of the class.
3. The show committee will determine the order of "go" in individual performance classes.
4. The show committee will eliminate, without waiting for a protest to be made, any improper entry of a horse or rider.
5. The show committee reserves the right to split classes into junior and senior sections and/or horse and pony sections. English classes may be split into hunt seat and saddle seat.
6. The show committee may add additional classes (other than the ones described in this book) to the prize list of any 4-H horse show. The criteria for judging and rules for the class should be clearly specified.

## **4-H Fitting and Showmanship**

The purpose of the 4-H Horse Fitting and Showmanship program is to encourage members to fit and show their animals properly, and to maintain high standards of horse management and responsibility toward their project.

All 4-H horse project members should demonstrate their ability to fit and show their horse properly. At horse shows, exhibitors should plan to show in a Fitting and Showmanship class. Participants at the State 4-H Horse Show are required to enter in Fitting and Showmanship and are expected to show either English or Western in the

## **English Hack**

Open to hunt and saddle seat riders. To be shown at walk, trot, canter, hand gallop, to back easily, and possibly over a low jump at the judge's discretion (to be specified in show prize list). No more than eight horses shall hand gallop at once. Excessive speed will be penalized. Horses and ponies will be judged on performance, manners and suitability to purpose.

Horses should work in a comfortable manner, being alert and responsive to the rider's aids. Horses will be penalized for showing resistance to the rider.

## **Pleasure Horse Over Fences**

Open to hunt seat riders. To be shown over a minimum of eight obstacles or fences. Ponies jump eighteen (18 ") inches, horses jump twenty-four (24") inches. To be judged on willingness and ability to jump with emphasis on manners. The fall of a horse or rider eliminates a contender and so should 3 refusals.

Each contestant may circle once if desired before approaching first jump. The rider shall then proceed around course keeping an even pace throughout.

## **Hunter over Fences**

To be shown over a minimum of eight obstacles or fences. Ponies will jump eighteen (18") inches and horses will jump twenty-four (24") inches. To be judged on performance, manners, suitability and soundness in this order. Three cumulative refusals eliminate the entry. The fall of a horse or rider eliminates a contender and so should 3 refusals.

Each contestant may circle once if desired before approaching first jump. The rider shall then proceed around course keeping an even pace throughout.

## **Miscellaneous Classes**

### **Trail Class**

To be shown at a walk, jog/trot, and/or lope/canter.



### Saddle Seat

- A. Saddle suit (jodphurs and jacket of conservative color).
- B. Shirt and tie.
- C. Jodphur or paddock boots.
- D. ASTM/SEI hard hat
- E. Flat saddle.
- F. Full bridle or pelham bridle.
- G. Whips, blunt spurs are optional.
- H. Not allowed -forward seat (hunter type) saddles, martingales.
- I. Not to affect judges decision –extended feet, weighted shoes.

### English Equitation

Open to hunt and saddle seat riders. The rider and not the horse is being judged. Riders will be judged on the position and use of their seat, hands and legs. Judges will also consider the general performance of the horse as it reflects the riding skill of the exhibitor.

Riders will work both ways of the ring at a walk, trot, and canter. The order to reverse may be executed either toward or away from the rail. The rider may be asked to dismount and mount, and may be asked to execute any appropriate test the judge feels will test the rider's ability. The same test shall be required of all riders chosen for additional performance.

### English Pleasure

Open to horses or ponies of any breed or combination of breeds normally used for pleasure. Entries will be judged 85% on manners and performance of the animal and 15% on neatness and cleanliness of horse or pony, tack and rider. To be judged on suitability of horse or pony to rider, and ability of horse or pony to give a safe and comfortable ride.

To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, trot and canter on a reasonably loose rein without loss of contact. Horses may be asked to back. The horse must be easy to handle, fluid in motion, and must not show undesirable mannerisms.

appropriate age division.

It must be remembered that it is the exhibitor's effort and work which are judged in Fitting and Showmanship classes. The breed, type, and conformation of the horse are not being judged.

