

Geauga Horse and Pony Association

Show rules and regulations

[Amended 9/1/91, 1/13/92, 10/4/92, 11/1/92, 5/27/93, 2/3/94, 1/13/95, 2/1/98, 12/2/98, 3/1/00, 4/5/00, 7/5/00, 2/7/01, 2/6/02, 2/17/02, 11/08/02, 2/27/03, 2/5/04, Revised and Amended 3/02/05, Revised 2/01/06, 2/1/07, 1/2/08, 1/9/2013, 5/12/2015]

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ALL SHOWS GOVERNED BY THE GEAUGA HORSE AND PONY ASSOCIATION SHOW RULES.

1. EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL. These rules and regulations become effective Jan. 2, 2008. All previous rules are hereby repealed, except that the status of all records made under previous rules and regulations shall remain unchanged. Rules printed in the Geauga Horse & Pony Association Show Rules and Regulations shall be used at all GHPA shows. [3/2/05, 2/1/06, 2/1/06, 1/2/08]

2. ANIMAL WELFARE.

A. Every horse and pony shall, at all times, be treated humanely and with dignity, respect, and compassion in keeping with the GHPA mission statement. [3/2/05]

B. The standard by which conduct or treatment shall be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures or veterinary standards, would determine to be cruel, abusive, or inhumane. [3/2/05]

3. MEMBERSHIP. The GHPA membership year shall commence January 1st and run through December 31st of the same year and memberships shall be renewable annually. Members are eligible to qualify for year-end awards at regular GHPA horse shows (**See rule 3D**), to participate in the Member Service Incentive Program (**See Section 13**), and to qualify for GHPA scholarships when available. Youth members are eligible for youth stabling at the Great Geauga County Fair and to qualify as a GHPA representative for the “All American Youth Horse Show.” An individual shall become a current member of GHPA effective the date that his/her membership dues are paid for the current year. [2/3/94, 2/1/98, 3/2/05]

A. Membership dues are to be set by the officers and membership in accordance with GHPA bylaws. [2/1/98, 1/1/03, 2/1/06]

B. The Corral and GHPA emails will be GHPA’s official newsletters. Special mailings by GHPA may include banquet reservations, fair forms, membership applications, notices of education events, reminders to membership of important deadlines, or information about GHPA sponsored events (e.g. the annual tack sale). There shall be no other mailings unless it is deemed necessary by the board or approved by the officers. [11/1/92, 2/1/98, 3/2/05]

C. The GHPA website shall contain a copy of the Show Rules & Regulations for the current show season, and minutes of general meetings, updates to show points and updates to member service hours available. [3/2/05]

D. Exhibitor’s SHOW POINTS AND MEMBER SERVICE HOURS REQUIRED TO QUALIFY

FOR YEAR-END AWARDS BEGIN TO ACCUMULATE FOR THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP YEAR COMMENCING ON THE DATE THAT A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION SUBMITTED AND IS PAID. Show points earned and/or horse show service hours worked prior to the date of paid membership WILL NOT apply towards qualifying the member for year-end class or division high point awards (see section 12). It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to obtain a paid membership BEFORE earning points at regular GHPA horse show for those points to count towards eligibility for year-end awards. [2/3/94, 2/1/98, 3/2/05]

E. In order to stable with GHPA at the Great Geauga County Fair, a youth must be a member by June 1st of the current membership year. [21/88, 11/1/92]

4. AFFILIATED CLUBS.

Riding and/or pony clubs, which meet the following criteria, may affiliate with GHPA. The criteria are as follows:

A. Clubs must have a mission statement, not in conflict with GHPA's mission statement, which embraces education and promotes the welfare of riders and equines.

B. Club membership must be open to all GHPA members. Affiliated clubs may set requirements for membership and set dues and fees agreeable to the membership. These requirements cannot include any requirements that members board or train at a specific equine facility.

C. Clubs may provide for the election or appointment of officers as they see fit. An officer or other representative of affiliated clubs should be in attendance at each regular GHPA meeting.

D. Clubs must provide for monthly meetings.

E. Affiliated clubs must actively participate in a minimum of two (2) educational clinics each year. These clinics must be open to all GHPA members. If the affiliated club has expenditures for these clinics, they may charge a reasonable fee to non-club members for participation.

F. Adult advisors may be appointed or elected for the club and must be GHPA members in good standing. Up to two (2) adult advisors from each club will be considered the equivalent of GHPA standing committee chairs.

G. There may be no commercial endorsements by affiliated clubs, including the use of a commercial name within the club name.

H. Clubs must request affiliation with GHPA and be approved by the executive committee.

I. Affiliated clubs and their membership will receive the following benefits:

i. Preferential stalling with GHPA at the Great Geauga County Fair for all members who meet GHPA requirements for such preferential stalling. Clubs will be stalled together.

ii. Affiliated clubs are to be determined by the officers as of January 1st of the current year. [2/07/01, 2/1/06]

5. GENERAL SHOW RULES.

- A.** Shows are open to all youth through 18 years of age and adults 19 and over. [1/8/88, 3/12/15]
- B.** All rider/handler show division ages are determined as of January 1st of the current year. [1/8/88]
- C.** Stallions *must* be handled by an adult (19 & over) at all times. [1/8/88, 3/12/15]
- D.** The ring steward, show chairperson [2/17/02], appointee, or the judge has the right to remove from any class an animal deemed unsafe or unruly. [5/9/90]
- E.** Any questions regarding rules should be addressed to the ring steward. No participant should address the judge without permission from the steward. **JUDGE'S DECISION IS FINAL.** [1/8/88]
- F.** Numbers must be worn on the riders back or on the saddle pad and be clearly visible at all times when in competition. [1/8/88]
- G.** Proper attire and equipment required for all English, Western, and Contest Classes. Safety helmets are permitted for any rider. [11/1/92]
- i. ENGLISH:** Helmets, boots, breeches or jodhpurs, jacket (discretion of judge), no sleeveless shirts. When judge's discretion permits removal of jackets in English classes [1/8/88, 2/1/98] arms must be covered to the wrist when an exhibitor is in the ring. [3/1/00]
 - ii. WESTERN:** Hat, boots, long sleeve shirt, pants. Chaps are optional but may be required at the discretion of the judge. [1/8/88, 2/1/98]
 - iii. CONTEST:** Western boots, Western hat (or no hat at all). Shirts must have a collar and long sleeves, no tank tops and/or tee shirts. Jeans or any suitable long pants allowed. Jacket/sweater is acceptable in inclement weather. It is recommended that youth wear protective head gear while riding horse/pony. Protective head gear is acceptable in any class, even if it is not of the style that goes with the particular class. [1/8/88]
- H. JUNIOR HORSE:** A horse aged 5 years and under may be show with a hackamore (bosal), or "D" or "O" ring snaffle bit with both hands on the reins. Age determined as of January 1st of the current year. [1/8/88, 1/13/95]
- I. DRUG RULE:** The use of drugs is strictly prohibited, except with a veterinarian's certificate. Any horse or pony may be subject to a spot check for drugs at any or all show. [1/8/88]
- J. ENTRY FEES:** An entry fee may be charged and must be uniform to all exhibitors in the class. Entry fees shall be specified on the entry form.

