

ESHWSA Rulebook 2023

General Guidelines	2
1. Showing	2
1.1. General Showing Guidelines	3
1.2. Age Determinations	3
1.3. Equine Size Determinations	3
1.4. Horse Type Determinations	3
1.5. Discipline Determinations	3
1.6. General Tack & Equipment	3
1.7. Fees.....	4
1.8. General Attire	4
1.9. ESWHSA Point System	4
1.10. ESWHSA Required Class Schedule	5
1.11. Prize & Awards	6
2. Year End Awards	6
2.1. General Guidelines	6
2.2. Iron Horse Year End Awards	6
2.3. Individual Class Year End Awards	7
2.4. Divisional Year End Awards	7
2.5. Tie Breaking Rules For All Year End Awards	10
3. Class Rules & Regulations	10
3.1. Halter	10
3.2. Showmanship At Halter	10
3.3. Pleasure Driving	12
3.4. Challenged Rider Leadline	13
3.5. Leadline – English or Western	13
3.6. In-Hand Trail	14
3.7. Hunter In Hand	14
3.8. Lunge Line: Yearling or 2 YR Old	15
3.9. Pleasure English/Western	15
3.10. Equitation: English	17
3.11. Horsemanship: Western	18
3.12. Trail	19
4. Scholarship Guidelines	20
4.1. Scholarship Mission	20
4.2. Scholarship Requirements	20
4.3. Criteria For Selection	20
4.4. What Needs To Be Submitted	20

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- a) These rules & regulations shall become effective January 1, & there upon all previous rules & regulations are hereby repealed.
- b) The ESWHSA events will be held - rain or shine unless cancelled by the event's management
- c) In case of inclement weather: Please call the appropriate event manager for event status
 - Listed on the show program or
 - The ESWHSA website: www.eswhsa.com or
 - The Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ESWHSA>
 - Tune into 94.7 FM, WDSB (302-734-9373) for possible cancellations.
- d) For Board of Directors meeting information/changes email easternshorewhsa@gmail.com.
- e) Master Point forms are required to ensure correct spelling/contact information for exhibitors.
- f) Responsibilities & Violations
 - The Eastern Shore Western Horse Show Association & Board of Directors will not be held responsible for injuries or damages/loss of property incurred at any show in the circuit. UNDER DELAWARE LAW an equine professional is not liable for an injury or the death of a participant in equine activities, resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities, Pursuant to 10 Delaware Code Section 8104.
 - Photographer & personal photos that are taken during & around show grounds may be used in our social media.
 - Exhibitors must have in their possession a NEGATIVE COGGINS TEST on each animal at every show. Coggins papers must be dated within 12 months of the date of the show at which they are presented.
 - Horses without negative Coggins papers will be asked to leave the show grounds.
 - Unruly &/or unsafe horses can be excused from the show grounds by the Show Committee.
 - Exhibitors can be asked to leave the show grounds by the Show Committee for failure to control a horse, unsportsmanlike behavior, or abusing a horse.
 - Under no circumstances will any unethical conduct or behavior be tolerated by any board member or attendee at any ESWHSA show &/or function. Such behavior will result in immediate dismissal of a board member by the board. Attendees displaying such behavior will be asked to leave the function.
 - All protests must be submitted to the Show Committee accompanied by \$100.00 in cash on the day of the show in question. Show Committee consists of the ESWHSA Executive Board (President, Vice-President, Secretary, & Treasurer) & appropriate Show Manager. They will decide the legitimacy of the protest & if the situation warrants, will approach the show secretary of the day. From this meeting a Final Decision will be rendered.
 - If any situation occurs at an ESWHSA sponsored event which is not specifically covered in this rulebook, a decision will be rendered by the ESWHSA Board of Directors present at the event. Their decision will be considered final.

1 SHOWING

1.1 General Showing Guidelines

- a) All ESWHSA sponsored shows will offer all 58 ESWHSA officially pointed classes.
- b) Show sponsors may offer additional classes at their discretion which will not be subject to official ESWHSA rules, fees, or point accumulations.
- c) Spotters are allowed in the ring for our challenged exhibitors & 8 yr. old & under exhibitors that are competing in in-hand classes. The spotter must be appropriately dressed, cannot interfere with the class in any way & cannot touch or handle the animals or other exhibitors in the ring unless an emergency arises.
- d) No adjustments can be made to patterns or courses once that class has started except to reset to its original position

- e) All animals must be serviceably sound in the opinion of the judge. The judge's decision on soundness is final & cannot be protested.
- f) All Judges' decisions will be considered final.
- g) Any exhibitor that is competing in the Adult Walk/Jog or Youth Walk/Jog Division may not show in any classes that includes loping.

1.2 Age Determinations

- a) For the purposes of showing, the age of a horse is determined as though their birthdate is January 1 of the show year regardless of the actual foaling date.
- b) For the purposes of showing, the age of an exhibitor shall be computed on the exhibitor's actual age on January 1 of the show year.
- c) For the purposes of showing, an exhibitor is a Youth if they are 18 years of age or younger on January 1 of the show year.
- d) For the purposes of showing, an exhibitor is an Adult if they are 19 years of age or older on January 1 of the show year.
- e) Youth exhibitors MAY NOT handle a stallion of any age.

1.3 Equine Size Designations

- a) For the purposes of showing, an equine exhibitor is considered a Miniature Horse if they are 38" or less at the height of their withers, or registered with an accepted Miniature Horse breed registry: AMHA, AMHR, etc.
- b) For the purposes of showing, an equine exhibitor is considered a Pony if they are 58" or less & over 38" at the height of their withers, or registered with an accepted pony breed registry: ASPC, Shetland, Welsh, Haflinger, Gypsy Cob, POA, etc.
- c) For the purposes of showing, an equine exhibitor is considered a Horse if they are over 58" at the height of their withers, or registered with an accepted horse breed registry: AQHA, ApHC, JC, APHA, USTA, etc.

1.4 Horse Type Determination

- a) For the purposes of showing, an equine exhibitor is considered a STOCK HORSE type if they have the predominate build characteristics of the accepted western breeds such as the AQHA, ApHC, & APHA.
- b) For the purposes of showing, an equine exhibitor is considered to NOT BE STOCK HORSE type if they do not have the predominate build characteristics of the accepted western breeds. NOT STOCK HORSE types include but are not limited to Arabians, Saddlebreds, Tennessee Walkers, Standardbreds, Thoroughbreds, or non-registered horses that do not have a stock horse type build as described in 1.4 a) above

1.5 Discipline Determinations

- a) For the purposes of showing, English riding is determined by entering the ring in acceptable clothes & tack associated with events such as Fox Hunting, Stadium Jumping, Saddle Seat, Dressage, Eventing or English Pleasure Competition.
- b) For the purposes of showing, Western riding is determined by entering the ring in acceptable clothes & tack normally associated with activities such as Ranch Work, Working with Cattle, Roping, Team Penning, Mounted Shooting, Western Pleasure Competition.

