

# 2009 SADDLESEAT HORSE DIVISION

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The following summarizes eligible classes for high point tabulation (showmanship and three performance classes maximum). **Walk/trot entries are NOT eligible for High Point awards.**

### ***Walk/Trot***

Showmanship

Green Rider Pleasure H&P (w/t)

Green Rider Equitation (w/t)

\*Walk/Trot riders are NOT eligible for High Point Awards.

### ***County Pleasure Horse***

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**All 4-Hers riding or driving horses at 4-H events or activities are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet at all times.**

## **GENERAL RULES**

All 4-Hers riding or driving horses and/or ponies at 4-H events or activities are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian helmet at all times.

In the district horse show and/or state horse show, if there are less than 50 entries in this division, the Alternate Point System II shall be used.

The Open Invitational Classes are designated by an asterisk (\*) and the letters OI.

## **SADDLESEAT DIVISION CLASSES**

**SHOWMANSHIP I - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-11 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see page 5 of General Rules.)**

Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship). The contestants will dress in Saddleseat attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest, gloves and hat (Derby or ASTM-SEI approved helmet). No coats.

**SHOWMANSHIP II - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 12-14 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see page 5 of General Rules).**

Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship). The contestants will dress in English attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest, gloves and hat (Derby or ASTM-SEI approved helmet). No coats.

**SHOWMANSHIP III - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 15-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see page 5 of General Rules).**

Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship). The contestants will dress in Saddleseat attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest, gloves and hat (Derby or ASTM-SEI approved helmet). No coats.

**\*OI - SADDLESEAT HORSE/PONY HALTER** - Registered and grade mares and geldings any age and height. Class judged on conformation, soundness and way of going. Horses should be shown in a full, double, or Pelham bridle, or English halter.

**GREEN RIDER PLEASURE HORSE & PONY (WALK/TROT)** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-18 as of January 1 of the current year, however, may show in this class one time only, with special consideration for special needs children. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she cannot show in any other class which calls for a canter. Entries must show in a flat English saddle with full bridle, Pelham, snaffle or curb. Use of a standing martingale, bosal, mechanical hackamore, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited, however the use of a running martingale with a snaffle bit is acceptable. Entries may be plain shod or have pads that may be of any thickness and may have clipped mane and tails or full mane and tails. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered or have their tails set. Class judged on horse's or pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride with light contact on the mouth at a flat walk and square trot. Horses will be asked to work both ways of the arena at a flat walk and square trot. Entries will be required to back. The contestants will dress in Saddleseat attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. No coat required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Exhibitors are not eligible for High Point Awards but are eligible for Green Rider Equitation.

**\*OI - SADDLESEAT GREEN HORSE & PONY (WALK/TROT)** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must show in a flat English saddle with full bridle, pelham or snaffle. Use of a martingale is allowed, however, use of a bosal, mechanical hackamore, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Entries may be plain shod or have pads that may be of any thickness and may have clipped mane and tails or full mane and tails. Horses and ponies may wear tail sets or bustles, but tails may not be braced, gingered or tied. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horses and pony's manners and performance at the walk and trot both ways of the ring. Horses and ponies should have a graceful walk and a square, collected and balanced trot. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse and will be penalized for excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Entries should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances. Entries are not eligible for any other pleasure class. *In addition to this class, entries may only be entered into Open Invitational English Pony/Horse Halter.*

**GREEN RIDER EQUITATION (WALK/TROT)** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-18 as of January 1 of the current year, however, may show in this class one time only, with special consideration for special needs children. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she cannot show in any other class that calls for a canter. Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. This is a walk/trot equitation class and entries will not be asked to canter, perform a pattern or to mount or dismount but will be required to back. The contestants will dress in Saddleseat attire; boots, jods, long sleeve shirt, tie, vest and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. No coat required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Exhibitors are not eligible for High Point Awards, but are eligible for Green Rider Pleasure Horse & Pony.

**SHOW PLEASURE HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Horse and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Use of a single snaffle, curb, bosal, mechanical hackamore, martingale, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Horses and ponies will wear pads that may be of any thickness and must have full manes and forelocks that should be braided. Horses and ponies showing in the Show Pleasure Classes may wear tail sets or bustles, but may not show with the tail gingered, tied or braced. Unset tails will not be penalized. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride with light contact on the mouth at the flat walk, square trot and canter both ways of the ring with moderately animated action. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances. Entries are eligible for Country Pleasure Horse & Pony if shoeing allows.