Some 4-H horse project members do not take their horses to 4-H shows. Instructions on fitting and showmanship are as valuable to these members as to the members who regularly participate in horse shows. Competence in fitting and showmanship greatly adds to the member's pride of owning a horse or pony. Whether a club member exhibits his horse "in hand" competing for ribbons at a show, or exhibits his horse in the yard for his leader, friends, relatives or a prospective buyer, the principles are the same.

Please see the next page for the 4-H Fitting and Showmanship scorecard.

## Guideline for 4-H Fitting and Showmanship Contests

	Points
A. Appearance of Animal	40
1. Condition	15
2. Grooming	15
3. Trimming and Braiding	5
4. Tack	5
B. Appearance of Exhibitor	10
C. Showing Animal in the Ring	50
1. Leading	15
2. Posing	15
3. Showing Animal to Best Advantage	10
4. Poise, Alertness & Attitude	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

rider. To be judged on suitability of horse or pony to rider, and ability to give a safe and comfortable ride.

To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, jog and lope on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint. Horses may be asked to back. A true pleasure horse is light-mounted and ridden with a reasonably loose (but not sloppy) rein. The horse must be easy to handle, smooth gaited, and must not show undesirable mannerisms.

### Working Western

This class will be judged on the performance of the horse or pony at the rail and in a prescribed pattern. Horses will work both directions of the ring and perform individually at the direction of the judge. Entries will be required to work a figure eight. (No roll back or sliding stops.) Judge will post the pattern well in advance of the class.

Horses should work the pattern in a comfortable manner, being responsive to the rider's aids. Horses will be penalized for showing resistance to the rider.

## ENGLISH CLASSES

### Appointments:

Hunter Seat

- A. Riding Breeches or Jodphurs.
- B. Hunt Boots, paddock or jodphur boots.
- C. Appropriate hunter style show shirt.
- D. Riding Coat– may be excused.
- E. Hard Hat -ASTM-SEI approved.
- F. English or forward seat saddle.
- G. English bridle with snaffle, kimberwick or pelham bit.
- H. Martingales are prohibited in all flat classes.
- I. Crops and blunt spurs are optional.



## WESTERN CLASSES

### Appointments:

- A. Conservative western pants and shirts  
Optional clothing -vest, jacket, tie, chaps
- B. Western boots
- C. Spurs are optional -rowels must be blunt and turn freely.
- D. Riders must wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat.
- E. Western or Stock Saddle with a blanket or pad -The saddle should fit the rider. It may have a slick or swelled fork, have a high or low cantle.
- F. Western-type Bridle -use a western curb bit or shank snaffle with a 112 " flat chain or leather strap for all horses 5 and over. Animals 4 & under may be shown in a curb or shank snaffle with the reins in one hand or they may be shown in a D ring, egg but, or ring snaffle bit or in a rawhide bosal with two hands. No mechanical hackamores, tie downs, or martingales permitted.

### Western Horsemanship

This is an equitation class. The rider and not the horse is being judged. Riders will be judged on the position and use of their seat, hands and legs. Judges will also consider the general performance of the horse as it reflects the riding skill of the exhibitor.

Riders will work both ways of the ring at a walk, jog, and lope. The rider may be asked to dismount and mount, and may be asked to execute any appropriate test the judge feels will test the rider's ability. The same test shall be required of all riders chosen for additional performance.

### Western Pleasure

Open to horses or ponies of any breed or combination of breeds normally used for pleasure. Entries will be judged 85% on manners and performance of the animal and 15% on neatness and cleanliness of horse or pony, tack and

## Explanation of Items on 4-H Fitting and Showmanship Guideline

### A. Appearance of Animal - 40 points

#### 1. Condition -15 points

- a. Condition is the result of proper care in feeding and exercise. The condition of a horse is determined by the amount of flesh, as well as the quality of the hair coat and muscle tone. The coat should be smooth and soft to touch, muscles hard and firm, and sufficient flesh to keep the ribs covered but not so much that the animal "rolls in fat".

The animal must not show evidence of lameness or impairment of wind to such a degree that its health and welfare would be endangered when given light work or put to its intended use. Any recent injury shall not be penalized provided it shows signs of being cared for properly.