1.6 General Tack & Equipment

- a) Lip chains are allowed in ALL Halter classes
- b) Pony stallions may be shown with a Chaffney Bit safely attached to the halter.
- c) Whips & Crops are not allowed in Halter classes

1.7 Fees

- a) The office fee will be \$10.00 per horse per judge. This "ESWWSA OFFICE FEE" will be paid at the entry booth at each show.
- b) The entry fee for each class will be \$8.00 per judge for all classes.
- c) Any exhibitor may be denied privileges of the association for failure to pay, when due, any obligation owed to the association, or to any show sponsor for giving a worthless check or any fees/charges including bank charges for returned checks. Written notice of amount due will be mailed to exhibitor along with intentions to deny privileges. Any denial of privileges shall terminate upon payment of the obligation due.

1.8 General Attire

- a) Clothing, including hats, should not display advertisements, statements, or images that could be considered disturbing to our competitors & their families.
- b) All show officials (ring stewards/judges) working in the ring must be dressed professionally, including long sleeve shirt, long pants, & no open toed shoes.
- c) Upon entering the ring for a Western class, full western attire including western boots, long sleeve shirt & western hat will be required by all exhibitors & handlers.
- d) Upon entering the ring for an English class, except Hunter in Hand, full English attire including tall or jodhpur boots, long sleeve shirt, jacket, jodhpur or breeches pants & safety helmet or hunt cap will be required by all exhibitors & handlers. Jackets can be excused at the Judges' discretion.
- e) Hunter in Hand Attire is listed under the rules for that class.
- f) Upon entering the ring for a Pleasure Driving class, suitable driving attire will be required by all exhibitors & handlers. No short pants or open toed shoes.
- g) All horses must have their assigned show numbers displayed upon entering show ring. Numbers to be dark lettering on a white background. If number is not displayed properly or not appropriate number for the entry, the exhibitor may be disqualified at the judge discretion.

1.9 ESWWSA Point System

- a) Points are award in ESWWSA pointed classes as follows:

ESWWSA Points Awarded System						
# of Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
6 & Over	6	5	4	3	2	1
5	5	4	3	2	1	
4	4	3	2	1		
3	3	2	1			
2	2	1				
1	1					

- b) Points in these types of classes are awarded to the equine regardless of who exhibits them, if the person exhibiting is also eligible for that class:
 - Halter
 - Hunter In-Hand
 - Pleasure Driving
 - Trail (some)
 - English Pleasure
 - Western Pleasure (some)
- c) Points in these types of classes are awarded to the exhibitor regardless of the equine they exhibit if the equine is also eligible for that class:
 - Youth or Adult designated classes like:
 - * Showmanship

- * Horsemanship
- * Trail (some)
- * Pleasure (some)
- * Miniature Youth
- Leadline
- Equitation

1.10 ESWHSA Required Class Schedule

1	Halter: Weanling – Any breed horse/pony/mini	31	Hunter in Hand Halter: Any breed horse/pony/mini
2	Halter: Yearling & 2 yr old – Any breed horse/pony/mini		*** 10 min Break***
3	Halter: Stallion Horses – 3 yr old & over: Horses only	32	Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse/pony/mini
4	Halter: Gelding – 3 yr old & up: Stock Horse type	33	Pleasure: English/Western Walk/Jog-Trot – Ponies Only
5	Halter: Mare – 3 yr old & up: Stock Horse type	34	Pleasure: English/Western Walk/Jog-Trot/Lope-Canter – Ponies Only
6	Halter: Open Horse – 3 yr old & over: Not Stock Horse type – all sexes	35	Equitation: English Walk/Trot/Canter: All age riders – Any breed horse/pony
7	Halter: Miniature Horse Gelding/Stallions – 38” & under, 3 yr old & over	36	Pleasure: English Walk-Trot: Horses Only
8	Halter: Miniature Horse Mares – 38” & under, 3 yr old & over	37	Pleasure: English Walk/Trot/Canter – Horses Only
9	Halter: Pony over 38” – 3 yr old & over – all sexes		*** 20 min Break***
10	Halter: Multi-Color – Any breed horse/pony/mini	38	Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) - Adult - Any breed horse/pony
11	Halter: Solid Color – Any breed horse/pony/mini	39	Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 14 to 18 - Any breed horse/pony
12	Halter: Champion of Champions	40	Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 10 to 13 - Any breed horse/pony
13	Showmanship: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under – Miniature Horse Only	41	Horsemanship: Western (W/J) - Youth 9 & under - Any breed horse/pony
14	Showmanship: Walk/Jog Adult – Any breed horse/pony/mini	42	Horsemanship: Western (W/J) Adult - Any breed horse/pony
15	Showmanship: Walk/Jog Youth 18 & under – Any breed horse/pony/mini	43	Horsemanship: Western (W/J) Youth 18 & under - Any breed horse/pony
16	Showmanship: 9 & Under – Any breed horse/pony/mini	44	Pleasure: Open Western Walk/Jog - Horses only
17	Showmanship: 10-13 – Any breed horse/pony/mini	45	Pleasure: Open Western Walk/Jog/Lope - Horses only
18	Showmanship: 14-18 – Any breed horse/pony/mini	46	Pleasure: Western (W/J/L) - Adult - Any breed horse/pony
19	Showmanship: Adult – Any breed horse/pony/mini	47	Pleasure: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 14 to 18 - Any breed horse/pony
	30 min break – arena only for driving warm up	48	Pleasure: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 10 to 13 - Any breed horse/pony
20	Pleasure Driving: Open Miniature Horse – 38” & under	49	Pleasure: Western (W/J) - Youth 9 & under - Any breed horse/pony
21	Pleasure Driving: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under – 38” & under	50	Pleasure: Western (W/J) Adult - Any breed horse/pony
22	Challenged Rider Leadline: Any Age Rider – Handler must be 19 & Over	51	Pleasure: Western (W/J) Youth 18 & under - Any breed horse/pony
23	Leadline Walk On Lead– Rider 8 & under – Handler must be 19 & Over	52	Trail: Open Western (W/J/L) - Any breed horse/pony
24	Leadline Walk/Jog/Trot On Lead – Rider 8 & under – Handler must be 19 & Over	53	Trail: Western (W/J/L) - Adult - Any breed horse/pony
25	Leadline Walk On Rail Off Lead– Rider 8 & under – Handler must be 19 & Over	54	Trail: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 14 to 18 - Any breed horse/pony
26	Pleasure Driving: Open Horse/Pony – over 38”	55	Trail: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 10 to 13 - Any breed horse/pony
27	In-Hand Trail: Open Miniature Horse – 38” & under	56	Trail: Western (W/J) - Youth 9 & under - Any breed horse/pony
28	In-Hand Trail: Miniature Horse Youth – 18 & under – 38” & under	57	Trail: Western (W/J) Adult - Any breed horse/pony
29	In-Hand Trail: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed – Horses only	58	Trail: Western (W/J) Youth 18 & under - Any breed horse/pony
30	In-Hand Trail: Pony - over 38” – all ages/sexes		

a) ADDITIONAL ADDED CLASSES:

Any show may hold any class it wishes in addition to those required by ESWHSA, but these classes will not accumulate points for ESWHSA Year-End awards. Required classes must be held in the order prescribed by the ESWHSA, with additional classes inserted at the discretion of the show sponsor with a letter designation of A, B, etc.

