

Eastern Michigan Arabian Association

2025 – Board of Directors

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Contact any of the above Directors and catch update on our website – www.emaa.org

Board Meetings:

Meetings of the Board of Directors are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 PM via Zoom. All active members are welcome to attend. If you have a specific item that needs to be addressed by the board, please contact the EMAA President to have it added to the agenda prior to the meeting.

2025 Show Rules & Regulations

Membership Fees:

Adult (18 & Over) - \$20
Youth (17 & Under) - \$10

Class Fees:

Regular Class Fee - \$15
Jackpot Class - \$25
Championship Class - \$15
Dressage Test - \$20
Dressage Pinned Class - \$15
Sport Horse In Hand - \$20
Dressage Rail Class - \$15
Open Breed Dressage Test - \$25
Open Breed SPIH - \$25
Pre-Entries - \$3 off Class Fee (not eligible for Dressage Classes)

Show Fees:

Office Fee - \$10 per horse/rider combo
Stall Fee - \$60 per stall per weekend
Camping Fee - \$100 per weekend

Show Award Fees:

Versatility - \$15 per year
Weekend High Point - \$5 per weekend
Dressage High Score - \$5 per weekend

Members will be assessed a \$25 fee for failure to check in at the office and secure payment prior to showing. A \$25 fee will also be applied for any outstanding balances after the show office closes on Sunday.

Show Office Hours:

Friday: 12:00 Noon – 1 hour after the last class

Saturday & Sunday – 7:00 AM – 1 hour after the last class

Entries and payments must be received during the times indicated above

General Entry Regulations

1. Membership – All Arabian/Half-Arabian/Anglo-Arabian exhibitors must hold a paid, current EMAA membership to show in any class or qualify for year-end awards. A current signed liability form must be on file in the show office. Membership forms must be completed and on file in the show office.
2. Show Payments – Open check, cash, or credit card information on file at the office is required prior to entering the ring.
 - a. If paying with a credit card, a 4% credit card processing fee will be assessed.
3. Pre-Entry – A pre-entry is defined as an entry that has been received by mail (postmarked), email, or computer entry (time stamped) by the Saturday prior to the show. Post-dated checks will not be accepted. Pre-entries will receive a discount of \$3 per class.
4. Post-Entry – A post-entry is defined as any entry that has been received after the Saturday prior to the show.
5. Post-entries will be assessed the full class fee. Any change to an existing entry will be considered a post-entry.
6. Adding of classes will be accepted up to the start of the break preceding the added class and will be considered a post-entry. Championship classes can be added at any time and will not incur the post-entry fee.
7. Scratched/Dropped Classes – No refunds will be given following check-in on Friday. A special consideration will be given if a vet letter is provided.
8. Proper Entry - \$10 Penalty – All classes, except for Championship Classes, must be entered either on an entry form or add/drop slip turned into the office. Any exhibitor riding in a class that has not properly entered will be assessed a \$10 penalty added to the entry fee. Championship Classes can be added at the gate without penalty.
9. Returned Checks – All checks returned by the bank will be subject to a \$25 handling fee.
10. Insufficient Funds – Any unpaid balance on your account will prevent you from further showing at any EMAA Show. If payment is not received within 2 weeks or 14 calendar days of formal notification, all points will be forfeited for those horses and riders/handlers whose show fees were covered by the non-sufficient fund check. Until the outstanding show fees/fines are paid, the membership of the check writer shall be suspended and the check writer will be banned from showing at future EMAA Shows. All future transactions will need to be made in cash, money order, or credit card.
11. Registration – All horses must be registered Arabian, Half-Arabian, or Anglo-Arabian. All Half-Arabian Classes will be open to Anglo-Arabians.
12. A copy of the Registration papers must be provided to the show office before the horse can participate.
13. A negative Coggins test dated within the last 12 months must be provided to the show office before a horse is allowed to be on the show grounds.
14. Stall Reservations – All stall reservations must be accompanied by payment and must be received (postmarked) by the Saturday prior to the show. All requests for stalling together should be submitted together in the same envelope. No post-dated checks will be accepted. Refunds will be given only to those with notification to the Office Manager by the Saturday prior to the show. All other stalling requested will be on a first come basis.
15. Weekend High Point & Dressage High Score – Exhibitors selecting to compete for Weekend Highpoint Awards must sign-up prior to the start of each show.

16. Versatility – Exhibitors selecting to compete for the Versatility Award must select their classes and sign-up for the award before the start of the first show they are competing in. Versatility contestants must ride in each selected class at least twice during the show season.
17. One Rider – Only one rider may enter a horse in a class. More than one rider per horse per class will not be allowed except for Dressage, Showmanship, Western/English Riding, and Trail.
18. Rider Age – The age of each rider/handler will be determined as of January 1st of the current calendar year.
19. Horse Age – The age of the horse shall be determined based on a calendar year, starting January 1st following the year foaled. A junior horse is 5 years of age and younger.