6. RIDER ABILITY. Show divisions within GHPA are: Lead Line, Walk/Trot 9 & under, Walk/Trot 10 through 18, Walk Trot Adult 19 & over, Novice (Beginner), Open Youth 18 & under, Open Adult 19 & over. [2/1/07, 3/12/15] The divisions are based on **rider age and/or ability only**, not horse/pony age and/or ability. Exceptions to this rule are special events or jackpot classes. [11/1/92, 3/2/05]

A. LEADLINE: The division is for riders aged 6 years and under, and is to be judged on equitation or horsemanship only. Proper English or Western attire required. Matching outfits for the rider and handler

are not a requirement to be considered in judging. The rider is not eligible in any other class, unless otherwise stated on the show flyer. [4/11/91, 11/1/92]

B. LEADLINE RIDER DIVISION ADVANCE: The rider will not be required to advance divisions provided the age criteria for the division are met. [5/27/93, 2/1/06]

C. WALK TROT YOUTH (ALL AGES): The division is for youth riders who have never cantered their horse at a show. A Walk Trot youth rider is not eligible to show in any class not designated Walk Trot (including contesting classes). Exception: May show in the Walk Trot Novice Halter classes. [12/2/98, 3/2/05, 2/1/06] Youth Walk Trot riders may not cross over to the open ring for any classes. Each Walk Trot Youth division is open to all youth Walk Trot exhibitors, as defined by the exhibitors show age (See rule 5B). [3/2/05]

D. WALK TROT ADULT (19 & OVER): The division is for adult riders who have never cantered their horse at a show. The rider is eligible to show in Adult Showmanship (English or Western), Horse/Pony Halter, Colt Halter, Registered Quarter Horse Halter, Adult Walk Trot Equitation/Horsemanship, and Adult Walk Trot English/Western Pleasure classes only. [2/27/03, 2/5/04] The Walk Trot Adult division is open to all adult Walk Trot exhibitors as defined by the exhibitors show age (See rule 5B). [3/2/05, 3/12/15]

E. NOVICE: The division is for riders who can walk, jog or trot, and lope or canter (controlled) both ways of the ring. The riders are not skilled in obtaining the correct leads at the lope or canter, or posting the correct diagonals at the trot. The Novice division is open to all ages, youth and adult. [11/1/92] A Novice rider is not eligible in any class not labeled Novice (including contest classes). Exception: May show in the Walk Trot Novice halter class. [12/2/98, 3/02/05, 2/1/06] Novice riders may not cross over to the open ring for any classes. [1/02/08]

F. WALK TROT NOVICE DIVISION ADVANCE: A rider is required to move up to the next divisional level of competition if any of the following apply:

- i. After receiving a year-end all around high point award in a single division in any two (2) show seasons. [2/7/01, 2/1/06]
- ii. After accumulating 125 points or more in the English or Western division in the following classes: horsemanship, equitation, English pleasure, Western pleasure, and trail or disciplined rail classes. [3/02/05, 2/1/06, 1/2/08] The points stay with the rider and carry over from one show season to the next beginning with 2001 show points. After the rider moves up to a new division, the points start over at zero (0). [3/6/02] If any of these conditions exist and the rider chooses to remain in the same division in which the points or awards were earned, the rider becomes ineligible to receive daily high point awards and/or year end high point awards in that division the following year. Riders in the Walk Trot 9 & Under division meeting the criteria outlined above may choose to move up only to the older age group within the Walk Trot division and will not be required to move to the Novice division. These participants will be eligible for daily high point awards and year end awards in the older age group within the walk trot division. [11/1/92, 02/7/01]
- iii. A parent or guardian may appeal on behalf of any rider required to advance from Walk Trot to the Novice division due to accumulation of 125 or more points. An appeal must be made prior to the start of the show season. The officers and show committee will determine whether or not to allow the rider to continue in the Walk Trot division for that show season and compete for high point awards. [2/1/06, 1/02/08]

G. Exhibitor *must* ride in **Rider Ability** signed up for the complete current season to qualify for daily high point and year end awards. [11/1/92] Exception: any exhibitor in a Walk Trot or Novice division may move up to the next higher division at anytime with the Show Committee Chairperson's written approval and be eligible for yearend high point awards if he/she competes in five (5) shows in that division. [4/11/91, 3/2/05]

H. No rider or handler is permitted to cross over between divisions. This will result in forfeiting points for year end and daily high point awards. [1/8/88, 3/1/00]

I. OPEN YOUTH AND ADULT: The Open divisions are for riders who can walk, jog or trot, and lope or canter (controlled) their horse both ways of the ring. The riders are skilled in obtaining the correct leads at the lope or canter, and posting the correct diagonals at the trot. Each open division is open to all open youth or adult exhibitors, as defined by the exhibitor's show age (See rule 5B). [3/2/05]

J. CONTEST: The Contest division is open to all Open youth and adult exhibitors. [3/2/05] If a member competes in the Contest division, he/she may not ride in any Walk Trot or Novice division. He/she must ride in the Open youth or adult divisions. [5/9/90, 4/11/91]