**COUNTRY PLEASURE HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Horses and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Use of single snaffles, curbs, bosals, mechanical hackamores, martingales, draw reins and/or tie downs are prohibited. Horses and ponies must be plain shod. Rim pads are optional. They must have full manes and tails that should NOT be braided. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered or have their tails set. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride on a reasonably loose rein (without loss of contact in the horse's and/or pony's mouth) at the flat walk, trot, extended trot and canter both ways of the ring without extreme animation. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quiet on the rail. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only, and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances. Entries are eligible for Show Pleasure Horse/Pony.

**NON-ASB ENGLISH PLEASURE HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size, excluding all American Saddlebreds. Horses and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle, single curb, single snaffle or pelham. Use of mechanical hackamores, martingales, draw reins and/or tie downs are prohibited. Horses and ponies must be plain shod. Pads are optional. They must have full manes and tails that should NOT be braided. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered or have their tails set. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and display a pleasurable attitude. All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness. Exhibitors will be asked to walk, normal trot, strong trot and canter. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quiet on the rail. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only, and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**NATURAL PLEASURE HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grad mares and geldings of any size. All horses MUST be plain shod with non-weighted shoes. Tail must appear to not have been cut or set. They must have full manes and tails that should NOT be braided. Horses and ponies must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Use of single snaffles, curbs, bosals, mechanical hackamores, martingales, draw reins and/or tie downs are prohibited. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and ability to give a pleasurable ride on a reasonably loose rein (without loss of contact in the horse's and/or pony's mouth) at the flat walk, trot, extended trot and canter both ways of the ring without extreme animation. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quiet on the rail. Horses and ponies may be asked to reverse at the walk and trot only, and will be penalized for wrong leads, excessive speed and/or breaking gaits. Horses and ponies should back readily and stand quietly. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**SADDLESEAT EQUITATION JR.** - Exhibitors must be between the ages 9-13 as of January 1 of the current year (see page 5 of the general rules). Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Pattern is required. Riders will not be asked to mount or dismount. Saddleseat attire is appropriate with conservative coat colors recommended, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Exhibitors will be asked to walk, trot and canter.

**SADDLESEAT EQUITATION SR.** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see page 5 of the general rules). Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Pattern is required. Riders may or may not be asked to mount or dismount. Saddleseat attire is appropriate with conservative coat colors recommended, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Exhibitors will be asked to walk, trot and canter.

**VERSATILITY PATTERN HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must show in a flat English saddle with full bridle or pelham. Use of a single snaffle, bosal, mechanical hackamore, martingale, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Entries may be plain shod or have pads that may be of any thickness and may have clipped mane and tails or full mane and tails. Horses and ponies may not be braced, gingered or have their tails set. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire including a coat, tie or collar, and gloves. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, bats, short whips, crops and similar equipment are all optional. Class judged on the performance of the horse or pony along with the rider executing a specific pattern in a uniform and collected fashion. Incorrect diagonals and leads will be penalized, as well as performing any portion of the pattern out of order. The specific pattern is listed on page 5 of these English Division Rules.

**PLEASURE DRIVING** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Horses must be shown to a two (2) or four (4) wheeled vehicle in light harness with a snaffle bit and over check or side check. The use of quarter boots is prohibited and horses must have full manes and tails. Riders must wear neat, clean, appropriate Saddleseat attire. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Class judged on the horse's manners, quality and performance at the flat walk, trot and extended trot without excessive speed. Horses should back readily and stand quietly. Headers are permitting in the ring when horses are not on the rail. Horses entering into this class may be flat shod or padded.

