



## Show Manager Guide

**Purpose:** To create a helpful guide for all show managers, to include roles and responsibilities, timeline, class list suggestion, facility requirements, etc.

This guide contains some excerpts from the Gypsy Vanner Horse Society show rules. The show manager should become familiar with all the show rules contained herein, and in the full set of rules which can be found on the GVHS website or you can request a copy be emailed to you.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

**Show Manager** is the overall director of the show from the day of initial preparation to the final wrap-up meeting. The person filling this position should be a well-organized self-starter who is friendly, diplomatic and able to delegate.

**Show Secretary** is as important to a well-run show as the organizer. The two are partners, the organizer dealing with the overall organizational responsibilities and the secretary dealing with specific duties, such as correspondence, records, entries and communications within the show personnel.

**Ring Steward** is someone who works closely with show management and the judges, guiding exhibitors to proper positions in a halter class or walking around the set-up in a showmanship class. Ring stewards have control over the arena and the safety of exhibitors inside it.

**Announcer** keeps the show moving and needs to be comfortable with a microphone and GVHS procedures. It will help the announcer to see a list of competitors and horses before the show to familiarize themselves with the names and find out how to pronounce unusual ones. They announce the competitors as they enter as well as placings and gratitude for sponsors, lunch breaks, etc.

**No Competition Officials (as defined in GVHS show rules A.4. #4) or Competition Staff (as defined in GVHS show rules A.4#3)** or member of the Competition Officials' family, Competition Staff's family, judge's family, nor any cohabitant, companion domestic partner, housemate, or member of Officials, Staff's or judge's household nor any of the Officials, Staff's or judge's clients, employer or employees or employers of a member of the Officials, Staff's or judge's family may compete as trainer, coach, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, owner, lessor, or lessee unless the relationship is terminated **(180 days) effective July 1, 2024** prior to the competition.

No Competition Officials, or Competition Staff's or judge's trainer nor any of the Competition Officials, Competition Staff's or judge's trainer's clients may compete as trainer, coach, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, owner, lessee, or lessor in any class unless the relationship is terminated **(180 days) effective July 1, 2024** prior to competition.

No horses trained or owned by a Competition Official, Competition Staff member or judge, or the Official's, Staff Members or judge's family may compete in any class unless the relationship is terminated **(180 days) effective July 1, 2024** prior to competition.



## Show Manager Guide

### Important requirements of a GVHS points approved show:

- **NEW STARTING 2023:** The GVHS has added an Amateur Owner Exhibitor division. There are AOE classes that must be included at a show in order to be approved for points. See the GVHS Points Show rules document for that list.
- No youth may show a stallion in any class, for any reason
- Youth and amateur classes may only be combined in a performance class if there is only a single youth entry in that class. **Cannot be combined** in a halter class or if more than one youth in a performance class.
- **Horses may not** cross enter between WT/WJ and WTC/WJL in the same division (as an example, A horse **may** show WTC/WJL division with one rider in the open division and then show in the WT/WJ amateur or youth division with a different rider)
- A youth is considered any individual who has not reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday as of Jan 1<sup>st</sup> of the show year. Once they turn 18 during their last year as a youth they will still be considered a youth for the remainder of that calendar year and will still be held to all rules and regulations therein.
- The GVHS will allow up to two judges per show. A show can choose to have more than two judges if they wish but only the points from two of those judges will be counted for points. If a show manager chooses to have more than two judges they need to notify the GVHS office which two judges will be the point judges when the show request form is sent in.
- Shows are to use GVHS carded judges. There may be an exception for a new show that is in conjunction with another breed in order to get the new show established. Each is considered on an individual basis, and not considered a precedent set. Contact the GVHS to discuss this if it applies to your new show.
- A non-carded judged will not be approved for GVHS points as a second judge.
- Shows with two judges **must** announce both judges placings and place horses separately. Placings shall not be combined.
- The GVHS will provide the show manager for all approved shows a template to submit all placings from the show to count towards GVHS Points. This form **must** be used in order for points to count and **must** be submitted no later than 14 days after the close of the show. Correct registered name and number of the horse must be recorded.
- Only 5 GVHS approved point shows will be approved per state in a show year.
- A GVHS show year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> through the National Show in November. No shows will be approved after the National show.
- A show manager must provide or post the detail show results for all exhibitors. The GVHS will not provide this information to the exhibitors.
- If an exhibitor is banned by a show manager for cause, either temporary or permanent, the show manager must notify the GVHS in writing, provide the reason, and the proof for their action.



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- All shows requesting show approval from the GVHS will abide by the following when naming the horse show event. The GVHS encourages the use of the breed name, Gypsy Vanner, for your show, but no show is to include the word(s) Vanner Nationals(s), Vanner World, Vanner International or combinations there of without the approval of the GVHS.
- Notify the GVHS annually of the address where magazines, banners or other materials can be shipped well in advance of the show.
- A Show may be eligible to receive sponsorship. Notify the GVHS of the contact person and address annually.
- The GVHS reserves the right to decline recognition of a show for points. Some of the reasons may be: request sent in too late; low entry each year, not enough point classes; location or date conflicts with another event/show; already the limit of classes in the state; negative feedback on show management.

### Presentation at Halter

The pattern for halter classes **will be designated by show management** one hour prior to the show. During the pattern, horses may be required to be presented at a walk and trot. Exception: Some Specialty Classes such as color Classes, Grooming & Conditioning, lead line, and In Hand Costume are not required to trot.

**Pattern One:** Pattern One: Horses will walk straight to the judge one at a time then turn right and continue walking to the rail. At the rail, turn left and pick up the trot. Turn left and continue trotting, starting to show more extension in the trot. On final turn, the horse should be showing the full extension of their trot to the best of the handler's ability. The ring steward will then direct to the line up. (See Diagram next page).

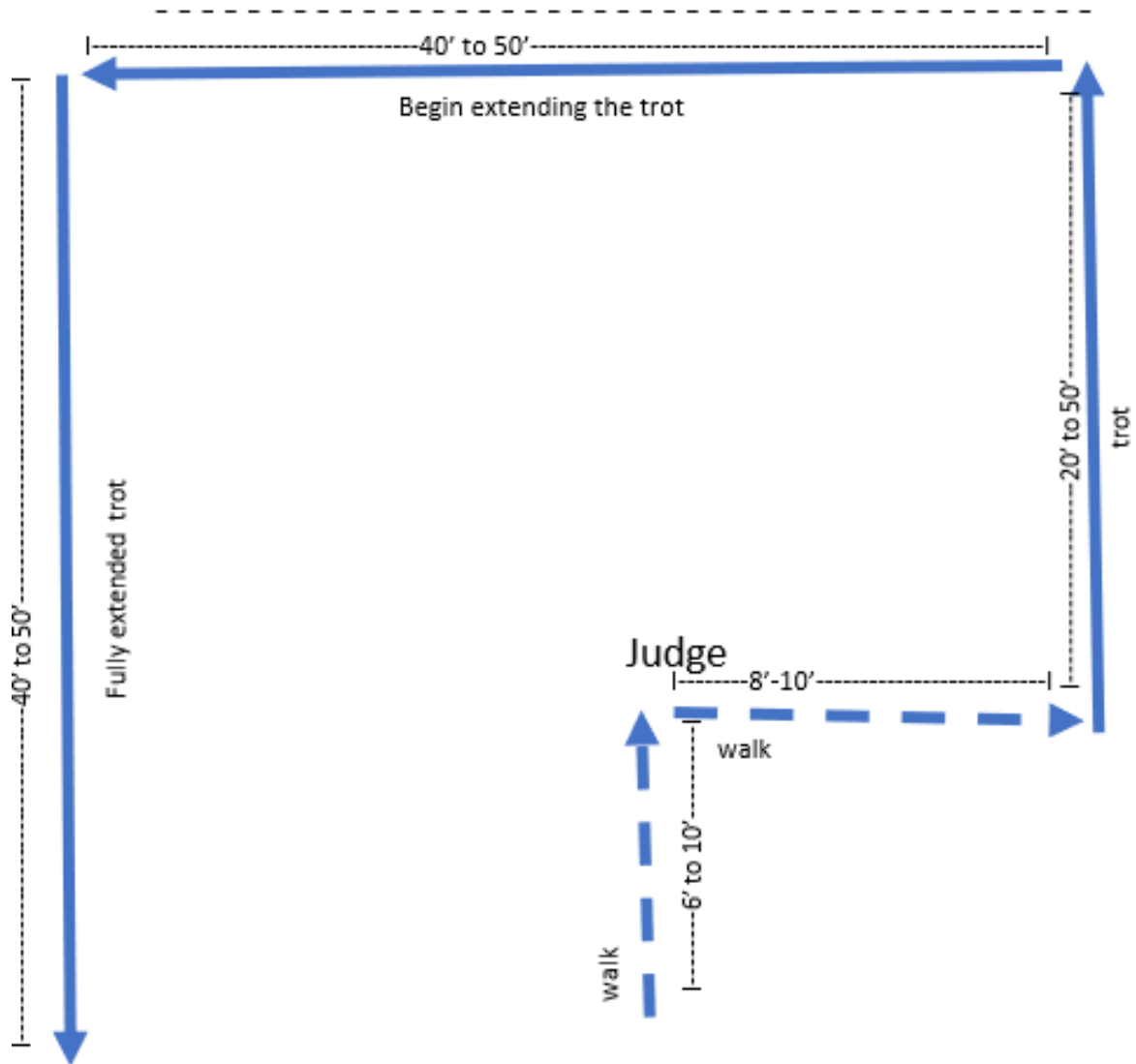
**Pattern Two:** All horses are to enter the ring at a walk counter clockwise on a loose lead to a designated point. The designated point will be marked by a cone approximately 20 feet from the gate. They will then proceed at a trot past judge(s) (to be viewed from the side in motion). Judging will begin at the cone. Exhibitors will line up horses head to tail along the rail. From the line-up, walk to judge(s) and trot back to end of line. Either side of the arena may be used. (see diagram next page) Second looks from judge(s) will be from head to tail line-up on rail. (see diagram on next page).

It is important that show management ensures that the ring steward and the judge are aware of the pattern that will be used for presenting halter horses. It is often helpful to place cones where turns should be made.



## Show Manager Guide

(Halter Class Pattern 1)



Line up

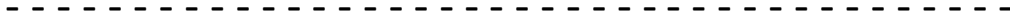
Holding area



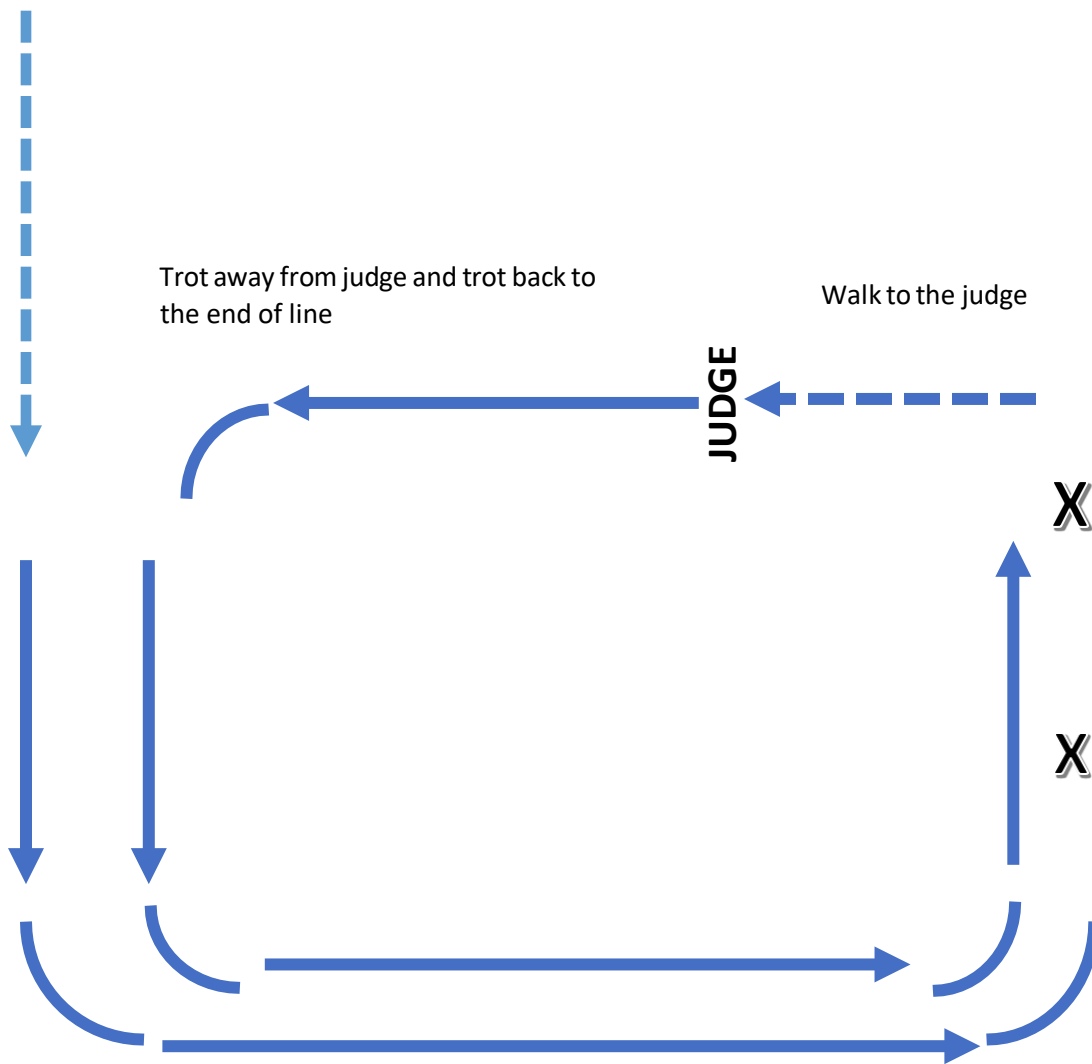
## Show Manager Guide

Holding Area

(Halter Class Pattern 2)