1.11 Prizes & Awards

All shows will offer the same pointed classes & year-end points shall be recorded for the same classes. Six ribbons or board approved awards will be presented in all classes. Trophies may be presented at the option of the show sponsor. If trophies are to be presented in one class, equal trophies must be presented in all classes.

2 Year End Awards

2.1 General Guidelines

- a) Year-end awards are presented at the annual awards banquet.
- b) Master Point forms are required to ensure correct spelling for point posting and year end award presentations.
- c) When exhibitors are unable to attend the awards banquet, exhibitors have the responsibility to make arrangements to get their awards.

2.2 Iron Horse Year End Awards

- a) The ESWHSA will award a Grand & Reserve Champion for the Year End Iron Horse Award
- b) To be eligible for Iron Horse Awards each equine must have shown in at least 3 show dates.
- c) The Iron Horse Awards are based on a combined total of ALL the points accumulated for a single horse/pony or miniature horse for ALL classes they have entered during the show season.

2.3 Individual Classes Year End Awards

- a) Throughout the year the points awarded for each entry in each ESWHSA approved class are accumulated toward the year-end individual class awards
- b) A print-out of the current to-date standings is available on our website & a printed copy should be at the entry both on the day of the show.
- c) Each ESWHSA sponsored class will give a year end award for the top 6 finishers equine or exhibitor based on their accumulated point totals depending on whether the class awards points to the equine or exhibitor provided they meet the additional requirements:
 - To be eligible to receive a year-end overall class award for all ESWHSA sponsored classes, you must have exhibited in that class at a minimum of 2 show dates, with the exception of Halter: Weanling, where there are no minimum show requirements
 - In the classes that normally accumulate points on the exhibitor that allow the exhibitor to show more than one equine in the same class at the same show, the points for that individual class year end award will be calculate on an exhibitor/equine combination.

These classes are:

- Miniature Horse In-Hand Trail – Youth 18 & under 38” & Under
- Trail Western (W/J) – Youth 18 & under
- Trail Western (W/J) – Adult
- Trail Western (W/J) – Youth 9 & under
- Trail Western (W/J/L) – Youth 10 – 13
- Trail Western (W/J/L) – Youth 14 – 18
- Trail Western (W/J/L) – Adult

2.4 Divisional Year End Awards

a) The ESWHSA provides Year End Divisional awards in the following 13 divisions:

- 8 Exhibitor Divisions (age-related):

- Leadline 8 & Under

- To be eligible for Leadline Year End An Exhibitor is eligible for the Exhibitor Divisional Year End Award for Leadline regardless of:

- the equine shown all points will be accumulated by exhibitor.
 - the number of classes they show in the division.
 - the number of total points they accumulated.
 - the number of shows they attended.
 - The division will award 1st through 6th places

- Youth 9 & Under

- Youth 10 – 13

- Youth 14 – 18

- Adult

- Adult Walk/Jog

- Youth Walk/Jog 18 & under

- Miniature Horse Youth 18 & Under

- To be eligible for these 7 Exhibitor Divisional Year End Awards (excludes Leadline) each Exhibitor/Equine combination must have met all the following requirements:

- show a minimum of 2 approved classes in division over the course of the show season
 - have a minimum of 8 combined total points
 - have shown at least 1 of the approved classes in the division on at least 3 show dates
 - one of which must be a performance class

- 5 Equine Divisions (size/type/discipline-related):

- Halter

- Miniature Horse

- Pony

- English Horse

- Western Horse

- To be eligible for the 5 Equine Divisional Year End Awards each Equine must have met all the following requirements:

- show a minimum of 2 approved classes in the division over the course of the show season
 - one of the approved classes shown must be a performance class except in the case of the HALTER division where the classes can all be in hand.
 - have a minimum of 8 combined total points
 - have shown at least 1 of the approved classes in the division on at least 3 show dates

b) The approved classes for each division are as follows:

- Leadline 8 & Under

- Leadline – Walk On Lead

- Leadline – Walk/Jog/Trot On Lead

- Leadline – Walk On Rail Off Lead

- Youth 9 & Under

- Showmanship: 9 & Under

- Trail: Western (W/J) - Youth 9 & under

- Horsemanship: Western (W/J) - Youth 9 & under

- Pleasure: Western (W/J) - Youth 9 & under

- Youth 10 – 13

- Showmanship: 10 to 13

- Trail: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 10 to 13

- Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 10 to 13

- Pleasure: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 10 to 13
- Youth 14 – 18
 - Showmanship: 14 to 18
 - Trail: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 14 to 18
 - Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 14 to 18
 - Pleasure: Western (W/J/L) - Youth 14 to 18
- Adult
 - Showmanship: Adult
 - Trail: Western (W/J/L) – Adult
 - Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) – Adult
 - Pleasure: Western (W/J/L) – Adult
- Adult Walk/Jog
 - Showmanship: Walk/Jog Adult
 - Trail: Western (W/J) - Adult: Walk/Jog
 - Horsemanship: Western (W/J) - Adult: Walk/Jog
 - Pleasure: Western (W/J) - Adult: Walk/Jog
- Youth Walk/Jog 18 & under
 - Showmanship: Walk/Jog Youth
 - Trail: Western (W/J) - Youth: Walk/Jog
 - Horsemanship: Western (W/J) - Youth: Walk/Jog
 - Pleasure: Western (W/J) - Youth: Walk/Jog
- Miniature Horse Youth 18 & Under
 - Showmanship: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under
 - Pleasure Driving: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under/38" & under
 - In-Hand Trail: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under/38" & under
- Halter
 - Halter: Weanling
 - Halter: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Stallion Horses 3 yr old & over: all types
 - Halter: Gelding 3 yr old & up: Stock Horse
 - Halter: Mare 3 yr old & up: Stock Horse
 - Halter: Open Horse 3 yr old & over: Not Stock Horse type - all ages/sexes
 - Halter: Pony 3 yr old – over 38" - all sexes
 - Halter: Miniature Horse Gelding/Stallions 38" & under 3 yr old & over
 - Halter: Miniature Horse Mares 38" & under 3 yr old & over
 - Halter: Multi-Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Solid Color - All types horse, pony, mini
- Miniature Horse
 - Halter: Weanling
 - Halter: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Miniature Horse Gelding/Stallions 38" & under - 3 yr old & over
 - Halter: Miniature Horse Mares 38" & under - 3 yr old & over
 - Halter: Multi-Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Solid Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Hunter in Hand Halter: All types horse, pony, mini
 - Pleasure Driving: Open Miniature Horse- 38" and under - 3 yr old & over
 - Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - In-Hand Trail: Open Miniature Horse 38" and under
- Pony
 - Halter: Weanling
 - Halter: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Pony 3 yr old & over – over 38" - all sexes