K. 4-H MEMBERS & OTHERS: (all counties) If participant shows Walk Trot or Novice (Beginner) at 4-H shows, he/she must ride in the same division at GHPA shows. If 4-H participant is in Intermediate, Junior Advanced or Senior Advanced, he/she must show in the GHPA "Open Youth 18 & under" division. [11/1/92] Adult exhibitors who belong to other horse organizations or who participate in horse shows other than GHPA must ride in the corresponding division for GHPA shows. [11/8/03]

7. ENTRY RULES.

A. All entry forms must be filled out properly, legibly, and signed in order to receive points (correct name of animal & rider). [1/8/88] If your animal has two names, registered name & barn name, use **only one** (same) name throughout the season. [4/11/91] It is the responsibility of the exhibitor or their designee (adult/youth) and/or the exhibitor's guardian (youth) to complete the entry form correctly. [3/2/05]

B. Entry fees are not transferable or refundable, unless a class is cancelled by the GHPA Show Committee. [11/1/92] Refunds will be made with proof of illness or injury to the horse or rider. [1/8/88]

C. The Show Committee shall have the right to refuse any application for entry that in their minds might be detrimental to the best interest of the show. No reason for refusing to accept said entry need be given. [1/8/88]

D. All entries will be closed when the previous class enters the ring. [1/8/88, 2/17/02]

E. Any changes made on entry forms must be initialed by an Officer or Show Committee Chairperson and logged. [2/17/02]

8. CLASS RULES AND POINTS.

- A.** All classes may be shown/ridden English or Western, horse or pony, unless specified per individual class. [1/8/88]
- B.** Management reserves the right to change classes before or during the show. [1/8/88]
- C.** No classes in either ring will be combined. [12/28/01]
- D.** Points earned in any class held fewer than four (4) times will not be tallied for year-end high point awards. [1/13/95]
- E.** Any Walk Trot or Novice riding class with 25 or more entrants will be split with a call back and ride off with one set of ribbons being awarded. [7/5/00]
- F.** The in gate will be closed three (3) minutes after the first horse enters the ring. Judging shall not begin until the gate is closed or at the end of the three (3) minute call. [1/8/88]
- G.** All entries will be closed when the previous class enters the ring. [1/8/88]
- H.** If an exhibitor participates in a class which he/she has not entered, she/he will not be judged and may be excused from the ring. [5/27/93, 2/17/02]
- I.** No horse/pony shall be entered more than once in any class. [1/8/88]
- J.** Requested tack changes will be allowed five (5) minutes. Requested tack changes must be put on entry form at time of sign up. [1/8/88]
- K.** A trophy and six ribbons will be awarded in the Walk Trot/Novice ring. No trophies or ribbons will be awarded for regular classes in the open ring because of paybacks. High points where specified. [1/8/88, 1/9/02].
- L.** Points for daily high point and year end class and high point awards are awarded in all regular classes based on the following system: (WT/Novice Ring) 6 or more horses shown 1st-6 points, 2nd-5, 3rd-4, 4th-3, 5th-2, 6th-1 point. If fewer than 6 horses are shown, 1st place will receive as many points as horses shown with each lower placing receiving 1 less point. (Open Ring) 6 or more horses shown, 1st-6 points, 2nd-5, 3rd-4, 4th-3, 5th-2 points. If fewer than 6 six horses shown, 1st place will receive as many points as horses shown with each lower placing receiving one less point. Points are not awarded for jackpot or special event classes. Jackpot and special event classes are not included in daily high point or yearend class or high point awards. Double points shall be awarded in regular classes at double judged shows. Exception: Contesting exhibitors pay a single entry fee, run one (1) timed run, and receive points for one class. [3/2/05]
- M. THE SHOW BILL** for regular GHPA shows will be determined by the Show Committee prior to the beginning of each show season. GHPA may include, but is not limited to nor required to offer any of the following classes at the discretion of the Show Committee. [3/2/05, 2/1/06]
- i. Showmanship Classes:** To be judged on the ability of the exhibitor to properly show their horse/pony and upon the grooming, fitting & turn out of the animal. The confirmation of the horse/pony has no bearing on placing in the class. Credit should be given to properly **braided/banded** manes and tails. Grooming, fitting & turn out of the

animal 40%, appearance of exhibitor & tack 10%, showing animal 50%. [1/8/88] Patterns are required. [11/18/02] Points earned in regular showmanship classes may be accumulated towards daily high point with the exception of the points earned in Adult 40 & Over. Points earned in regular showmanship classes may be accumulated towards year end class and high point awards. [4/1/05]

ii. HALTER CLASS: To be judged on confirmation, type, soundness, and way of going. Horse/pony to be shown in hand at the walk and trot and standing. [1/8/88] Any headstall suitable to 1) the breed of horse shown 2) current breed association standards 3) consistent with handlers attire (e.g. English or Western), may be used. Points earned in regular halter classes are on the horse, not the handler, and are accumulated towards year end halter class awards. Points earned in halter classes may be accumulated towards daily high point, and year end class and high point rider awards. Ranch conformation class is not included in daily high point or count for yearend halter horse of the year. [3/2/05, 2/1/06]

iii. HORSEMANSHIP & EQUITATION CLASSES: Riders will be judged on seat, hands, and ability to position 35%, appointments 15%, performance 50%. [1/8/88] Patterns are required. Rail work is mandatory one way of the ring – to be judged at a walk, jog and/or trot, and/or lope or canter. The opposite direction may be shown at the judge’s discretion. [11/8/02, 3/2/02] Points earned in regular horsemanship and equitation classes are accumulated towards daily high point awards, with the exception of the points earned in Adult 40 & Over and Adult W/T classes. Points earned in all regular horsemanship and equitation classes may be accumulated towards year-end class and high point awards. Points earned in horsemanship and equitation classes in the Walk Trot and Novice divisions are maintained on the rider from year to year and count towards the Division Advance requirement (See Rule 6F). [3/2/05]

