

RULES – EQUESTRIAN COMPETITION

- Coaches who have attended & completed the SOOK Equestrian Coaches Training session to become certified are eligible to register & bring athletes to compete.
- Athletes who have trained with a Special Olympics Oklahoma Certified Equestrian coach & have been training for a minimum of 8 weeks are eligible to compete in this event.
- **IMPORTANT:** Athletes with Down Syndrome who have been diagnosed with Atlantoaxial Instability are **NOT** eligible to participate in Equestrian events.
- Athletes may compete in a maximum of 3 equestrian events.
- Athletes will compete in Age Groups, when possible.
 - Jr. Division: 8 – 15 yrs. / Sr. Division: 16 – 30 yrs. / Master Division: 31+ yrs.
- Athletes may compete only in events which match their division level. Athletes may not use a horse-handler lead or sidewalker in those divisions that do not allow those supports.
- Coaches are responsible for placing their athlete(s) in the proper division according to their level of ability in each event. Please make safety a main priority in divisioning.
- The Competition will be conducted using the Official Special Olympics Summer Sports Rules for the sport of Equestrian. These rules will be strictly adhered to during the competition.
- Safety equipment required in the official rules will be applied to all athletes and horses.
- In the saddle, athletes must be able to hold their head & upper body upright without assistance. Athletes must be at least 8-years-old to participate in Special Olympics competition.
- Athletes and their coaches will be required to supply horses, tack & all equipment.
- Lunch – Lunch will be offered. We will call all registered coaches to get numbers of attendees.
- A Coggins' test that is current within 1 year must be provided for all horses participating in the event. The Coggins' test paper must be brought to the event and will be presented to the vet representatives before the horse may be unloaded at the site. **NO exceptions.**
- The Event Director for this Equestrian competition will be Larry Casillas, Special Olympics Oklahoma Equestrian Sports Director. Contact Larry at 918/520-9977 if you have questions.
- To register athletes for the upcoming competition, read & complete the required registration forms contained in this packet.
- Stall space is available – free of charge – if you would like to bring your horse(s) in on Friday night. You must arrive from 5:00 – 6:00 pm when the Vet will be checking Coggins papers. This is a new location and the Stalls are different from before. Stalls are covered but there are no walls on the stall barn. Your horses will be outside under a roof. The stall barn is also approximately a quarter mile from the Arena. During competition times there is a large lean-to attached to the arena where you may tie up your horses.
- **NO horse may be unloaded & stabled until papers are checked & approved by Vet. The Vet will have to leave by 6:00pm, You need to be there and ready to have your horses checked before 6:00pm**

- Stalls will have shavings on a dirt floor. You do not need to provide shavings this year.
- Call by October 10th to reserve stall space – 800/722-9004 or 918/481-1234. Ask for John.

Riders may compete only in events which match their division level.

A Level: Walk, Trot/Jog, Canter/Lope – Independent only. Rider is expected to compete with no modifications to NGB rules.

A: Rider can perform any class requirements

B Level: Walk, Trot/Jog

B-I: Independent; can perform any class requirement

B-S: Supported; can physically perform any class requirements

- Rider may have sidewalkers and/or lead

C Level: Riders will ride at the walk only

C-I: Independent

C-S: Supported; can physically perform any class requirements

- Rider may have sidewalkers and/or lead

- **Supported indicates athlete may have a horse-handler lead or sidewalker if necessary**
- **Independent indicates athlete must compete without any assistance**

ARTICLE VII – EQUESTRIAN SPORTS

The Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall govern all Special Olympics Equestrian Sports competitions. As an international sports program Special Olympics has created these rules based upon Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI), American Horse Shows Association (AHSA) and American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) rules for Equestrian Sports competition. FEI or National Governing Body rules shall be employed except when they are in conflict with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules. In such cases, the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules shall apply.

The rules have been broken down into the following sections: A – List of official events; B – Divisions; C – Attire; D – Tack; E – Competition rules; F – Dressage tests and Western riding patterns; G – Facility and equipment requirements.

An athlete with Down syndrome who has been diagnosed with Atlanto-axial instability may not participate in equestrian events.

SECTION A – OFFICIAL EVENTS

1. Dressage
2. Prix Caprilli
3. English Equitation
4. Stock Seat Equitation
5. Western Riding
6. Working Trails
7. Showmanship at Halter/Bridle Classes
8. Gymkhana Events
 - a) Pole Bending
 - b) Barrel Racing
 - c) Figure 8 Stake Race
 - d) Team Relays
9. Drill Teams of twos and fours
10. Unified Sports Team Relays
11. Unified Sports Drill Teams

SECTION B – DIVISIONING

1. Riders are assigned to a division according to their ability to safely negotiate any movements required in the class. This ability is indicated by a Rider Profile which is completed by the Special Olympics coach prior to competition and submitted with the athlete entry form.
 - a. Rider Profiles must indicate the following information
 - 1) physical inability to post the trot – supported by a physician's statement
 - 2) physical inability to sit the jog – supported by a physician's statement
 - 3) physical inability to wear boots with a heel – supported by a physician's statement
 - 4) The following tack requirements must be adhered to, for athletes unable to wear boots with a heel:
 - a) Western tack style riders must have tapaderos or other safety stirrups

