

Ranch Horse Western Pleasure

This class has been added to the 2013 show schedule. The following rules apply.

Horses must be over 52". Points in this class will apply to the rider's age according to the age divisions listed in this rulebook.

1. The Ranch Horse Western Pleasure horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movements of a working horse.
2. The horse's performance should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working speed while under control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded and horse does not have to be shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements, and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations.
3. Requirements:
 - a. No horse less than 3 years of age.
 - b. Horses will work collectively in the arena on the rail only.
 - c. The required maneuvers will include the walk, jog, and lope both directions: and the extended jog and lope at least one direction, at judge's discretion; as well as stop, reverse, and back.
 - d. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be that of a western horse, with an emphasis on forward movements, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transition should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.
4. Apparel and Equipment:
 - a. No hoof polish
 - b. No braided or banded manes or tail extensions.
 - c. Trimming inside ears is discouraged
 - d. Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair.
 - e. Equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.
 - f. Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are allowed.
 - g. No nosebands or tie downs
 - h. Western attire is required