General Show Rules

1. Neither EMAA or the fairgrounds will be held responsible for any injuries, lost, damaged, or stolen property.
2. The Ingham County Fairgrounds and Shiawassee County Fairgrounds will be available from 2:00 PM on Thursday for the arrival of horses and campers. Any other arrangements must be made through the fairground management and paid directly to the fairgrounds by the exhibitors. **Do not plug in prior to 2:00 PM on Thursday or 2:00 PM on Friday as any use of the water or electric will be charged as a full day.**
3. All camper units/tents that are occupied overnight must display a valid permit that can be purchased at the Show Office. Permits must be visible. Campers are only allowed in designated areas. Fines imposed on EMAA by the fairgrounds for utilizing unauthorized areas will be charged to the violator. Horse trailers, except for those with living quarters, will not be allowed in camping areas.
4. Night security will be provided both Friday and Saturday evenings. Quiet time will start at 11:00 PM. Campers/exhibitors must be respectful of others in the camping areas.
5. Alcoholic beverages will not be allowed on the grounds. Food may be available on the grounds.
6. All pets must be kept on a leash on the grounds and in buildings.
7. All horses must be kept in a stall overnight.
8. The tying of horses to trailers is prohibited.
9. Smoking is prohibited within 10 feet of the arena and all barns.
10. Kick chains will be allowed in the stalls.
11. Exhibitors must show and present their horses in accordance with their breed standard and the rules and regulations set forth by the USEF and AHA in section “AR106 shoeing regulations, artificial markings, and appliances.” Judges may penalize those exhibitors who are in clear violation of these guidelines.
12. Judges may penalize, excuse, or eliminate horses whose welfare or soundness does not comply with the guidelines set forth by USEF in section “AR105 – Conduct, specifications, soundness, and welfare of the horse.” This includes horses in poor condition, those that are not serviceably sound (with the exception of equitation and showmanship classes), artificial tail carriage, horses showing signs of undue stress or inhumane treatment (whip marks, fresh blood in the mouth, etc.), horses demonstrating aggressive or dangerous behavior, or excessive use of the whip, spurs, or other aids by an exhibitor.
13. Lunging or long-lining will be allowed in designated areas with consideration given to all exhibitors.
14. There will be no loitering at the in-gate. The in-gate area will be open to exhibitors in the next two classes only.
15. Protests must be submitted to the EMAA Board of Directors in writing and will be deliberated on at the next Board Meeting. A non-refundable fee of \$25 must accompany the protest by the close of the show.
16. All members of the EMAA Community (owners, exhibitors, visitors, volunteers, workers, etc.) must adhere to various guidelines related to COVID-19. This includes guidelines issued by the CDC, MDHSS, Ingham/Shiawassee Counties, the venue, and any additional requirements issued by the EMAA Board of Directors.
17. If a situation arises that is not covered specifically by this rule book, US Equestrian Federation (USEF; <https://www.usef.org>) rules may be used as a guideline. If USEF rules do not address the issue, Arabian Horse Association (AHA; www.arabianhorses.org) rules may be used as a guideline.

18. Good sportsmanship is to be displayed at all times by all exhibitors, their families, and spectators. Good sportsmanship is defined as respectful treatment of judges, show management, other competitors, and all horses and other animals involved. In addition, respect for the tradition of the sport and spirit of showing horses is paramount. Any individual not displaying good sportsmanship may be disqualified or excused from the event at the discretion of the judge or governing body of the event.
19. No person on the show grounds may treat a horse in an inhumane manner. The show grounds include, but are not limited to, the barns, stalls, practice areas, and show arenas. When a report or discovery of inhumane treatment is made, show management will investigate the incident and report it to the appropriate authorities and MSU Extension staff. The standard for measuring conduct or treatment is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive, and inhumane.

General Class Rules

1. Judges' decision is final.
2. Class Hold - A class hold can be requested by the class prior when there are conflicting classes or emergency needs. A class hold is for 2 minutes, max.
3. 2 Minute Gate – Once the gate is open for a class it will be held open for 2 minutes starting when the first horse enters. Once all horses on the sheet have entered, if no additional horses are obviously coming to the gate, the gate can close earlier than 2 minutes. The gate will not be re-opened for late entries once it has been closed.
4. For safety reasons, an ASTM-SEI approved helmet is permitted in all classes.
5. Halter Entry – For safety reasons in all Halter Classes, horses will enter the arena at a walk to a designated trotting point.
6. Halter Championships – Horses must place first or second in their respective Halter Class to be eligible for the Championship Class. It is not mandatory to show in the Halter Championship.
7. Performance Championships – Fitting & Showing, Equitation, and Pleasure Championship Classes are open to anyone who has competed in a qualifying class, regardless of placement.
8. Equitation Championships – All Equitation Championship Classes will require a pattern utilizing all 3 gaits; rail work will be at the discretion of the judge. Patterns for Equitation Championship Classes will be posted prior to the class. Patterns will not be handed out to all exhibitors.
9. Showing Stallions – Adults and Junior Exhibitors are permitted to show stallions, with the exception of Youth Fitting & Showing, Leadline, Walk, Walk/Trot, and Youth Halter Classes.
10. Trail – Trail courses will be posted prior to the class. Exhibitors will also be able to walk the course before the start of the class. Patterns will not be handed out to all exhibitors.
11. Walk Class – Exhibitors competing in the Walk division may only ride in walk designated classes.
12. Walk/Trot Class – Exhibitors competing in the Walk/Trot division may not ride in any other classes except Intro to Dressage or Western Dressage Intro
13. Walk and Walk/Trot exhibitors may use headers in the Walk and Walk/Trot Classes and up to 4 spotters in the Intro to Dressage Classes. Headers are to stand in front of the horse in the final line-up, so as not to obstruct the judges' view. Header may hold the horse only in the case of a safety issue.
14. Sidesaddle – Appropriate side saddle attire and appointments may be used in all pleasure classes.
15. Main Ring & Dressage Ring Schedule – Dressage will be judged outside simultaneously to judging in the Main Arena. There will not be any class refunds in the event of time conflicts that prevent making a scheduled Dressage Ride.
16. Split Classes – EMAA may impose a split of classes with more than 16 horses. Year End Award Classes will have run-offs. Non-Year End Award Classes will not have run-offs. Instead, a duplicate set of awards will be given in each split. Judges' decision is final.

2025 Class Descriptions, Rules, and Regulations

Halter

The following applies to all Arabian & Half-Arabian In-Hand Halter Classes with the exception of Sport Horse.

General: Horses to be shown in-hand at a walk and trot. The conformation of the horse, as it pertains to the Arabian breed, is judged in this class. Emphasis is placed on conformation, type, quality, movement, substance, manners, and presence. Only first and second place horses are eligible for the Open Championship Class.

Tack: A suitable headstall (with or without a bit) equipped with a throat latch, or a leather stable halter, is mandatory. A whip no longer than 6 feet is optional. There may be no contact of the whip with the horse and excessive intimidation or actions that disturb other entries will be penalized. Only clear or transparent hoof products can be used while showing in any Halter Class.