#### 2. Grooming - 15 points

- a. A clean, well-groomed horse is a healthy horse. The coat should be perfectly clean and free from stains and sweat marks. The eyes, nostrils, lips, inside of ears, dock and underneath the elbows should be clean. The part of the neck under the mane should be free from dandruff.
- b. Thoroughly cleaning manes and tails from the roots outward often prevents rubbing and always adds beauty to the horse. Manes and tails should be free of dust, grease and dandruff, and each hair should hang separately without tangles.
- c. Hooves must show ample evidence of good care by the exhibitor. They should be clean and indicate proper care of sole and frog. Hooves long overdue for shoeing should be penalized. Hoof dressing and blacking may be used, but careless and untidy application will be penalized.

### 3. Trimming and Braiding - 5 points

- a. The interior of the ears may be clipped, but no penalty shall result from unclipped ears provided excess or protruding hairs have been removed. The head should be made as attractive as possible by trimming excess or long hairs with special emphasis under the jaw and in the "bridle-path" area. Clipped areas will appear smoother if trimming is done 3-4 days prior to a show. Trim according to breed or type resemblance.
- b. It is better to eliminate braiding if the final result is not neat. If braiding is to be done, it should be of the type fitting the horse, i.e., a hunter is to be braided in the accepted hunter fashion, a gaited horse with the accepted braids in the mane and foretop. Western riders should use the same neatness principle if banding manes. Banding is optional.

### 4. Tack - 5 points

- a. Western horses shall be shown in well fitted halters with a lead of proper length to insure safe handling. Chain shanks may be used in a humane manner but never through the mouth.
- b. All English horses are to be shown in a properly fitted bridle with a bit. If using a pelham or full bridle use the curb rein only; the snaffle rein should be removed. No breed exceptions.
- c. To protect the mouth for future biting, weanlings may be shown in well fitted halters. Yearlings may be shown in halter or bridle.

Trot Trail classes will follow the scoring of the Open Trail classes.

This class will follow the rules of Open Trail with the following differences:

1. Eliminate any reference to canter/lope
2. Obstacle and course design should be a lower degree of difficulty
3. Required obstacles remain the same except riders will be required to walk through and opened gate but not open or close the gate.
4. Additions to unacceptable obstacles:
  - a. Sidepass
  - b. Raised logs
  - c. Put on or remove slicker
  - d. Carrying objects

### **Walk Trot Pleasure (English or Western Any Age)**

In this class, the horse is to be judged on performance, manners, conformation, soundness, and suitability to purpose. Clothing and equipment requirements will follow that of the Western, Hunt Seat and Saddle Seat divisions.

Exhibitors will be required to walk and trot on the rail both directions of the ring. Exhibitors may be asked to back.

hind leg which drops his hip. This should be corrected immediately.

- f. Show your animal at all times, not yourself. Be careful not to "overshow" your animal. Excessive fussing may upset the animal and try the patience of the judge. Pushing and tugging should be avoided.

### **WALK/TROT CLASSES**

This division is intended for the beginner/novice rider who is not yet ready to canter or lope in a horse show setting. The Spirit of the division is to provide safe opportunities for beginner/novice riders. Classes will be limited to walk/jog only. Eligibility for this division is limited to riders that have not cantered in a show setting and for riders that are new to showing.

The member and their parent/guardian are responsible to determine if this division is appropriate based on the member's ability and show history. Parents/guardians are encouraged to seek appropriate professional guidance in making this decision. The size and temperament of the horse should be appropriate for the rider. If show officials feel it is unsafe, a rider/horse will be dismissed from the ring.

### **Walk-Trot Horsemanship/Equitation**

This class is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to control the horse and execute maneuvers. Clothing and equipment requirements will follow that of the Hunt Seat, Western or Saddle Seat divisions.

Exhibitors will be required to walk and trot on the rail both directions of the ring. Patterns/tests are optional and should be lower degree of difficulty. If patterns are used, they may be performed before or after the rail work.