iv. PLEASURE CLASSES: To be judged on the performance and way of going, with emphasis on manners, appointments, equipment, neatness, and confirmation. Horses to be shown at a walk, true jog or trot, lope or canter at the judge’s request both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without restriction. Entries shall be penalized for being on wrong lead **at the lope or** canter. Horses are required to back easily and to stand quietly. Junior horses aged 5 and under may be shown with a hackamore (bosal), or “D” or “O” ring snaffle bit [5/9/90] with both hands on reins. [1/8/88] Riders may be requested to drop their horses’ bits at the judge’s discretion. Points earned in regular pleasure classes are accumulated towards daily high point awards, with the exception of the points earned in Adult 40 & Over, Open and Non-Pro pleasure classes. Points earned in all regular pleasure classes may be accumulated towards year-end class and high point awards. Points earned in English and Western pleasure classes in the Walk Trot and Novice divisions are maintained on the rider from year to year and count towards the Division Advance requirement (See Rule 6F). [4/1/05]

v. FANNY RACE CLASSES: To be judged by elimination. All classes to be ridden with no saddles. This includes Walk Trot and Novice divisions. [11/1/92] Points earned in regular fanny race classes are accumulated towards year-end class awards and towards divisional daily. [3/1/00, 3/2/05]

vi. DISCIPLINE RAIL CLASSES: To be judged on the ability of the highly trained horse or pony, with emphasis on performance and way of going, manners, appointments, equipment, neatness, and confirmation. Proper attire must be worn. Correct leads are required. Judge shall work the class adequately but must not overwork the entries. Final judging shall be on the basis of the best overall disciplined rail performance. The class routine shall be to perform on the rail, and may include but is not limited to: a walk, trot or jog, slow lope or controlled canter, hand gallop, flying lead change each way of the ring, transition into lope or canter from halt, departing and traveling on the counter lead at the lope or canter, side pass right and left (once each way), turn on the forehand, either or both directions, turn on the hind, either or both directions, halt and stand quietly. The judge may ask for additional work. This is not a game or “fault and out” class and shall not be judged on an elimination basis. At all times the safety of horses and exhibitors is to be the first concern. Points earned in regular disciplined rail classes are accumulated towards daily high point awards, and year-end class and high point awards. Points earned in disciplined rail classes in Novice divisions are maintained on the rider from year to year and count towards the Division Advance requirement (See Rule 6F). [4/1/05]

vii. TRAIL CLASSES: To be judged on performance and way of going, with emphasis on manners, appointments, equipment, neatness, and confirmation. Requires animals to work over and through obstacles. Tests which may be required are negotiating gate, carrying objects from one part of the ring to another, riding through water, over logs or simulated brush, crossing bridge, backing through obstacles, side passing, dismounting from either side and performing over any reasonable conditions encountered along the trail. Course to include a minimum of five (5) obstacles. While horse/pony is in motion, rider’s hands shall be clear of animal to avoid cuing. Animals are to be penalized for any unnecessary delay while approaching obstacle. Judge may ask rider to advance to next obstacle after three (3) refusals. Refusals at three (3) separate obstacles will result in disqualification. Course should be posted at least one (1) hour before the class is worked. Each horse/pony may enter only once. Proper attire is required. [1/8/88] No one will be able to practice once course is set up—disqualification.

viii. RANCH CLASSES: To be judged on the horses versatility, attitude, and movement as a working horse. The horse’s performance should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse’s ability to work at a forward, working speed while under control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded and horse shall not be shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements, and the horse’s quality of movement are the primary considerations. Points earned in Ranch classes do not count towards daily high point but will be counted for year end Ranch high point award. [5/12/15]

Requirements:

- a. Each horse will work individually, performing both required and optional maneuvers, and scored on the basis of 0 to 100, with 70 denoting an average performance.
- b. The required maneuvers will include the walk, jog, and lope both directions; and the extended jog and lope at least one direction; as well as stops, turn to change directions, and back.

- c. Optional maneuvers may include a side pass, turns of 360 or more, change of lead (simple or flying), walk, jog, or lope over a pole(s); or some reasonable combination of maneuvers/obstacles that would be reasonable for a ranch horse to perform.
- d. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
- e. No time limit.

Apparel and Equipment:

- a. Hoof polish is permitted but discouraged.
- b. braided or banded manes are permitted but discouraged.
- c. NO tail extensions**
- d. Trimming of the ears, facial hair and bridle path is optional
- e. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.
- f. Senior horses (6 yrs. & older) are to be shown in a bit. Junior horses (5 yrs. & younger) are to be shown in a bit, hackamore, or snaffle bit.
- g. Conservative western attire is recommended, long sleeve shirt/blouse, western hat/helmet and boots are required. Chaps are optional.

ix. RANCH CONFORMATION: To be judged by selecting well-mannered horses in the order of their resemblance to their individual breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling.

- a. All sexes will be shown together as one class.
- b. Horses are to be shown in a good working halter: rope, braided, nylon or plain leather. Halters with silver are permitted but discouraged. Leads may have a chain end and chain can be placed under the chin. **No** lip chains that run through the mouth are permitted.

x. CONTEST CLASSES: To be judged as timed events. Timing shall begin as soon as the horse breaks the timing line and will be stopped when the horse breaks the timing line a second time. The contestant is allowed a running start. Knocking over an object on the course carries a time penalty. Failure to follow the course shall result in a "no time." Failure of a contestant to cross the start and finish line will result in a "no time." [3/2/05]

- a. Contestant has one (1) minute to enter the ring.
- b. Contestant must stay behind starting cone when warming up [5/5/90], 60 second time limit to break the timer after number is called. [2/2/93]
- c. Proper western attire and tack is required [5/5/90], including western boots, shirt with collar and long sleeves (tucked and buttoned) [4/11/91], or contestant will be disqualified. Jacket/sweater is acceptable in inclement weather. [1/8/88] Western hat or safety helmet optional. [5/9/90]
- d. Excessive use of crops, bats, or spurs is strictly prohibited. [5/9/90]
- e. No horse/pony shall be entered more than once in any class. [4/11/91]
- f. Only one (1) rerun will be allowed in the event of broken equipment. [1/8/88]