Attire: Exhibitors should be neatly dressed and attired, with appropriate footwear.

Procedure: One at a time, the horses shall enter the arena at a walk to a designated point on the rail, and then relax until all horses have entered the ring. When all horses have entered, the horses will then be asked to walk collectively counter-clockwise and then clockwise back to their original positions. Following the walk, all horses shall relax and only the horse "on deck" shall be prepared to show. Horses shall be walked to the judge and presented for judging. Horse should stand correctly bearing weight on all four feet (not stretched) in a quiet and deliberate manner. Following the evaluation by the judge, the horse shall walk away from the judge and then strike a trot before turning left and continuing back to line.

Showmanship

General: This class requires an exhibitor to execute, in concert with their horse, a pattern allowing the judge to evaluate their ability to lead, turn, back, and stop their horse in a safe, precise, smooth, and efficient manner. While showing, the exhibitor will be evaluated on their ability to maintain poise and confidence, as well as a functional and natural body position. Although not a halter class, the exhibitor will be required to present the horse in a safe and effective set-up for inspection. The conformation of the horse is not to be judged, since the horse is considered a means of displaying the abilities of the showman. The horse may be set-up in either a square or split stance, with neither being preferred or penalized. In addition to showing, the exhibitor is also judged on the grooming and condition of the horse, as well as correctness and neatness of appointments and tack. Judges may assess conformation and general horsemanship knowledge through individual questioning, although the same questions must be posed to each exhibitor.

Intro to Showmanship: This class is offered to newer horse / exhibitor combinations that are just learning showmanship and is intended to introduce the handler and/or horse (novice horse / experienced handler, experienced horse / novice handler, or novice horse / novice handler) to the sport of showmanship, confirming that they are beginning to develop an understanding of correct showmanship maneuvers. The horse/handler combination is allowed to show in this class for a maximum of 2 years and is open to any age exhibitor. No spotters will be allowed.

The exhibitor should perform the work accurately, precisely, smoothly, and with a reasonable amount of speed. Increasing speed of the work increases the degree of difficulty, however, accuracy and precision should not be sacrificed for speed. The horse should lead, stop, back, turn, and setup willingly, briskly, and readily with minimal visible or audible cuing.

Tack & Appointments:

- **Arabian Halter Style** – Arabian Show Halter or Leather Stable Halter. Long-sleeved top, long pants, shoes or boots. Optional: Hat, gloves, vest, sweater or jacket, tie.

- **Western Style** – Western plain leather or Western show-type halter with silver (silver not to count over clean plain leather halter) or Arabian Show Halter. Western hat, long-sleeved shirt or tunic, long pants, western boots. Optional: Western jacket, vest, belt, tie, gloves.
- **English Hunter Style** – Plain Leather Halter or Hunt Bridle (additional leather lead may be added when using a hunt bridle that is attached to the bit or to the cavesson (nose band)). Horses may be braided. If braided, the above tack is required. Arabian Show Halter may be used, but horses must not be braided. Hunt Cap or helmet with harness, hunt coat, breeches, hunt boots, hunt-style shirt with collar, shirt and tie or Hunt Cap or helmet with harness, hunt coat, jodhpurs, jodhpur knee straps (garters), paddock boots, hunt-style shirt with collar, shirt and tie (usually worn by exhibitors 10 & Under). A long-sleeved shirt, long pants, shoes or boots can also be worn. Optional: globes, jacket, tie.
- **English Saddleseat Style** – Saddleseat Bridle or Arabian Show Halter. Long-sleeved shirt, long pants, vest, tie, paddock or jodhpur boots. Optional: Derby or soft hat, saddle suit, gloves.
- **English Dressage or Show Hack Style** – Dressage or Show Hack Bridle or Plain Leather Halter. Horses may be braided. If braided, the above tack is required. If Arabian Show Halter is used, horses must not be braided. Helmet or Top Hat, Dressage Coat or Shadbelly in a dark, conservative color, shirt with collar or stock tie, light or white breeches, and boots. Optional: gloves.

Notes on Leads & Methods of Attachment:

- A lead may NOT be attached to Full Bridles or Pelham Bridles. Properly fitted reins should be used to guide the horse
- A lead may be attached to a Snaffle Bit through the use of a leather connector on both sides of the bit
- A chain or lead may NOT be run through the rings of a bit
- A chain or lead may NOT be run through the horses' mouth or over the nose

Training Horse Class

General: Horses will be shown at the Walk, Trot, and Canter both directions and judges on the performance of the horse.

Rider Appointments: The rider does not have to match the seat ridden, but must wear boots, long pants, long or short sleeves shirt, and hat or helmet.

Equipment: The saddle and bridle does not need to match the seat ridden and all training equipment can be used.

Leadline

General: The rider is to be no older than the age of 7 and must have their feet in the stirrups. The handler is required to be 16 years of age and older.

- The lead line must be attached to a halter or cavesson (either under or over the bridle)
- Rider is not to show in any other performance class
- Stallions are not permitted to show in Leadline
- Class will be at the discretion of the judge – Safety first (refer to General Rules)
- Leadline Classes will have separate year-end awards

Appointments: The attire of the rider and handler must match the seat shown. The handler must be in appropriate show or professional attire.

Tack: Any seat can be shown in Leadline. All riders must have their feet in the stirrups and the lead line must be attached to a halter or cavesson.

Gaits: The horse/rider will be judged at the walk in both directions of the ring.

Walk Class – Pleasure & Equitation (Youth)

General: The Walk Classes are recommended for the young or inexperienced riders (10 years of age and under). The exhibitor will be judged on their ability to control the horse, avoid traffic, turn the horse, stay on the rail, and continue around the ring as directed by the judge.

- Rider is not to show in any other performance class
- Stallions are not permitted to show in the Walk Classes (refer to General Rules)
- Headers are allowed only in the final line-up
- The Walk Classes are divided into Pleasure and Equitation. There will be separate year-end awards

Appointments: The attire of the rider must match the seat shown.