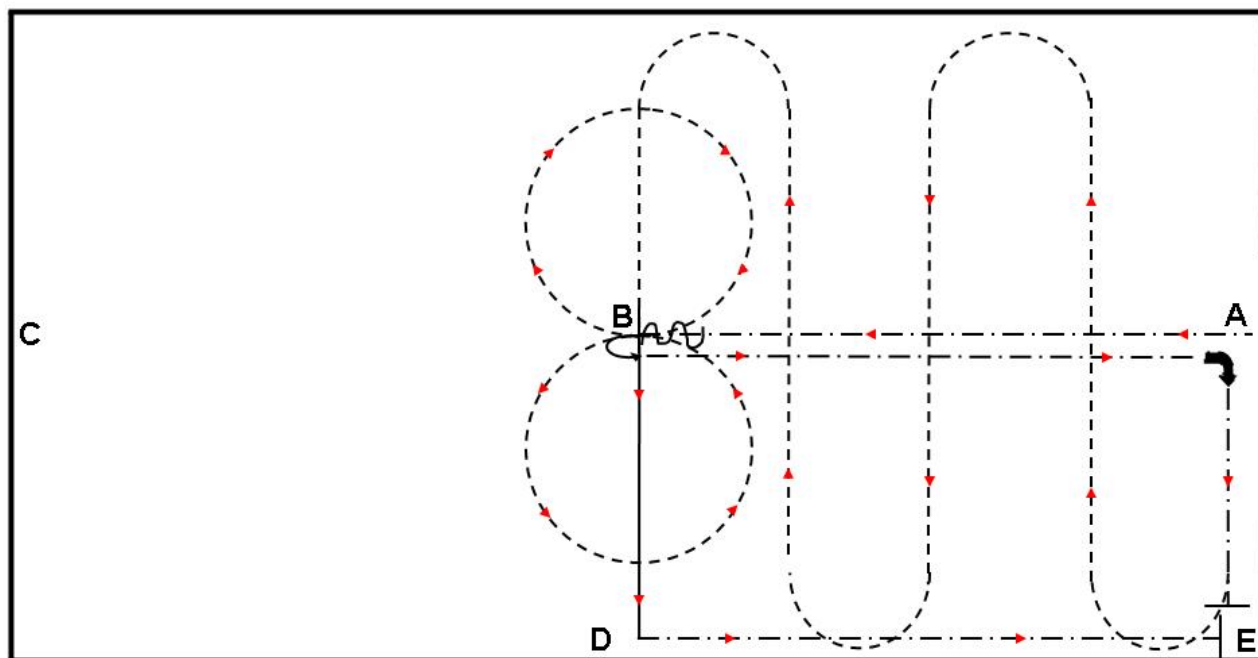
**HUNTER COUNTRY PLEASURE**— Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must be shown in a forward seat or hunter type English saddle and bridle with a snaffle, pelham or full bridle and a cavesson (noseband). A judge may penalize for nonconventional bits and cavessons (including dropped, figure-eight or flash nosebands). Standing martingales, bosals, mechanical hackamores, draw reins, boots, wraps and bandages are prohibited. Riders should have a neat, clean and well groomed appearance, must wear appropriate hunter attire including coat, traditional riding shirt and choker or tie, gloves, breeches or jodhpurs and tall field boots, dress boots or paddock boots (with jodhpurs). When wearing jodhpurs and paddock boots, garter straps should be worn. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Spurs, crops and bats are optional. Entries must be flat shod and have a full mane and tail. However, horses and ponies may not be gingered, braced or have their tails set. Class judged on the horse's and pony's manners and performance at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring with light contact with the mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive, and move freely. Horses and ponies should back easily and stand quietly. Judges may reverse horses and ponies at the walk and trot only, and may ask for extension of the trot. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**\*OI-WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE HORSE & PONY** - Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Entries must be shown in a stock saddle but silver equipment will not count over a good working outfit. A side saddle shall be considered legal equipments. A Western curb bit shall be used with shanks no longer than 8 ½ inches in length. Slip or gag bits, rigid donut mouthpieces and flat polo mouthpieces are prohibited. Standard snaffle bits and hackamores are permitted with junior horses 4 years of age or younger only, and prohibited in all other ages of horses. Curb chains and leather chinstraps may be used but must be flat and at least ½ inch in width and lay flat against the jaws of the horse. Rounded, rolled, braided or rawhide curb straps are prohibited. Riders shall wear Western hat, long-sleeved shirt and/or jacket with a collar and a necktie, kerchief or bolo tie, bow tie, peddle-tie, rosette-tie or pin used as a tie; trousers or pants. Chaps, shotgun chaps or chinks and boots are required. A vest, coat or sweater may be worn. Spurs are optional and whips are prohibited (except side saddle riders). An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required. Entries must be flat shod and have a full mane and tail. However, horses and ponies may not be gingered, braced or have their tails set. Manners and suitability as a pleasure mount are paramount. Transition from one gait to another should be smooth and effortless. Horses and ponies must be obedient with prompt transitions. Special emphasis is placed on a true, flat walk. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quietly on the rail. Horses and ponies should back easily and stand quietly. Pulling, head tossing, laboring action, going sideways and tail-switching will be penalized. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