- Halter: Multi-Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Solid Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Hunter in Hand Halter: All types horse, pony, mini
 - Pleasure Driving: Open Horse/Pony – Over 38”
 - Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - In-Hand Trail: Pony - over 38”
 - Pleasure: English/Western Walk-Trot/Jog - Ponies Only
 - Pleasure: English/Western Walk-Trot/Jog-Canter/Lope - Ponies Only
 - Trail: Open Western (W/J/L) - Horses & Ponies
- English Horse
- Hunter in Hand Halter: All types horse, pony, mini
 - Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - In-Hand Trail: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse
 - Pleasure Driving: Open Horse/Pony – Over 38”
 - Pleasure: English Walk-Trot: Horses Only
 - Pleasure: English Walk/Trot/Canter - Horses Only
- Western Horse
- Halter: Weanling
 - Halter: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Stallion Horses 3 yr old & over: all types
 - Halter: Gelding 3 yr old & up: Stock Horse
 - Halter: Mare 3 yr old & up: Stock Horse
 - Halter: Open Horse 3 yr old & over: Not Stock Horse type - all ages/sexes
 - Halter: Multi-Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Solid Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Pleasure Driving: Open Horse/Pony – Over 38”
 - Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
 - In-Hand Trail: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse
 - Trail: Open Western (W/J/L) - Horses & Ponies
 - Pleasure: Open Western Walk/Jog
 - Pleasure: Open Western Walk/Jog/Lope
- c) If showing both the English & Western Horse Equine Divisional classes, you must designate which one of those Equine Divisional awards should include the points for the following classes:
- Pleasure Driving: Open Horse/Pony – Over 38”
 - In-Hand Trail: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse
 - Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
- d) If showing both the Miniature Horse & Pony Equine Divisional classes, you must designate which one of those Equine Divisional awards should include the points for the following classes:
- Halter: Multi-Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Halter: Solid Color - All types horse, pony, mini
 - Hunter in Hand Halter: All types horse, pony, mini
 - Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
- e) The points accumulated in the following classes are used for the appropriate Individual Class Year End awards but are not part of any of the Divisional Year end awards:
- Challenged Rider Leadline Any Age Rider - Handler must be an Adult
 - Equitation: English Walk/Trot/Canter: All age riders

2.5 Tie Breaking Rules For All Year End Awards

- a) The following tie breaking process will be applied to all Year End Awards & is applied if there is a tie after all eligibility requirements have been met for the awards:
- In the case of a tie for any placing, the winner of the tie will be determined by the most shows shown.
 - If the number of shows shown does not help in breaking a tie, the winner will be determined by the most first place finishes. If both have the same number of wins, then the number of second place finishes will determine the winner. This tie-breaking system will continue down through sixth place finishes. If the tie cannot be broken, duplicate awards will be given.

3 Class Rules & Regulations

3.1 Halter

- a) These rules apply to classes 1 to 12 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in 1.10 above
- Class 1 Halter: Weanling – any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Class 2 Halter: Yearling & Two (2) Yr Old – any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Class 3 Halter: Stallions – Three (3) yr old & over – any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Class 4 Halter: Geldings – Three (3) yr old & over – STOCK HORSE Type
 - Class 5 Halter: Mares – Three (3) yr old & over – STOCK HORSE Type
 - Class 6 Halter: Open Horse – Three (3) yr old & over – NOT STOCK HORSE Type
 - Class 7 Halter: Miniature Horse Gelding/Stallions – 38" & under, 3 yr old & over
 - Class 8 Halter: Miniature Horse Mares – 38" & under, 3 yr old & over
 - Class 9 Halter: Pony - 3 yr old & over – all sexes
 - Class 10 Halter: Multi Color - any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Class 11 Halter: Multi Color - any breed horse, pony, mini
 - Class 12 Halter: Champion of Champions
- b) Halter classes will be judged on conformation & way of going of the exhibited equine against the standard for their type & size at the discretion of the judge
- c) Entries in all Halter classes, except Multi- & Solid-Color Halter will be shown in hand at a walk & trot & then lined up head-to-tail for closer inspection.
- d) In Multi- & Solid- color Halter classes the judging should be based 80% on color & 20% on conformation
- e) In Multi- & Solid- color Halter classes entries will be brought in & circled
- f) Multi-color Halter is open to any equine whose body has both white & non-white colors such as paint, pinto, appaloosa color type horses/ponies/miniature horses only: i.e. overo, tobiano, leopard, blanketed, etc. White face & leg markings do not make an equine multi-colored.
- g) Solid color Halter is open to any equine whose body is primarily all one color: i.e. solid paint, solid color appaloosa, roans, buckskin, palomino, etc. The equine may still have white face & leg markings.
- h) Champion of Champions Halter is open to any equine who won one of the classes listed in Halter Division. Judges will both judge and agree upon a Champion and Reserve Champion. There will not be a year-end individual class award for this class. The Champion will receive 2 additional points and the Reserve Champion 1 additional points toward the Year-end Divisional award for Halter

3.2 Showmanship At Halter

- a) These rules apply to classes 13 - 19 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in 1.10 above
- Class 13 Showmanship: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under - Miniature Horse Only
 - Class 14 Showmanship: Adult Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony or mini