Tack: Any seat can be shown in the Walk Classes.

Gaits: The horse/rider will be judged at the walk in both directions of the ring.

Walk/Trot – Pleasure & Equitation (Youth)

General: The Walk/Trot Classes are recommended for young or inexperienced riders (10 & Under and 11-17). Riders are not to show in any other performance classes except Walk/Trot Trail, Intro to Dressage, and Western Dressage Intro.

- Once a Walk/Trot Exhibitor competes in a class that includes the canter/lope, the rider will no longer be eligible to return to the Walk/Trot Classes.
- Stallions are not permitted to show in the Walk/Trot Classes (refer to General Rules)
- Headers are allowed only in the final line-up
- The Walk/Trot Classes are divided into Pleasure & Equitation. There will be separate year-end awards

Equitation: Performance of rider & appointments = 90% / performance of horse = 10% **Pleasure:**

Performance of the horse = 90% / performance of rider and appointments = 10% **Appointments:**

The attire of the rider must match the seat shown.

Tack: Any seat can be shown in the Walk/Trot Classes.

Gaits: the horse/rider will be judged at the walk and trot (jog) both directions of the ring.

Walk/Trot – Pleasure & Equitation (Mature Rider)

General: The Walk/Trot Mature Rider Classes are intended for the inexperienced or mature riders 18 years & over. Riders are not to show in any other performance classes except Walk/Trot Trail, Intro to Dressage, and Western Dressage Intro. This is not a training class for new or inexperienced horses.

Appointments: The attire of the rider must match the seat shown.

Tack: Any seat can be shown in the Walk/Trot Classes.

Gaits: The horse/rider will be judged at the walk and trot (jog) both directions of the ring.

Trail – Walk/Trot, 17 & Under, 18 & Over

General: The Trail Pattern will be posted at least 2 hours prior to the start of the class. There will be time to walk the course before the Trail Classes begin.

- Trail courses will differ between shows
- Obstacles will simulate situations that may be encountered on the trail. Examples include gate, ground poles, side-pass, bridge, back-through, etc.
- The rider may attempt each obstacle a maximum of three (3) times. If the third attempt is unsuccessful, the rider must go on to the next obstacle
- Walk/Trot Exhibitors may not have shown in any class where a canter (lope) is required

- The Trail Classes may be held outside

Appointments: The attire of the rider must match the seat shown.

Tack: Exhibitors may ride English, Huntseat, or Western.

Gaits: The Walk/Trot Trail Class will only include Walk/Trot obstacles. In the 17 Under and 18 & Over Divisions, Walk, Trot (jog) and Canter (lope) obstacles will be called for.

Huntseat

General: Rider should have a workmanlike appearance. Seat and hands should be light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control should an emergency arise. Horses that move in an artificial frame, are over flexed/behind the bit, or carry their head such that it is below the withers, shall be penalized. Horses may show with a braided mane and tail.

Appointments: Riders should wear a short, tailored coat (of conservative color and material suitable for hunting, discrete patterns allowed), breeches (or jodhpurs), hunt boots, and a conservatively colored hunt cap, derby, or protective headgear. **ASTM-SEI approved protective headgear with harness is mandatory for all riders 17 & Under.** Spurs (unrowelled), gloves, and crops/bats (not to exceed 30" in length) are optional.

Tack: Hunt Saddle/English forward-type seat, or Dressage Saddle is required. Regulation Snaffles, Pelham's, Kimberwick's, or Full Bridles with plain leather browbands and nosebands/cavessons are required. Figure-eight, drop, or flash nosebands are prohibited. Martingales and/or tie-downs are prohibited. **Junior Horse Classes: Horse is only permitted to be ridden in a Smooth Snaffle.**

Gaits: The horse will be shown at the Walk, Trot, and Canter. The walk is a true four-beat, ground covering gait. The trot is to be a two-beat, ground covering, balanced and free-moving gait. Posting at the trot is required. The canter is a three-beat gait that should look smooth, unhurried, and with moderate collection. The horse should travel straight and correct on both leads. Hand-Gallop, to be performed at the discretion of the judge, is a controlled, ground-covering, free-moving gait. A true lengthening of stride is to be shown. Extreme speed is to be penalized.

Pleasure: The horse will be judged on the performance at each gait, both directions of the ring. The horse will be judged on manners, performance, suitability as a Hunter, quality, and conformation.

Equitation: The eyes of the exhibitor should look up with shoulders back. The rider should have their ankles flexed in, heels down, and calves of the legs in contact with the horse slightly behind the girth. The hands of the rider should be over and slightly in front of the withers, slightly apart and making a straight line from the mouth of the horse to the elbow of the rider. The reins must be picked up at the same time; however, the butt of the reins may fall on either side. At the walk, sitting trot (if called for) and canter, the body of the rider should only be a few degrees ahead of vertical. At the posting trot or hand-gallop, the body of the rider should be inclined forward.

Saddleseat

General: Exhibitors enter the ring in a counterclockwise direction, at a normal trot. Light contact must be maintained with the reins at all gaits. Judges are required to consider the performance at each gait equally in judging this class.

Appointments: Informal Saddle Suit attire (no Hunt) is required. Conservative colors (black, gray, dark green) with matching jodhpurs are suggested. Herringbone, Pinstripe, etc. that appear solid are permitted. Day Coats with jodhpurs are permitted in the Saddle Seat Pleasure. Clothing is to include a tie, jodhpur boots, derby soft hat, or protective headgear. Unrowelled spurs, whips, or crops are optional.

Tack: Flat English-Type Saddle is required (no forward seats). No martingales or tie-downs are permitted. Horses shall be shown in a single curb, full-bridle (curb and snaffle) or Pelham bit. A junior horse (5 years of age and under) may be shown in a single smooth snaffle bit.

Gaits: The rider will be asked to Walk, Trot, and Canter both directions of the ring. Hand-Gallop will be called for at the discretion of the judge. Extreme speed is to be penalized.

