

## Routt County Horse Show Rules/Expectations:

**Dismissals:** Exhibitor will be dismissed if any of the following behavior is observed, NO EXCEPTIONS. All show management personnel reserves the right to dismiss any exhibitor if they witness this behavior. It is the member and guardian's responsibility to understand this document. If any member or guardian is observed doing the following they will be dismissed from the show.

- Loss of control of horse
- Illegal equipment
- Abuse, Excessive Schooling or training
- Any unsportsmanlike conduct
- Out of control horse
  - Includes any rearing, kicking, biting, or striking, taking off

**Disqualifications:** Exhibitor will be disqualified from the division/specific class if any of the following happens. These are baseline disqualifications. Please read the rule book for class specific disqualifications.

- General:
  - There are three different calls for members to be in their specific class. If they are not ready at the time of the class, they will not be allowed, NO EXCEPTIONS. It is the member's responsibility to be listening for when they are expected to be in the arena.
    - First Call: Called Two classes before
    - Second Call: Called Once Class before
    - Third and Final Call: Called when class is supposed to be in the arena
- Showmanship:
  - Loss of control of horse
  - Illegal equipment
  - Horse and Exhibitor become separated
  - Willful Abuse
  - Excessive Schooling or Training
  - Loss/off pattern
  - Touching lead shank chain
- Western Division:
  - Loss of control of horse
  - Illegal Equipment or illegal use of hands on reins
  - Fall by horse or Exhibitor
  - Abuse of horse or excessive schooling
  - Loss/off pattern
- Gymkhana Division:
  - Leaving course or breaking pattern
    - Includes performing ANY maneuver not included in the pattern
  - Out of control horse during, before, or after run.
    - Kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, striking

- These all include the entry and exit gates as well
  - Unsportsmanlike conduct
    - Profane language, disorderly conduct, unmanageable horse
  - Abuse of the horse
    - Excessive jerking of the reins, striking horse with game equipment, spurs, bats, crops, whips)
  - Use of spurs, whips, reins, ropes, or bats forward of the cinch
  - Return across start-finish line before finishing the pattern
  - Immobility or lack of forward progression that exceeds 30 seconds for events that do not require dismounting
    - Once the gate is open, you have 30 seconds to cross the start lines
  - Rider or horse fall
  - Loss/off pattern
- Ranch Horse Versatility:
  - Loss of control
  - Illegal equipment or illegal use of hands on reins
  - Fall by horse or exhibitor
  - Any horse with open sores or bleeding caused by tack, equipment, or rough handling
  - Abuse of horse or excessive schooling
    - Including running cattle into a fence
  - Loss/off pattern
  - Blowing herd during herd work
  - Cow jumping fence up to judge's discretion
- English Division:
  - Loss of control of the horse
  - Illegal equipment or illegal use of hands on reins
  - Fall by horse or exhibitor
  - Abuse of horse or excessive schooling
  - Loss/off pattern

**Equipment:** All equipment must adhere to the 2021 Colorado 4-H horse Show Rule Book. Any illegal equipment will not be tolerated during fair. If any member shows up during fair with any illegal equipment, they will be dismissed from the show.

- Showmanship:
  - Neat, clean, properly fit tack.
  - English Showmanship:
    - Plain leather or nylon halter with lead shank, or bridle
      - If exhibitor shows in a bridle and leads with the reins, the center buckle must be undone.
      - The exhibitor can choose to show in a bridle and use a lead shank attached to the cavesson or bit of the bridle. In this case, the reins should be placed on the horse's withers.
    - No Silver Western Halters Allowed
  - Western Showmanship:



- Western type equipment
- Hackamore is acceptable
- Any legal bit (regardless of horse's age) is acceptable
- Optional
  - Tie-downs
  - Whips/bats
  - Skid, splint, bell boots
  - Roping/Loop reins
- Prohibited
  - Jerk lines
  - Tack collars
  - Draw reins
  - Any attachment between foot and stirrup (including rubber bands)
- Ranch Horse Versatility Division:
  - Western roping type saddle
    - Double rigging with Cinch Hobble
    - Center Fire rigging may have single rig
    - Wrapped horn designed for roping
      - Either rubber wrapped or wrapped with extra leather
    - Saddle blanket/pad in good condition that protects working horse correctly
    - Breast Collar (Highly Recommended)
  - Bridle (humane and in good repair)
    - Snaffles must have brow band type
    - Curb and spade
      - One ear
      - Split ear
      - Brow band
    - Bosal/Jaquimas
      - Fiador
      - Simple hanger
    - Bosalita
      - Simple hanger
      - Thong tied to forelock
    - Reins
      - Split, romal, mecate (long enough to walk on draped rein)
    - No horse age restriction to head gear
      - Snaffle and bosals – 2 hands on reins unless roping
      - Curb/leverage bits – one hand
      - Two rein set up – one hand
  - Rope, lariat, or riata
    - Between 30' and 70'
    - Attached to saddle for all required roping classes
      - DO NOT HAVE for classes with rope provided for log drag
    - Nylon, polyester, rawhide, leather