- g. No contestant may enter or exit the ring at a run or this will result in disqualification. [1/8/88]
- h. If a rider and/or horse fall during an event, the contestant will be disqualified unless he/she has completed and crossed the finish line astride his/her horse. [1/8/88]
- i. Numbers may be placed on either the back of the rider or on the saddle pad & must be completely visible to the judge. [1/8/88]
- j. Times will be announced on all runs. [1/8/88]
- k. There will be no practice or warm ups between classes or during set up of equipment in the ring or contestant will be disqualified. [4/11/91]
- l. The gate must be closed behind the horse/pony and not reopened until the course is finished and the horse is under control. No other horse may be in the ring until the previous entry exits. [4/11/91]
- m. Timing a run begins when the timing line is broken and stops when it is crossed again. [4/11/91]
- n. In the event of a tie, there will be a runoff. [4/11/91]
- o. All contest classes are GHPA patterns, o be run as stated [2/2/93]
- p. Any horse/pony off course is automatically disqualified. [1/8/88]
- q. Walk Trot or Novice participants may not show in any contesting classes not specifically designated as a Walk Trot or Novice class. [5/9/90] Points earned in regular contesting classes are included in year-end class and high point awards. [3/2/05]

9. TACK APPOINTMENTS.

A. SHOW (BACK) NUMBERS: Each exhibitor shall have a back number and back numbers cannot be shared between exhibitors. Exhibitors must have a different number for each horse/rider/handler combination. Lists will be kept in each ring with back numbers that are being used by other people and it is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that there are no duplications.

B. ENGLISH: In all English classes, an English snaffle (no shank), Pelham (with two reins), Kimberwick and/or full bridle with cavesson noseband and plain leather bands must be used. Saddles must be of the saddle seat, hunt or forward seat type and may have a suede seat and/or suede insert on the skirt. Optional equipment includes spurs of the un-rowelled type, that are blunt, round and no longer than one inch, crops or bats (excessive use prohibited), braiding of mane and/or tail in hunt style. [1/8/88, 3/1/14]

C. WESTERN: Any western saddle that fits the horse and rider is acceptable. The horse/pony may be shown in any suitable bit. No wire, or other metal or rawhide may be used in conjunction with the flat leather chinstrap, which must be at least ½ inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse. Curb chains may be used but must be at least ½ inch in width and lie flat against the jaw of the horse. Except for hackamore/snaffle bit classes or junior horses shown with a hackamore/snaffle bit, only one hand may be used on the reins, and the hand must not be changed. The hand is to be around the reins; index finger only between split reins is permitted. In trail, it is permissible to change hands to work an obstacle. [3/2/05] The exception is the Junior Horse which may show in a bosal or snaffle with two hands on the reins. [1/8/88]

Optional Western Equipment:

- a. Rope or riata; if used, the rope or riata must be coiled and attached to the saddle.
- b. Hobbles attached to saddle.

c. Tapaderos

d. Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are allowed in barrel racing, pole bending, stake racing, western horsemanship, ranch riding, and ranch rail.

D. CONTEST: The hackamore or any other type of bit is permissible: however, the judge may prohibit the use of any equipment he considers too severe. Excessive use of bats, crops, or spurs prohibited.

[1/8/88]

E. HALTER:

- i. Arabian/half Arabian: a halter suitable to the breed may be used. Crop or whip may be used with discretion. [1/8/88]
- ii. Hunter In Hand: Appropriate bridle for Hunter horses may be used.
- iii. All other Halter Classes: Any suitable halter may be used.
- iv. Leads may have a chain end and chain can be placed under the chin. **No** lip chains that run through the mouth are permitted.

F. SHOWMANSHIP:

- i. English must be shown in bridle (snaffle, Pelham, kimberwick or full bridle). No whip or crops allowed.
- ii. Western must be shown in a halter. [1/8/88]

G. Whenever the rules refer to a hackamore, it means the use of a rawhide braided, leather braided, or rope bosal. It does not refer to a so-called mechanical hackamore. Absolutely no iron will be permitted under the jaws regardless of how padded or covered. [1/8/88]

H. Whenever the rules refer to snaffle bits in western performance classes, it means the use of a smooth snaffle bit with broken mouth piece (conventional "O" ring, egg butt or "D" ring) and the ring is no larger than 4 inches. The inside circumference of the ring must be free of rein, curb or headstall attachments which would provide leverage. The mouth piece must be a minimum of 5/16 inch diameter one (1) inch from the cheek with a gradual decrease to center of the snaffle. Optional curb strap attached below the reins is acceptable. [1/8/88, 3/2/05]

I. References to a suitable bit in western performance classes mean the use of a curb bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks, and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical device and should be considered a standard western bit according to the breed association which represents the horse being shown. [3/2/05]

J. Whenever the rules refer to Romal, it means an extension of braided material attached to closed reins. This extension is to be allowed to be carried in the free hand with 16 inch spacing between the reining hand and the free hand holding the Romal. The Romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or used to signal or cue the horse in any way. [1/8/88]

K. In any class, the judge or Show Committee Chairperson shall have the authority to require the removal or alteration of any piece of equipment or accoutrement which is unsafe, or in his/her opinion, would tend to give a horse an unfair advantage of which he/she believes to be inhumane. [3/2/05]

10. DAILY HIGH POINT AWARDS. GHPA may present daily high point awards to exhibitors who finish with the highest total number of points in qualifying classes for a show in each division. Divisions for

daily high point awards will be determined by the show committee prior to the first show of the show season and may not be changed after the date of the first show of the season. A list of qualifying classes for each daily high point division will be determined by the show committee prior to the first show of the show season and may not be changed after the date of the first show of that season. [2/1/06]

A. Exhibitors do not need to be a GHPA member to win a daily high point award in any division at a regular GHPA show. [2/1/06]

B. Daily high point awards are not awarded in the Lead line, Contest, 40 & over, Ranch classes, and Adult W/T divisions. Exhibitors do not accrue points towards daily high point awards for placings in contest, jackpot, elimination (fun), and/or special events classes. [3/2/05]

C. Same horse/pony must be shown by the same rider/handler in each qualifying class for the rider to be eligible for daily high point awards and year end awards with the exception of Open Horse/Pony Halter year end High Points. [1/8/88, 10/4/90, 3/2/05]

i. W/T NOVICE (SMALL GRANDSTAND RING) HIGH POINTS – DAILY AND YEAR END:

a. Daily High Point will be awarded for W/T 10 & under, W/T 11 & over, and Novice.

b. Daily High Point – All classes included (except open classes & jackpot), same horse/same rider

c. Year End – all classes included except open classes & jackpot, same horse/same rider

d. Minimum number of points & number of shows remains the same

ii. OPEN RING (EAST RING) HIGH POINTS – DAILY & YEAR END:

a. Includes all classes in each division, same horse/same rider, excluding jackpot classes, non pro western pleasure, and open western pleasure.

b. Daily High Point will be awarded for Western Youth 18 & under and Adult 19 & over and English Youth 18 & under and Adult 19 & over.