Pleasure: It is imperative that the horse gives the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and displays a favorable attitude. The horse is to perform all gaits willingly and with cadence, balance, and smoothness. Horses will be judged on manners, performance, quality, and suitability of the horse to rider.

Equitation: The exhibitor should convey the impression of effective yet easy control. The complete picture of horse and rider is most important. The hands of the rider should be held in an easy, yet controlled position. The height of the hands of the rider above the withers shall depend on where the horse carries their head but should form a straight line from the mouth of the horse to the hands of the rider. All reins must be picked up at the same time, using two hands. The bight of the reins should fall on the off side. The rider should sit comfortably in the saddle with a slight bend to the knees, ankles flexed, and heels down. The rider should show only slight movement in the saddle at the walk. As the rider posts at the trot, there should be a slight elevation from the saddle. Hips should be aligned under the body, not swinging forward or backward, or moving up and down in a mechanical motion. At the canter, the rider should maintain a close seat.

Western

General: The Western Classes will be judged at all gaits (Walk, Jog, Lope) both directions of the ring. Light contact must be maintained with the mouth of the horse at all times. Results as shown in the performance of the horse are not to be judged more important than the method used in obtaining them.

Appointments: The rider is to wear a western hat or protective headgear, boots, a long-sleeved shirt with any collar, and long pants. If pants have belt loops, a belt must be worn. Chaps and spurs are optional. A vest, jacket, or sweater may also be worn. Hair is to be neat and fastened so as not to obstruct the back number of the exhibitor.

Tack: A standard Western Saddle (or Sidesaddle) is to be used. A western-type headstall without a noseband is required. A standard western bit as defined by USEF in AR144 with shanks and a curb chain or flat leather curb strap must be used on horses 6 years and older. A junior horse (5 years of age and under) may only be ridden in a bosal or snaffle bit as long as the horse has not been shown in any western event in a curb bit. Two hands may be used only when riding with a bosal or a snaffle. Split reins or closed reins, with a Romal, are equally acceptable, but a finger between the reins is only acceptable when split reins fall on the side of the reining hand. A closed hand must be used with Romal reins. Rope, Reata, hobbles, and breast collars are optional. Hackamore bits, tie-downs, martingales, and draw-reins are prohibited. Unless riding Sidesaddle, whips are prohibited.

Gaits: The rider will be asked to show at the Walk, Jog, and Lope both directions of the ring. Hand-Gallop will be called for at the discretion of the judge. The horse should stand quietly in the line-up and back readily when asked.

Pleasure: The stride of the horse should be free-flowing and ground covering in keeping with the confirmation of the horse. Excessive slowness is to be considered a fault.

Equitation: The rider should sit in the saddle and appear comfortable, relaxed, and flexible. The heels should be lower than the toes. The upper arms of the rider should be in a straight line with the upper body. The arm holding the reins should be bent at the elbow. The hands of the rider are permitted to be around the reins. If using split reins, one finger is permitted to be between the reins. The hand not holding the reins should be kept free from touching the horse and equipment. The reins are to be directly above or slightly in front of the saddle horn. Only slight movement is acceptable. The rider is to sit the jog (no posting). At the lope, the body should remain close to the saddle. All movements of the horse should come from imperceptible rider aids.

Western & English Riding

General: The Western & English Riding Class is open to exhibitors of all ages. The class is a combination class, which is designed to show the characteristics of control and skill used in Equitation, Reining, and Trail Classes. It combines the maneuvers needed for a working-ranch or hunter horse. The rider is to be judged on their ability to govern, control, and properly exhibit the horse and the pattern. All shows in a given year will use the same pattern which will be posted at the Show Office.

Appointments: The exhibitor may ride Western, Hunt, or English. Attire must match the seat shown.

Tack: Western, Hunt, and English rules apply. Tack must match the seat shown.

Gaits: Flying or simple lead changes are allowed within the 10 ft. area designated in the pattern.

Ranch Riding

General: The purpose of the Ranch Riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well trained, relaxed, quiet, soft, and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be free-flowing and ground covering, with an emphasis on forward movement. 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 rein. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal ranch riding horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait.

Appointments: Riders must wear a Western hat, long-sleeved shirt with any type of collar, trousers or pants, and boots. A one-piece long-sleeved equitation suit is acceptable provided it includes any type of collar). Chaps, shotgun chaps, chinks, and spurs are optional.

Tack: Appointments with silver should not count over good working tack. Silver on bridles and saddles and the use of weighted reins is discouraged. Split reins or Romal (closed) reins are permitted. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed. Touching or holding the saddle horn is permitted. Hoof polish is discouraged but will not be penalized.

Gaits: Required gaits are the walk, trot, extended lope, and extended lope which are to be shown at both directions of the arena. The extended walk and back are optional gaits that may be called at the discretion of the judge. Posting at the extended trot is permitted.

Bareback Equitation

General: Bareback Equitation is open to exhibitors of all ages.

Appointments: The attire of the rider must match the seat shown. Chaps are allowed if showing Western.

Tack: No saddles or saddle pads are allowed. For allowable tack, headgear, and bits, see rules above.

Gaits: Exhibitors will be asked to Walk, Trot/Jog, and Canter/Lope both directions of the ring. Backing in the line-up will be at the discretion of the judge.

Show Hack

General: A Show Hack horse is not necessarily a Dressage horse or an English Pleasure horse. Elevation and knee actions are NOT to be emphasized. The horse must show notable transitions between each gait that is called for. The horse must be under complete control while showing animation and vitality. Light contact with the reins must be maintained at all gaits. The performance of the horse at each gait will be considered when judging this class. The horse may show with a braided mane and tail.

Appointments: Attire may be Dressage, Huntseat (conservative colored coat, breeches, boots, and hunt-type cap), or formal attire consisting of white breeches, top hat, and tails. A Saddleseat Suit and/or Kentucky Jodhpurs are prohibited.