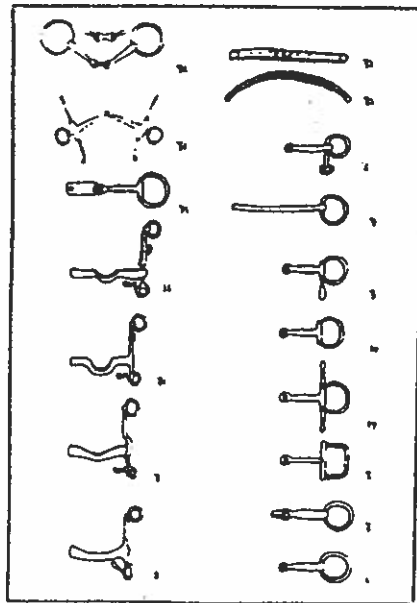


SECTION C – ATTIRE

1. **General Rules:** Clothing should be workmanlike and neat
 - a. All riders must wear a heeled boot appropriate to the tack style in which they are showing
 - 1) Riders who must wear other footwear as the result of a physical disability must have a physician's statement submitted with their entry form
 - a) English tack style riders must use peacock safety stirrups, S-shaped stirrups or Devonshire boots
 - b) Western tack style riders must use tapaderos or other approved safety stirrups
 - b. All riders must wear protective SEI-ASTM or BHS approved helmets with full chin harness which must be fastened at all times riders are working around horses
 - c. Competitors must wear their number prominently displayed on their back during competition, practice at competition and while in the competition "holding area"
 - d. During practice athletes must adhere to the helmet, boot and long pants rule but may wear short-sleeved shirts
2. **English Tack Style Attire**
 - a. A short, dark-colored riding coat
 - b. A solid color, preferably white, riding shirt or Oxford style long or short sleeved shirt
 - c. Tie or choker
 - d. Breeches or jodhpurs
 - e. Gloves and spurs are optional
 - f. Athletes will be permitted to wear a hat cover or conservative raincoat in the case of inclement weather
 - g. In the extreme heat (above 80 degrees) the judges may permit athletes to show without riding coats
3. **Western Tack Style Attire**
 - a. Pants/Jeans
 - b. A long sleeved shirt of conservative color and with a collar
 - c. A belt under loops
 - d. Neckties, kerchiefs, bolos, chaps and gloves are optional
 - 1) Chaps are prohibited in all gymkhana events and showmanship classes
 - 2) Western type hat worn on approved helmet is optional
4. **Drill Team**
 - a. Athletes must wear SEI-ASTM or BHS approved helmets, and boots
 - b. Costumes, if worn, must not be a hindrance to the safety of either the athlete or the horse
 - c. Costumes should be ridden in and tried out so the rider and horse get used to them prior to the competition

SECTION D – TACK

1. **General**
 - a. Saddles must fit the horse.



- 1) Ordinary snaffle with single-jointed mouthpiece
- 2) Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece
- 3) Racing (D-type) snaffle
- 4) Snaffle
 - a) with cheeks, with or without keepers
 - b) without cheeks (egg-butt)
- 5) Snaffle with upper or lower cheeks only
- 6) Unjointed snaffle (Mullen-mouth)
- 7) Snaffle with cheeks (Hanging or drop cheek, Baucher) This may be a D-ring or other ordinary snaffle as pictured in # 1-6
- 8) Dr. Bristol
- 9) Fulmer snaffle
- 10) French snaffle

**** Note**** Any of the above may be covered with rubber or leather. Bits with a mouthpiece made of synthetic material are permitted, provided the contours of the bit conform to the contours of one of the bits pictured.

- e. Martingales are permitted in Prix Caprilli only
- f. Optional Equipment

- 1) One whip no longer than 1 meter (3'3 1/2") including the lash may be carried in the Dressage and Prix Caprilli classes

3. English Equitation and English Trails

- a. English style saddle of any type is required
- b. Regulation snaffles and pelhams, with cavesson are recommended
 - 1) A judge at his/her own discretion can penalize a horse with non-conventional types of bits or nosebands
 - 2) Boots and conservative colored bandages are permitted in Trails classes only
 - 3) Martingales are prohibited
 - 4) Spurs, crops or bats are optional

4. Stock Seat Equitation, Western Riding, and Western Working Trails

- a. Saddles
 - 1) The saddle must fit the rider. It may be slick or swelled fork and have a high or low cantle. Nothing that would prevent the stirrups from hanging freely shall be added to or deleted from a standard Western saddle.
- b. Bits and Bridles
 - 1) A standard Western bit is defined as having a shank with a maximum length overall of 21cm. (8 1/2"). The mouthpiece will consist of a metal bar 75 mm. (3 1/8") to 3cm. (3/4") in diameter, varying from the straight bar to a jointed mouthpiece. Nothing may extend below the horizontal plane of the mouthpiece other than a roller attached to the center of the bit. Swivel ports and flat polo mouthpieces are permitted. Reins must be attached to each shank.
 - 2) A leather chin strap or curbed chain may be used but must be at least 1cm (1/2") in width and lie flat against the jaws of the horse



- d. Prohibited Equipment
 - 1) Lariat or reata
 - 2) Hackamores
 - 3) Tie-downs
 - 4) Running martingales
 - 5) Draw reins
 - 6) Bosals
 - 7) Cavesson-type nosebands
 - 8) Wire, metal or rawhide device as part of leather chin strap
 - 9) Shoes other than standard horse shoes

8. Drill Teams of 2 and 4

- a. Required apparel for safety must be adhered to.
- b. Either tack style may be used. All rules for bridles and saddles must be followed as in the equitation classes.

SECTION E – RULES OF COMPETITION

1. General Rules

- a. All riders must have had at least 10 riding training sessions within the six months prior to competition
- b. No post entries will be allowed
- c. No dogs will be permitted on the show grounds, except seeing eye dogs or assistance dogs
- d. There will be a safety inspection of tack and equipment before riders mount
- e. If riders provide their own horses, the event director may require proof of a negative Coggins test
- f. During World Games, all athletes will compete on horses provided by the organizing committee
- g. If riders do not bring their own horses, adequate time must be set aside to determine suitability of the rider to the horse
- h. Spotters, appointed by the event director, will remain in the ring at strategic places to act in case of emergency for unassisted riders
- i. The official veterinarian's decision, if called by the judge, as to the serviceable soundness of a horse will be final for the purpose of awarding medals and ribbons in the class for which he/she has been called. Otherwise, the judge(s) and the equine director will make the final decision regarding a horse's ability to compete.
- j. Where applicable, class commands shall be publicly announced first in English, second in French, third in Spanish, and signed for the hearing impaired. Cue cards may also be used for hearing impaired athletes. In order for the cues to be universal they should be designated as follows: 1=WALK, 2= SIT TROT/JOG, 3=POST TROT, 4=CANTER/LOPE, 0=REVERSE, universal stop sign (○)=HALT.
- k. In the case of a grievance, the event director will consult the judge(s), competition steward and/or the Equestrian Sports Rules Committee. Their decision will be final.
- l. Unsoundness does not penalize a competitor unless it is sufficiently severe to impair the required performance. In such cases the imposition of a penalty is at the judge's discretion.