- Class 15 Showmanship: Youth 18 & Under Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony or mini
 - Class 16 Showmanship: Youth 9 & Under Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony or mini
 - Class 17 Showmanship: Youth 10 - 13 Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony or mini
 - Class 18 Showmanship: Youth 14 - 18 Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony or mini
 - Class 19 Showmanship: Adult Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony or mini
- b) Showmanship is designed to evaluate the exhibitor's ability to execute a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge on the posted pattern with precision & smoothness while exhibiting poise & confidence, maintaining a balanced & fundamentally correct body position in concert with a well-groomed & conditioned equine.
- c) It is mandatory that the Show Committee post ALL pattern(s) to be worked at least 1 hour prior to the BEGINNING of the show; however, if the judge requires additional work of exhibitors for consideration of final placing, THAT WORK CAN BE GIVEN BY THE JUDGE TO THE EXHIBITORS IN THE RING
- d) Pattern(s) should be designed to test the showman's ability to effectively present AN EQUINE to the judge.
- e) All ties will be broken at the judge's discretion.
- f) All exhibitors may enter the ring & then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually.
- g) Exhibitors should be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their work.
- h) The following maneuvers are considered acceptable:
- lead the horse at a walk, jog, or extended jog
 - back in a straight or curved line
 - a combination of straight & curved lines
 - stop/halt
 - turn 90° (1/4), 180° (1/2), 270° (3/4), 360° (full turn) or any combination or multiple of these maneuvers/gaits
 - The pull turn is an unacceptable maneuver.
- i) The judge must have exhibitors set the horse up squarely for inspection during the class.
- j) Equine Tack & Presentation:
- The equine's body & hair coat should be clean & in good condition
 - The length of mane & tail may vary, but must be neat, clean, & free of tangles & may be banded but may not contain ornaments (ribbons, bows, etc.)
 - Hooves should be properly trimmed/shod must be clean & may be painted black or with hoof dressings or shown naturally.
 - Tack should fit properly & be neat, clean & in good repair
 - Showmanship whips (dressage whips etc.), war bridles or like devices or any type of wire or rope over an equine's head are not permitted for showmanship purposes.
- k) Exhibitor Attire & Position:
- Appropriate western attire must be worn; clothes & person are to be neat & clean
 - Exhibitors should be poised, confident, courteous, genuinely sportsmanlike, & quickly recognizing/correcting faults in the positioning of the equine.
 - The exhibitor should continue showing the equine until the class has been placed or they have been excused, unless otherwise instructed by the judge.
 - The exhibitor should appear business-like, stand/move in a straight, natural, & upright manner, & avoid excessive, unnatural, or animated body positions.
 - The exhibitor must lead on the equine's left side holding the lead shank in the right hand near the halter with the tail of the lead loosely coiled in the left hand unless requested by the judge to show the equine's teeth.
 - The exhibitor's hand should not be on the snap or chain portion of the lead.
 - The excess lead should never be tightly coiled, rolled, or folded.

- When leading, the exhibitor should be positioned between the eye & the mid-point of the equine's neck, referred to as the leading position.
- Both arms should be bent at the elbow with the elbows held close to the exhibitor's side & the forearms held in a natural position. Height of the arms may vary depending on the size of the equine & exhibitor, but the arms should never be held straight out with the elbows locked.
- The position of the exhibitor when executing a turn to the right is the same as the leading position except that the exhibitor should turn & face toward the equine's head & have the equine move away from them to the right.
- When executing a back, the exhibitor should turn from the leading position to face toward the rear of the equine with the right hand extended in front of the exhibitor's chest still maintaining slight bend in the elbow & walk forward.
- For all showmanship classes except Class 12 Showmanship: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under - Miniature Horse Only, the exhibitor's movements when presenting their equine to the judge should be consistent with what is commonly known as the "showing quarters" method. This means that when the judge's position is at or forward of the equine's shoulder the exhibitor should be on the opposite side of their equine from the judge. When the judge's position is behind the shoulder, the exhibitor should be on the same side as the judge.
- When showing in Class 12 Showmanship: Miniature Horse Youth 18 & under – Miniature Horse Only, the exhibitor's movements when presenting their equine to the judge should be consistent with what is commonly known as the "showing halves" method. This means that the exhibitor should be on the opposite side of their equine from the judge.
- When setting the equine up for inspection, the exhibitor should stand angled toward the equine in a position between the equine's eye & muzzle & should never leave the head of the equine.
- The exhibitor should maintain a position that is safe for themselves & the judge.
- The position of the exhibitor should not obstruct the judge's view of the equine & should allow the exhibitor to be aware of the judge's position.
- The exhibitor should not crowd other exhibitors when setting up side-by-side or head-to-tail.
- When moving around the equine, the exhibitor should change sides in front of the equine with minimal steps & should assume the same position on the right side of the equine that they had on the left side.
- Leading, backing, turning, & initiating the set-up should be performed from the left side of the equine.
- At no time should the exhibitor ever stand directly in front of the equine.
- The exhibitor should not touch the equine with their hands or feet, or visibly cue the equine by pointing their feet at the equine during the set-up.

3.3 Pleasure Driving

- a) These rules apply to classes 20 – 21 & 26 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in 1.10 above
 - Class 20 Pleasure Driving: Open Miniature Horse- 38" & under
 - Class 21 Pleasure Driving: Youth 18 & under Miniature Horse- 38" & under
 - Class 26 Pleasure Driving: Horse/Pony - Over 38"
- b) All equines competing in a pleasure driving class should be safely harnessed to pleasure type vehicle with either 2 or 4 wheels. Quick Hitch harnesses are allowed. No stirrup type carts, chariots, or racing sulkies are allowed.
- c) Drivers age 9 & under must be accompanied in the vehicle by an Adult in all driving classes, Drivers age 10-18 have the option of having an adult with them in the vehicle during competition. Adult drivers will not have anyone else in the vehicle
- d) No pets are allowed in the vehicle during competition
- e) Headers are required for Youth drivers during the final lineup in any Pleasure Driving class & are optional for Adult drivers. Headers must be Adults

- f) Headers are allowed in the ring once the equine are lined up. Headers do not have to wear matching attire or headgear but must wear appropriate attire for being in the ring
- g) No artificial aids are permitted above the coronary band
- h) The equine enters the ring & proceeds counterclockwise at the normal trot/park gait unless otherwise directed
- i) During the competition, each equine will demonstrate the following gaits both direction of the ring:
 - Walk (normal walk)
 - Park Gait (normal trot)
 - Road Gait (extended trot)
- j) The change of direction should be done with care & consideration of the other exhibitors & only at the Walk or Park Gait
- k) Exhibitors will be asked to back in the lineup. Each equine should stand quietly & back readily

3.4 Challenged Rider Leadline

- a) These rules apply to class 22 in the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in 1.10 above
 - Class 22 Challenged Rider Leadline Any Age Rider - Handler must be 19 & Over
- b) Challenged Rider Leadline Class will be shown with the exhibitor riding while a Leader leads the equine at a walk both directions of the ring.
- c) Rider can be of any age provided the rider has 1 or more physical or mental disabilities.
- d) Leaders, and any optional Spotter, must be an Adult Age 19 & Over
- e) Riders are not eligible for any other riding class at the same show.
- f) Points are accumulated on the rider regardless of what equine they ride.
- g) Leaders should be dressed in the acceptable attire that agrees with the discipline of the Rider and the tack. The Spotter does not have to wear matching attire or headgear but must be dressed appropriately for being in the ring.
- h) Judges will be in the ring during the competition, but all exhibitors will receive equal prizes / ribbons.