Enter at a walk





## Show Manager Guide

### Show Planning Timeline:

#### **1 year prior to show:**

- Create a projected budget for the show
- Find and book facility
  - Determine insurance requirements and/or any other legalities of the site
  - Confirm number of available stalls/wash racks/rv accommodations/etc.
  - Confirm move in/out dates along with parameters for early arrivals and late departures
  - Confirm arena use policy (warm up days prior to the show, etc...) including tractor usage/sound system/etc.
  - Is there a designated warm up arena and if so is that cost included
  - Does the facility allow outside shavings or must they be purchased from the facility
  - Pay facility deposit and confirm with remaining balance is due
  - Hire judge(s)

#### **6 months prior to show:**

- Create class list
- Create show premium and entry forms
  - Define class fees, office fees, drug fees (if applicable in your state) and any other fees
  - Decide on a close date for entries and a post entry fee for entries received after that date
- Define high point divisions and which classes will be counted towards each division
- Create contracts for judges
- Hire/recruit show officials/Staff
  - Ring steward
  - Gate person
  - Awards presenter
  - Additional office staff
  - Announcer
  - Barn manager (getting exhibitors settled into their stalls, handling shavings orders, etc...)
  - Show photographer (Define rates, packages, specials, etc...)
- Get show approved with the GVHS
- Start reaching out to possible sponsors
  - Define sponsorship levels and what the perks are for each level
- Start marketing your show, update website and/or social media



## Show Manager Guide

### 4 months prior to show:

- Order ribbons and awards
- Confirm that all contracts are signed and in order
- Contact local hotels to book blocks of rooms for exhibitors and show staff
- Make that hotel information available to exhibitors
- Start working on the show program if you will be providing a printable version at the show
  - Sell advertising
  - Find print company
  - Work with a graphics designer on layout options

### 90 days prior to show:

- Deadline to submit your show checklist to the GVHS for pointed show approval

### 2 months prior to show:

- Determine list of possible options of food vendors for show staff and competitors
- Conduct on site walk through
- Develop possible alternate weather plan

### 1 month prior to show:

- Request patterns from judges so they may be posted for exhibitors
- Have show premiums printed
- Do an inventory count on all awards
- Confirm with all show staff and make sure flights, hotels and rental cars are reserved
- Make sure you have a printed copy of the GVHS rule book for the show office so that judges and show staff may easily refer to it as needed during the show
- Print out judges cards and score sheets (at the end of this handbook you can find class definitions that may be printed on labels and placed on the back of the judges cards for easy reference)

### After Show Completion:

- Tear down and clean up grounds
- Review and submit GVHS points no later than 2 weeks after completion of the show
- Post the results or have ready to provide to the exhibitors.
- Send any remaining payments to show staff or facility
- Finalize show budget, e.g. profit and loss statement
- Schedule wrap up meeting and discuss and future show dates
- Send thank you notes



## Show Manager Guide

### Class Lists:

The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society website offers a list of the classes that GVHS will count toward the GVHS Show Points Program, as well as the Legion Program (lifetime) achievement awards. You can use this as a guide when you are building your class list. Reach out to your projected exhibitor base and ask if there are specific classes they would like to see on the class list.

### Core classes:

- Halter
  - Age/sex divisions (Mares, Geldings, Stallions), Champion and Supreme
  - Bred in North America
  - International Bred
  - Color
  - Showmanship
  - Bred by Owner
- English Pleasure (WT & WTC)
- English Equitation (WT & WTC), for Youth and Amateur
- Dressage suitability (WT & WTC)
- Western Pleasure (WJ & WJL)
- Western Horsemanship/Equitation (WJ & WJL), for Youth and Amateur
- Ranch Riding (WJ & WJL)
- Ranch Rail (WJ & WJL)
- Trail (in hand and under saddle)
- Driving

### Specialty Classes:

- Freestyle
- Costume
- Dressage Suitability In Hand
- Hunter Under Saddle
- Hunter Hack
- Lead Line
- Liberty

### Core Divisions:

- Open WT/WJ
- Open WTC/WJL
- Amateur WT/WJ
- Amateur WTC/WJL
- AOE WT/WJ
- AOE WTC/WJL
- Youth WT/WJ
- Youth WTC/WJL





## Show Manager Guide

### Classes that count towards Gypsy Vanner Horse Society High Point and Legion Program (Lifetime) Achievement Awards:

**Halter:**(at smaller shows, some of the below classes may be combined, such as Mares 2-4 years old, Mares 5 and over, etc.)

Weanling and Yearling Stallions  
2 Year Old Stallions  
3 Year old Stallions  
4 Year Old Stallions  
Stallions 5 years old and over  
Champion & Reserve Stallions (1st & 2nd place stallions all ages compete)  
Weanling and Yearling Geldings  
2 Year old Geldings  
3 year old Geldings  
4 year old Geldings  
Geldings 5 years old and over  
Champion & Reserve Geldings (1st & 2nd place geldings all ages compete)

Weanling and Yearling Mares  
2 Year old Mares  
3 year old Mares  
4 year old Mares  
Mares 5 years old and over  
Champion & Reserve Mares (1st & 2nd place mares all ages compete)  
Supreme Champion (Champion Stallion, Mare, Gelding compete)  
Bred and Shown by Owner  
North American Bred  
Internationally Bred

#### WT/WJ Performance:

Trail Obstacles under saddle WJ/WT  
English Pleasure WT  
Suitability for Dressage under saddle WT  
Western Pleasure WJ  
Ranch Riding WJ  
Ranch Rail WJ

#### WTC/WJL Performance:

Ranch Riding WJL  
English Pleasure WTC  
Suitability for Dressage under saddle WTC  
Ranch Rail WJL  
Trail Obstacles under saddle WJL  
Western Pleasure WJL

#### Driving:

Pleasure Driving  
Pleasure Driving Working  
Ladies Driving  
Gentlemen's Driving  
Obstacle Driving  
Obstacle Ground Driving

#### Specialty Classes:

Trail Obstacles in Hand  
Freestyle Riding  
Hunter Hack  
Hunter Under Saddle  
Working Hunter  
Jumping



## Show Manager Guide

In addition to classes listed above, the following Amateur and Youth classes can be added for their respective divisions and gaits. Amateur and Youth classes do not count toward lifetime achievement or horse points, but toward GVHS Amateur and Youth points:

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Trail Obstacles Under Saddle | Hunter Under Saddle |
| English Pleasure             | Working Hunter      |
| Western Pleasure             | Jumping             |
| Suitability for Dressage     | Freestyle Riding    |
|                              | Equitation          |
| Obstacles in Hand            | Horsemanship        |
| Driving                      | Showmanship         |
| Hunter Hack                  | Halter              |

### Some classes that do not count towards GVHS Points in any division:

- Color
- Dressage Suitability in Hand
- Costume
- Liberty
- Driving Turnout
- Lead line
- Reinsmanship
- Ground Driving

### Points Calculations:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place = 6 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 5 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 4 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> place = 3 points
- 5<sup>th</sup> place = 2 points
- 6<sup>th</sup> place = 1 point
- Champion = 5 points
- Reserve Champion = 3 points
- Supreme = 5 points

Classes with a single entry  
receive a 1/2 point

### Show High Point Division

Some shows choose to award high point at the show. Following are some examples of divisions that can be considered for Show High Point Awards.

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Open High Point WT/WJ      | AOE High Point WT/WJ     |
| Open High Point WTC/WJL    | AOE High Point WTC/WJL   |
| Amateur High Point WT/WJ   | Youth High Point WT/WJ   |
| Amateur High Point WTC/WJL | Youth High Point WTC/WJL |

Overall Show High Point (Can be split into WT/WJ and WTC/WJL)



## Show Manager Guide

### Championship and Supreme Classes:

These classes are free to exhibitors and may not be entered prior to the show. Entry into championship classes is earned by placing 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the respective age/sex halter classes. Supreme classes are made up of only the Grand Champion Mare, Stallion and Gelding.

#### Example:

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place mares from the following classes may enter the Grand Champion mare class:

Weanling & Yearling Mares  
Mares 2-4 years old  
Mares 5 years old and over

### **Budgeting to consider for a successful show:**

- Cost of facility
  - Arena
  - Stalls
  - Equipment rentals (Trail course, dressage court, cones, tables, chairs, sound system, etc.)
  - RV/Camping spots
  - Haul in fees (for exhibitors coming in for the day and not requiring a stall)
  - Costs for working the arena footing
  - Insurance
  - Ask for any additional fees
- Judges and staff
  - Day rate
  - Flights
  - Car rental
  - Meals
  - Office supplies
  - Additional expenses
- Awards
  - Ribbons
  - Champion, Supreme and High point awards
  - 1st place prizes (Could be sponsored by local tack shops, grooming product companies, etc.)
  
- Marketing
  - Printed show program
  - Advertising costs
  - Banners



## Show Manager Guide

### The following pages provide:

- A Sample Class List
- Class Descriptions for Judge's Cards
- GVHS Score Sheets
- Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Process and Procedure
- GVHS Animal Welfare Penalty and Fines Chart
- GVHS Unsportsmanlike Conduct Penalty and Fines Chart
- Report for GHVS Rule Violations
- Printable Warning Card Template
- GVHS Code of Conduct
- GVHS Trail Appendix with obstacles and measurement guidelines
- Contracting Services for Horse Show Officials
- Horse Events Have Important Economic Impact

# Sample Class List

## **Saturday 8am**

1. Gypsy Weanling and Yearling All Sexes
3. Gypsy Stallions 2 to 4 Years Old
4. Gypsy Stallions 5 and Over
5. Gypsy Stallion Champion (no pre-entry)
6. Gypsy Geldings 2 to 4 Years Old
7. Gypsy Geldings 5 and Over
8. Gypsy Gelding Champion (no pre-entry)
9. Gypsy Mares 2 to 4 Years Old
10. Gypsy Mares 5 and Over
11. Gypsy Mare Champion (no pre-entry)
12. Gypsy Supreme Champion
17. Gypsy Amateur Halter Stallions
18. Gypsy Amateur Halter Geldings
19. Gypsy Amateur Halter Mares
20. Gypsy AOE Halter
21. Gypsy Bred and Shown by Owner
22. Bred in North America
23. International Bred
24. Gypsy Solid Color
26. Gypsy Broken Color
27. Gypsy Youth Showmanship
28. Gypsy Amateur Showmanship
29. Gypsy AOE Showmanship
30. Gypsy Trail In Hand Youth
31. Gypsy Trail In Hand Amateur
32. Gypsy Trail In Hand Jr Horse Open
33. Gypsy Trail In Hand Sr Horse Open
34. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJ Youth
35. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJ Amateur
36. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJ Jr Horse Open
37. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJ Sr Horse Open
38. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJL Youth

39. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJL Amateur

40. Gypsy Trail Under Saddle WJL Open

42. Pleasure Driving-Open Gypsy

43. Gypsy Musical Freestyle Open

## **Sunday 8am**

44. Gypsy Dressage Suitability WT Amateur

45. Gypsy Dressage Suitability WT Open

46. Gypsy Dressage Suitability WTC Amateur

47. Gypsy Dressage Suitability WTC Open

48. Gypsy English Pleasure WT Youth

49. Gypsy English Pleasure WT Amateur

50. Gypsy English Pleasure WT Jr Horse Open

51. Gypsy English Pleasure WT Sr Horse Open

52. Gypsy English Pleasure WT AOE

53. Gypsy English Pleasure WTC Youth

54. Gypsy English Pleasure WTC Amateur

55. Gypsy English Pleasure WTC Open

56. Gypsy English Pleasure WTC AOE

57. Gypsy English Equitation WT Youth

58. Gypsy English Equitation WT Amateur

59. Gypsy English Equitation WTC Youth

60. Gypsy English Equitation WTC Amateur

61. Gypsy Hunter Under Saddle WT Open

62. Gypsy Hunter Under Saddle WTC Open

63. Gypsy Ranch Riding WJ Youth

64. Gypsy Ranch Riding WJ Amateur

65. Gypsy Ranch Riding WJ Open

66. Gypsy Ranch Riding WJL Youth

67. Gypsy Ranch Riding WJL Amateur

68. Gypsy Ranch Riding WJL Open

69. Gypsy Ranch Rail WJ Open

70. Gypsy Ranch Rail WJL Open

71. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJ Youth

72. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJ Amateur

73. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJ Jr Horse Open

74. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJ Sr Horse Open

75. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJ AOE

76. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJL Youth

78. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJL Amateur

79. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJL Open

80. Gypsy Western Pleasure WJL AOE

81. Gypsy Western Horsemanship WJ Youth

82. Gypsy Western Horsemanship WJ Amateur

83. Gypsy Western Horsemanship WJL Youth

84. Gypsy Western Horsemanship WJL Amateur

## **Class Descriptions**

**These can be printed on backs of Judge's cards for reference**

### **Solid Color**

#### **General**

Color classes may be divided into Patterned/Blagdon Horses and Solid Horses.

#### **Presentation**

Handlers shall present horses at a walk only, traveling both directions of the arena on the rail. After which time they will line up for final presentation.

#### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Solid color class will be judged 80% on color/markings, 20% on conformation. Judges should be looking for richness and consistency of color. Credit should be given for consistency of markings. Horses with markings are not preferred over horses without. If the horse has a dapple pattern, the judge should look at the boldness and consistency of the pattern.

### **Pattern/Blagdon Color**

#### **General**

Color classes may be divided into Patterned/Blagdon Horses and Solid Horses.

#### **Presentation**

Handlers shall present horses at a walk only, traveling both directions of the arena on the rail. After which time they will line up for final presentation.

#### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Pattern/Blagdon color class is judged 80% on color/markings, 20% on conformation. Judges should be looking for 50/50 color pattern with clean lines between colors, consistency of markings and boldness of colors. Blagdon should be judged on boldness of color and consistency of splash markings rather than 50/50 pattern. Neither pattern nor blagdon should be preferred over the other.

### **North American Bred**

#### **General**

North American Bred classes are limited to horses bred within the borders of North America.

#### **Presentation**

Handlers shall follow the judge's instruction to present the horses at a walk and trot, at the judge's discretion, after which time they will line up for final presentation/judging.

#### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Classes will be judged on breed type, conformation, quality movement, temperament, and presence. Excessive unruly behavior or bad temperament shall be penalized.

### **International Bred**

#### **General**

International Bred classes are limited to horses bred outside the borders of North America.

#### **Presentation**

Handlers shall follow the judge's instruction to present the horses at a walk and trot, at the judge's discretion, after which time they will line up for final presentation/judging.

#### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Classes will be judged on breed type, conformation, quality movement, temperament, and presence. Excessive unruly behavior or bad temperament shall be penalized.

## **Showmanship**

### **General**

Judged strictly on the exhibitor's ability to condition and show a horse at halter. The horse is merely a prop to demonstrate the ability and preparation of the exhibitor. The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness, and precision.

### **Presentation**

All exhibitors may enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually, at the discretion of the judge. The Quarter system is to be used.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

See GVHS Score Sheet

## **In Hand Trail**

### **General**

Exhibitor should move the horse through the course with a minimal amount of touching for guidance. The judge must walk the course and may remove or change any obstacle he/she deems unsafe or non-negotiable. If at any time a trail obstacle is deemed to be unsafe by the judge it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous works for that class.

### **Appointments and Attire**

Handler's attire may be Western, English, or Sport type and appointments should reflect handlers attire. No whips are allowed and no rope halters of any kind.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

This class is to be judged using the GVHS Trail Score Sheet.

## **Trail Under Saddle**

### **General**

The judge must walk the course and may remove or change any obstacle he/she deems unsafe or non-negotiable. If at any time a trail obstacle is deemed to be unsafe by the judge it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If it cannot be repaired and horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous works for that class.

### **Appointments and Attire**

Rider's attire may be Western or English and tack should reflect attire. No whips are allowed

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

This class is to be judged using the GVHS Trail Score Sheet.

In any section requiring a trot, posting the trot is optional. Faults which occur on the line of travel between obstacles and should be scored according to severity, in maneuver scores: Head carried too high, Head carried too low (tip of ear below the withers), Over-flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical

## **Musical Freestyle**

### **General**

This class is open to the rider's imagination and presentation of their horse. Any style of riding and pattern will be acceptable. It will be at the Judge's discretion to decide if a competitor is unsafe or creates an unsafe atmosphere in which case it will be cause for elimination.

### **Appointments and Attire**

Tack and attire should be appropriate to the discipline ridden by the competitor. Any bit used must be "approved/legal". Costumes are allowed. Exhibitors may not ride barefoot.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

This class is to be judged using the GVHS Freestyle Score Sheet.

## **Dressage Suitability In Hand**

### **General**

Horse's quality shall be evaluated as to its potential for dressage  
Handlers attire should be appropriate for the purpose (dressage or sport attire) with Western attire being inappropriate.

### **Appointments**

Horses 2 years and under must be shown in a halter

Horses 3 years and over must be shown in a bridle

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Class Specifications**

Horses are being shown individually, clockwise on the triangle, walking the small triangle and trotting the large triangle

## **Dressage Suitability Under Saddle WT**

### **General**

Horse's quality shall be evaluated as to its potential for dressage

All gaits should be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance, and smoothness.

Resistance and tension of the horse is to be penalized.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses shall be worked at the walk and trot both ways in the ring. At the judge's discretion horses may be asked to free walk and to extend either gait one or both directions.

### **Appointments**

English type or dressage saddles to be used

Bridles with a regular cavesson, dropped or flash noseband allowed

Twisted, wire, roller bits, pelham, kimberwicks and ported snaffles are prohibited.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Gaits to be evaluated for purity, quality, and correctness. Purity and correctness are more important than brilliance at this level. Conformation to be evaluated for potential trainability, performance and predisposition to unsoundness. Function, not fashion, is to be emphasized.



## **Dressage Suitability Under Saddle WTC**

### **General**

Horse's quality shall be evaluated as to its potential for dressage

All gaits should be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance, and smoothness.

Resistance and tension of the horse is to be penalized.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses shall be worked at the walk, trot and canter both ways in the ring. At the judge's discretion horses may be asked to free walk and to extend any gait one or both directions.

### **Appointments**

English type or dressage saddles to be used

Bridles with a regular cavesson, dropped or flash noseband allowed

Twisted, wire, roller bits, pelham, kimberwicks and ported snaffles are prohibited.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Gaits to be evaluated for purity, quality, and correctness. Purity and correctness are more important than brilliance at this level. Conformation to be evaluated for potential trainability, performance and predisposition to unsoundness. Function, not fashion, is to be emphasized.

## **English Pleasure WT**

### **General**

Position, attire and appointments as appropriate to Hunter Seat or Dressage.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to be shown at the Walk and Trot, the Extended Trot may be called for one or both directions.

Horses must be asked to back.

### **Appointments**

Bridles, bits and tack must match the attire of the rider.

Figure eight nose bands, drop or flash noseband are not permitted.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Horses will be judged 70% on performance, 20% on condition, and 10% on turn out.

## **English Pleasure WTC**

### **General**

Position, attire and appointments as appropriate to Hunter Seat or Dressage.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to be shown at the Walk, Trot and Canter, the Extended Trot may be called for one or both directions. Horses must be asked to back.

### **Appointments**

Bridles, bits and tack must match the attire of the rider.

Figure eight nose bands, drop or flash noseband are not permitted.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Horses will be judged 70% on performance, 20% on condition, and 10% on turn out.

## **Hunter Under Saddle WT**

### **General**

Horses should be obedient and responsive, with a bright, alert expression, and gaits showing potential of being a working hunter.

Dressage tack and attire is strictly prohibited and use will result in disqualification.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to move freely and forward going with ground covering stride while maintaining a frame suitable for a hunter.

Horses to be worked at the walk and trot both ways in the ring and asked to back. The head position should be slightly in front of, or on, the vertical. The poll should be level with, or slightly above, the wither.

### **Appointments**

Hunt seat, all purpose or side saddles allowed with bridles of light show Hunter type. Figure eight nose bands, drop or flash nosebands are not permitted.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Judged on performance and condition with the maximum consideration given to the flowing, balanced willing horse. Quality of the movement and the consistency of the gaits is a major consideration. Excessive speed or slowness, unnatural low head position (poll below the withers) or over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently will be penalized.

## **Hunter Under Saddle WTC**

### **General**

Horses should be obedient and responsive, with a bright, alert expression, and gaits showing potential of being a working hunter.

Dressage tack and attire is strictly prohibited and use will result in disqualification.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to move freely and forward going with ground covering stride while maintaining a frame suitable for a hunter.

Horses to be worked at the walk, trot and canter both ways in the ring and asked to back. Judges may ask for the hand gallop one or both directions. The head position should be slightly in front of, or on, the vertical. The poll should be level with, or slightly above, the wither.

### **Appointments**

Hunt seat, all purpose or side saddles allowed with bridles of light show Hunter type. Figure eight nose bands, drop or flash nosebands are not permitted.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Judged on performance and condition with the maximum consideration given to the flowing, balanced willing horse. Quality of the movement and the consistency of the gaits is a major consideration. Excessive speed or slowness, unnatural low head position (poll below the withers) or over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently will be penalized.

## **English Equitation**

### **General**

The rider's position, seat, hands, and the correct use of the aids are to be judged.

Position, attire and appointments as appropriate to Hunt Seat or Dressage.

### **Appointments**

Bridles, bits and tack must match the attire of the rider.

Figure eight nose bands, drop or flash noseband are not permitted.

Manes and tails may be braided. Unbraided manes and tails are not to be penalized.

### **Class Specifications**

Class may be worked as Pattern only, Rail only (if no pattern is designated) or If a pattern is used the judge may also call for rail work one or both directions. **If a pattern is used the GVHS Equitation Score Sheet must be used.**

## **Western Pleasure WJ**

### **General**

Horses should display a pleasant and natural way of going with an emphasis placed on a pleasurable ride and purity of gaits.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to be shown at the Walk and Jog, a moderate extension of the jog may be called for one or both directions. Horses must be asked to back.

### **Appointments**

Western saddle and western bridle. Horses of any age may be shown in a snaffle or shank bit.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Class will be judged on performance, manners, and quality. Excessive speed or slowness, unnatural low head position (poll below the withers) or over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently will be penalized.

## **Western Pleasure WJL**

### **General**

Horses should display a pleasant and natural way of going with an emphasis placed on a pleasurable ride and purity of gaits.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to be shown at the Walk, Jog and Lope. A moderate extension of the jog may be called for one or both directions. Horses must be asked to back.

### **Appointments**

Western saddle and western bridle. Horses of any age may be shown in a snaffle or shank bit.

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Class will be judged on performance, manners, and quality. Excessive speed or slowness, unnatural low head position (poll below the withers) or over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical consistently will be penalized.

## Western Horsemanship

### **General**

The rider's position, seat, hands, and the correct use of the aids are to be judged.

Position, attire and appointments as appropriate to Western riding.

### **Appointments**

Western saddle and western bridle. Horses of any age may be shown in a snaffle or shank bit.

### **Class Specifications**

Class may be worked as Pattern only, Rail only (if no pattern is designated) or If a pattern is used the judge may also call for rail work one or both directions. **If a pattern is used the GVHS Horsemanship Score Sheet must be used.**

## Ranch Riding

### **General**

Individual pattern class to show a working horse's versatility, attitude, and movement. The primary considerations are the horses' quality of movement and overall manners and responsiveness while performing the required maneuvers.

### **Appointments**

Tack and attire should be clean and presentable. Working tack is encouraged. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Use of a breast collar and rear cinch is encouraged but not required. **Braiding of the mane and/or forelock is permitted.**

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

Class to be scored using the GVHS Ranch Riding score sheet. No specific penalties will be incurred for nicks/hits on logs or over/under spins, but deduction may be made in the maneuver score.

## Ranch Rail WJ

### **General**

This class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from one ranch task to another and should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse. This class is intended as a rail class but individuals working off the rail will not be penalized and in fact riders are encouraged to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to be shown at the walk and jog both directions and the extended jog at least one direction as well as being asked to back.

### **Appointments**

Tack and attire should be clean and presentable. Working tack is encouraged. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Use of a breast collar and rear cinch is encouraged but not required. **Braiding of the mane and/or forelock is permitted.**

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

In all gaits, movement of the ranch pleasure horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins.

## **Ranch Rail WJL**

### **General**

This class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from one ranch task to another and should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working horse. This class is intended as a rail class but individuals working off the rail will not be penalized and in fact riders are encouraged to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required.

### **Qualifying Gaits**

Horses to be shown at the walk, jog and lope both directions and the extended jog at least one direction as well as being asked to back. No extended lope is to be asked for in this class.

### **Appointments**

Tack and attire should be clean and presentable. Working tack is encouraged. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Use of a breast collar and rear cinch is encouraged but not required. **Braiding of the mane and/or forelock is permitted.**

### **Judging Criteria and Class Specifications**

In all gaits, movement of the ranch pleasure horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins.



# HORSEMANSHIP Score Sheet

Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

|                               |   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Maneuver Scores:</b>       | +1 ½ Excellent  | +1 Very Good | + ½ Good | 0 Correct | - ½ Very Poor | -1 Very Poor | -1 ½ Extremely Poor |
| <b>Minor Penalty (1 pt)</b>   | Break of Gait at walk/jog up to 2 strides; Over/under 1/8 turn; Tick or hit of cone; Obviously looking down for leads   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Major Penalty (3 pts)</b>  | Not performing specific gait/stopping within 10 ft of designated location; Loss of stirrup; Incorrect lead/break of gait at Lope; Break of gait walk/jog over 2 strides; Head carried too low/clearly behind vertical while in motion   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Severe Penalty (5 pts)</b> | Loss of rein; Cueing with end of Romal; Grabbing saddle horn or any part of saddle with either hand; Spurring in front of cinch; Use of hand to instill fear/praise while on pattern or during rail work; Blatant Disobedience (includes kicking, pawing, bucking, rearing)   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Disqualification (DQ)</b>  | Failure to wear correct number in visible manner; Inhumane treatment of horse; Excessive schooling or training; Fall by horse or rider; Illegal use of hands; Use of prohibited equipment; Going off pattern (includes knocking over or going on wrong side of cone, never performing designated gait, lead or diagonal, over/under turn by more than 1/4 |              |          |           |               |              |                     |

| Entry No. | Maneuver Description |                 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Total Penalty | FINAL SCORE |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---------------|-------------|
|           | Penalty Score        | Maneuver Score  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg. Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Maneuver Score       |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |

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



# EQUITATION Score Sheet

Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

|                               |   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Maneuver Scores:</b>       | +1 ½ Excellent  | +1 Very Good | + ½ Good | 0 Correct | - ½ Very Poor | -1 Very Poor | -1 ½ Extremely Poor |
| <b>Minor Penalty (1 pt)</b>   | Break of Gait at walk/jog up to 2 strides; Over/under 1/8 turn; Tick or hit of cone; Obviously looking down for diagonals/leads   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Major Penalty (3 pts)</b>  | Not performing specific gait/stopping within 10 ft of designated location; Missing diagonal for 1-2 strides; Incorrect lead/break of gait at canter; Complete loss of contact between riders' hands/horse's mouth; Break of gait at walk/trot over 2 strides; Loss of Iron; Head carried too low/clearly behind vertical while in motion                  |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Severe Penalty (5 pts)</b> | Loss of rein; Missing diagonal more than 2 strides; Holding saddle with either hand; Spurring or use of crop in front of girth; Use of hand to instill fear/praise while on pattern or during rail work; Blatant Disobedience (includes kicking, pawing bucking, rearing)   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Disqualification (DQ)</b>  | Failure to wear correct number in visible manner; Inhumane treatment of horse; Excessive schooling or training; Fall by horse or rider; Illegal use of hands; Use of prohibited equipment; Going off pattern (includes knocking over or going on wrong side of cone, never performing designated gait, lead or diagonal, over/under turn by more than 1/4 |              |          |           |               |              |                     |

| Entry No.       | Maneuver Description | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Total Penalty | FINAL SCORE |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---------------|-------------|
|                 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|                 | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
| Avg. Score = 70 |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |

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



# SHOWMANSHIP Score Sheet

Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

|                               |   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Maneuver Scores:</b>       | +1 ½ Excellent  | +1 Very Good | + ½ Good | 0 Correct | - ½ Very Poor | -1 Very Poor | -1 ½ Extremely Poor |
| <b>Minor Penalty (1 pt)</b>   | Break of gait up to 2 strides; Over or under turning up to 1/8 of a turn; Ticking or hitting cone; Sliding a pivot foot; Lifting a foot in a pivot and replacing it in the same place   |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Major Penalty (3 pts)</b>  | Not performing gait; Not stopping within 10' of designated area; Splitting cone; Horse stepping out after presentation; Horse stepping out of pivot; Moving hind end significantly during a pivot over/under 1/8/ to 1/4  |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Severe Penalty (5 pts)</b> | Exhibitor not in required position during inspection; Touching horse at any time; Standing directly in front of horse; Loss of Lead Shank, holding chain or two hands on shank; Severe Disobedience (bucking, kicking, rearing, biting, pawing or continuously circling exhibitor)  |              |          |           |               |              |                     |
| <b>Disqualification (DQ)</b>  | Horse becomes detached from exhibitor; Failure of exhibitor to wear correct number in a visible manner; Willful abuse; Excessive Schooling or Training; Use of artificial aids or illegal equipment; Loss of control or severe disobedience that endangers the exhibitor or others; Knocking over cone or going off pattern; Never performing specific gait; Overturning more than ¼ turn |              |          |           |               |              |                     |

| Entry No. | Maneuver Description |                | 1              | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Total Penalty | FINAL SCORE |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---------------|-------------|
|           | Penalty Score        | Maneuver Score | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           |                      |                |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |

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





# RANCH RIDING Score Sheet

Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

|                              |  |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|---------|-----------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Maneuver Scores:</b>      | +1 ½ Excellent   | +1 Very Good | +½ Good | 0 Correct | -½ Very Poor | -1 Very Poor | -1 ½ Extremely Poor |
| <b>Penalty 1:</b>            | Over bridled or out of frame (per maneuver); too slow (per gait); break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less; split log at lope |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Penalty 3:</b>            | Wrong lead or out of lead; draped reins (per maneuver); break of gait at lope; break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides     |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Penalty 5:</b>            | Blatant disobedience (kick, bit, buck, rear, etc.) for each refusal  |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Disqualification (DQ)</b> | Illegal equipment including hoof black & tail extensions; willful abuse; major disobedience or schooling                                       |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
|                              | A horse that fails to perform a required maneuver will be placed below all other horses that perform all maneuvers.                            |              |         |           |              |              |                     |

| Entry No. | Maneuver Description | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | Total Penalty | FINAL SCORE |                |
|-----------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|-------------|----------------|
|           |                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             | Avg Score = 70 |
|           | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Penalty Score        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |
|           | Maneuver Score       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |             |                |

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



# TRAIL Score Sheet

Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

|   |   |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
|---|---|--------------|---------|-----------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Maneuver Scores</b>  | +1 ½ Excellent  | +1 Very Good | +½ Good | 0 Correct | -½ Very Poor | -1 Very Poor | -1 ½ Extremely Poor |
| <b>Penalty ½</b>  | Each tick of log, pole, cone, plant, or obstacle  |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Penalty 1</b>  | Incorrect or break of gait at a walk/trot/show gait for ≤ two strides; Bite of, hit or step on log, pole, cone, plant, or obstacles; Both feet in space; Skip space; Split pole; Failure to meet the correct strides on trot over and lope over log obstacles   |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Penalty 3</b>  | Incorrect or break of gait at a walk/trot/show gait for > two strides; Out of lead or break of gait at lope; Knockdown of elevated pole, cone, barrel, plant or severely disturbing an obstacle; Stepping out of the confines of, falling or jumping off or out of an obstacle with only one foot once the foot has entered an obstacle, including missing one element of an obstacle on a line of travel with one foot.  |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Penalty 5</b>  | Drop object; Refusal or evade; Letting go of gate or dropping rope gate; Blatant disobedience; Stepping out of the confines of, falling or jumping off or out of an obstacle with more than one foot once the foot has entered an obstacle, including missing one element of an obstacle on a line of travel with more than one foot; Blatant disobedience (including kicking out, bucking, rearing, striking); Holding the saddle horn   |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Penalty Score 0:</b>   | Incorrect use of hands on reins, performing obstacles out of order; no attempt to perform an obstacle; equipment failure that delays completion of pattern; Failure to enter, exit or work obstacle in any manner other than how it's described, including overturns of more than ¼ turn; Failure to follow the correct line of travel between obstacles; Riding outside designated boundary marker of the arena or course area; Fall of horse or rider; Excessive schooling, pulling, turning, or backing anywhere on course. <b>Exhibitors incurring a 0 score penalty shall be dismissed from the course at the point where the penalty is incurred and shall not complete the course.</b> |              |         |           |              |              |                     |
| <b>Off Pattern:</b> Third cumulative refusal; Failure to ever demonstrate correct lead and/or gait as designated; Failure to complete obstacle; shall not be disqualified, but must always place below exhibitors not incurring an Off Pattern fault. |   |              |         |           |              |              |                     |

| Entry No. | Obstacle Description |                | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Total Penalty | FINAL SCORE |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---------------|-------------|
|           |                      |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Penalty Score        | Avg Score = 70 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |
|           | Obstacle Score       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |               |             |

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





# Ladder Sheet

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

| Score | # | # | # | Score | # | # | # | Score  | # | # | # |
|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|
| 100   |   |   |   | 77.5  |   |   |   | 57.5   |   |   |   |
| 99    |   |   |   | 77    |   |   |   | 57     |   |   |   |
| 98    |   |   |   | 76.5  |   |   |   | 56.5   |   |   |   |
| 97    |   |   |   | 76    |   |   |   | 56     |   |   |   |
| 96    |   |   |   | 75.5  |   |   |   | 55.5   |   |   |   |
| 95    |   |   |   | 75    |   |   |   | 55     |   |   |   |
| 94.5  |   |   |   | 74.5  |   |   |   | 54.5   |   |   |   |
| 94    |   |   |   | 74    |   |   |   | 54     |   |   |   |
| 93.5  |   |   |   | 73.5  |   |   |   | 53.5   |   |   |   |
| 93    |   |   |   | 73    |   |   |   | 53     |   |   |   |
| 92.5  |   |   |   | 72.5  |   |   |   | 52.5   |   |   |   |
| 92    |   |   |   | 72    |   |   |   | 52     |   |   |   |
| 91.5  |   |   |   | 71.5  |   |   |   | 51.5   |   |   |   |
| 91    |   |   |   | 71    |   |   |   | 51     |   |   |   |
| 90.5  |   |   |   | 70.5  |   |   |   | 50.5   |   |   |   |
| 90    |   |   |   | 70    |   |   |   | 50     |   |   |   |
| 89.5  |   |   |   | 69.5  |   |   |   | 49.5   |   |   |   |
| 89    |   |   |   | 69    |   |   |   | 49     |   |   |   |
| 88.5  |   |   |   | 68.5  |   |   |   | 48.5   |   |   |   |
| 88    |   |   |   | 68    |   |   |   | 48     |   |   |   |
| 87.5  |   |   |   | 67.5  |   |   |   | 47.5   |   |   |   |
| 87    |   |   |   | 67    |   |   |   | 47     |   |   |   |
| 86.5  |   |   |   | 66.5  |   |   |   | 46.5   |   |   |   |
| 86    |   |   |   | 66    |   |   |   | 46     |   |   |   |
| 85.5  |   |   |   | 65.5  |   |   |   | 45.5   |   |   |   |
| 85    |   |   |   | 65    |   |   |   | 45     |   |   |   |
| 84.5  |   |   |   | 64.5  |   |   |   | 44.5   |   |   |   |
| 84    |   |   |   | 64    |   |   |   | 44     |   |   |   |
| 83.5  |   |   |   | 63.5  |   |   |   | 43.5   |   |   |   |
| 83    |   |   |   | 63    |   |   |   | 43     |   |   |   |
| 82.5  |   |   |   | 62.5  |   |   |   | 42.5   |   |   |   |
| 82    |   |   |   | 62    |   |   |   | 42     |   |   |   |
| 81.5  |   |   |   | 61.5  |   |   |   | 41.5   |   |   |   |
| 81    |   |   |   | 61    |   |   |   | 41     |   |   |   |
| 80.5  |   |   |   | 60.5  |   |   |   | 40.5   |   |   |   |
| 80    |   |   |   | 60    |   |   |   | 40 & ↓ |   |   |   |
| 79.5  |   |   |   | 59.5  |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 79    |   |   |   | 59    |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 78.5  |   |   |   | 58.5  |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 78    |   |   |   | 58    |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |



## Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Process and Procedure

One of the missions of the GVHS is to ensure the welfare of any Gypsy Vanner Horse participating in GVHS sanctioned shows and events is safeguarded in every possible way. In accordance with the GVHS Show Rules these are the actions taken when an individual violates The Animal Welfare or Unsportsmanlike Conduct rules at or in regard to a GVHS event. The GVHS fines and penalties for inhumane treatment and unsportsmanlike conduct can be found in the GVHS Rule Book as well as the GVHS website. GVHS rules pertaining to any inhumane treatment of the horse provide for absolute responsibility for a horse's condition by an exhibitor, trainer, participant and/or the owner, thereby making the exhibitor, participant and/or the owner eligible for possible disciplinary action upon proof of the presence of any inhumane treatment of the horse.

For purposes of the rules defined in Section D of the GVHS Show Rules, a fines and penalty system has been established based on the severity of the offense. All offenses will be assigned a minimum level of offense (level 1 = mild; level 2 = moderate; level 3 = severe).

Warning cards will be issued based on the frequency and level of offense.

### **Should an exhibitor receive a warning card, this is the GVHS Violation/Adjudication Process:**

1. The process is initiated when a warning card is issued to a person by a steward or other member of show management, when the GVHS receives a Report of GVHS Rule Violation Complaint Form or when a judge disqualifies an exhibitor for inhumane treatment.
  - a. The rule(s) violated must be clearly defined.
  - b. A detailed account of the incident should be documented by the steward/show manager or the judge(s).
  - c. While not always possible, stewards/Show Management are encouraged to obtain photos or videos evidencing the violation as well as statements from witnesses to the violation. Such evidence should be sent to GVHS immediately after the steward completes his/her duties at the show.
  - d. In the case of a judge's disqualification, documentation should be sent in with the show results.

2. Once GVHS receives, reviews, and evaluates the evidence, a letter of inquiry is sent to the person receiving the warning/disqualification asking them to respond to the violation in question. A response is required within 30 days and not responding will result in suspension until a response is received.
3. Once the response is received, all documentation is reviewed at a hearing by the Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Committee. The alleged violator may be asked to participate in the hearing.
4. After a hearing, the committee issues its determination regarding whether a violation occurred and, if so, makes a recommendation to the GVHS Board of Directors regarding what disciplinary action should be imposed.
5. If the GVHS determines that disciplinary action is appropriate after its initial review described in #4 above, an offer of penalty letter is sent to the violator giving them the opportunity to accept the disciplinary action or request a hearing before the Board.
6. If a Board hearing is held, the Board's final decision shall be immediately effective, and the matter shall not be subject to further referral or review.

Any fines collected will go directly to the GVHS Member/Exhibitor Education Fund. These funds will be used to provide educational materials and opportunities for our members. The GVHS understands that it is through further education that we can help to reduce and/or prevent future incidence of inhumane treatment.

| <b>GVHS Animal Welfare Penalty and Fines List</b> |  |                         |
|---|--|-------------------------|
|   |  |                         |
|   |  |                         |
| <b>Rule</b>                                       | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Level of Offense</b> |
| D.1.2   | The use or application of, to or into any horse of any foreign or caustic substance, such as ginger, mustard, pepper, abrasives, etc, which alter or influence a horse's movement, tail carriage or behavior   | Level 2                 |
| D.1.a   | Placing an object in a horse's mouth so as to cause undue discomfort or distress.  | Level 2                 |
| D1.b  | Leaving a bit in a horse's mouth for extended periods of time so as to cause undue discomfort or distress.   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.c   | Tying a horse up, back or around in a stall or anywhere on the grounds at a GVHS event in the manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress  | Level 1                 |
| D.1.d   | Lunging or riding in a manner as to cause undue discomfort or distress.  | Level 1                 |
| D.1.e   | Tying or fastening any foreign object onto a horse, halter, bridle and/or saddle in order to de-sensitize the horse  | Level 1                 |
| D.1.f   | Use of training techniques or methods such as poling (altering an obstacle while the horse is negotiating the obstacle) or striking a horse's legs with objects  | Level 2                 |
| D.1.g   | Excessive use of spurs, spurring in front of the cinch/girth and/or excessive jerking of reins   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.h   | Excessive use of a whip on any horse in a stall, aisleway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, before or during a competition, by any person. Except in emergency situations, any striking of the horse's head (on the poll and forward of the poll) with the whip shall be deemed excessive | Level 1                 |
| D.1.i   | Excessive spinning (defined as no more than eight (8) consecutive turns in either direction)   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.j   | Schooling using rails over 4ft or schooling over ramped oxers in reverse order (i.e., from highest to lowest instead of lowest to highest)   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.k   | Use of prohibited equipment, including, but not limited to, saw tooth bits, hock hobbles, tack collars or tack hackamores  | Level 2                 |
| D.1.l   | Use of any item or appliance that restricts movement or circulation of the tail.   | Level 2                 |
| D.1.m   | Exhibiting a horse which appears to be sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired.  | Level 1                 |
| D.1.n   | Intentional or negligent treatment which results in any bleeding, open wound and/or severe raw area. Intentional blood   | Level 3                 |