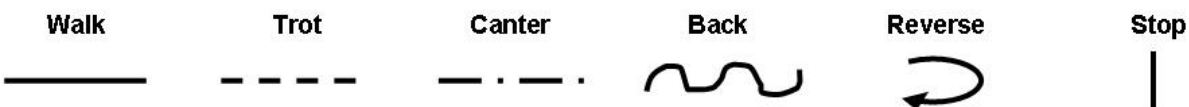
# VERSATILITY TEST

1. Be ready at A, wait for judge to acknowledge.
2. Canter left lead down middle of arena to B-stop. Back 5 steps.
3. Trot circle to left, showing proper diagonal, then transition into right circle, trotting.
4. Stop. Reverse directions by turning 180 degrees to the left.
5. Canter right lead to A. At A, continue cantering on rail to the right to E. Stop.
6. Perform a three-loop trotting serpentine off left rail, showing proper diagonal changes, ending pattern at B. Stop.
7. Walk to rail at D. Turn left.
8. Counter-canter on rail from D to E. Stop.
9. Wait for acknowledgment from judge, walk to exit at A

## ENGLISH VERSATILITY PATTERN



Legend:



# SADDLESEAT EQUITATION SCORING

**Appointments:** Riders should have a neat, clean and well-groomed appearance. Riders must wear neat Saddleseat “suit” attire. Conservative colors are recommended (i.e. herringbone, pinstripes and other combinations of colors that appear to be solid). Solid colors include black, blue, grey, dark burgundy, dark green, beige or brown jacket with matching jodhpurs, jodhpur boots, and gloves. All 4-Hers riding or driving horses at the District and State 4-H Horse Shows are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet at all times. Horses must be shown in a flat English saddle with a full bridle or pelham. Spurs, crops, short whips, bats and similar equipment are optional. However, use of a single snaffle, curb, bosal, mechanical hackamore, martingale, draw reins and/or tie down is prohibited. Horses may be plain shod or have pads and may have full or clipped manes and tails. Horses and ponies may not be gingered, but may be braided, have their tails set and have artificial hair pieces applied.

**Basic Position:** Riders should sit comfortably in the saddle and find their center of gravity by sitting with a slight bend to the knees without the use of their stirrups. While in this position, the stirrup leathers should be adjusted so that the irons will be under the balls of the feet with even pressure on the entire width of the soles in the center or outside of the irons. Rolling the knees and thighs in with heels slightly lower than toes will permit the position to become comfortable and natural. Hands should be held over the withers, parallel with the horse’s shoulders and should show sympathy, adaptability and control. Height of hands will depend on how the horse carries its head. The method of holding the reins is optional, however, the reins should be picked up at the same time and held with both hands with the bight of the reins falling to the off side.

**Mounting and Dismounting:** Riders may or may not be asked to mount and dismount. To dismount, the rider should gather the reins in the left hand and place it on the withers. The right iron is then dropped and the right leg swung easily to the left side avoiding contact with the horse or saddle. The right hand may be placed either on the pommel or cantle and riders may step or slide down. The reins are then gathered with the rider standing on the left side. The bridle and girth should be checked for adjustment prior to mounting and the right hand may be used to steady the left iron as the entire process is reversed. The snaffle rein should be snug and the curb rein loose while mounting and riders should take the right iron without looking down. Horses should stand quietly during the mount and dismount.

**Class Routine:** Riders should maintain the basic position conveying the impression of being in complete control at all times. All cues and aids should be applied as inconspicuously as possible. Exhibitors may be asked to work individually, in a group and/or both. Entries will be scored on cleanliness and neatness of rider, horse and equipment, the basic position and the techniques used by the rider in executing maneuvers in order to obtain the desired performance. Overall, the horse/pony and rider should work as a team in order to show the horse to its best advantage.