11. DISQUALIFICATION. In the case of misconduct on the part of any exhibitor, whether the offense occurs on show grounds or in the show ring, or whether before, during, or after the show, it is within the jurisdiction of the Show Committee to disqualify an exhibitor and/or their entries and to require them to forfeit points and ribbons earned at that show, and for cause to have the horse removed from the grounds without being held liable for damages. [3/2/05]

12. SERVICE HOURS. Service hours may be earned on behalf of any current GHPA member by working in support of GHPA in a capacity recognized by the Board of Officers as beneficial to GHPA and supportive of its mission to educate. [3/2/05]

A. A current, paid membership is required for service hours and for points for yearend awards to count towards eligibility for yearend awards. Accumulation of points and service hours begins only *AFTER MEMBERSHIP IS PAID* and signed membership form is received. Any show points earned before membership is paid **WILL NOT COUNT** towards eligibility for yearend awards. Any service hours earned by a member who participated on a recognized committee (e.g. Show Committee, Sponsorship Committee, Banquet Committee, Education Committee, Scholarship Committee) before his/her membership was paid for the current year shall accumulate towards a member's eligibility for yearend

awards provided the hours are submitted to the Membership Chair by a recognized Committee Chair during the first month of the regular GHPA show season for that membership year (See Rule 12D).

B. Individuals may earn service hours on behalf of themselves or an immediate family member by participating on a recognized committee or by working at a regular GHPA horse show. Membership must be current for service hours to apply towards an exhibitor's eligibility for yearend awards. (See Rule 3D). [3/2/05]

C. Non-member individuals may earn service hours on behalf of a current GHPA member by working at a regular GHPA horse show, provided he/she notifies an Officer or Committee Chair of the name of the member on whose behalf he/she works at the time of service. An exhibitor's membership must be current for service hours to accrue towards the exhibitor's eligibility for yearend awards. (See Rule 3D) [3/2/05]

D. Service hours accumulated from January 1st through September 30th of the current show season only apply towards qualifying a member exhibitor to be eligible for yearend awards. Committee and non-show service hours that are earned before the first regular GHPA horse show shall be submitted to the Membership Committee by the issuing committee chair during the first month of regular GHPA show season. (The regular GHPA show season begins with the first regular GHPA judged show and ends with the last regular GHPA judged show of the same calendar year.) A member may continue to accrue service hours after September 30th; however the hours shall not apply towards qualification for yearend awards. [11/8/02, 3/2/05]

E. SERVICE HOURS ARE NOT TRANSFERRABLE: An individual earning service hours on behalf of a current member must designate the name of the member on whose behalf he/she is working at the time of service. Service hours cannot be transferred from one member to another. [3/2/05]

F. RESPONSIBILITY: It is the responsibility of the Member/exhibitor (adult/youth) and/or the member/exhibitor's guardian (youth) to meet the service hour requirement to be eligible for yearend awards within the specified time period. (See Rule 12C). [3/2/05]

G. it is the responsibility of the member/exhibitor (adult/youth) and/or the member/exhibitor's guardian (youth) to maintain his/her own record of service hours worked towards meeting the requirements to be eligible for yearend awards. A member shall be asked to document the service hours that he/she worked in the event that a discrepancy exists in GHPA member service hour records. [3/2/05]

H. COMMITTEE SERVICE HOURS: A member may earn service hours for time worked on behalf of GHPA as an elected Officer, or as a committee chair or member of an established committee or sub-committee. Two (2) hours of committee work, including active participation in committee meetings, qualify for one (1) member service hour. A log of committee service hours shall be kept by the Committee Chairperson on behalf of participating members and submitted to the Membership Chairperson for GHPA records. Members may request a copy of their service hours on a committee from the Committee Chairperson. The Committee Chairperson is responsible for submitting service hours for their committee to the Membership Chairperson. [3/2/05]

- i.** Show Committee – Banquet, Fun show, membership, points, show rules, sponsorship, youth show
- ii.** Education – Scholarships
- iii.** Ways and means

- iv. Building and Grounds
- v. Public Relations
- vi. Newsletter
- vii. Long range planning

The Officers, Show Committee, or Ways and Means Committee may offer special member service programs with the approval of the general membership. Members shall be notified of special programs by publication in the minutes of a general membership meeting, the GHPA website, and/or the Corral. It is the responsibility of a member to request clarification of special programs if he/she has a question about conditions of participation or rewards. Requests for clarification must be made to the sponsoring party (Officers, Show Committee, or Ways and Means Committee) at a general membership meeting so that the details of the clarification may be entered into the minutes and made available to the membership by publication. If a special program includes presentation of an award or prize in addition to regular service hours a request for clarification must be made before the prize or awarded is presented. [3/2/05]

I. HORSE SHOW SERVICE HOURS. Any individual, member or non-member, may earn service hours on behalf of a current member, adult or youth, or member family for time worked at regular GHPA horse shows. The worker must designate which current member will receive credit for the service hour(s) on the day of the show worked by completing a voucher stating the date of the show, name of the worker(s), type of service performed (Food Booth, Entry Booth, Ring, or Other, including ring or entry booth location), hours worked and member exhibitor's name. Vouchers must be signed by an elected GHPA officer or Committee Chair of a recognized GHPA committee in attendance at the show on the day of the show worked. Service hours earned at regular GHPA horse shows qualify for rewards under the member service Incentive program (See Section 13). [3/2/05]

- i. Workers are needed in the Food Booth for 4 hour shifts, and in both entry booths and show rings for any length shifts. Individuals are encouraged to sign up in advance at the food booth or one of the entry booths. [4/5/00] Show crew jobs include Announcer, Entry Booth, Ring steward, Ring Crew, Gates, Ribbons, "Go fer." Other jobs may be available at any regular GHPA horse show at the discretion of the show committee chair. [3/2/05]
- ii. It is permissible for workers to share a four (4) hour shift on behalf of a single entrant. Example: Mother works for 2 hours in food booth and then father works 2 hours in food booth. [4/5/00, 3/2/05]
- iii. Youth must be 16 years of age or older to work in the food booth.