|         |   |               |
|---------|---|---------------|
| D.1.o   | Treatment which results in any bleeding, open wound and/or raw area. Unintentional blood  | Level 1       |
| D.1.p   | The use of any substance, including but not limited to, any type of colorant, dye, glue or hair to hide an injury created by intentional or negligent treatment, prohibited training techniques or prohibited equipment. For purposes of this rule, "injury" is defined as an open wound, raw area and/or scabbed area. | Level 2       |
| D.1.q   | Applying excessive pressure on or excessively jerking on a halter lead shank or lip cord or allowed safety chain  | Level 1       |
| D.1.r   | Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, aisleway, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person.  | Level 1       |
| D.1.s   | Any other treatment or conduct deemed inhumane by a show official   | Level 1       |
| D.1.7   | The injecting of any foreign substance into a horse's tail, the cutting of tail ligaments or nerve blocking   | Level 2       |
| D.1.8   | The use of any device or aides that alter the natural movement of the horse (such as chains, shackles, rubber bands)  | Level 2       |
|         | <b>Fines and Penalty</b>  |               |
|         |   |               |
|         | <b>Penalty</b>  | <b>Fines</b>  |
|         |   |               |
| Level 1 | One Year Probation  | \$0-\$250     |
| Level 2 | One Year Probation up to one year suspension  | \$500-\$1000  |
| Level 3 | One to three year suspension  | \$1000-\$3000 |
|         |   |               |
|         | <b>More than one penalty in a year or while on probation</b>  |               |
|         |   |               |
| Level 1 | \$500 fine and an additional year probation   |               |
| Level 2 | 2x the fine and one year suspension   |               |
| Level 3 | 2x the fine and suspension for 2 or more years  |               |



| <b>GVHS Unsportsmanlike Conduct Penalty and Fines List</b>   |   |                         |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Rule</b>  | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Level of Offense</b> |
| D.1.12   | Conduct designed to distract a horse, or any conduct that otherwise interferes with the showing of another exhibitor's horse  | Level 1                 |
| D.1.9  | The addition of supplemental hair in the mane, foretop, tail or feather   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.18   | Use of Electronic Communication Devices other than what is permitted in Section D1.18 of the GVHS Show Rules  | Level 1                 |
| D.1.13   | Conduct that is rude, unruly, or causing distress to Show Staff, other Exhibitors, Judges or Facility Owners and their employees.   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.14   | Threats of physical violence towards Show Staff, other Exhibitors, Horses, Judges, Spectators, Facility Owners and/or their employees, either written, verbal or implied.   | Level 2                 |
| D.1.15   | Any act of physical violence towards Show Staff, other Exhibitors, Horses, Judges, Spectators, Facility Owners and/or their employees   | Level 3                 |
| D.1.16   | Any act committed or remark made in connection with the competition considered offensive and/or made with the intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the licensed officials and/or public verbal abuse of competition officials  | Level 1                 |
| D.25   | Approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from the show committee or steward/technical delegate and/or inspecting a judge's card without the judge's permission   | Level 1                 |
| D.1.17   | Retaliation against a person for making an allegation of any rule violation, for supporting a reporting party or witness, or for providing information relevant to a potential violation. Retaliation may be considered any adverse action taken by an individual against a person participating in a GVHS proceeding | Level 2                 |
| <b>Fines and Penalty</b>                                     |   |                         |
|  | <b>Penalty</b>  | <b>Fines</b>            |
| Level 1  | One Year Probation  | \$0-\$250               |
| Level 2  | One Year Probation up to one year suspension  | \$500-\$1000            |
| Level 3  | Minimum three year suspension up to Permanent Expulsion from the GVHS   | \$1000-\$3000           |
| <b>More than one penalty in a year or while on probation</b> |   |                         |
| Level 1  | \$500 fine and an additional year probation   |                         |
| Level 2  | 2x the fine and one year suspension   |                         |
| Level 3  | Permanent Expulsion from the GVHS   |                         |



## REPORT OF GVHS RULE VIOLATION COMPLAINT FORM

The complaint must be received within thirty (30) days of the date the show or event was held.

Show Name \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Show Date \_\_\_\_\_

Show Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Time & Date Incident Occurred \_\_\_\_\_

Photographs/Video Available? \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no  
Reported to Show Management? \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

Exact Location of Incident:

Barn # \_\_\_\_\_ Stall # \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify in detail) \_\_\_\_\_

Description of incident: (Be specific, detailed and include names of all individuals and horses involved. Note the rule violated. Distinguish firsthand, personal information from information obtained from other sources.)

(Use the back of this form and additional sheets if necessary)

Please verify that you would be willing to testify remotely before the GVHS Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Committee concerning this rule violation. \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_


City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_


Phone # (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Forward to: The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society  
Attention: Angela Wiggs  
Executive Administrator  
PO Box 217  
Floral, AL 36442-0217  
888-520-9777 x2  
Email: gvhs@vanners.org

**GVHS Warning Card Template**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GVHS WARNING CARD</b></p> <p>Show: _____</p> <p>Date: ____ / ____ / ____ City/State: _____</p> <p>Person Issuing Card: _____</p> <p>Title: _____</p> <p><u>Offence: (Please mark one)</u></p> <p>Animal Welfare Violation..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unsportsmanlike Conduct..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other (Explain below)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Specify Offence:</p> <p>Name of Person Responsible: _____</p> <p>Signature of Person Responsible: _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GVHS WARNING CARD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Refer to GVHS Rule Book Appendix A for a full list of offences related to Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>A Warning Card may be issued by a show official or designated member of show staff at any GVHS sanctioned show or event. This card serves as an official warning that a rule violation has occurred and will be submitted to the GVHS Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Committee for further investigation. Certain rule violations may result in expulsion from a show or event and are listed as such in the GVHS Rule Book. The Official should deliver this Warning Card personally to the person named together with an explanation as to why it is being issued and the possible consequences of any further offences being committed. In the case of this person being under the age of 18 years, a Parent/Guardian must be present.</p> |
|--|--|

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GVHS WARNING CARD</b></p> <p>Show: _____</p> <p>Date: ____ / ____ / ____ City/State: _____</p> <p>Person Issuing Card: _____</p> <p>Title: _____</p> <p><u>Offence: (Please mark one)</u></p> <p>Animal Welfare Violation..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unsportsmanlike Conduct..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other (Explain below)..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Specify Offence:</p> <p>Name of Person Responsible: _____</p> <p>Signature of Person Responsible: _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GVHS WARNING CARD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Refer to GVHS Rule Book Appendix A for a full list of offences related to Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>A Warning Card may be issued by a show official or designated member of show staff at any GVHS sanctioned show or event. This card serves as an official warning that a rule violation has occurred and will be submitted to the GVHS Animal Welfare and Unsportsmanlike Conduct Committee for further investigation. Certain rule violations may result in expulsion from a show or event and are listed as such in the GVHS Rule Book. The Official should deliver this Warning Card personally to the person named together with an explanation as to why it is being issued and the possible consequences of any further offences being committed. In the case of this person being under the age of 18 years, a Parent/Guardian must be present.</p> |
|--|--|

# The GVHS Code of Conduct

***The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society (GVHS) members and non-members who have chosen to participate in GVHS sanctioned shows and events, including riders, coaches, officials, and volunteers must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, and are responsible for their actions in competitions, going to and from competitions, and while at areas hosting competitions. In all equestrian sports the well-being of the horse shall be above the demands of trainers, riders, owners, organizers, sponsors, or officials. All riding and training methods must demonstrate respect for the horse as a living entity and may not include any techniques considered to be abusive or overtaxing of the horse's ability or fitness. Members and nonmembers who have chosen to participate are responsible for adherence to the GVHS competition rules and procedures.***

- Be respectful of officials, even if you do not agree with them.
- Encourage riders and show your appreciation for their efforts.
- Do not openly ridicule and criticize participants and/or their horses.
- Do not encourage unsportsmanlike conduct.
  - Do not use inappropriate language to either riders, officials, or other spectators.
  - Do not use or threaten physical violence to anyone.
- Abide by rules and reasonable directions given by show officials.
- You will be cautioned, reported and/or asked to leave any GVHS and/or affiliated show premises without reimbursement of shows fees paid if you violate any terms of this Code of Conduct.
- Making adverse comments directly to the media, either in written or verbal form, about the GVHS, GVHS sanctioned events and its affiliates may result in disqualification from an event, loss of points earned at the event and possibly prevent participation at future GVHS sanctioned events at the discretion of the GVHS Board.

***NOTE: Anyone may respectfully approach the steward or show management to report violation(s) to the GVHS Code of Conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct may result in disqualification from an event, loss of points earned at the event and possibly prevent participation at future GVHS sanctioned events at the discretion of show management, show steward and/or GVHS Board. The GVHS reserves the right to refuse admission and/or participation of GVHS sanctioned events or functions to anyone.***

## The GVHS Code of Conduct for Spectators

GVHS sanctioned Shows welcome spectators; your support encourages and supports the participants. Your actions can have a positive or negative effect on the show.

Therefore:

- Be respectful of officials, even if you do not agree with them.
- Encourage riders and show your appreciation for their efforts.
- Do not openly ridicule and criticize participants and/or their horses.
- Do not encourage unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Do not use inappropriate language to either riders, officials, or other spectators.
- Do not use or threaten physical violence to anyone.
- Abide by rules and reasonable directions given by show officials.
- You will be cautioned, reported and/or asked to leave any GVHS and/or affiliate show premises if you violate any terms of this Code of Conduct for Spectators.
- Making adverse comments directly to the media, in written or verbal form, about the GVHS, GVHS sanctioned shows, and/or its affiliates may result in being banned from participation at future GVHS events at the discretion of the GVHS Board.

***The GVHS reserves the right to refuse admission and/or participation of GVHS sanctioned events or functions to anyone.***

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

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

GVHS SHOW RULES  
APPENDIX B  
IN-HAND, W/J, W/J/L  
TRAIL OBSTACLES

A. GENERAL INFORMATION ..... B-1

B. STANDARD TRAIL OBSTACLES (In-hand, W/J, W/J/L)

- 1. Back Through/Around ..... B-2
- 2. Bridge ..... B-3
- 3. Chalk Circle ..... B-4
- 4. Gate ..... B-4
- 5. Jog Box ..... B-5
- 6. Jog Over ..... B-5
- 7. Jog Through ..... B-5
- 8. Lope-Over ..... B-6
- 9. Mailbox..... B-7
- 10. Serpentine ..... B-7
- 11. Side Pass ..... B-7
- 12. Walk Box ..... B-8
- 13. Walk-Over ..... B-9
- 14. Water Obstacle ..... B-10
- 15. Carry Object ..... B-10
- 16. Drag or Pull Item ..... B-11
- 17. Jump ..... B-12
- 18. Slicker ..... B-12

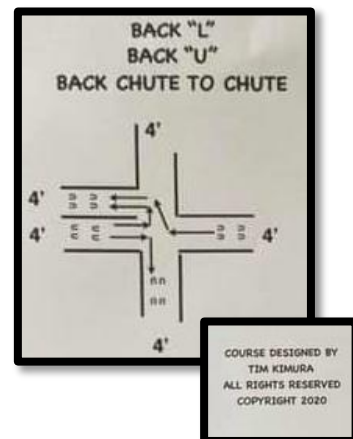
D. TABLE B-1 SAMPLE TRAIL MEASUREMENTS ..... B-13

## A. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:

1. Conservative, quality decorations to resemble a trail environment are encouraged, but at no time should the indiscriminate overuse of manmade decorations to create an extreme sensory atmosphere be used.
2. Objects such as bales of hay with strings that may become entangled in the horse's feet or legs should not be used.
3. If at any time an obstacle is found to be unsafe, it shall be repaired or removed from the course, and score sheets adjusted accordingly.
4. In-Hand, Walk-Jog – (W/J) courses should be designed for the entry level horse and/or rider, with ample space given to execute the obstacles and the emphasis on movement, and willingness to execute the maneuvers.
5. All 3 gaits must be shown in the Walk, Jog, Lope – (W/J/L) classes.
6. W/J/L classes will be judged on the performance of the horse over obstacles with the emphasis on manners, response to rider and quality of execution. Higher scores will be given to horses working with some degree of speed, style and accuracy with minimal visible or audible cueing.
7. Enough unobstructed navigation space must be provided for the judge to evaluate the gaits. At least 20' for the walk, 30' for the trail jog, 50' for the lope.
8. Other safe and negotiable trail obstacle designs or a combination of 2 or more of the obstacles listed is acceptable.
9. The idea is not to trap the horse or eliminate it by making the course too difficult for the level performing nor too difficult or unsafe if In-hand.
10. Unacceptable trail obstacles include: tires, live animals or birds, PVC pipe, rocking or moving bridges, water boxes with floating or moving parts, flames, Dry Ice, Fire Extinguishers, starting pistols/cap guns, etc.
11. Ranch trail poles do not have to be measured, they may be random distances.

## B. STANDARD TRAIL OBSTACLES (In-hand, W/J, W/J/L)

1. Back Through or Around
  - a. Description. This obstacle may consist of markers and/or corridors of poles.
    - 1.) It may consist of parallel poles on the ground or elevated in height not to exceed 12". The outer poles measured from inside to inside are a minimum of 48" to



a maximum of 60" wide. The corridors shall be from 6' to 12' long in a straight, L, T, U or similar executable shape.

2.) It may consist of markers (cones) without poles for a 'Back Around' slalom. When no poles are used a minimum of three markers with at minimum of 36" to maximum 6' between them lengthwise will be used.

- b. Execution. The horse and rider enter the corridor at the prescribed gait and halt at the end of the corridor. The rider reins back through the corridor in the prescribed pattern as shown on the map. The obstacle is completed when the front of the horse clears the obstacle.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the fluidity of the horse's movements and its willing response to the use of the aids, enabling the route to be performed with maximum smoothness and accuracy. The Judge should consider the quality of the halt transition (if included). The horse should remain immobile in the halt prior to reining back. Bumping any part of the obstacle without knocking it over will result in a lower score. Knocking over any part of the obstacle will result in a negative score. The Judge will give a lower mark to a horse resistant to the aids, heavy hands, highheadedness, loss of straightness or a horse that drags its feet during the rein back. Exiting the corridor on the destination end with all four feet depending on severity maybe a disqualification at judge's discretion.