3.5 Leadline – English Or Western

- a) These rules apply to classes 23 - 25 in the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in above
 - Class 23 Leadline – Walk On Lead – Rider Age 8 yr old & Under - Leader Age 19 & Over
 - Class 24 Leadline – Walk/Jog/Trot On Lead
 - Class 25 Leadline – Walk On Rail Off Lead
- b) Leadline On Lead Classes will be shown with the exhibitor riding while a Leader leads the equine both directions of the ring.
- c) Leadline Off Lead Classes will be shown with the exhibitor riding on the rail without a leader. Leaders and any additional spotters will be placed strategically on the inside of the ring with their focus on exhibitor safety. Rider must be 8 years of age.
- d) Leaders, and any optional Spotters, must be an Adult - Age 19 & Over
- e) Riders in the lead line division are not eligible for any other riding class at the same show.
- f) Points are accumulated on the rider regardless of what equine they show
- g) Leaders should be dressed in the acceptable attire that agrees with the discipline of the Rider and the tack. The Spotter does not have to wear matching attire or headgear but must be dressed appropriately for being in the ring.
- h) Judges will be in the ring during the competition and will place 1st through 6th.
- i) Riders/Exhibitors should be judged on appropriate seat, hands, and leg position for the discipline of their tack and demonstration of overall control of their equine.

3.6 In Hand Trail

- a) These rules apply to classes 27 – 30 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule from 1.10 above
 - Class 27 In-Hand Trail: Open Miniature Horse 38" & under
 - Class 28 In-Hand Trail: Youth 18 & Under - Miniature Horse 38" & under
 - Class 29 In-Hand Trail: Yearling & 2 year old – Horses only
 - Class 30 In-Hand Trail: Pony - over 38"
- b) Each equine can only be shown by 1 exhibitor per class. Exhibitors may show a total of 2 equines in a class & the same equine may show the Open & Youth classes
- c) The exhibitor's attire should be consistent with their equine's tack & size/type/age appropriate. All tack & attire should conform with ESWHSA rules
- d) Equine to be a minimum of 1 year old – no foals or weanlings.
- e) Between obstacles horses will work the gait requested by the judge on the posted pattern drawn up by the show committee. No rail work will be used.
- f) Class to be judged on performance & way of going throughout the course.
- g) There is a 60 second time limit on each obstacle. When time is up the exhibitor is to go on to next obstacle.
- h) Obstacles can be made of a sturdy plastic such as PVC, but all obstacles should be safe for exhibitors as well as equines.
- i) There should be a minimum of 4 & maximum of 6 obstacles per course. Example of obstacles to include but not limited to:
 - walking or trotting over cavalettis
 - walking over bridge
 - back through
 - side pass
- j) It is the judge's discretion to disqualify. Entries can be disqualified because of:
 - Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
 - Negotiating an obstacle from the wrong side.
 - Skipping an obstacle unless directed by judge.
 - Horse leaving course area.
 - Physically moving or coercing the horse by touching.
 - Fall of exhibitor or equine
 - Refusals of 3 obstacles

3.7 Hunter In Hand

- a) These rules apply to class 31 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in 1.10 above
 - Class 31 Hunter In Hand Halter: any age – any breed horse, pony, mini
- b) Hunter In Hand is essentially a halter class for the English performance horse based upon the movement of the Hunter under Saddle Horse.
- c) One exhibitor is allowed to show more than one horse in this class.
- d) Tack, Equipment & Attire:
 - Horses that are 2 yr old or older must be exhibited in an English bridle with a snaffle bit. No decorations & especially no silver is allowed
 - For horses 1 yr old & younger, a plain leather halter & lead (with or without a chain) may be used instead of a bridle. The chain can be either over the nose or under the chin, but not in the mouth.
 - The handler may optionally carry a crop, bat, or dressage whip.

- The handler must wear a conservative shirt with a collar, such as a polo shirt or dress shirt, in white or other solid color.
 - A hat, vest, tie & gloves can be worn, but all are optional.
 - Pants must be loose dress pants, such as khakis, chinos or dockers, that allow room to run the course.
 - Jeans are not allowed.
 - Shoes must be running shoes, or paddock boots.
- e) Judging:
- The horse is judged individually on a triangle:
 - 60% for movement
 - 30 % for conformation
 - 10% for temperament.
 - The equine enters individually & is set up for inspection at “A” in an open position, with all 4 legs visible to the judges for inspection
 - When the judge signals that he/she is done, the equine will begin walking the first (smaller) triangle on the outside perimeter.
 - Walk from “A” to “B” then to “C” & back to “A”.
 - Once the smaller triangle is completed & back at “A”, the equine should commence to trot around the perimeter of the larger triangle.
 - Perform a collected trot from “A” to “D”
 - then extend the trot to (E),
 - back to collected trot to turn
 - finish at “A”.
 - Once you finish the course, exit the ring.
 - Disqualification for off course.
 - 70 to 90 feet between corner markers

3.8 Lunge Line: Yearling or 2 Yr Old

- a) These rules apply to class 32 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule in 1.10 above
 - Class 32 Lunge Line: Yearling & 2 yr old - Any breed horse, pony, mini
- b) This class is open to all equine sizes & types that are 1 or 2 years old
- c) Equipment is a show halter & a lunge line, not to exceed 30’ attached to the halter by the side ring or center ring. NOT TO GO OVER THE NOSE/UNDER THE CHIN/OVER THE POLL.
- d) Lunge whips & splint boots are optional
- e) The exhibitor’s attire should be correct for discipline/size of the equine’s tack they are showing
- f) Exhibitors enter the ring 1 at a time. Horse is shown at halter then changed into Lunge Line.
- g) Upon announcer’s cue, the exhibitor is given 90 seconds to walk, jog & lope both directions.
- h) The exhibitor determines when he has displayed each gait to his best advantage.
- i) Breaks of gait & momentary lapse of attention are not to be penalized unless it is thought to be an indication of bad mindedness.
- j) After all exhibitors have lunged their entries, they are stood up in a halter class line up & judged on confirmation suitable to a performance horse.
- k) Judges are instructed to judge according to:
 - 70% on way of going suitable to a pleasure horse
 - 30% on conformation suitable to a pleasure horse

3.9 Pleasure English/Western

- a) These rules apply to classes 33, 34, 36, 37, & 44 – 51 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule from 1.10 above
 - Class 36 Pleasure: English Walk-Trot: Horses Only
 - Class 37 Pleasure: English Walk-Trot-Canter: Horses Only