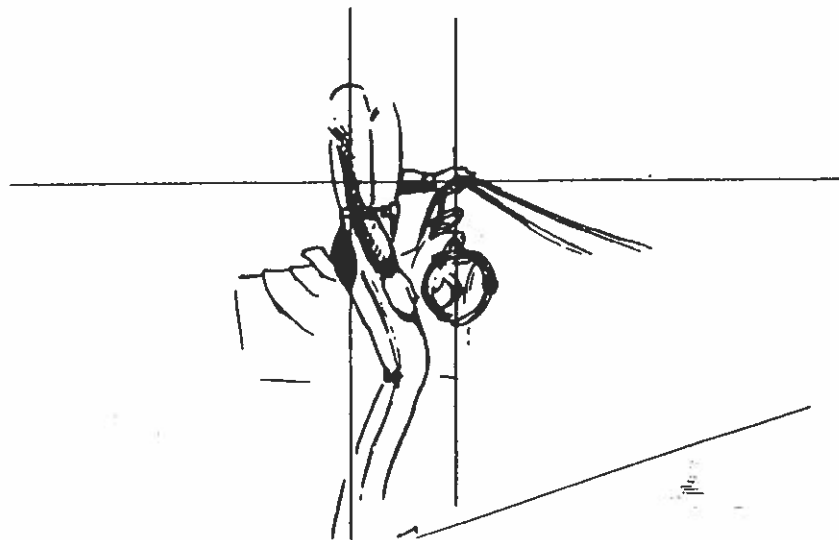
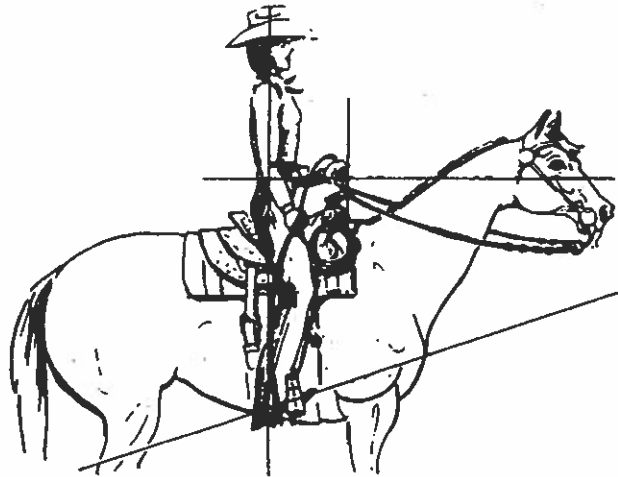




- 13) **Rhythm**– the order of the footfalls. Simply the “beat” of the gait (Walk: 4-beat, Jog/Trot: 2-beat, Canter/Lope: 3-beat).
- 14) **Submission** (obedience) is the horse’s mental willingness and physical ability to follow the rider’s will. The difference between resistance and disobedience can be explained in the following manner: a horse resists physically when responding to the rider’s aids by showing a lack of suppleness in movements of transitions whereas disobedience involves willful escape.
- 15) **Suppleness** is the physical ability of the horse to shift the point of equilibrium smoothly forward and back as well as laterally without stiffness or resistance. Suppleness is manifested by the horse’s fluid response to the rider’s restraining and positioning aids of the rein and to the driving aids of the leg and seat. Suppleness is best judged in transitions.
- 16) **Tempo** is the rate of repetition of the rhythm. It is not synonymous with speed. Speed is miles per hour which can be produced either by an increase in tempo or a lengthening of the strides.
- 17) **Halt**– At the halt the horse should stand attentive, motionless and straight, with this weight evenly distributed over all four legs. This is recognized by the pairs of legs being abreast of each other.
- 18) **Reverse** is a change of direction and should be done in the direction away from the rail.
 - a) On change of direction the horse should adjust body bend to a curvature of the line being followed, remain supple and following the indications of the rider without any resistance or change of pace, rhythm or speed.
 - b) The horse should maintain cadence and rhythm when changing direction.
 - i. Change of diagonal should be shown by the riders when at the rising trot.
 - ii. change of lead may be interrupted, simple or flying when a reverse is done at the canter/lope.
 - i) Interrupted is a change whereby the horse is brought to the halt then immediately asked to canter on the correct lead.
 - ii) Simple is a change whereby the horse is brought back into a walk or trot and restarted into canter on the opposite lead with no more than three walk or trot strides.
 - iii) Flying is a change whereby the horse changes in stride both hind and front simultaneously
- 19) **Transitions** are changes of pace and speed. They should be quickly made yet must be smooth and not abrupt. The horse should remain light in hand, calm, and maintain a correct position.
- o. Judging the Classes
 - 1) The following points (where appropriate) have equal consideration in judging all classes
 - a) Rider’s balance
 - b) Rider’s seat
 - c) Use of aids
 - d) Ability to follow directions
 - e) Ring etiquette and safety
 - f) Sportsmanlike conduct

is being carried properly on the ball of the foot. Arms are held in a relaxed, easy manner, shoulders back and down and upper arm in a straight line with the body, the one holding reins bent at the elbow forming a straight line from elbow to horses mouth.

- c) **Hands**– Only one hand is to be used for reining and hands shall not be changed. Hand to be around reins. Rein hand is to be above horn and as near to it as possible. Bracing against horn or coiled reata is penalized. When split reins are used and ends of rein fall on same side as reining hand, one finger between reins is permitted. No finger between reins is allowed when using romal, or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining. The position of the hand not being used for reining is optional but it should be kept free of the horse and equipment and held in a relaxed manner straight with the rider's body at all times. Rider can hold romal or end of split reins to keep from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins, provided it is held at least 41 cm (1'4 1/4") from the reining hand.
- d) **Position in motion**– Rider should sit to jog and not post. (Unless otherwise specified in division rules) At the lope, he should be close to the saddle. All movements of the horse should be governed by the use of imperceptible aids and the shifting of the rider's weight is not desirable.