## 2. Bridge

- a. Description. The bridge deck should be made of wood and must not be slippery. It should be solidly constructed to ensure that it is not a danger for the horse or rider. The bridge may be flat, arched or angled in its rise. Recommended dimensions are minimum width: 3' – 5'; minimum length: 6' - 13'; minimum height: 8". The bridge may have side rails. If side rails are used, for safety considerations the rails must be constructed such that they can be quickly and easily removed without the use of tools. Side rails should be between 3' and 4' in height. The bridge may be crossed in both directions per the course map, provided that there is one obstacle in between the first and second crossing.
- b. Execution. The bridge must be crossed at a walk in all divisions. The horse should step on and off quietly, yet attentive and straight in the middle, maintaining good rhythm. A confident marching walk without hesitation should be maintained throughout entire execution.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the transition to the walk, the quality and regularity of the walk, the straightness of the horse going over the bridge, and the confidence of the horse and rider while navigating this obstacle. Deductions will be made if a horse shows any awkwardness, hesitation, or irregularity. Jumping on or off the bridge should be heavily penalized. Stepping off the bridge prematurely is a course error.

### 3. Chalk Circle

- a. Description. This obstacle consists of a circle 24" – 36" diameter delineated on the ground using chalk, flour, lime or any safe substance, no moveable items such as 'hoola hoop' may be used to mark circle. Must be placed in a level open area so that horse and rider/handler can safely perform the requirements without any obstruction. Course map may be require either a Turn on the forehand or a turn on the haunches be performed and either to the right or the left.
- b. Execution. Rider will collect the walk and place either both front feet or both hind feet inside the circle depending on course map directives. If a Turn on the Forehand is required, the front feet will be placed inside the circle and the back feet will scribe a circle around the front feet. If a turn on the haunches is required the hind feet will be inside the circle and the front feet outside of the circle, turning around by crossing over and around the hind feet in the direction required.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The judge will evaluate the accuracy and responsiveness to the aids as the horse keeps the 2 required feet inside the circle, is bent in the direction of travel, obediently moving off the riders leg with the outside two feet. The feet inside the circle do not have to remain planted but should move up and down as the horse turns. A higher score will be earned by the horse who is light, obedient, maintains the correct bend and fluid movement throughout the entire exercise. A lower score will be giving to a horse who is resistant to leg aids, counter bent, lacks crossing or fluidity or steps on the line. A negative score will be given to a horse stepping forward or back out of the circle

### 4. Gate

- a. Description. The obstacle should be a solid gate least 4' high and 6' wide at the opening, well supported by weighted posts (such as jump standards) and hinged. A latch easily operated from horseback should be used so that the rider can open from his right or left side depending on how the obstacle is set in the course. A solid gate is preferred but a rope between two posts may be used instead if needed. The obstacle may be required to be performed in both directions providing there is at least one obstacle in between the first and second execution.
- b. Execution. The rider will approach perpendicular to the gate at the prescribed gait per the course map and transition to the walk (if needed) as she/he approaches the gate. The rider then moves the horse laterally and halts alongside the gate at the latch. It is permissible to change hands prior to opening the gate if the gate is in such a position as to justify the change of hands on the reins. The rider must lift the latch, open the gate, and go through the opening. When the horse has fully passed to the other side of the gate, the rider may back up a few steps to close the gate. With the horse squarely halted, the rider will then put the latch in place to complete the obstacle. The rider should not release control of the gate at any point in the performance of this exercise



until the gate is latched. The horse should move thru the gate quietly, deliberately with confidence and responsive to the rider's aid at all times.

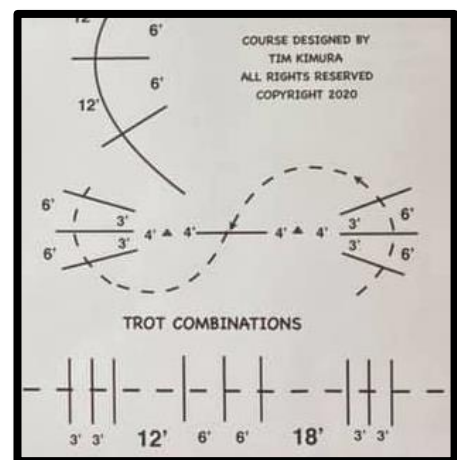
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's action, which should be fluid, submissive and without any hesitation. The horse should pay attention to and participate in the opening and closing movements without showing any signs of insecurity or disobedience. The rider's action should be easy, precise, and free from hesitation. A negative score will be given if the rider releases control of the gate by letting go for more than a momentary adjustment of hand position at any time during the execution, or if there is any sign of insecurity by the horse or rider or lack of continuity (fluidity) of the action or if horse purposely or accidentally bumps, steps, leans, or pushes on the gate.

## 5. Jog Box

- a. Description. A square consisting of 4 ground poles, with a minimum inside measurement of 12' x 12' with a marker (cone) placed in the center of the square.
- b. Execution. Exhibitor will enter over a designated pole at the jog, depending on the course map perform a 90 to 360 degree jog around the marker and exit over a designated pole. Rider should look over his shoulder for the exit point and ride out without under or over turning the maneuver.
- c. Assessment Criteria The Judge will evaluate the horse's overall manner; precise action; quality of gait; fluid and continuous movement; and degree of bend. A higher score will be given for good balance, correctness, attitude, and correct bend through the horse's body. The shape, symmetry, and precision of the turns, step rhythm and the horse's response to the rider's aids will be heavily considered. Lower scores will be given for loss of balance, poor geometry, counter bent, over use of aids or hitting poles. A negative score will be given for breaks of gait or knocking down any of the markers and/or poles.

## 6. Jog Over

- a. Description. This obstacle consists of at least one set of 4 poles measuring 36" – 42" between inside of poles either on the ground or raised with a maximum center height of 8". Additional obstacles can be single or multiple in a straight, curved, or zigzag pattern and each pole may vary in height from end to end or in height from pole to pole.
- b. Execution. Rider should approach the obstacle straight in the center maintaining a good rhythm. Horse should look at the obstacle and proceed carefully with good balance, picking up feet without touching any part of the obstacle.



- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's overall manner; precise action; quality of gait; fluid and continuous movement; and changes of bend. A higher score will be given for good balance, correctness in entry/exit, attitude, and correct bend through the horse's body. The shape, symmetry, and precision of the turns, step rhythm and the horse's response to the rider's aids will be heavily considered. Lower scores will be given for loss of balance, poor geometry, counter bent, over use of aids or hitting poles. A negative score will be given for breaks of gait or knocking down any of the markers and/or poles.

## 7. Jog Through

- a. Description. This obstacle shall consist of poles placed parallel on the ground at a minimum width of 36" - 48" maximum in a corridor shape. Elevated height shall not exceed 12". Poles may be placed in an I, L, T, U or similar shape.
- b. Execution. Rider should approach the obstacle straight in the center maintaining a good trail jog rhythm. Horse should look at the openings and proceed carefully in the middle with good balance, straightness, picking up feet without touching any part of the obstacle.
- c. Assessment Criteria The Judge will evaluate the horse's overall manner; precise action; quality of gait; fluid and continuous movement; and changes of bend. A higher score will be given for good balance, correctness in entry/exit, attitude, and correct bend staying in the center. The shape, symmetry, and precision of the turns, step rhythm and the horse's response to the rider's aids will be heavily considered. Lower scores will be given for loss of balance, poor entrance/exit or geometry, wavy lines, counter bent, over use of aids or hitting poles. A negative score will be given for breaks of gait or knocking down any of the markers and/or poles.

## 8. Lope-Over

- a. Description. This obstacle should consist of at least 4 poles, depending on level and arena size 1-6 may be used, measuring 6' - 6'6" at the center between poles which are either on the ground or raised with a maximum center height of 8". In addition they can be in single or multiple in a straight, curved, or zigzag pattern and each pole may vary in height from end to end or in height from pole to pole.
- b. Execution. Rider should approach the obstacle straight in the center maintaining a good 3-beat rhythm. Horse should look at the obstacle and proceed carefully with good balance, picking up feet without touching any part of the obstacle or break in stride.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's overall manner; precise action; quality of gait; fluid and continuous movement; and changes of lead. A higher score will be given for good balance on the correct lead with even 3-beat strides, correctness in entry/exit, attitude, and correct bend through the horse's body. The shape, symmetry, and precision of the turns, step rhythm, changes of lead and the horse's response to the

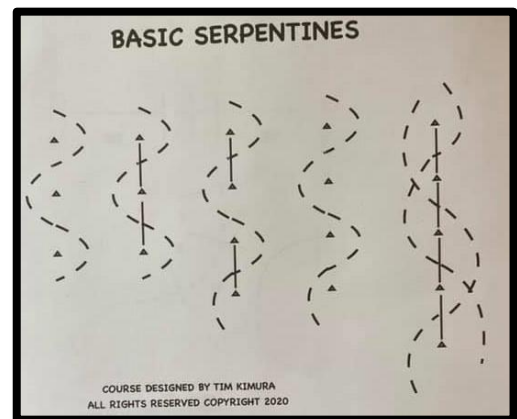
rider's aids will be heavily considered. Lower scores will be given for loss of balance, poor geometry, counter bent, over use of aids, splitting or hitting poles. A negative score will be given for breaks of gait, wrong lead or knocking down any of the markers and/or poles.

## 9. Mailbox

- a. Description. A regular Mailbox is mounted on a sturdy freestanding base or mounted to the side of the arena wall at a height of approximately 4' from the ground. This obstacle may be performed (1) as a halt obstacle alone, (2) combined with a sidepass towards and/or away from the obstacle, Or (3) Rider may be required to carry 'mail' to another destination or perform a circular pattern back to the same Mailbox.
- b. Execution. Rider will perform a smooth, unhesitant approach and halt with mailbox at rider's leg. Horse should stand square with immobility while Rider removes and/or replaces items. If side pass is included, The horse's legs must cross in a lateral movement over the rail, keeping the rail between the horse's front and hind legs throughout the obstacle. (Side pass should only be used for higher levels).
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's calmness, capacity to perform the obstacle, obedience, willingness to assist the rider. A higher score will be given for good immobility, a smooth approach and departure; if the side pass is included the crossing of the legs, the fluidity and continuity of the action., A lower score will be given for a crooked halt, lack of immobility, failure to close the Mailbox, out of balance in approach or departure. Lack of crossing in Sidepass. A negative score will be given for bumping or shying from obstacle, any legs stepping to the wrong side of pole in Sidepass

## 10. Serpentine

- a. Description. An obstacle consisting of 3 to 7 markers (cones), and/or ground poles through which a horse will maneuver at a walk or jog.
  - 1.) When markers (cones) are used for a slalom type serpentine the walk cones should be a minimum 36" to 60" apart, Jog cones a minimum 6' to 10' apart, center to center.
  - 2.) When ground poles are used with the markers the serpentine shall consist of the markers placed at each end of the poles to designate location of bend with poles placed perpendicular to the line of travel and a minimum of 6' apart.
- b. Execution. The obstacle is entered at the prescribed gait. The horse will perform half loops or turns of consistent size around the markers in the direction indicated. Changes



of lead/bend are performed as required. The horse's lead / bend should conform to the direction of the turn.

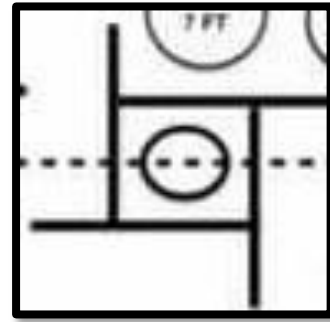
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's overall manner; precise action; quality of gait; fluid and continuous movement; in performing this obstacle; and the quality of the lead changes or changes of bend. The Judge should consider correctness and attitude during the change of lead and/or changes of bend through the horse's body, A higher score will be given for good balance, and correct bend. The shape, symmetry and precision of the turns for this obstacle, and the horse's response to the rider's aids will be heavily considered. Low scores will be given for loss of balance, poor geometry, late or delayed lead changes or changes of bend or over use of aids. Failure to perform lead changes and/or changes of bend or breaks of gait will result in a negative score. A negative score will be given for knocking down any of the markers and/or poles.

## 11. Side Pass

- a. Description. This obstacle consists of one or more poles approximately 8' -12' in length with a diameter of approximately 4"– 6". If raised, height may not exceed 12" above the ground. The obstacle may be designed to require the horse to side pass either or both ways or in a pattern.
  - (1) Single pole
  - (2) Two poles in a line separated by at least 10'
  - (3) Two parallel poles separated by at least 10 ft
  - (4) Two poles in an "L" configuration
  - (5) Three poles in a zigzag ("Z") configuration; poles are set at 90 degrees
- b. Execution. The horse's legs must cross in a lateral movement over the pole, keeping the pole between the horse's front and hind legs throughout the obstacle. The course map may indicate which direction (right or left) the horse and rider must pass over the pole; when not specified, the rider chooses the direction. For the two poles in a line and the parallel pole configurations, the poles must be ridden in different directions. For the "L" configuration, the horse must be positioned so that its head is to the inside of the "L". Any changes in gait required to execute this obstacle must occur at the entrance.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's calmness, capacity to perform the obstacle, crossing of the legs, and the fluidity and continuity of the action. A bend in the direction of the movement will garner a higher score than if the horse is bent away from the movement. A lower mark will be given for bumping the pole. The Judge will give a lower mark for a lack of crossing of the horse's legs in the lateral movement. A lower score will be given for in-hand exhibitors who must touch the horse's side during execution. A negative mark will be given for knocking over the pole or if the horse steps across the pole with one or more feet. Exiting the pole prematurely or failing to sidestep over the entire length of the pole is a course error.