J. VOUCHERS: Individuals who work at regular GHPA horse shows shall receive vouchers and incentives under the Member Service Incentive Program (See Section 13). Vouchers shall only be issued for service hours completed at shows. [4/5/00, 3/2/05]

- i. The original voucher (white copy) shall be retained by the Officer or Committee Chair signing the voucher and forwarded to the Membership Committee Chair. The original voucher must be returned to the Membership Committee Chair for hours to be credited to the designated member. [3/2/05]
- ii. A signed copy of the voucher shall be retained by the member or worker (yellow copy). It is the responsibility of the member to retain and redeem the voucher copy. [3/2/05]
- iii. A signed copy of the voucher (pink copy) shall be retained by the member or worker for the member's personal record of service hours. It is the responsibility of the member to maintain a personal record of service hours worked on his/her behalf. [3/2/05]

K. FAIR STALLS: The service hours required to qualify for yearend awards must be accumulated by August 1st of the current show season in order to be guaranteed a stall with GHPA for The Great Geauga County Fair. [2/7/01, 3/2/05]

L. INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES: Service hours shall not be accumulated by any individual on behalf of any member for:

- i. Time worked during The Great Geauga County Fair, or any other county fair or similar function. [3/2/05]
- ii. Time spent in attendance at monthly GHPA general meetings. [3/2/05]
- iii. Time spent in attendance at horse related functions as an observer or participant, including but not limited to, youth groups, horse clubs, lectures and/or clinics, lessons, field trips, horse shows, or tack sales. [3/2/05] Exception: A member may accrue service hours at the discretion of the Board, Officers, or Chairperson of a recognized committee if the member attends a function as an official representative of GHPA or coordinator of an event on behalf of GHPA (e.g. education committee events). [3/2/05]

13. MEMBER SERVICE INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

A. Members may not sign their own service or for service hours earned on behalf of an immediate family member. [3/2/05]

B. The Officers, Show Committee, or Ways and Means Committee may offer special member service incentives with the approval of the general membership. Members shall be notified of special incentives by publication in the minutes of a general membership meeting and the Corral. It is the responsibility of a member to request clarification of special incentives if he/she has a question. Requests for clarification should be made to the sponsoring party (Officers, Show Committee, or Ways and Means Committee) at a general membership meeting so that the details of the clarification may be entered into the minutes and made available to the membership by publication. [3/2/05]

14. YEAR-END AWARDS. GHPA may present year-end class awards to exhibitors who finish in the first through fifth places overall in classes offered during the horses show season. GHPA may present year-end high point awards to exhibitors who finish with the highest total number of points in qualifying classes for a show in each division. Divisions for yearend high point awards will be determined by the show committee prior to the first show of the show season and may not be changed after the date of the first show of that show season. Possible divisions are All-around (English and Western classes), English (English classes), Western (Western classes). A list of qualifying classes for each yearend high point division will be determined by the show committee prior to the first show of the show season and may not be changed after the date of the first show of that season. To qualify for yearend class and high point awards the exhibitor must meet the following criteria: [2/7/01, 2/1/06]

A. The exhibitor must be a member in good standing of GHPA. Points and service hours towards yearend awards are accumulated from date paid membership is received for the current membership year. [1/8/88, 11/1/92, 3/2/05]

B. GHPA member exhibitors must show at four (4) or more GHPA shows during the current show season. [1/9/2013] Points accumulate on the same horse/pony, same exhibitor combination [2/3/94, 2/7/01, 2/17/02], with the exception of halter division classes where the points go with the rider. [1/8/97]

C. A member must have earned a minimum of four (4) points in a class to be considered for yearend awards in that class. [2/7/01, 1/9/02]

D. A minimum of eight (8) service hours must be recorded on behalf of the exhibitor to be considered for yearend awards. The hours may be accumulated from January 1st through September 30th of the current show season. (See section 12) [11/8/02, 3/2/05] In the event that there are more than two member exhibitors from the same immediate family, a total of sixteen (16) member service hours will qualify all exhibitors from that family for eligibility for yearend awards. [2/7/01]

F. WALK TROT YOUTH (ALL AGES): A yearend high point award in Walk Trot youth divisions may be presented based on points earned in qualifying classes. [3/2/05, 2/1/06]

G. NOVICE (ALL AGES): A yearend high point award in Novice divisions may be presented based on points earned in qualifying classes. [3/2/05, 2/1/06]

H. WALK TROT ADULT 19 & OVER: A yearend high point award in Walk Trot Adult divisions may be presented based on points earned in qualifying classes. [3/2/05, 2/1/06, 3/12/15]

I. OPEN YOUTH AND ADULT: A yearend high point award in Open Youth and Adult divisions may be presented based on points earned in qualifying classes. [3/2/05, 2/1/06]

J. CONTEST: A yearend high point award in one (1) Open Contest division may be presented based on points earned in all regular contesting classes offered during the show season. [3/2/05]

K. The Officers and Show Committee offer yearend awards at the discretion of the Show Committee. Members shall be notified of awards by publication in the minutes of a general membership meeting, the GHPA website, and/or the Corral. It is the responsibility of a member to request clarification of the criteria necessary to qualify for yearend awards if he/she has a question. Requests for clarification should be made to the sponsoring party (Officers or Show Committee) at a general membership meeting so that the details of the clarification may be entered into the minutes and made available to the membership by publication. [3/2/05, 2/1/06]

L. Yearend point standings shall be considered final following an audit of exhibitor eligibility requirements to verify that award winners have met those criteria outlined in Section 14A-D and that the record of those criteria is accurate and correct. Final yearend point standings shall be published on the GHPA website and/or in the Corral.