Tack: A bridle with a Hunter or Dressage type browband and cavesson will be used. A single snaffle, full-bridle, Pelham, or Kimberwick is acceptable. An English Saddle of any kind is permitted. English spurs, whip, or crop are optional. **Gaits:** The Show Hack Class will include regular, extended, and collected gaits to be judged both directions of the ring – Normal

Walk, Collected Walk, Extended Walk, Normal Trot, Collected Trot, Extended Trot, Normal Canter, Collected Canter, Extended Canter, and Hand-Gallop. The back shall also be required.

Mounted Native Costume

General: Performance and manners shall count as 75% of the score. Appointments will be 25%.

Appointments: The Costume shall be native (Bedouin) in type, including a flowing cape or coat, pantaloons, headdress, scarf, or sash. Decorations in keeping with a color desert regalia may be added to the equipment.

Tack: Bridle may consist of a bit, hackamore, or other suitable headgear, keeping safety of utmost importance. Martingales or tie-downs are prohibited. Spurs, whips, and crops are optional.

Gaits: The Mounted Native Costume Class will be judged at a Walk, Canter, and Hand-Gallop both directions of the ring. The Rider must maintain control of the horse at all times. Extreme speed is to be penalized. Horses are to stand quietly in the final line-up, preferably head to tail.

Sidesaddle – All Seats

General: Sidesaddle is to be judged 85% on the performance of the horse and 15% on the attire and turnout. Manners and suitability as a Sidesaddle mount should be emphasized. The Sidesaddle horse should give the distinct impression of being a pleasure to ride and transitions should be smooth. The horse/rider combination may exhibit in Saddleseat, Show Hack, Dressage, Huntseat, Western, or Period style and attire. The rider may post or sit the trot.

Attire: The exhibitor may show Saddleseat, Show Hack, Dressage, Hunter, Western, or Period. Shirts, if worn, must be long-sleeved. Jackets are allowed as part of any style-attire. Skirt, divided skirt, or apron are required. A hat and boots must be worn.

Tack: Bridle and saddle should be appropriate to the style of attire. Sidesaddle required. Martingales or tie-downs are prohibited. Spurs and whips are optional in all seats.

Gaits: The horse is to be shown at the Walk, Trot/Jog, and Canter/Lope both directions of the ring. Backing is optional at the discretion of the judge. Hand-Gallop is not allowed. Line-up head to tail is encouraged.

Junior Horse

General: For the safety and well-being of the Junior Horse, described as a horse 5 years old and under, an exhibitor will present a Junior Horse under the guidelines of USEF AHA AR132, AR136, AR140, and AR144.

Attire: The attire of the rider must match the seat shown.

Tack: Equipment must match the seat shown.

Saddleseat Appointments: A Junior Horse shown in a Saddleseat Class will require a light, show-type bridle. Either a single curb or single Snaffle (defined as a smooth, rounded Snaffle Bit that is at least 3/8" in diameter as measured 1/2" from the ring, half-cheeks permitted), curb and bradoon, or Pelham bit.

Huntseat Appointments: A Junior Horse shown in a Huntseat Class will require a Snaffle Bit. A Snaffle Bit must be of at least 3/8" diameter as measured 1/2" from the ring. The Snaffle Bit may be jointed, double jointed, or unjointed. For all Junior Horse Performance Classes, all Snaffle Bits must have a round, egg-butt or 'D' shaped ring with no attachments to the headstall or reins through a hook (except for keepers for a Full-Cheek Snaffle when section rules allow for a FullCheek). Full-Cheek (with or without keepers), French, and Dr. Bristol Snaffle Bits are permitted.

Western Appointments: A Junior Horse shown in a Western Class will require a Snaffle Bit or Hackamore.

Hackamore/Bosal or standard Snaffle Bits are permitted in any class on a horse that is 5 years old and under. A standard Snaffle Bit is defined as a center-jointed single, rounded, unwrapped, smooth mouthpiece of 5/16" to 3/4" diameter metal as measured from the ring to 1" in from the ring with a gradual decrease to the center of the Snaffle. The rings may be from 2" to 4" outside diameter or either loose type, egg-butt, 'D,' or center-mounted without cheeks. If a curb strap is used, it must be attached below the reins. A Hackamore includes a Bosal rounded in shape and constructed of braided

rawhide or leather, and must have a flexible non-metallic core, attached to a suitable headstall. No other material of any kind is to be used in conjunction with the Bosal, i.e., steel, metal, or chains. Smooth, plastic electrical tape is acceptable if applied in a smooth, un-twisted manner. Attached reins may be made of hair, rope, or leather. Both hands must be visible to the judge. Two hands may be used on a Hackamore (Bosal) and Western Snaffle reins.

Dressage – English

General: The object of Dressage is harmony and elegance between the horse and rider. The rider works toward developing a horse that is calm, supple, responsive to light touch (without resistance), with forward and free-moving paces.

Appointments: The rider must wear a short riding coat, shirt with tie, choker, stock tie, or integrated stand-up collar, white or light-colored breeches or jodhpurs, hunt boots, or jodhpur boots with garter straps, and ASTM-SEI approved helmet with chin strap snapped when riding a test. Hunt Seat attire is acceptable, but a hunt cap is not allowed – riders must wear an ASTM-SEI approved helmet. Gloves and English-style spurs are optional. Braiding of the mane and tail is permitted.

Equipment: An English-type saddle with stirrups must be used. For all regular class tests (Intro – Second Level), the bridle is to be a Snaffle with a regular cavesson, dropped noseband, flash noseband, crescent noseband, or crossed noseband. A full bridle with USEF accepted dressage double bridle bits may be used if riding a test Third Level or above. Martingales, bit guards, side reins, boots, or bandages are not permitted. A whip no longer than 47.2 inches including the lash, may be carried.

All bits must be smooth with a solid surface. Twisted bits, bits with “bumps”, bits with uncovered wire or cable, and bits that place mechanical restraint upon the tongue are prohibited. Joints that could trap or pinch the oral tissues are not permitted. For permitted bits, please review the USEF Rule Book [Chapter DR121 Saddlery and Equipment - #2 Bits](#).

