

2009 CITRUS COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION HORSE SHOWMANSHIP RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Exhibitor must register their horse with the Citrus County Fair Association at the registration and educational meeting Monday, December 1st, 2008 at the Citrus County Extension Office. Location: 3650 W Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461. (Call 527-5700 for directions)
2. Exhibitor may show only one horse.
3. Stallions are not allowed to be shown. Showing uncastrated males past December 31st of the year of their birth is prohibited.
4. All horses should be properly immunized under the supervision of a veterinarian before coming to the horse show. Vaccines should be administered far enough in advance for adequate immunity to be developed. (approximately 30 or more days for most vaccines.) Horses should be vaccinated against Equine Encephalomyelitis (Eastern, E.E.E. and Western W.E.E.), tetanus, influenza, west nile, and in some cases rhinopneumonitis. **Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) test must be negative and current (within the past 12 months) at the time of show.** Papers must be presented with horse to inspecting personnel before the horse will be allowed to compete. Horse's name and description on both Coggins and entry form must be the same. Coggins paper may be original or a photo copy.

ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS AND HORSES

5. Manage at least one horse of any age or breed as a horsemanship project. The horse care, feeding, grooming, and training must be the responsibility of youth participant.
6. Participant will complete an official training log due at check-in the day of the horseshow.
7. More than one youth may exhibit a single horse. However, the horse may only be shown by a single exhibitor in each class (divided by Fair Exhibitor Age Groups: Junior 8 – 11 yrs, Intermediate 12 – 14 years, and Senior 15 years and up.)

CONTEST RULES, REGULATIONS, AND PROCEDURES

8. Assistance or coaching of contestants while competing in a class may warrant penalties or disqualification.
9. The judge's decision shall be final and may not be protested.
10. Show management reserves the right to alter or modify any class procedures, obstacles, patterns, or rules for safety concerns, show facility restrictions, or other mitigating circumstances.
11. Show management reserves the right to refuse an exhibitor entry into any class or event if they deem that entry unsafe for the exhibitor and/or other exhibitors or animals. With the exhibitor's safety in mind, any activity or situation deemed unsafe can and will be stopped by show management and may result in disqualification from the class.

12. Any horse receiving inhumane treatment while exhibiting or on show grounds may be dismissed upon the discretion of the judge or show official. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which the show management rules a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive, or inhumane.

SHOWMANSHIP CLASS

13. Showmanship classes are not conformation, model, or grooming classes, although grooming and fitting is certainly part of the judging criteria. This is a performance class with emphasis to be placed on the exhibitor's ability to show the animal.

14. Club member and equipment:

a. Personal appearance: neat, clean, well groomed, attentive, courteous, and attire as described:

- i. Dark black slacks or dark black jeans
- ii. White dress shirt or white blouse
- iii. Ties optional
- iv. Boots or leather lace-up shoes (no tennis shoes)
- v. 4-H'ers: Representative of 4-H - Jacket or vest optional
- vi. FFA: Jacket required
- vii. Hats appropriate to show optional

b. Equipment:

- i. Hunter: Clean, adjusted, and acceptable hunter bridle or halter. No crops or bats are permitted.
- ii. Saddle Seat: Clean, adjusted halter or bridle (full, Pelham, curb or snaffle.) No whips are permitted.
- iii. Western: Clean, adjusted halter to fit the horse. Fancy halters shall not be given preference over good working halters. No whips or bat permitted.

15. Horse (fitting and grooming):

- a. The horse should be clean, well groomed, in good condition, and fitted for its type.
- b. The horse's feet should be cleaned and either trimmed or properly shod.

16. Method of showing (Showmanship):

- a. Walk, trot, turn, stop, back, and pose your horse as directed by the judge or ring steward.

- b. Lead from the left side of your horse with your right hand on the lead shank or bridle reins. When showing your horse at a walk, walk by his side – never directly in front of him. His head should be about even with your shoulder. When moving, keep your horse's neck, head, and body in a straight line and maintain precise control. Move directly toward or away from the judge, unless the judge indicates that he wishes to see him from the side.
- c. Show the horse with a shank short enough to assure maximum control and responsiveness from the horse. The basic position of the exhibitor should allow constant observation of the horse's feet and also permit observation of the judge and ring officials.
- d. Never obstruct the view of the judge and do not stand directly in front of the horse. Run by the left side of your horse when you are showing in at the trot. He should move willingly with his head and body in a straight line.
- e. Be alert of other horses. Bumping another horse from the rear is a serious fault in showmanship.
- f. If asked to change positions in the line, back your horse out of the line and approach the new position from behind. Space horses adequately.
- g. Faults in showing at showmanship:
 - i. Allowing the horse to remain out of position
 - ii. Standing directly in front of your horse
 - iii. Kicking horse's feet to move them
 - iv. Failure of the horse to lead properly
 - v. Failing to stop before turning when showing at the walk or trot
 - vi. Failure to back
 - vii. Loud voice commands to your horse or other unnecessary actions
 - viii. Picking up the horse's feet for positioning purposes.