- i.** An exhibitor may challenge the final yearend point standings by filing a formal protest in writing with the Show Committee Chair or a Board Member by November 30th of the current show year. Such protest must follow the procedure outlined in Section 18.
- ii.** Challenges to the final yearend point standings will not be accepted after November 30th of the current show year and such standings will be deemed final and accepted by the membership at that time.

15. SPECIAL YEAR END AWARDS.

A. Exhibitor must be a GHPA member and after becoming a GHPA member, must have exhibited in at least 4 shows. Points and number of shows entered in do not count until exhibitor becomes a member.

WALK-TROT/NOVICE ALL AROUND HORSE/PONY & RIDER (W/T Novice ring only)

a. All classes included (including halter) with the exclusion of: open classes, novice discipline rail and all jackpot classes. Same horse/same rider combination.

OPEN PERFORMANCE HORSE/PONY OF THE YEAR (Open Ring Only)

a. Classes included in this award: English Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle (Qtr Horse/NonQuarter Horse), English Road Hack, Junior/Senior English or Western Pleasure, Discipline Rail, Western Pleasure, Quarter Horse/Non-quarter Horse Pleasure, Adult W/T English or Western Pleasure, 40 & Over Pleasure, (including the above classes of: 18 & under, 19 & over.) This award does not include: showmanship, equitation, horsemanship & halter.

b. This award follows the horse and the horse needs to have been shown in at least 4 shows by an exhibitor who is a GHPA member. Excludes Open hitch classes.

HALTER HORSE/PONY AWARD

a. Points accumulate in 1 class, whether in the W/T Novice ring or the Open ring – can't combine classes together.

b. Award based upon highest number of halter points obtain in either the W/T Novice ring or the Open ring.

c. In W/T Novice ring: same horse/same handler combination. Handler must be a GHPA member and after membership is obtained, must have shown in at least 4 shows.

d. In Open ring: Halter points follow the horse and the horse must have been shown in at least 4 shows by a GHPA member(s). Additionally, handler must be a GHPA member at the time of showing the horse for the points to count toward this award.

e. Ranch conformation class is not included in daily high point or count for yearend halter horse of the year.

16. ALL-AMERICAN YOUTH HORSE SHOW. GHPA may sponsor representatives to the All-American Youth Horse Show (held in Columbus OH in May). Sponsorship will be at the discretion of the Officers and Show Committee. Representatives shall be the member youth who accumulate the most points (same horse/same rider) in their divisions during the previous show season. [4/11/91]

A. All GHPA sponsored youth must stall with GHPA. [11/1/92]

B. Youth exhibitors will not be eligible to represent GHPA in two (2) consecutive years, regardless of division. In the event that a youth is high point rider in any division for two (2) consecutive years, the next eligible runner up will be chosen based on the number of points earned by member youth in the division. In the event the runner up exhibitor is also ineligible, no award will be made in that division. [1/12/95]

C. Representatives must pay all fees by the due date, payable to AAYHS, submitted through GHPA. Fees will be reimbursed for 1 stall, ½ tack stall, 2 classes and 1 program book. [3/9/95]

D. Any GHPA youth who would like to attend and stable with GHPA may do so by attending the organizational meeting and paying all fees. Availability on a first come first serve basis. [5/27/93]

17. FAIR STABLING REQUIREMENTS.

- A. MUST be a member of GHPA by July 1st .
- B. Youth's Work Hours MUST be completed by August 1st to stable with GHPA at the fair.
- C. GHPA Members who intend to stable at the fair MUST name the horse that they will bring to the fair and complete the specific forms by July 1st . Completed forms to be given by the member to the GHPA Membership Chair who will enter them into the club's records and then provide them to the 2nd Vice President who handles the fair stall assignments.
- D. In the event that a horse becomes disabled, a request to exhibit another horse MUST be made in writing along with a veterinarian's note to either GHPA's President, First or Second Vice President. This GHPA officer will then turn this information over to the Junior Fair coordinator for the final decision.
- E. Attend and complete the mandatory meetings, if required, as specified by the Geauga County Agricultural Society and Junior Fair. [2013]

18. PROTEST. A protest must be made in writing, accompanied by a deposit of \$25.00 (cash only), signed by the protester, and given to the Show Steward or any Board Member for any violation of the rules of the association. [1/8/88]

- A. A Grievance Committee consisting of at least two (2) Board Members and three (3) adult members in good standing shall convene to review the protest within two (2) weeks of receipt of said protest. Grievance Committee members shall be selected by the current GHPA president. [3/2/05]
- B. A judge's decision cannot be appealed. To file a formal protest against a judge, another exhibitor, member, participant, GHPA representative, or policy, relative to an occurrence at a regular GHPA show, such protest must be made in writing, signed by the protester, contain specific facts giving rise to the protest, be accompanied by a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) cash filing deposit and be filed by the end of the show day of occurrence (See Section 5M). [3/2/05]
- C. To challenge yearend point standings, a protest must be filed before November 30th of that show year. (See Section 14).
- D. The protestor shall be notified of the Committees decision. If the protest is found to be valid, the protester's deposit shall be returned. [3/2/05]

19. PENALTIES. Any person or persons violating GHPA Rules will be subject to any or all of the following penalties to be determined by a Grievance Committee consisting of two (2) Board Members and three (3) adult members in good standing. Grievance Committee members shall be selected by current GHPA president. [3/2/05] If found guilty, the accused shall be subject to such penalty as the Grievance Committee may state including but not limited to: [1/8/88, 3/2/05]

- A. **CENSURE:** A vote of censure shall be reported to the board at their next meeting and listed under the defendant's name in the Secretary's record of Penalties. If found guilty of a further violation the defendant shall be subject to a heavier penalty than for a first offense. [1/8/88]

B. SUSPENSION: A suspended person is forbidden for the time specified to hold or exercise office or take any part whatsoever in any show. [1/8/88]

C. FORFEITURE: Of trophies, ribbons, and points won in conjunction with the offense committed. [1/8/88]

D. EXPULSION: From membership in the association. [1/8/88]

E. SUSPENSION: Any individual person, riders and/or representatives owing unpaid debts to the GHPA will be automatically placed under suspension by the Board. Those suspended will be ineligible to compete in the GHPA point system and subject to the penalties specified above.