There is to be a 20-ft. designated space around the Dressage Ring where no one will be allowed except for the horse being judged and the person reading the test to the exhibitor.

The ‘Intro to Dressage’ Test will be open to all exhibitors who are competing in the Main Ring as a ‘Walk/Trot’ exhibitor. As a precaution, the exhibitor may choose to have 4 adult spotters to provide additional safety. At any time, the judge has the right to stop the test if they feel the exhibitor is at risk.

The ‘Intro to Dressage’ Tests are open to a Walk/Trot/Canter exhibitor (Main Ring) for a maximum of 2 years. (Example is a new horse being introduced to dressage)

‘Novice Horse/Rider combo classes can be ridden for a maximum of 2 years. It is intended for a new horse/rider combo that is new to and riding that particular level and test, regardless of how many blue ribbons.

Each horse/rider combination may only show in two consecutive Dressage Test levels at the same show.

In the event of a tie score on any Dressage Test, the entry with the highest collective marks will be declared the winner. If a tie remains, the final tiebreaker shall be the highest score of elements given a coefficient greater than a score of 1.

NOTE: Tests to be ridden that are not offered on our Showbill need to provide (2) copies of the tests to the judge.

Dressage – Western

General: The object of Western Dressage is harmony and lightness between the horse and rider. The Western Dressage horse should demonstrate free-flowing, comfortable strides. The gaits are free, regular in cadence and rhythm, and consistent in both speed and tempo.

Appointments: See rules above for Western Classes. Chaps are optional. Protective headgear is recommended (not required).

Tack: See rules above for Western Classes.

- Exception: A Snaffle Bit may be used on a horse of any age. If riding in a Snaffle, the rider must use two hands on the reins.
- Any standard Western bit may be used on a horse of any age. The rider may use one or two hands with a curb bit.
- If a curb chain is used, it must be at least ½" wide and lie flat against the jaw of the horse.
- The saddle will be a standard stock saddle. Silver equipment is not to be given additional consideration.

Gaits: See specific Dressage Tests. Walk/Jog/Lope.

- The 'Intro to Dressage' Test will be open to all exhibitors who are competing in the Main Ring as a 'Walk/Trot' exhibitor. As a precaution, the exhibitor may choose to have 4 adult spotters to provide additional safety. At any time, the judge has the right to stop the test if they feel the exhibitor is at risk.
- The 'Intro to Dressage' Tests are open to a Walk/Trot/Canter exhibitor (Main Ring) for a maximum of 2 years. (Example is a new horse being introduced to dressage)
- 'Novice Horse/Rider combo classes can be ridden for a maximum for 2 years. It is intended for a new horse/rider combo that is new to and riding that particular level and test, regardless of how many blue ribbons.
- Each horse/rider combination may only show in two consecutive Dressage Test levels at the same show.
- In the event of a tie score on any Dressage Test, the entry with the highest collective marks will be declared the winner. If a tie remains, the final tiebreaker shall be the highest score of elements given a coefficient greater than a score of 1.

Sport Horse in Hand

General: In the Sport Horse in Hand Class, the conformation of the horse is to be evaluated in terms of potential trainability, performance, and predisposition to soundness. Form to function is to be emphasized. Blemishes are not to count unless resulting from conformation faults.

Appointments: The handler must wear long pants and appropriate footwear. Braiding shall be optional.

Tack: The bridle shall be Dressage or Hunter type with Snaffle Bit with or without cheeks (keepers allowed), reins, and headstalls with a throat latch. Noseband is optional. A split or single chain may be used with/or instead of reins. If a line is used instead of the reins the line must be connected to the snaffle rings of the bit and not the nose band or another part of the bridle.

- Horses under the age of 2 may be shown in a plain leather stable halter.
- Bridles are optional for a horse under the age of 2, but MANDATORY for a horse 3 years of age or older.
- The handler may carry only one whip with a maximum length of 6' (including the lash and without attachments i.e., plastic bags, ribbons, etc.).
- Lead MUST attach through rings of bit, not cavesson (with or instead of reins).

Gaits: The gaits are to be evaluated in terms of purity, quality, and correctness. Correct gaits which contribute to ease in training and the horse remaining sound are most important. Purity and quality are to be judged primarily in the profile. Correctness is to be judged primarily while the horse is coming to and from the position of the judge.

Procedure: The horse shall be shown individually at the Walk and Trot. When showing on the Triangle, the horse should stand in a relaxed and open position to be judged on conformation. All four legs should be visible to the judge from either side, the neck should be in a neutral position, and the handler should be standing away from the horse with a loose lead line. The horse will be judged on way of moving, conformation, and general impression, which will include

overall breed standard, expression, manners, masculinity/femininity, development related to age, and suitability as a Sport Horse. 30% Conformation / 30% Walk / 30% Trot / 10% General Impression as a Sport Horse.

- Showing on the Triangle – Following either a posted/announced order on request from the judge, the exhibitors in each class will approach the judging area one at a time, walk to the apex of the Triangle, and await the request of the judge to proceed on the Triangle. The handler will lead the horse on the perimeter of the triangle at the Walk and Trot, returning to the apex to stand for conformation judging or to repeat any movement at the request of the judge. At the completion of judging, the handler will lead the horse away from the judging area. The next entry in the class shall promptly enter the judging area.

Scoring Procedures: The judge shall use the approved individual score sheets. A scribe shall be provided for the judge who will be required to record the scores and comments of the judge onto the score sheets.

Sport Horse Under Saddle

General: The purpose of the Sport Horse Under Saddle Class is to judge the potential of the horse for Dressage, Working Hunter, Eventing, Jumping, or Endurance. Form to function will be emphasized.

Appointments: Both appointments and equipment can be either English Dressage or Huntseat and an ASTM-SEI approved helmet.

Tack: Equipment should match the seat shown. A horse must be shown in a regulation Snaffle Bit or Pelham Bit. Kimberwick's are not allowed.