- Hondas
      - Nylon, polyester, rawhide, leather, metal or breakaway styles
  - Optional:
    - Hobbles
    - Spurs
    - Chaps/chinks
    - Skid, splint, bell boots
    - Helmet (recommended)
    - Get down rope
    - Breast collar
  - Prohibited:
    - Tie-down
    - Loop/roping reins
    - Jerk lines
    - Tack collars
    - Whips/bats
    - Mechanical hackamores
    - Gag bits
    - Judge reserves right to prohibit use of any equipment deemed too severe or inhumane.
- English Division:
  - English type saddle
  - Bridle – must have cavesson
    - Snaffles
    - Pelham’s
    - Kimberwicks
    - Full bridles
  - Optional – ONLY ALLOWED IN HUNT SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES
    - Martingales
    - Bell boots
    - Leg wraps
  - Prohibited
    - Western or flat saddles
    - Whip
    - Figure 8 noseband
    - Dropped noseband
    - Flash noseband

**Exhibitor Attire:** It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to dress according to the proper attire protocols.

- Showmanship Division:
  - Western:
    - Neat/clean well fitted Western Clothing
      - Clean/neat pants
      - Clean/Shaped Hat

- Clean Shined Boots
    - NO SPURS ALLOWED
  - English:
    - Neat/clean well fitted English Clothing
      - Clean/Neat pants
      - Clean/Fitted Helmet
      - Clean/Shined Boots
      - NO SPURS ALLOWED
- Western Division:
  - Western clothing (neat, clean, well fitted work like appearance)
    - Western hat or Helmet (recommended)
    - Western/Cowboy Boots
    - Belt
    - Long Sleeved, full length shirt
  - Optional
    - Helmet (recommend)
    - Gloves
    - Ties
    - Chaps
    - Vests
    - Jackets
    - Raincoat
    - Spurs
- Gymkhana Division:
  - Western attire to be worn
  - ASTM/SEI Helmet with Strap
- Ranch Horse Division:
  - Same as Western Division
- English Division:
  - Shirt/dickey
  - Hunt Coat (tweed/Melton for hunting, colors need to be conservative and in season)
  - Breeches/jodhpurs
  - Appropriate boots
  - Helmet with strap
  - Optional
    - Unrowelled spurs
    - Crops/bats no longer than 30" (no lash allowed)

**Awards:** Exhibitors are able to compete for High Point Awards in each division, and for Overall All Awards. All divisions award ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Place.

- **Showmanship:** All members regardless of discipline need to participate in Showmanship. Awards for Grand and Reserve Champion in each age division. Grand and Reserve Champion showman will have the opportunity to participate in Round Robin.

- **Halter:** Awards for overall Grand and Reserve Champion Halter Horse to be presented at fair. Halter Classes **do not** count towards horse and rider overall award points.
- **Western:** Awards for Grand and Reserve Champion Western Performance in each age division. Horse and rider team must participate in three (3) or more classes in the western division to be eligible for Western Performance Awards.
- **Ranch Horse Versatility (RHV):** Awards for Grand and Reserve Champion RHV in each age division. Horse and rider team must participate in three (3) or more classes in the RHV division to be eligible for Ranch Horse Versatility Awards.
- **English:** Awards for Grand and Reserve Champion English Performance in each age division. Horse and rider team must participate in two (2) or more classes in the English division to be eligible for English Performance Awards.
- **Gymkhana:** Awards for Grand and Reserve Champion Gymkhana in each age division. Horse and rider team must participate in three (3) or more classes in the gymkhana division to be eligible for Gymkhana Awards, Musical mounting and Bareback Dollar **do not** count towards overall points.
- **Overall Awards:** A Horse and rider pair will be eligible for Overall High Point Awards. The pair must participate in **four** (4) out of the **six** (6) divisions (Showmanship, Western, Roping, RHV, English, Gymkhana) in order to be eligible for this award. **THE HORSE AND RIDER PAIR WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE IF THEY DO NOT SHOW IN ALL THE CLASSES TOGETHER.** Riders may show multiple horses, but only one horse (identified during fair entry) can be classified as the All-Around Horse.

All members are expected to read the rule book and understand the specific rules (in detail) and requirements for each class that they are participating in. If there are any questions please reach out to the 4-H Horse Leaders. They are here to help the members with their projects.