- 2) **Medium**
 - a) The horse goes forward in a more "round" pace with free and moderately extended steps and an obvious impulsion from the hindquarters
 - b) The rider allows the horse remaining "on the bit" head carriage a little more in front of the vertical with a slight lowering of the head and neck at the same time
 - c) The steps should be as even as possible and the whole movement balanced and unconstrained.
- f. The following **canters** are recognized
 - 1) **Working**
 - a) This is a pace in which a horse moves in proper balance, and remaining "on the bit" goes forward with even, light and cadenced strides and good hock action. The expression "good hock action" does not mean that collection is a required quality of the working canter. It only underlines the importance of an impulsion originated from the activity of the hindquarters.
 - 2) **Medium**
 - a) The horse goes forward with free, balanced and moderately extended strides, and an obvious impulsion from the hindquarters
 - b) The rider allows the horse remaining "on the bit" head carriage a little more in front of the vertical with a slight lowering of the head and neck at the same time
- g. The Position and Aids of the Rider
 - 1) All the movements should be obtained without apparent effort of the rider
 - a) The athlete should be well balanced and the legs should be steady. The upper part of the body should be easy, free, and erect with the hands low and close together without, however, touching either each other or the horse. The thumb will be the highest point, the elbows and arms shall be close to the body enabling the rider to follow the movements of the horse smoothly and freely and to apply his aids imperceptibly.
 - b) Riding with both hands is obligatory. However, when leaving the arena at a walk on a long rein after having finished his/her performance the rider may, at his/her own discretion, ride with only one hand.
- h. Execution and Judging of Tests
 - 1) **Calling Tests**
 - a) All Special Olympics tests may be called/read
 - b) If tests are announced it is the responsibility of the coach to arrange for a person to call/read the test. At World Games, the coach may read the test in the athlete's native language.
 - c) Lateness and errors in announcing the ride will not relieve the rider from "error penalties"
 - d) Announcing the tests is limited to reading the movement as it is written once only
 - i. Additional repeating of movements by caller will constitute unauthorized assistance
 - ii. Except for safety reasons, unauthorized assistance by anyone is prohibited and is cause for elimination

tion of the movement being performed and also in the Collective Marks and the general Impressions.

- 7) If, during the test, the horse leaves the arena (all four feet outside the fence or line marking the arena perimeter), the rider is eliminated, although the performance may be continued to the end
- 8) An athlete leaving the arena at the end of a ride in any way other than prescribed in the test will be penalized by an error
- 9) Horses which enter the arena with the tongues tied down shall be eliminated
- 10) The judge may stop a test and/or allow an athlete to restart from the beginning or from any appropriate point in the test if some unusual circumstance has occurred to interrupt a test
- 11) A rider who does not enter the arena within 90 seconds after the entry bell is rung or the whistle blown for their ride shall be eliminated. No rider can be required to ride prior to their scheduled time without at least 1/2 hour's notice.
- 12) All movements and certain transitions from one to another which have to be marked by the judge(s) are numbered on the judge's sheets. They are marked from 0 to 10, with 0 being the lowest mark and is given to a movement that is "not executed," and means that practically nothing of the required movement has been performed, and 10 representing the highest mark.
 - a) The scale of marks is as follows:

10 Excellent	4 Insufficient
9 Very Good	3 Fairly Inadequate
8 Good	2 Inadequate
7 Fairly Good	1 Very Inadequate
6 Satisfactory	0 Not Executed
5 Sufficient	
- 13) The collective marks as well as certain difficult and/or frequently repeated movements can be given a co-efficient. Collective marks are awarded after the athlete has finished his/her performance in the following:
 - a) Paces
 - b) Impulsion
 - c) Submission
 - d) The rider's position, seat and use of the aids
- 14) After each performance and after each judge has given his Collective Marks (which must be done in due consideration), the judge's sheets pass into the hands of the scorers
 - a) The marks are multiplied by the corresponding coefficients where applicable and then totaled
 - b) Penalty points incurred for errors in the execution of the tests are then deducted on each judges sheet
 - c) The total score for the classification is obtained by adding the total points
 - i. With more than one judge, the sum total classifies
 - ii. If there are two or more judges, the points awarded by each judge will be published separately in addition to the total score
 - d) In all competitions the winner is the athlete having the highest total of points, the second winner is the one with the next highest total of points, and so on.



- 2) The following are the class specifications for judging equitation classes. Level A riders are expected to compete with no modifications to the NGB rules of each class entered.
- c. All Divisions – Class Routines and Expectations
- 1) All riders will ride around the ring in both directions at all required gaits, in a group and/or individually at the command of the judge
 - 2) Riders will perform the gaits appropriate for their division
 - 3) All riders will be asked to back their horses
 - 4) All riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests as determined by the judges and the Event Director
- d. English Equitation Class Routine
- 1) Competitors shall enter ring at a called for gait
 - 2) They must be worked both ways of the ring. They must always be on the correct diagonal if appropriate
 - 3) Entries then line up and back their horse on command
 - 4) Any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in the class requirements. All tests used must be on the flat. Tests may be performed either collectively or individually, but no other tests may be used. Instructions must be publicly announced.
 - 5) Tests from which the judges may choose include in English Equitation
 - a) Halt (4 to 6 seconds)
 - b) Figure eight at trot, demonstrating change of diagonals
 - c) Figure eight at canter on correct lead, demonstrating simple change of lead; demonstrating simple, interrupted or flying change of lead
 - d) Work collectively at walk, trot or canter
 - e) Hand gallop to a halt (4 to 6 seconds)
 - f) Execute serpentine at a trot demonstrating change of diagonal
 - g) Change leads on a line demonstrating a simple, interrupted or flying change of lead
 - h) Perform circles at any gait appropriate for the division
 - i) Turn on forehand and/or haunches
 - j) Reverse direction at the halt, walk, trot and/or canter
- e. Stock Seat Equitation Class Routine
- 1) Competitors shall enter ring at a walk or a jog and are judged at a flat footed four beat walk, two beat jog and a three beat lope in accordance with the division specifications
 - 2) They must always be on the correct lead
 - 3) Entries then line up and back their horse on command
 - 4) Any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in the class requirements. Tests may be performed either collectively or individually, but no other tests may be used. Instructions must be publicly announced.
 - 5) Tests from which the judges may choose for Stock seat Equitation
 - a) Large circle at walk, jog
 - b) Perform a halt



STOCK SEAT EQUITATION

	Guidelines Only			Mandatory
	Good	Minor Faults	Major Faults	Elimination
Seat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping center of balance • Complete contact with saddle • Straight Back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sitting off center • Sway back • Round back • Losing center of balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive body motion • Popping out of saddle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling out of saddle • At judges discretion
Hands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiet light hands • Maintaining consistent head position 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsteadiness • Restrictions causing untrue gaits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse's mouth gaping • Heavy hands • Constant bumping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two handing reins • Touching saddle • Touching horse • Finger between romal reins • Less than 16" of rein slack between hands
Legs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure leg position • Proper weight in stirrups • Controlling motion • Weight evenly on ball of foot • Heels lower than toes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven stirrups • Motion in legs • Insufficient weight in stirrups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interfering with another rider • Excessive spurring • Loss of contact between legs & saddle foot & stirrup • Coming in contact with fence or other riders • Loss of stirrup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touching in front of cinch
Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining horse in good form at consistent gaits • Ability to maintain horse under adverse conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breaking from walk to jog • Breaking from jog to lope • Not standing in line up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breaking from jog to walk • Breaking from lope to jog • Allowing horse to back crooked • Missing leads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to back • Failure to correct leads
Overall appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable well-fitted outfit • Well-groomed horse • Clean equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saddle not suitable to rider's size • Unfitted outfit • Dirty boots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unclean equipment • Ungroomed horse • Untrimmed horse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Rules
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good attitude towards horse and judge • Consistency of riders form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment not fitting horse • Failure to use corners and rail • Suitability of horse and rider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive voice commands • Excessive circling • Major delays in transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling off • Failure to pass individual test • Schooling horse • Romaling horse • Off pattern • At judge's discretion