### **Walk/Trot Trail Class (English or Western Any Age)**

Class will be judged on the performance of the horse/pony over obstacles with emphasis on manners, response of the rider and quality of movement. Judging and scoring of Walk/

### **B. Appearance of Exhibitor - 10 points**

All styles of riding clothes are permitted, but they must be suitable to the type of horse being exhibited. Emphasis will be placed on cleanliness and neatness. Boots with a heel appropriate to the style of riding are required and should be clean. The exhibitor's hands and face should be clean and the hair neatly arranged. Gum chewing is unsafe and will not be permitted.

### **C. Showing Your Animal in the Ring - 50 points**

Once a horse has been properly prepared for the ring, the exhibitor must show the animal to its best advantage, in a safe manner, to both the judge and his fellow exhibitors.

#### **1. Leading -15 points**

- a. Walk on the animal's left side near the shoulder, not in front of the head. The right hand controls the horse and should be four to twelve inches from the bit or halter depending on the ease with which the horse can be controlled. The remainder of the reins or lead should be carried in the left hand. It is an unsafe practice to wrap the reins or lead around the hand; therefore, it will be penalized.
- b. Enter and circle the ring counter-clockwise allowing the judge to view both the exhibitor and his horse. Using this direction prevents the exhibitor from being pinned against the fence. When leading around the ring, stay at least one length in back of the horse in front of you. If this becomes difficult, you may pass a slower animal without being penalized. You will make the best impression if you keep your horse or pony at an alert walk.
- c. The animal should lead readily at the walk and trot. This should be done briskly as the judge directs, with the animal's head carried at a

height appropriate to the type or use of the horse.

- d. The judge in a Grooming and Showmanship Class will not be interested in whether the horse uses its legs and feet correctly, but will be interested in how well the exhibitor places and moves the horse so that these things can be seen.
- e. When working individually, unless otherwise directed by the judge, the animal should be brought to within about 10 feet of the judge, turned and moved on a straight line away from and back to him. Allow enough distance so that the judge can easily see what he is looking for and so that the animal has enough space to perform smoothly.
- f. When making a turn, the horse should pivot or walk in a comfortable clockwise direction. The exhibitor should always walk around the horse. If asked to trot back to the judged, be sure the turn is completed before the animal starts to trot.
- g. For the sake of safety to the exhibitor and his animal, and the safety of others in the ring, as well as good sportsmanship and courtesy, crowding should always be avoided. When standing side by side, give yourself and your fellow exhibitor sufficient space to take care of emergencies. While walking or lined up in a head-to-tail position, maintain at least one length (approximately 10 feet) between your horse's head and the horse in front.
- h. When changing position in line:
  - 1) Lead animal straight forward far enough so as not to disturb the horse on either side of you before making a turn.
  - 2) Return to the line by moving around the end of the line and leading forward either to your

original position or to the place directed by the judge. Try to avoid cutting through a line.

3) Avoid leading your animal between the judge and the animal he is observing.

## 2. Posing

- a. Exhibitors will pose their animal according to the horse's type and use. The exhibitor should be in a position to see all four legs and the head of the horse and at the same time glance at the judge wherever he may be. Thus, the safe and correct areas for the showman are on either side but not directly in front of the animal. In this position, the exhibitor will be able to see and correct immediately undesirable movements or positions of the feet or legs of the animal.
- b. The exhibitor will be expected to move from side to side as the judge moves about your horse. You should never stand between the judge and your animal. Always give the judge an unobstructed view of your horse or pony.
- c. When posing your animal, do most of the showing with the reins or lead. Never kick your horse's legs into position. Proper use of hands or voice is accepted. Your horse or pony should be trained to stand quietly and properly before the show. You should never punish your animal in the show ring.
- d. If you are asked to pose your horse during an individual workout, stop about 10 feet away from him and pose the animal so the judge has a 3/4 side view. Always keep in mind the slope of the ground and the correct way of turning. Always pose your animal as quickly as possible without undue fussing. Keep your horse in position until the judge has excused you.
- e. The horse should be alert and stand squarely on all four feet. Many horses will attempt to rest a