- Class 33 Pleasure: English/Western Walk-Trot/Jog: Ponies Only
 - Class 34 Pleasure: English/Western Walk-Trot/Jog-Canter/Lope: Ponies Only
 - Class 44 Pleasure: Open Western Walk-Jog: Horses Only
 - Class 45 Pleasure: Open Western Walk-Jog-Lope: Horse Only
 - Class 46 Pleasure: Western Walk-Jog-Lope: Adult: Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 47 Pleasure: Western Walk-Jog-Lope: Youth 14 to 18: Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 48 Pleasure: Western Walk-Jog-Lope: Youth 10 to 13: Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 49 Pleasure: Western Walk-Jog: Youth 9 & Under: Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 50 Pleasure: Western Walk-Jog: Adult: Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 51 Pleasure: Western Walk-Jog: Youth: Any breed horse, pony
- b) Pleasure is designed to evaluate the performance, condition, & conformation of the horse.
- A good pleasure equine has a free-flowing stride of reasonable length in keeping with their conformation. Ideally, they should have a balanced, flowing motion, while exhibiting correct gaits that are of the proper cadence. The quality of the movement & the consistency of those gaits is a major consideration. Maximum credit should be given to the flowing, balanced & willing equine that gives the appearance of being fit & a pleasure to ride.
 - The equine should cover a reasonable amount of ground with little effort. Excessive speed is penalized.
 - The equine should carry their head & neck in a relaxed, natural position, with their poll level with or slightly above the level of the withers. The equine should not carry its head behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance.
 - The horse should be shown on a reasonably loose rein, should be responsive, yet smooth when transitions called. When asked to extend, should move out with flowing motion.
 - Classes designated Walk-Trot/Jog will not be asked to Canter/Lope. Classes designated as Walk-Trot/Jog-Canter/Lope should not be asked to reverse at the Canter/Lope.
 - Exhibitors must work both ways of ring at all required gaits. The judge may ask Exhibitors to lengthen or collect their stride. Cadenced & balanced with smoothness is more essential than speed.
 - All exhibitors will be asked to & are required to back easily & stand quietly.
 - Exhibitors are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). They may be required to reverse at the Walk or Trot/Jog at the discretion of the judge,
 - Judge may ask for additional work of the same nature from any horse.
- c) Faults to be scored appropriately:
- Excessive speed (any gait) or excessive slowness in any gait, loss of forward momentum (resulting in an animated &/or artificial gait or choppiness)
 - Failure to take the appropriate gait when called for (during transitions, excessive delay will be penalized) or breaking gait
 - When executing the Canter/Lope traveling overly canted (when the outside hind foot is further to the inside of the arena than the inside front foot) or a wrong lead
 - Equine appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired causing stumbling.
 - Equine's head is carried too high (over flexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical) or too low (tip of ear below the withers) or excessive nosing out or opening their mouth
 - Rider touches the equine or saddle or uses spurs forward of the girth
- d) Tack & Equipment
- The equine's tack & equipment should be consistent with the attire their rider is wearing. Correct Western or English tack should conform with ESWHSA rules.
 - No training devices. Including but not limited to martingales, tiedowns, drop nosebands or mechanical action hackamores. Absolutely no metal will be permitted under the jaws regardless of how padded or covered.
 - Bits cannot be changed throughout the day. What is used in first class must be used all day.

- When referring to a snaffle bit in pleasure classes, it means the use of a smooth snaffle bit with broken mouthpiece a conventional O-ring, egg butt or D-ring & the ring no larger than 4". One inch (1") in from cheek must be a minimum of 3/8" diameter with a gradual decrease to center of the snaffle. An optional loose curb strap (leather or nylon only) can be used in Western with the reins to be attached above the curb strap.
- Western classes may be shown in either western bit that requires a chin strap, or a bosal or a snaffle bit. If the equine is shown on a western bit that requires a chin strap, the chin strap must be at least 1/2" in wide & lay flat.

e) Rider Rules & Attire

- The rider's attire should be consistent with the tack they are riding in. Correct Western or English tack & attire should conform with ESWHSA rules
- Acceptable hand position English: The rider should have 2 hands on the reins & the bit-to-hand-to elbow should be a reasonably loose but straight line. Hands can be carried higher for Gaited or Saddle Seat equine. If showing in a pelham bit, rider should use 4 reins or a converter.
- Acceptable hand position Western: The rider should have 2 hands on the reins if the equine is being shown in a snaffle bit, bosal, or romal, but should only have 1 hand on the reins for all other acceptable western bits. If the equine is being shown in 2 hands with the appropriate bit, reins will be crossed over equine's withers. If the equine is being shown in 1 hand with the appropriate bit, reins will be carried together. In the case of showing in a romal, one hand should be forward of the connection to the quirt & the other holds the quirt end. The rider's rein hand(s) must be carried 4" slightly in front of, slightly above, or behind the saddle horn.
- Riders should sit at the moderated extension of the jog in Western & should post the extension of the Trot in English
- While in motion the rider's hands should be clear of the equine they are riding & their saddle
- Spurs, crops or quirt end of the romal should not be used forward of the girth.

f) Rider shall not be required to dismount except in the event the judge wishes to check equipment. Judges will check bits at their discretion

3.10 Equitation: English

- These rules apply to class 35 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule from 1.10 above
 - Class 35 Equitation: English Walk/Trot/Canter: All age riders - Any breed horse, pony
- English Equitation is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed with precision & smoothness while exhibiting poise & confidence while maintaining a balanced, functional, & fundamentally correct body position.
- This class requires a pattern to be posted by the Show Committee no later than 1 hour before the start of the show. The pattern must call for the exhibitors to work all required gaits, including a back, in at least one direction of the arena. Rail work is optional at judge's discretion.
- The ideal execution of the pattern is for the rider & horse to be extremely precise, working in complete unison, & executing each maneuver with subtle aids & cues. Patterns should be designed to test the horseman's ability at the level of their age. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control & show horses.
- All exhibitors may enter the ring & then work individually or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. Exhibitors should be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line or fall into place on the rail after their work
- If for some reason it is not deemed safe to execute a pattern, the judge may opt to judge from rail work. The judge has the option of judging from rail work alone & is allowed to choose to only work 1 direction of the ring
- The following maneuvers are considered acceptable to be included in the pattern:
 - walk, trot, extended trot, canter, extended canter, counter canter
 - in a straight line, curved line, serpentine, circle, or figure eight
 - stop/halt
 - back in a straight or curved line

- pivots on the forehand or haunches, turn 90° (1/4), 180° (1/2), 270° (3/4), 360° (full turn)
 - spins or rollbacks
 - sidepass, two-tracks, or leg yields
 - flying or simple lead changes
 - any combination or multiple of these maneuvers/gaits
 - the exhibitors will not be asked to dismount/remount
- h) General Attire & Tack
- Riders will wear appropriate English attire.
 - The saddle must fit the equine & rider.
 - Snaffle, Pelham, & Kimberwick bit may be used. Curb chains are required for Pelham & Kimberwick bits.
 - Drop nosebands & martingales are not allowed
- i) Rider position
- Rider should sit in the saddle with legs bent at the knee & slightly behind the girth.
 - The stirrups should be short enough to allow the heels to be lower than the toes & the rider's heel should be in line with the point of the rider's hip & shoulder.
 - Body should always appear correct, but comfortable relaxed & flexible.
 - Feet should rest with the ball of the foot in the stirrup, & parallel with the horse.
 - Both hands & arms shall be held in a relaxed, easy manner with the upper arms to be held in a straight line with the body, holding the reins bent at the elbow.
 - Some movement of the arm is permissible, but excessive pumping will be penalized.
 - Reins should be carried such that light contact is maintained with the equine's mouth.
 - Rider will post the trot on the correct diagonal unless otherwise specified by the judge.
 - At the canter the rider should sit close to the saddle. Exaggerated shifting of the rider's weight is not desirable.- All movements of the equine will be achieved using almost imperceptible aids.
 - Excessive movement of the lower legs shall be penalized