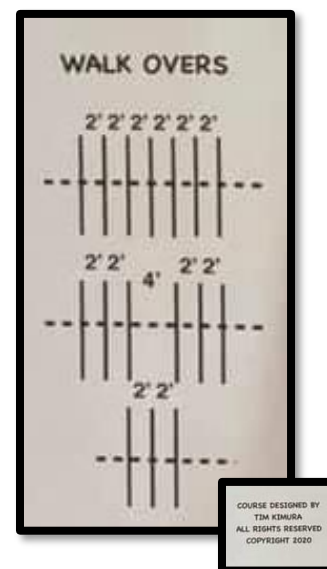
## 12. Walk Box

- a. Description. This obstacle is a square of ground poles resting on the ground with a minimum 6' - 8' inside in both directions.
- b. Execution. The Rider will approach the box straight and in the center of the first pole without hesitation in walk. Once all four feet are confined in the square, rider should use light rein pressure for a slight stop, and look to the direction they are turning, then fluidly initiate the turn without hitting any poles, making from 180 to a 360 degree turn depending on course map and then ride out. (The horse will bend around with no pivot foot– it's impossible to pivot in a 6' box from the middle). Enter, turn, exit should all happen in what appears to be one fluid motion. A turn in the box isn't a reining spin, due to the size of the box, the trail horse arcs his body in a C and takes cross-over steps with both front and hind feet in the direction of the turn. Rider should look over his shoulder for the exit point and ride out without under or over turning the maneuver.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the fluidity of the horse's movements and its response to the use of the aids, enabling the route to be performed with maximum smoothness, bend and accuracy. Bumping any part of the obstacle without knocking it over will result in a lower score. Knocking over any part of the obstacle will result in a negative score. The Judge will give a lower mark to a horse that drags its feet, is resistant to the aids, raises head or is counter-bent. Exiting the box prematurely with all four feet is a disqualification.



## 13. Walk-Over

- a. Description. This obstacle consists of at least four poles measuring 20" to 26" between poles either on the ground or raised with a maximum center height of 10". Elevated walkovers should be set at least 22"-24" apart. These can be in a straight, curved, zigzag or random pattern and each pole may vary in size, height from end to end or from height from pole to pole.
- b. Execution. Rider should approach the obstacle straight in the center maintaining a good rhythm. Horse should look at the obstacle and proceed carefully with good balance, picking up feet without touching any part of the obstacle.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the horse's overall manner; precise action; quality of gait; fluid and continuous movement; and changes of bend. A higher score will be given for good balance, correctness in entry/exit, cadence,



attitude, and correct bend through the horse's body. The geometry, symmetry, and precision of the turns, step rhythm and the horse's response to the rider's aids will be heavily considered. Lower scores will be given for loss of balance, poor geometry, counter bent, overuse of aids or hitting poles. A negative score will be given for breaks of gait, incorrect foot placement or knocking down any of the markers and/or poles.

#### 14. Water Obstacle

- a. Description. The ditch, shallow pond or box of water should be a minimum of 4' to 8' in the direction of travel (long), and a minimum of 3' to 8' wide. The ditch may be flat with a minimum depth of 4 in. The bottom surface should be safe for horses to travel across. The obstacle may be framed with logs so horses have to step over and into/out of the water. If an arena water box is used, it must be large enough so that to properly complete the obstacle all four feet must pass through water, simulated water is permissible. Simulated water is a plastic sheet secured to the ground, so that it will not become affixed to the horse's foot when a horse passes over. No floating or submerged items may be placed in the water.
- b. Execution. The horse should approach and maintain gait through the water naturally. Horse will not be penalized for acknowledging the obstacle before entering, but excessive hesitation or lacking confidence should lower the score. A horse must pass through this obstacle with all four feet of the horse stepping through the water to be completed.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the manner in which the horse approaches the obstacle, its reaction when going through the water, and the consistency of gait throughout the exercise. A higher score will be given to a horse that travels with confidence, maintaining rhythm and correct carriage. A lower score will be given for hesitancy, lacking confidence or poor balance by the horse or rider, tight reins, rushing. A negative mark will be given if the horse steps backward before riding through the obstacle, steps one or more feet out of obstacle or leaps into and/or out of the obstacle.

#### 15. Carrying an Object

- a. Description. This obstacle consists of one or two tables or platforms, if two they are set some distance apart. A sack or similar object containing items is set on one of the platforms. Any object, of a reasonable size or weight, (should not exceed 10 lbs.) may be used to be carried on a specific path and/or to a specific point. Other obstacles such as walk or trot over poles may be required to be performed between the sack pick up and replace elements. No live animals or 'scarry' noisy, flapping items may be used.
- b. Execution The rider picks up the sack from platform A, continues forward at the prescribed gait and sets the sack down on platform B or travels a specific track from

platform A back to platform A . Riders should halt with immobility to pick up/drop off the sack. If the sack is dropped, it will be handed back to Youth riders. All other riders must dismount, retrieve the sack, remount with the sack in hand, and complete obstacle.

- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the manner in which the horse approaches the obstacle, obedient halt, confidence between platforms, the reaction to the movement of the sack, and its response to the rider's aids to enable the route to be performed with maximum smoothness. A higher score will be given for performing this obstacle obedient and confident, with no breaking gait. A lower score for lacking confidence, no immobility, shying, over use of aids, dropping sack, bumping platforms.

#### 16. Drag or Pull Item

- a. Description. The obstacle consists of:

- (1) An item to drag, which should resemble objects found in the field such as a log, a weighted skid, or a weighted sack.
- (2) One or two tables, or upright structures at least 4' high.
- (3) A standard lariat (lasso, reata, rope), a minimum of 20' long. The coiled free end is positioned lying or hanging on the first structure. The loop end is securely attached to the drag item.

The drag course may be:

- (i) in a straight line from structure 1 to structure 2,
- (ii) a "U" from structure 1 around a specified object and back to structure 1,
- (iii) a circle around structure 1,
- (iv) a serpentine through cones,
- (v) other patterns as designated.

Any object which can reasonable be pulled or dragged without the exhibitor having to dally may be used. No live animals may be used. The drag is a forward motion obstacle. The pull is a backward motion obstacle. They may be combined together into one obstacle. This is an advanced obstacle and should only be used in advanced level Ranch Trail classes. It is not recommended for youth, green or basic trail classes.

- b. Execution. Rider will halt, pick up the rope, and drag the item in the designated pattern. Rider will then coil the rope and place it in the designated location. Riders may hold the rope or if using saddles with horns may dally the rope. No tying hard and fast. The rider should demonstrate awareness by looking at both the drag item and the direction of travel. If the rider drops the rope, riders must dismount, retrieve the rope, and remount with the rope. Failure to do so will result in a disqualification
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the manner in which the horse approaches the obstacle, its reaction to the movement of the dragged item, and its response to the aids to enable the route to be performed with maximum smoothness. Higher scores for a horse which goes straight with good cadence without rope touching hindlegs. Low or

negative score for spooking, traveling crooked, lack of cadence, tight reins. Rope management and safety are a major consideration. The horse should never cross or become entangled with the rope. The excess rope should be held in the rein hand, Dropping the rope or wrapping rope around the Rider's working hand should be severely penalized.

#### 17. Jump

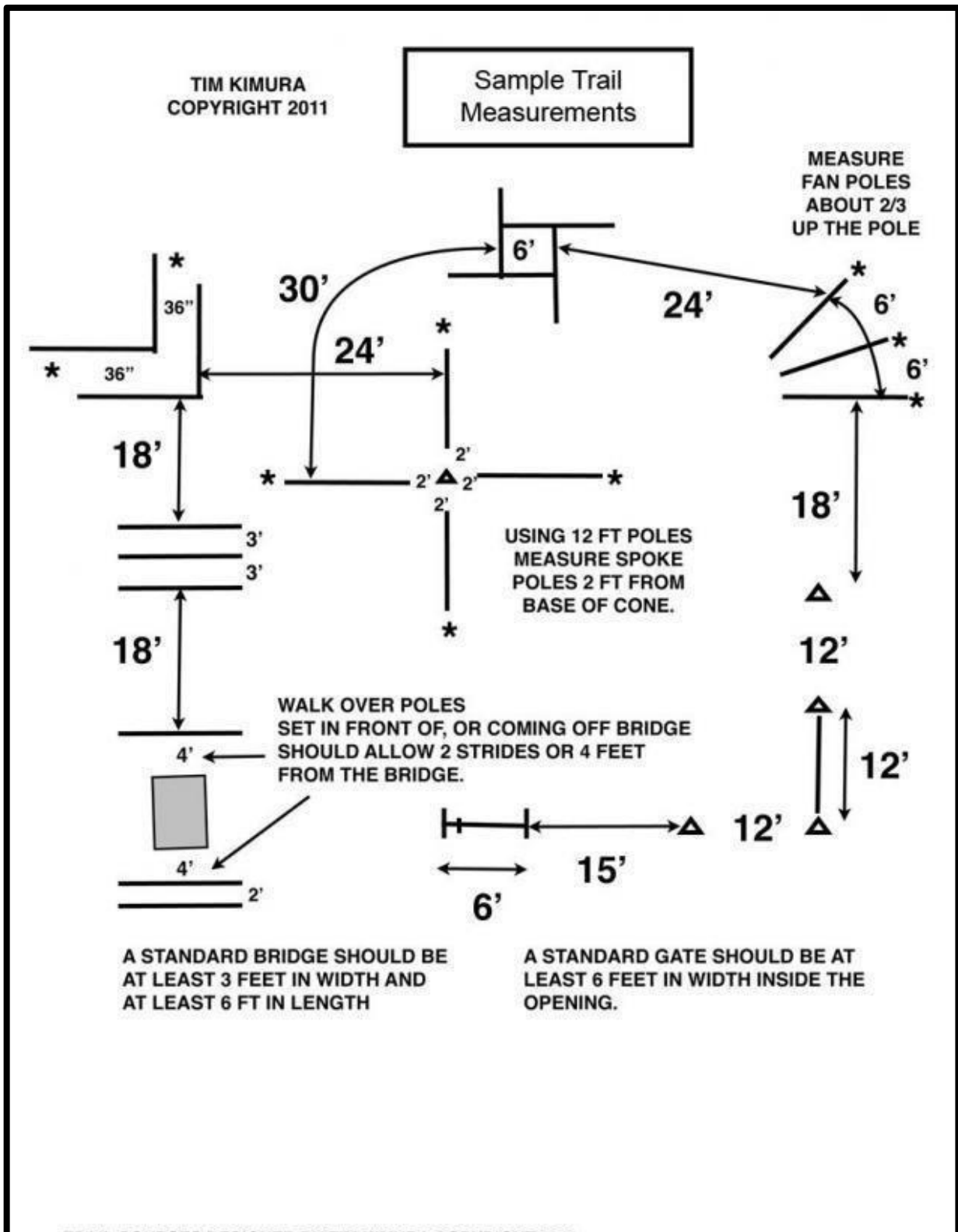
- a. Description. The obstacle consists of a single Standard jump with rails or a solid wood obstacle (like a flower box) can be used. The jump must be at least 10-ft across with a center height which is not less than 14" or not more than 24" The jump should be positioned between two jump standards with appropriate jump cups. Multiple jumps or using the same jump more than once in a course is allowed.
- b. Execution. The horse should approach and jump over the obstacle cleanly, naturally, and with assurance. Rider should be well balanced, not to interfere with the horses movement. If the obstacle is required in both directions there must be at least one other obstacle in between the first and second execution. If riding, the saddle horn may be held during the execution of this obstacle.
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the willing manner in which the horse approaches and leaves the obstacle; the horse's calmness, straightness, and tempo throughout the obstacle; the bascule over the jump; and the pair's confidence and style. The rider should maintain good position without balancing on the reins or getting 'left behind', Knocking over any part of the obstacle will result in a negative score.

#### 18. Slicker

- a. Description. This obstacle consists of a rain slicker or similar piece of outerwear, It will be located on a fence rail, jump standard or other suitable location so that the rider/handler can proceed to the slicker, put it on, remove it, and return it to the designated place with ease.
- b. Execution. Rider will approach straight with confidence, halt parallel with slicker within easy reach. The reins may be held or dropped on the neck of the horse or over the saddle horn while performing the necessary movements. In-hand handlers should not drop lead rope when performing necessary movements
- c. Assessment Criteria. The Judge will evaluate the manner in which the horse approaches the obstacle, obedient halt, confidence during execution, the reaction to the movement of the slicker, and its response to the rider's aids to enable the item to be picked up, put on, removed and returned with maximum smoothness. A higher score will be given for performing this obstacle efficiently without excessive corrections for loss of immobility, shying from object, or inattentiveness.



TABLE B-1 SAMPLE TRAIL MEASUREMENTS



# Contracting Services for Horse Show Officials®

Prepared By  
Wayne G. Hipsley, BSc, MSc  
Hipsley and Associates, LLC  
*International Equine Educator and Consultant*  
Lexington, Kentucky

To avoid misunderstandings and maintain clear lines of communication, a written agreement between horse show management and horse show officials (judge, ring steward, announcer, gate personnel, rules steward, scribe, etc) is the traditional business practice to follow. The agreement between show management and the officials can be a legal, enforceable document where show management is contracting with the official to perform specific services in accordance with the terms described in the agreement and in accordance with a breed organization's policies and procedures and show rules and regulations.

Some ask, is there one form or contract that can be recommended for use? The answer is no, because the terms of the service and the residential state of governing codes and laws vary. Therefore, the recommended procedure is contact an attorney to develop the standard language used in a contract. And yes, a contract can be created without the aid of an attorney but understand there are risks in doing so.

Regardless of method for the creation of a contract, here are some of the elements to consider for inclusion in a contract.

## **1. Identity of Individuals**

All contracts should have the name and contact information, mailing address, telephone number, email address(es), and another means for communication with the individual official. The official should be required to provide their Social Security Number for proper identification in providing an IRS W-9 and thereafter an IRS 1099 at year end. A IRS W-9 form can be attached to the contract for completion and return with the signed agreement.

The horse show management should reciprocate with name and contact information. The presumption is the show manager has the authority to sign for the organization and/or business that is contracting with the official for their services.

## **2. Emergency Contact**

Show management should make sure the official has a mobile telephone number for contact immediately prior to the show and during the show, for cases of emergency.

## **3. Name of the Event**

The official name of the event should be included in the body of the agreement, along with the official mailing address for the organization or business. The authorized representative of organization or business should be listed, if not the show manager.