- i. Break of gait at walk or jog up to two strides
 - ii. Hitting or rolling log
 - iii. Failure to change leads for 1 stride
 - iv. Splitting the log (log between the front or two hind feet) at the lope
- d) **One-Half point**
- i. Tick or light touch of the log
 - ii. Hind legs skipping or coming together during lead change
 - iii. Failure to change leads from 1/2 to 1 stride
- e) **Disqualified – 0 score**
- i. Illegal equipment
 - ii. Willful abuse
 - iii. Off course
 - iv. Knocking over markers
 - v. Completely missing log
 - vi. Major refusal – stop and back 2 strides or 4 steps with front legs
 - vii. Major disobedience – rearing, schooling
 - viii. Fall to ground by horse or rider
 - ix. Except for safety, unauthorized assistance
- f) **Credits**
- i. Changes of leads, hind and front simultaneously
 - ii. Changes at designated point
 - iii. Accurate and smooth pattern
 - iv. Even pace throughout
 - v. Easy to guide and control with rein and leg
 - vi. Manners and disposition
- g) The following characteristics are considered **faults** and should be judged accordingly in maneuver scores:
- i. Opening mouth excessively;
 - ii. Anticipating signals or early lead changes;
 - iii. Stumbling.

5. Working Trail

- a. General: Management is encouraged to design courses that can be negotiated in 90 seconds.
 - 1) The course is to be designed to require each horse to show all gaits appropriate to division level as a part of its work and will be scored as a maneuver.
 - 2) Course designers should keep in mind that all courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind so as to eliminate any accidents. Enough space must be provided for the horse to jog/trot at least 10 meters (30') and lope/canter at least 15 meters (50') for the judge to evaluate these gaits in the appropriate divisions.
 - 3) Outdoor facilities may and are encouraged to include natural obstacles (i.e. trees, creeks, brush, hills, ditches) as long as they may be maneuvered safely and designed within easy access of the judge.

Trial	Guidelines Only			Mandatory
	Good	Minor Faults	Major Faults	Elimination
WALK JOG LOPE (on the course)	SEE WESTERN PLEASURE CHART			
CONTROL OBSTACLES • Gates • Back thrus • Side passes • Turns on fore • Hands & quarters • Serpentine	• Smooth • Good position • Responsive	• Slight touches • Slant side passes • Wide positions • Slow response • Poor head position	• Knock down of elevated elements • Stepping out of confining elements • Losing gait • Fussiness and extreme tension • Refusals	• Off course – NO SCORE • Cueing horse in front
AGILITY OBSTACLES • Walk overs • Trot or lope • Cavaletis • Bridge	• Attentive • Careful • Willing • Low poll	• Slight touches • Too hesitant • Failure to stay on center lines	• Knock downs • Refusals • Failure to maintain gaits • Off sides of bridge	• Off course – NO SCORE • Cueing horse front
CALMNESS OBSTACLES • Water • Plastic • Brush • Plants • Carrying objects • Dally and drag with rope	• Steady going • Alert • Careful but willing • Low poll	• Tense over or thru obstacles • Nervous when carrying objects or working rope	• Jumping over or stampeding thru obstacles • Spooking when carrying objects or working rope • Losing rope • Refusals • Two hands on reins or more than • One finger between split reins • Finger between closed reins	• Off course – NO SCORE • Cueing horse in front • Running off with rope or carried object
GENERAL	ALL HORSES WITH CLEAN OR MINOR FAULT TRIPS WILL BE CONSIDERED BEFORE MAJOR FAULT HORSES EVIDENCE OF ALTERED TAIL CARRIAGE IS CONSIDERED A MAJOR FAULT			



6. Showmanship at Halter and Bridle classes

- a. General: The emphasis should be on the athlete's ability to handle and show the horse with safety as the major consideration. The horse is merely a prop to show the ability of the showman.
 - 1) The Quarter method will be used. The following suggested guidelines of movement are meant to serve as an illustration of movement around the horse while showing in showmanship and are for the exhibitor's/coach's information. Imaginary lines bisect the horse into four equal parts as seen in the figure. (Note: the quadrants will be numbered I, II, III, IV for ease of identification.) One line runs across the horse just behind the withers. The other imaginary line runs from

- ii. Inside of ears may be clipped
- iii. Long hair on jaw, legs, and pasterns should be clipped
- d) Tack 5 points
 - i. Tack should be neat, clean, and in good repair
 - ii. Horses shown Western must be in halter of leather or nylon
 - iii. Horses shown English may be in either bridle or halter of leather or nylon
- 2) Appearance of Exhibitor Total=10 points
 - a) Clothes and person – neat and clean
 - b) Appropriate Western tack-style clothes
 - c) Appropriate English tack-style clothes, jackets are optional
- 3) Showing Horse in Ring Total=60 points
 - a) Leading 40 points
 - i. The athlete should lead from the left side of the horse with the lead shank/reins held with the right hand about 20-30 cm (8-12") from the halter/bit and shall not be on the chain portion of the shank. Athletes may be penalized for this at the judge's discretion. Smaller athletes may need a longer hold.
 - ii. The athlete should stay in position by the left side of the horse's head, "eye to eye" with the horse
 - iii. Excess lead shank/rein should be held safely and neatly in the left hand. A tightly coiled/rolled lead shank or reins wrapped around the athlete's left hand will be cause for points to be deducted from the athlete's score.
 - iv. A loose, flapping lead shank or rein will be considered a fault
 - v. Emphasis should be placed upon the light control of the horse with a minimum of pressure on the lead shank/reins, to allow the horse to hold its head naturally. The horse should move out and continue readily, freely, and quietly at the walk, jog/trot, with a minimum of urging by the athlete.
 - vi. It is permissible for the athlete to pass between the judge and the horse as the judge moves around the animal, but the athlete should avoid blocking the judge's view beyond the movement required to step between the horse and judge. The athlete should step quickly and quietly to the zone where both horse and judge can be observed.
 - vii. It is to be remembered that the athlete is also being judged on safety. The athlete shall not crowd the athlete next to him/her when positioned in a side by side line-up or in front of him/her when lined up head to tail.
 - viii. If the judge or ringmaster requests a change in position, the athlete should first look around to see that the nearby athletes have their horses under control, then move out promptly as indicated
 - b) Posing 20 points
 - i. When posing your horse, stand toward the front facing the horse but not directly in front of the horse and always in a position where you can keep your eye on the judge
 - ii. Pose the horse with his feet squarely under him. Do the showing with the lead shank/reins. Never kick a horses leg into position