Gaits: The horse is to be shown at a Walk, Trot, and Canter both directions of the ring.

Dressage Suitability

General: the purpose of the Dressage Suitability Class is to judge the potential of the horse to become a Dressage mount. This class is open to any horse that has not competed in any Dressage Test above First Level (EMAA or other shows). A horse may show in this class for a maximum of 2 show seasons (retroactive).

Appointments: Both appointments and equipment can be either English Dressage or Huntseat and an ASTM-SEI approved helmet.

Tack: Equipment should match the seat shown. A horse must be shown in a regulation Snaffle Bit or a [USEF Dressage approved Snaffle Bit](#). Kimberwick's are not allowed.

Gaits: The horse is to be shown at a Walk, Trot, and Canter both directions of the ring.

Dressage Seat Equitation

General: The Dressage Seat Equitation Class is judged on the position of the rider, seat, and the correctness and effect of the aids required by the Training and First Level Dressage Tests.

Appointments: Appointments and equipment can be either Dressage or Hunt Seat and an ASTM-SEI approved helmet.

Tack: Tack should match the seat shown. Horses must be shown in a Snaffle. Kimberwick's are not allowed. If a horse has shown over Second Level it may be ridden in a double bridle with approved [USEF Dressage double bridle bits](#).

Gaits: The horse is to be shown at a Medium Walk, Working Trot, Canter, and lengthening of gaits both directions of the ring. At the discretion of the judge, a Sitting Trot may be called for.

Pinning a Dressage Test

A rider that enters multiple classes of the same Dressage Test may choose to have one score count for any/all classes entered. The rider must designate at the time of entry which class will be ridden.

Example: An exhibitor enters classes for Intro A Novice Combo and Intro A 17 & under. You indicate on entries that you are pinning these classes. You are charged for 1 class at full price and the other class at "pinned" price

with discount. You sign up for 1 ride time, indicating in comments it is Intro A- Novice Combo/ Pin 17 & under. You ride the test once and your score is counted for and placed in both classes.

Scheduled Ride Times

- All riders must sign up for their individual ride times on 'Sign Up Genius' after entering on Gaitkeeper. The rider must designate if they will choose the 'Pinned Class' option.
- It is the responsibility of the rider to show up for their scheduled ride time and to work out any time conflicts with the Main Arena. There will be no changing of ride times without official notification.
- An exhibitor that misses a ride time will need to reschedule with the Dressage In-Gate. All missed ride times will be made up at the end of the day, time permitting; the Steward will not be able to 'squeeze' in make-ups. Dressage Tests must be canceled at the show office by 9:00 am the day of your ride in order to not be charged for the class.
- A rider will have 60 seconds to enter the ring after the bell has been rung. Failure to notify management of a time change or failure to enter the arena on time will be marked as a 'no show.' An exhibitor may enter the arena, outside the official Dressage Ring, after the preceding exhibitor has ended their test with a salute and the warmup bell has been rung. In the event that the scheduled ride times are running early, the exhibitor will have the option of riding early or waiting until their scheduled time. If scheduled ride times are running late, the exhibitor will still be required to follow the scheduled order. Ride times will be assigned in 8-minute increments.
- Ride times will be available on Friday from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM and are given preference to riders who are entered in 10 or more Main Ring classes. Any level test may be ridden during this time.
- Any and all Dressage Classes can and will be combined, canceled, or split, depending on the number of exhibitors entered. The decision of the EMAA Board is final.
- The 'Test of Choice' Class can be any test but is not used towards placing or points. If the test is above Second Level, the exhibitor must provide 2 copies of the test to the judge.

Open Breed Dressage Classes & Open Breed Sport Horse in Hand

- The Open Breed Classes are open to all breeds of horses.
- An EMAA Membership is not required for exhibitors in these classes.
- A rider may choose any Dressage Test from the EMAA Showbill to ride. All exhibitors interested in this option must choose Class 500 for Sport Horse in Hand and Classes 500-507 for Dressage Tests (see Showbill). The exhibitor must specify, on Sign Up Genius, which Dressage Test they are riding. Open Breed exhibitors will be able to register for ride times on Sign Up Genius starting on the Monday prior to the show.
- An Open Breed exhibitor may choose to ride any dressage test. If the test is not included on our show bill, the exhibitor will need to provide two copies of the test for the judge.
- Open Breed exhibitors are eligible to ride the Western Dressage Tests.
- Results will be posted as the tests are scored. Placings will be posted at the end of the show on Sunday.
- See Dressage rules above for attire and other guidelines that must be followed.
- Open Breed Dressage Classes will have a fee of \$25.00 per class.

EMAA POINTS TABULATION INFORMATION

To qualify for year end points:

All riders/handlers must hold a current paid membership.

All members must be in good standing with accounts paid in full. Members will forfeit all points for any given show if the show invoice is not paid in full per the rules/regulations.

Horse/rider must compete in the class at 2 or more shows.

Rider/handler must show in the proper qualifying class to ride in the championship class.

Class placement points are calculated at each show, (see below), accumulated throughout the show season, then totaled after the last show.

Regular classes and Championship classes:

1st place= 6 points

2nd place= 5 points

3rd place= 4 points

4th place= 3 points

5th place= 2 points

6th place= 1 point

Halter Championship classes:

1st place= 4 points

2nd place= 2 points

Effective 2015- championship classes will be stand alone for each division for year-end awards. At the banquet, Champion classes will award Supreme and Reserve Champion only.

EMAA reserves the right to eliminate or combine awards based on participation.

Consideration for placement of ties: the tied horse with the most 1st places will win the tie, if this does not break the tie, then 2nd places will be considered and so on.

Class placings are posted on the EMAA website and on Gaitkeeper site. Questions and corrections must be submitted in writing to the EMAA office manager within 30 days of the show or they will stand as posted.

All traveling trophies must be signed for at the banquet and returned to EMAA at the last show of the season.

Award decision on points and awards is final.