#### **4. Approved Show**

The show manager should indicate the official show rules and regulations being utilized by officials at this event. If the show is being approved by more than one governing body, it must be clear as to which show rules and regulations the event is to be adjudicated and operate to eliminate any potential for confusion.

It is reasonable to expect the show manager to provide the official with the website source for the electronic form of the show rules and regulations and offer to provide a 'hard copy' of these show rules and regulations. It becomes the official's responsibility to become familiar with application of these show rules and regulation for judging and conducting the show.

If there are options stated in the show rules and regulations, show management must inform the official of the decisions under which the show will be conducted. This could include courses, patterns and presentation styles to be performed by the exhibitors.

#### **5. Courses and Patterns**

Show management needs to be very clear as to who is responsible for providing all courses and patterns for the exhibitors to perform. Some show organizations have patterns books from which the show management team may select the patterns for the show. If this is the situation, copies of the courses and patterns need to be sent to the officials for them to review and prepare, when necessary, appropriate score sheets for officiating these classes.

In other cases, the official may be requested to provide courses and patterns for the appropriate classes. Deadlines for submission of the courses and patterns must be included in the contract.

#### **6. Date(s)**

It is vital to have the correct dates for the services of the officials. This means month, day(s) and year. If alternative dates are being offered due to potential changes, these alternative date(s) must be clearly defined as the alternate date(s).

#### **7. Location**

The exact name of the location needs to be included in the contract. Example: Name of the event location - Bourbon County Fairgrounds, 111 Fairgrounds Road, Paris, KY 40361. It is helpful to include directions to the location.

#### **8. Daily Time(s) & Schedule**

A schedule of the classes with the starting times must be included in the agreement. The licensed official should be on the premises at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the event, notifying the show manager of their presence when on the showgrounds. IF there are anticipated breaks and/or intermission during the schedule, this should be provided to the official.

If the list of classes is not completed at the time of contracting with the licensed officials,

the approved list of classes needs to be made available to the officials as soon as approved.

It is reasonable to delineate breaks during the scheduled day. Show management should take into consideration reasonable breaks for the official for personal needs as well as meals. Example: If a show starts at 8:00am, and the show decides to wait until 2:00pm to take a 'lunch' break, this should be known to the official in advance of starting the day. That could be a 6 hour work period without consideration of refreshments, meal and personal needs.

### **9. Refreshments and Meals**

Show management should provide the official with their personal choice of refreshments during periodic breaks during the show. This includes but is not limited to liquid refreshment as well as snacks.

Meals and meal breaks need to be considered to keep the licensed official fresh and engaged in their work. Scheduled meal breaks provide for a time to sit and rest while preparing for the next officiating session. Reasonable meals provided by the show management should not be merely 'fast food' but provide proper nutrition for the work being performed. Example: A show manager provides pizzas for lunch and dinner while on the showgrounds. Some officials may enjoy this, but others due to dietary requirements cannot or should not eat this type of food. The show manager needs to know in advance the dietary needs of the official.

### **10. Personal Emergency Contact**

Each official should provide the name and contact information in case of personal emergency, should an accident, illness occur involving the official.

It must be remembered, the official is traveling away from home, usually traveling alone, and therefore an emergency contact should be provided to show management.

### **11. Fees & Payment**

The show organization through the show manager or designated representative shall provide arrangements for and reimbursement of the following:

#### Lodging

The show organization shall provide suitable lodging for the nights, list dates, the night prior to the start of the show, each night of the show, including the night of the last day of the show. Any additional arrangements must be communicated between the official and the show manager with a follow-up in writing.

The lodging reservation should be made in the name of the judge with an understanding of how the payment for the lodging will be handled, either pre-paid by show management or paid by the licensed official with the full amount to be reimbursed with presentation of the receipt. IF the lodging reservation is made in the name of the show manager, the official needs to be aware of this to expedite the check-in process.

## Transportation

### Ground

Personal Vehicle - The official will be re-imbursed on a per mile basis for the use of their personal automobile at the rate of X cents per mile traveled from their residence to the showgrounds and return, roundtrip. No other personal automobile expenses shall be compensated, including fuel.

### Rental Automobile

IF previously agreed by show manager and the official, the rental of an automobile will be re-imbursed per a receipt presented by the official. The estimated cost should be submitted in advance to the show manager for pre-approval. Included in the re-imburement will be costs for fuel upon presentation of receipt(s), necessary tolls, but no other expenses.

### Taxi/Uber

An alternative to a rental vehicle, arrangements may be made for transportation from airport to hotel, hotel to showgrounds and return, and hotel to airport. Receipts for this service must be presented for re-imburement.

### Volunteer Transportation

Some shows have used staff or volunteers to meet and transport officials from the airport to their hotel and/or showgrounds. The name of the person and their telephone contact should be made available to the official to ease the meeting. It should be prearranged for a pick-up point at the airport.

### Airport Shuttle

If the show manager chooses, a pre-scheduled shuttle from the airport to the hotel can be arranged through a service company. It is possible the hotel provides an airport shuttle, if so, the official needs to know the instructions for obtaining this service.

## Airfare

Roundtrip economy airfare shall be re-imbursed upon presentation of the receipt for the air travel. The show manager may re-imburse the official for the air fare in advance of the show or the reimbursement can be made at the time of completion of the judging/work assignment. The contract should define when the reimbursement will take place, with mutual acceptance. The show manager will provide re-imburement for baggage charges when appropriate, however, the show will not provide additional costs associated with air travel, including upgrades and flight lounge visits.

## Meals/Refreshments

Generally, there are two systems used to handle the reimbursement for meals.

1. A fixed daily per diem with the addition of meals provided at the showgrounds. In essence, the per diem would provide for 2 meals during the day.
2. Upon presentation of receipts for all meals, an official will be reimbursed during the dates of the show. They may be restrictions imposed such as the purchase of alcoholic beverages.

3. Refreshments(water, soft drinks, juice, etc) and snacks(cookies, fruit, chips, etc) may be provided during the dates of the show at no charge to the official

## **12. Cancellation of Agreement**

### Cancellation by Official

Occasionally, due to personal matters including health, it is necessary for a official to cancel a previously agreed upon professional service. The official must contact the show manager regarding this matter as soon as possible once it has been determined the official cannot fulfill the obligation for the event. This should be accomplished by a personal telephone call, with a follow-up email or some alternative electronic communication. But, telephone first.

As a professional courtesy to the show manager, the official could make recommendations for replacement officials, to expedite the replacement process.

If the show manager has advanced the official any fees and/or funds, it is understood that the fees and funds must be returned promptly to the show manager.

### Cancellation by the Event

Due to unforeseen circumstances it can be necessary to cancel an event more than 30 days in advance of the show dates. Severe weather, damaged facilities, flooding, etc may be cause for the showgrounds to be unsafe and unfit for the holding of the event. If this is the case, the official must be notified as soon as possible of this problem. It could mean the loss of income to the official, with these circumstances generally accepted by professionals without hardship. In some cases where this occurs, the official may be asked to serve as an official for the same event the following year or later in the show season should the show organization have optional dates.

Although rare, cancellation of an show within 30 days of the scheduled event, a show manager may offer an official partial compensation due to the fact the official could possibly have served in an official capacity at another event to receive full compensation. The concept of partial compensation needs to be considered carefully in the creation of a contract. As stated above, generally, officials are asked to serve at a later show within 12 months of the originally scheduled event when this occurs.

## **13. Proof of Insurance**

Some show organizations require the judges to have proof of liability insurance as a part of their agreement. Although this requirement is extremely rare, show management must understand that a majority of judges do not have specific liability for serving as an official, and the judge's professional liability insurance cannot replace the lack of the event's overall insurance coverage.

## **14. Optional: Attire**

Depending upon the show, there may be the occasion for the officials to dress in formal attire for evening performances or a special presentation. In those cases, the officials must be informed in advance of the expectation to meet the criteria for attire.

Consideration for the rental of formal attire, tux, etc must be understood at the signing of the contract.

If the show is being held outdoors, if only a few classes, the officials should be notified of this in preparation for the type of attire they may require as influenced by weather, i.e. temperature variation, rain, extreme sun, etc.

### **15. Escorts**

Some show organizations utilize official's escorts to accompany the officials to and from the hotel and the showgrounds, to attend special functions, and dining experiences. The purpose is to buffer the officials from exhibitors to maintain the professional conduct.

### **16. Jurisdiction for Resolution**

If there is a conflict between the show manager/organization and the official, it should be clearly noted the laws of a specific state shall prevail in resolution of the matter. To keep the costs at a minimum for resolution, both parties of the agreement should accept mediation as a first step to resolve their differences. It must be remembered, many sanctioning breed societies have no ability to intervene into these contractual matters, therefore the official and the show organization must seek their own resolution.

### **17. Signatures**

The contract must be signed by both parties and dated, with each party retaining an original for their records.

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## **Keeping Horse Shows Affordable:**

# **Horse Events Have Important Economic Impact©**

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Yes, horse events have economic impact on the communities in which they are held. So, what does this mean and how can we determine what the economic impact actually is for an event?

### **What is Economic Impact?**

Most communities want to provide incentives for equestrian events to come to their communities because it helps to drive the local economy, in everything from lodging, rental cars, restaurants, purchases of local goods and services, vehicle repairs, to airline travel, taxi/uber, purchases of vehicle fuel, paid attendance to special events, etc. All untapped revenue going back into the local community through various business processes.

This means that during a short period of time there is a temporary increase in the local "population", thus an increase in the visitors to the community to attend and participate in the event. These visitors add to the community through their spending of dollars in the local economy. Therefore, the local economy benefits directly from the equestrian event being held in the community.

Due to the spending of the exhibitors, professional trainers, and attendees, there is an influx of revenue that would not have been spent in the community if it were not for the equestrian event center. Thus, an equestrian event facility in a community has a direct impact to help drive the local economy.

### **How Can the Economic Impact be Used?**

Show management and organizers can use the historical data from their previous equestrian events and realistic estimates for future events to calculate the economic impact of their equestrian event when approaching local community leaders as they ask for local support to hold the equestrian event in their community.

What this means is show management and organizers can schedule meetings with any of the following in a community:

- Convention and Visitor Bureaus
- Chambers of Commerce
- Departments of Tourism



- Community Hospitality Committees

The purpose of those meetings is to discuss the economic benefits of the equestrian event on the community while asking for a cooperative relationship in receiving financial incentives, discounts on goods and service, assistance in developing local relationships and even recommendations for local benefactors of the equestrian event. This translates to the equestrian event is not a stand-alone event but is blended into the community. For example, by tying the equestrian event to local benefactors, this could have a direct impact on event tickets sales and attendance participation, a win-win.

Therefore, by presenting the potential of the economic impact, it can demonstrate the estimated value for the event to be held in their community, encouraging the community to assist in hosting the event. This is especially true when show management and organizers are considering multiple communities to be the host for their equestrian event and a decision needs to be made between on where to hold the event. In essence, the community that provides the most support receives the nod to partner with the event.

So, show management and organizers can use the economic impact formula to demonstrate in real terms the potential revenue being brought into the community by the equestrian event.

### **The Economic Impact Formula**

Here is a formula that can be used to estimate the *Economic Impact of a Horse Event*.

$$\text{Number of Horses} \times 2 \text{ Persons/Horse} = \text{Number of Total Persons}$$

$$\text{Number of Total Persons} \times \text{Daily Average Expenditures/Person} = \text{Average Total/Day Spent}$$

$$\text{Total/Day Spent} \times \text{Number of Days} = \text{Direct Economy Impact}$$

$$\text{Direct Economy Impact} \times \text{Roll-Over} = \text{TOTAL Economic Impact}$$

Let's take a step by step process to explain how this works and learn how variables might come into play during the calculation.

Example: A potential show organizer is seeking the use of the KHP for their upcoming horse show. The show is a four(4) day event that has historically attracted 150 horses, with over 300 exhibitors and support staff coming to the KHP. The move-in date is two days before the start of the actual competition. The move-out date is two days upon the completion of the competition. This means 2 pre-show days + 4 show days + 2 post show days = 8 total days.

$$150 \quad \times \quad 2 \quad = \quad 300$$

Number of Horses x 2 Persons/Horse = Estimated Number of Total Persons

$$300 \quad \times \quad \$135.00 \quad = \quad \$40,500.00$$

Number of Total Persons x Daily Average Expenditures/Person = Average Total/Day Spent

$$\$40,500.00 \quad \times \quad 8 \quad = \quad \$324,000.00$$

Total/Day Spent x Number of Days = Direct Economic Impact

$$\$324,000.00 \quad \times \quad 3 \quad = \quad \$972,000.00$$

Direct Economic Impact x Roll-Over = TOTAL Economic Impact

### **What Goes Into This Calculation?**

#### Daily Average Expenditure Per Person(DAEPP)

The determination of the DAEPP amount is an estimate depending upon the location, significance of the event and size of the community. If the event is held in a large metropolitan area where costs for lodging and meals could be higher than in a small community, adjustments would have to be made to increase or decrease the DAEPP in a range of 10-25%, while using the average of \$135.00 per person per day as a base.

The derivation of the DAEPP considers the following factors:

- Per night lodging(2 persons per room)
- Two purchased meals, lunch and dinner
- Snacks and other refreshments
- Incidentals
- Some formulas factor in a percentage of the revenue expended by the event organizers for decorations, landscape, local labor, rental of equipment, office supplies, printing, concessions, vendor space, security, etc.

In essence, DAEPP is a variable whereas the other numbers are actual or calculated from actual numbers.

#### Roll-Over

The roll-over can vary due to the length of the horse show as well as the expenditure level of those attending the event. Most formulas use a roll over range from 1 - 7 times the direct economic impact. The 'roll-over' means the number of times the locally spent revenue change hands in the community. Unless there are firm statistics and other data to work from, a mid-range number of roll-overs is 3.

For a national breed show, depending upon the breed, the roll-over number could easily be a 7, whereas for a small local show the number could be 1.

### **Summary**

In today's world of horse shows, every effort needs to be implemented to relieve the economic pressure on the horse owners and exhibitors. Through aggressive marketing and promotion the economic impact formula can aid show management and organizers to ease the economic pressure on the participants, and thereby make the event more affordable.