- f) Turn the last pole to the left and run straight down the line of poles and cross the finish line
- 2) A horse may start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly
- c. Barrel Racing (Pattern in section G)
 - 1) Judging – At a signal from the starter, the athlete will;
 - a) The athlete will run barrel number 1, pass to the left of it and complete an approximately 360 degree turn around it
 - b) Then the rider will go to barrel number 2, pass to the right of it, and complete a slightly more than 360 degree turn around it
 - c) The rider will then go to barrel number 3, pass to the right of it, and do another approximately 360 degree turn around it
 - d) The rider will then sprint to the finish line, passing between barrels number 1 and 2
 - 2) The barrel course may also be run to the left. For example, the competitor would start at barrel number 2 turning to the left of this barrel. He/she would then proceed to barrel number 1 and turning to the right, continue to barrel number 3, turning again to the right, and completing the event with a final sprint to the finish line.
- d. Figure 8 Stake Race
 - 1) Judging – At a signal from the starter, the athlete will;
 - a) start by crossing the center line between the upright markers, run to the second pole
 - b) turn around the second pole to the right
 - c) run to the first pole
 - d) turn the first pole to the left (Hence the figure 8)
 - e) complete the course by running back across the start/finish line
 - 2) The course may also be run by turning the second pole to the left first and first pole to the right
 - 3) The contestant may start at either end
 - 4) Disqualifications
 - a) Failure of athlete to cross over start/finish line between the markers before turning the second pole and crossing back over the start/finish line after turning the second pole and going to the first pole
 - b) Knocking over a marker indicating the start/finish line
- e. Team Relays
 - 1) Walk-only, trot only, and canter/lope divisions will be offered
 - 2) Teams in a division must be equal in number with either 2, 3, or 4 riders
 - 3) Two teams may compete at the same time (if it can be done safely)
 - 4) The clock is started when the nose of the first mount crosses the starting line
 - 5) The clock is stopped when the nose of each team's last mount crosses the finish line
 - 6) If horse handlers are being used, they must walk behind the horse's nose. If a horse handler passes the horse's nose at any time that rider must make a circle at a walk before continuing.
 - 7) Riders entering without a team may draw for partners



b. Unified Sports Drill Teams (2 or 4 members)

- 1) During competition, the team shall contain 1 Athlete and 1 Partner at all times (two athletes and two Partners for a four person team)

Failure to adhere to the required ratio results in a forfeit

SECTION F – REQUIRED TESTS AND PATTERNS

1. Dressage Tests

The following are tests and patterns that are used for Special Olympics events. One may order the Dressage Judges Sheets, with the coefficients indicated, from the United States Dressage Federation.

Note – In order for the Introductory Level Tests to be used by all Division B riders, Working Trot Rising was omitted from sections # 1,3,6 and 7. The Working Trot can be sitting, rising or any combination as indicated at the bottom of the test.



DIVISION A/AP TRAINING LEVEL TEST 2

Competition: _____ Date: _____ No: _____

Name of Horse: _____ Name of Rider: _____

Purpose: To confirm that the horse's muscles are supple and loose, and that it moves freely forward in a clear and steady rhythm, accepting contact with the bit.

Transitions in and out of the halt may be made through the walk.

Conditions: _____

Arena: Standard or small

Average time: 4:30

Maximum Possible Points: 260

	Test	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
1. A X	Enter working trot Halt, Salute Proceed working trot				
2. C B	Track right Turn right				
3. E	Turn left				
4. A	Medium Walk				
5. FXM M	Free walk Medium walk		2		
6. C	Working trot				
7. E	Half Circle left 20m				
8. Approaching B B B	Working canter left lead Circle left 20m Straight ahead				
9. Between B & M	Working trot				
10. E	Turn left				
11. B	Turn right				
12. E	Half circle right 20m				
13. Approaching B B B	Working canter right lead Circle right 20m Straight ahead				
14. Between B & F	Working trot				
15. A X	Down centerline Halt, Salute				

Leave arena at walk at A

Sitting trot, rising trot or any combination thereof may be used when trot work is required

Collective Remarks	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
Gaits (freedom and regularity)		2		
Impulsion (desire to move forward, elasticity of the steps, relaxation of the back)		2		
Submission (attention and confidence; harmony, lightness and ease of movements; acceptance of the bit)		1		
Rider's position and seat; correctness and effect of the aids		3		

Further Remarks: _____

Subtotal: _____

Errors: (- _____)

Total Points: _____

Judges Name: _____

Judges Signature: _____

LEVEL B/BIP USDF INTRODUCTORY LEVEL TEST 2
 (United States Pony Club D-2 Test)
 (Walk – Trot)

Competition: _____ Date: _____ No: _____

Name of Horse: _____ Name of Rider: _____

Requirements:

Free walk on long rein

	Test	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
1. A	Enter working trot Continue to C				
2. C H-E-K- A-F-B	Turn left Continue in working trot				
3. B	Circle left 20m				
4. B C	Straight ahead to C Develop medium walk				
5. H-X-F F	Free walk Develop medium walk				
6. A	Working trot, continue to E				
7. E E	Circle right 20m Straight ahead				
8. M-X-K	Change rein working trot				
9. A X	Down Centerline Halt; through medium walk. Salute				



Leave arena in free walk on long rein. Exit at A.

Sitting trot, rising trot, or any combination thereof may be used when trot work is required.