3.11 Horsemanship: Western

- a) These rules apply to classes 38 - 43 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule from 1.10 above
- Class 38 Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) - Adult - Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 39 Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) – Youth 14 to 18 - Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 40 Horsemanship: Western (W/J/L) – Youth 10 to 13 - Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 41 Horsemanship: Western (W/J) – Youth 9 & Under - Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 42 Horsemanship: Western (W/J) – Adult - Any breed horse, pony
 - Class 43 Horsemanship: Western (W/J) – Youth 18 & Under - Any breed horse, pony
- b) Western horsemanship is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed with precision & smoothness while exhibiting poise & confidence while maintaining a balanced, functional, & fundamentally correct body position.
- c) This class requires a pattern which is to be posted by the Show Committee no later than 1 hour before the start of the show starts. The pattern must call for the exhibitors to work all required gaits, including a back, in at least one direction of the arena. Rail work is optional at the discretion of the judge.
- d) The ideal execution of the pattern is for the rider & horse to be extremely precise, working in complete unison, & executing each maneuver with subtle aids & cues. Patterns should be designed to test the horseman's ability at the level of their age. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control & show horses.
- e) All exhibitors may enter the ring & then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. Exhibitors should be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their work

f) If for some reason it is not deemed safe to execute a pattern, the judge may opt to judge from rail work. The judge has the option of judging from rail work alone & is allowed to choose to only work 1 direction of the ring

g) The following maneuvers are considered acceptable:

- walk, jog, trot, extended trot, lope, extended lope, counter canter
- in a straight line, curved line, serpentine, circle, or figure eight
- stop/halt
- back in a straight or curved line
- pivots on the forehand or haunches, turn 90° (1/4), 180° (1/2), 270° (3/4), 360° (full turn)
- spins or rollbacks
- sidepass, two-tracks, or leg yields
- flying or simple lead changes
- any combination or multiple of these maneuvers/gaits
- The exhibitors will not be asked to dismount/remount

h) All ties will be broken at the judge's discretion.

i) Results as shown by performance of the horse are not to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining them

j) The horse's head & neck should be carried in a relaxed, natural position, with the poll level with or slightly above the withers. The head should not be carried behind the vertical, giving the appearance of intimidation, or be excessively nosed out, giving a resistant appearance.

3.12 Trail

a) These rules apply to classes 52 – 58 from the ESWHSA Required Class Schedule from 1.10 above:

- Class 52 Trail: Open Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 53 Trail: Adult Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 54 Trail: Youth 14 to 18 - Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 55 Trail: Youth 10 to 13 - Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 56 Trail: Youth 9 & under - Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony
- Class 57 Trail: Adult - Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony
- Class 41 Trail: Adult - Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony

b) This class will be judged on the horse's/pony's performance of the obstacles, response to the rider, & way of going.

c) All obstacles should be safe for exhibitors/equines, but NO PVC cavelettis or buckets.

d) There should be a minimum of 4 & maximum of 6 obstacles per course. Example of obstacles to include but not limited to:

- walking or trotting over cavalettis
- walking over bridge
- back through
- side pass

e) Between obstacles horses will work the gait requested by the judge on the posted pattern drawn up by the show committee. No rail work will be used.

f) It is the judge's discretion to disqualify. Entries can be disqualified because of:

- Taking an obstacle in the wrong direction.
- Negotiating an obstacle from the wrong side.
- Skipping an obstacle unless directed by judge.
- Horse leaving course area.
- Physically moving or coercing the horse by touching.
- Fall of exhibitor or equine or exhibitor dismounting other than specified in the pattern

g) Each equine can only be shown by 1 exhibitor per class. The same equine may show the Open & Youth/Adult classes

h) Exhibitors may show a total of 2 equines in any one of these Trail class. In the classes listed below only the highest scoring finisher of those multiple entries for that Exhibitor for that show will accumulate toward the Year-End Individual class award

- Class 53 Trail: Adult Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 54 Trail: Youth 14 to 18 - Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 55 Trail: Youth 10 to 13 - Walk-Jog-Lope – any breed horse, pony
- Class 56 Trail: Youth 9 & under - Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony
- Class 57 Trail: Adult - Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony
- Class 58 Trail: Adult - Walk-Jog – any breed horse, pony

i) On the third refusal of any obstacle, the contestant will be asked by the ringmaster to proceed to the next obstacle.

j) Ties to be broken by repeating an obstacle or using an additional obstacle at the judge's discretion.

k) Rope, slicker & chaps are considered optional equipment

4 Scholarship Guidelines

4.1 Scholarship Mission:

a) Our mission is to encourage students entering or already enrolled in college who have experience in raising & exhibiting horses. The ESWHSA scholarship is intended to aid in the purchase of textbooks or tuition expenses & will be awarded directly to the student.

4.2 Scholarship Requirements:

a) Each application must be accompanied by a supporting letter from the student's major professor, department head, or high school guidance counselor or teacher (in the event the student has yet to enter college).

b) All individuals will be judged solely, on their qualifications & their application materials without bias to sex, religion, race, national origin, marital status, age or political affiliation.

c) The Eastern Shore Western Horse Show Association requires a written report from the scholarship recipient regarding the use of the scholarship such as a transcript or a paid invoice.

d) The Eastern Shore Western Horse Show Association reserves the right not to award a scholarship in the case of no qualified entries.

e) The deadline for submitting application & all materials is October 1st.

- Applicants may apply year after year providing the student remains currently enrolled in a higher education institution.

4.3 Criteria For Selection:

a) The recipient should be actively enrolled in a higher education institution.

b) The recipient must have shown on an ESWHSA sponsored circuit for at least 2 years.

c) The recipient must have experience raising &/or exhibiting horses.

d) For more information & to find the online application go to www.eswhsa.com or <https://forms.gle/3VqBFMiWiJCAHH5h6>

e) Any questions can be directed to easternshorewhsa@gmail.com

4.4 What Needs To Be Submitted:

a) Completed application form.

b) A letter of support from a professor or advisor

c) Documentation of involvement in the equine industry.

- For example, a letter from show superintendent, judge, 4-H leader, or FFA advisor.

d) A one-page essay as described on the application form.

e) Official transcripts (High School or College)