Collective Remarks	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
Gaits (freedom and regularity)		2		
Impulsion (desire to move freely forward in a clear steady tempo)		2		
Submission (obedience, confidence and relaxes acceptance of the side: horse should be ridden on a light but steady contact)		1		
Rider (correctness of position, balance and harmony with horse: effectiveness and use of aids)		4		

Further Remarks: _____

Subtotal: _____

Errors: (-) _____

Total Points: _____

Judges Name: _____

Judges Signature: _____

LEVEL CI DIVISION C DRESSAGE TEST SPECIAL OLYMPICS WALK TEST #2

Competition: _____ Date: _____ No: _____

Name of Horse: _____ Name of Rider: _____

Conditions: _____

	Test	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
1. A X	Enter working walk Halt. Salute. Proceed working walk				
2. C MXK	Track right Change rein				
3. A	Circle left 20m				
4. FXH X	Change rein Halt 5 seconds. Proceed at working walk to H				
5. C	Circle right 20m				
6. MBF F	Free walk on a long rein Working walk				
7. A X	Down center line Halt. Salute				

Collective Remarks	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
Gaits (freedom and regularity)		2		
Impulsion (desire to move forward, elasticity of the steps, relaxation of the back)		2		
Submission (attention and confidence; harmony, lightness and ease of movements; acceptance of the bit)		1		
Rider's position and seat; correctness and effect of the aids		3		

Further Remarks: _____

Subtotal: _____

Errors: (-) _____

Total Points: _____

Judges Name: _____

Judges Signature: _____



PRIX CAPRILLI TEST (continued)

Leave arena at walk at A

Sitting trot, rising trot or any combination thereof may be used when trot work is required

Collective Remarks	Pts.	Coef.	Total	Remarks
Use of Aids		2		
Transitions		2		
Rider Position and Control		2		
Consistency and Gaits		1		

Further Remarks: _____

Subtotal: _____

Errors: (-) _____

Total Points: _____

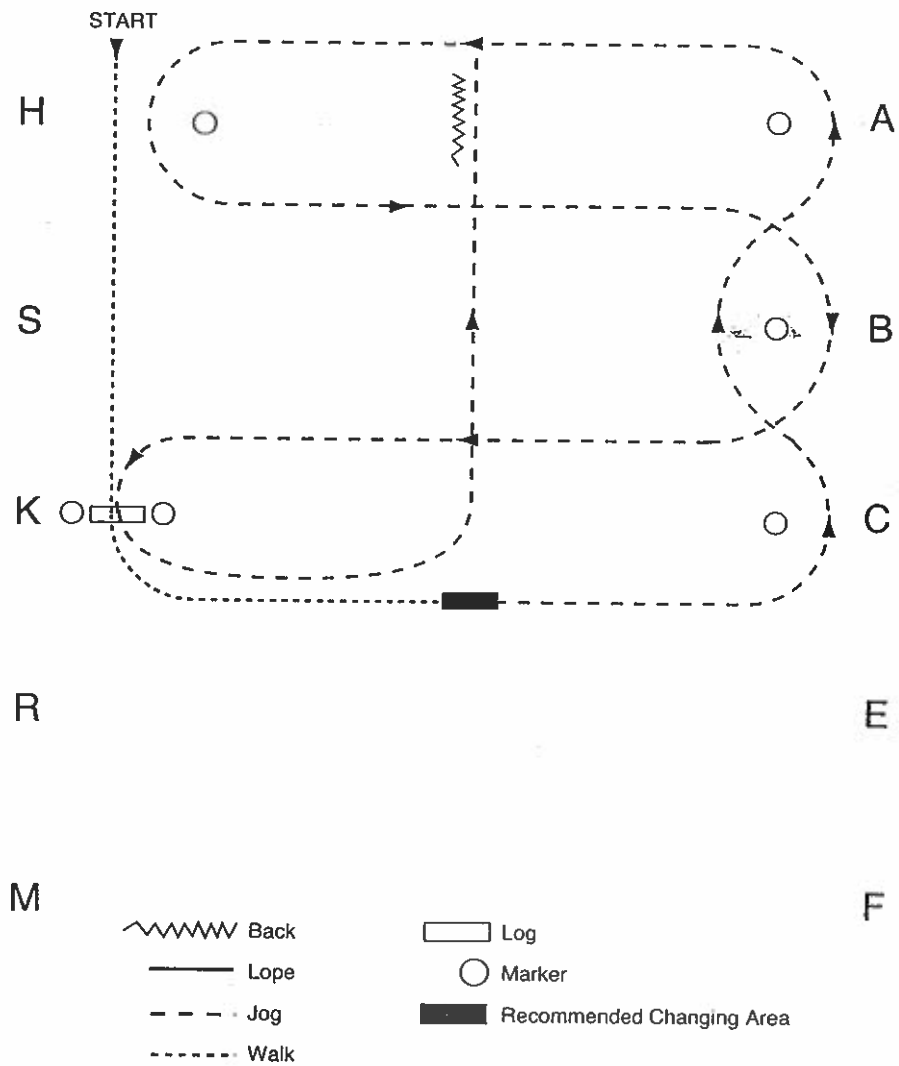
Judges Name: _____

Judges Signature: _____



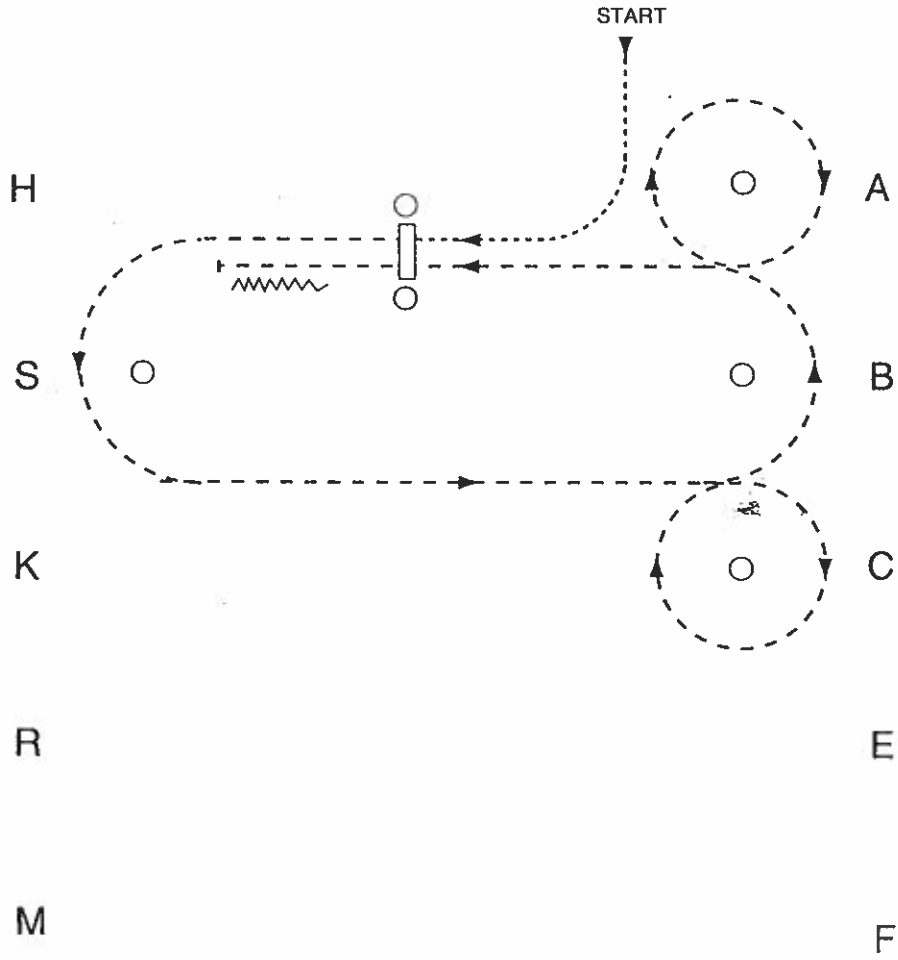
b. Division B Test #1

- Start Enter, proceed at walk
- H Walk
- K Walk over log and turn left across arena. Jog at center line
- C Bend and then jog weave to A
- A Cross arena at a jog
- H Bend H and cross arena at a jog
- B Bend B and cross arena at a jog
- K Bend K crossing over log and turn down center line
- between
- A&H Halt and back. Proceed to judge for dismissal

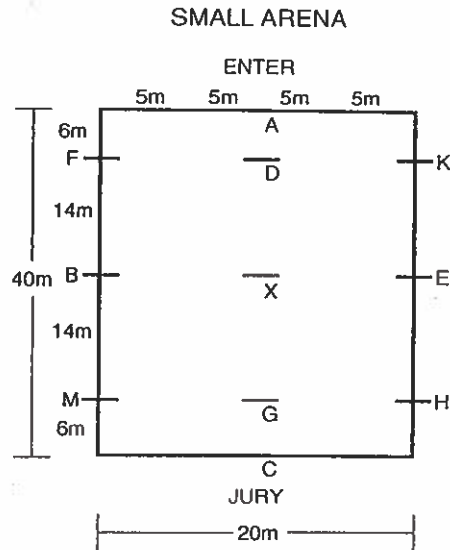


d. Division B Test #2

- A Walk – Bend A Cross log and immediately jog
- S Bend S and jog across arena
- C Circle right around C then weave to A
- A Circle right around A
- A Cross arena jogging over log
- between
- H&S Halt and back. Proceed to judge for dismissal



Back	Log
Lope	Marker
Jog	Recommended Changing Area
Walk	



3. Prix Caprilli

a. The arena should be set up the same as for Dressage with the following modifications:

1) Arena should measure 20m x 60m

2) The Arena Jump Fences

- a) Fences 1 and 2 to be placed on the line AXC with their centers exactly 10.97m (36") from X
- b) The height of fences 1 and 2 will be set at 18"
- c) Fences 3 and 4 should be placed on line BXE 2.5m (8') from arena fence
- d) The height of fence 3 will be set at 24"
- e) Fence 4 will be an oxer set at 24" height and no more than 24" spread
- f) Top elements of all fences must rest in jump cups mounted on jump standards
- g) Fences will be painted white or a natural color and may be tastefully decorated with flowers, shrubs etc.
- h) Minimum width of jumps is 10 feet. Maximum width of jumps is 12 feet

4. Western Riding

a. The arena measurements are:

- 1) The markers must be a minimum of 9.14m (30') and a maximum of 15.24m (50') apart on the sides with 5 markers
 - a) In all patterns, markers must be in line with appropriate markers on the opposite side
 - b) Markers should be a minimum of 4.7m (15') from the wall
 - c) The pattern width should be a minimum of 15.24m (50') and a maximum of 24.38m (80') as the arena permits
- 2) A solid log or pole, a minimum of 2.44m (8') in length should be used

5. Working Trails

a. The course is to be designed to require each horse to show all gaits appropriate to division level as a part of its work. Enough space must be provided for the horse to jump/trot ten meters (30') and lope/canter at least 15 meters (50') for judge to evaluate gaits.

- 1) Course designers should keep in mind that all courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind
- 2) Courses should be such that they can be safely negotiated in 90 seconds
- 3) Outdoor facilities may and are encouraged to include trees, brush, hills etc. as long as they can be safely maneuvered and designed with an easy access/view of judge
- 4) Judges must walk the course and have the right to alter any part that they deem unsafe and/or unsuitable
- 5) Safety of the gaits between obstacles shall be at the discretion of the judges

b. Working Trail Elements

1) Unacceptable Obstacles

- a) tires
- b) animals (alive or dead)
- c) hides
- d) remounting after dismounting
- e) jumps
- f) rocking, floating or moving bridges
- g) flames, dry ice, fire extinguishers etc.
- h) logs or poles elevated in a manner that causes them to roll

2) Mandatory Obstacles

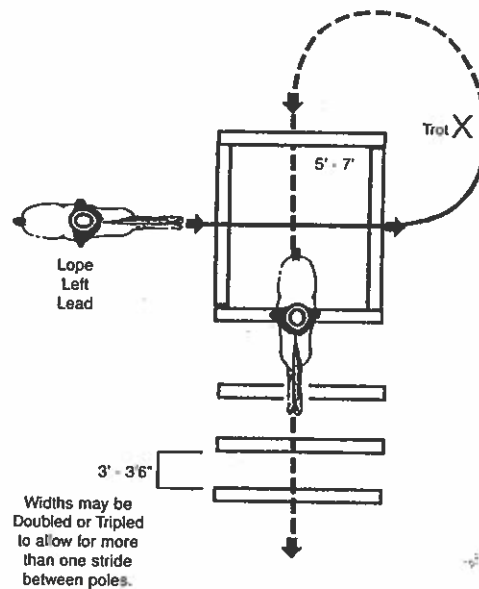
- a) Passing through a gate. The gate should be approximately 1.53m (5') high and have a latch at that height.
- b) Ride over at least 4 logs or poles
 - Poles can be in a straight, curved or zig-zag line
 - Space between logs is to be measured on the path the horse is to take
 - i. Walk overs (not elevated) – space should be a minimum 40–50cm (15–20") apart
 - ii. Walk overs (elevated) – space should be a minimum 56cm (22") apart



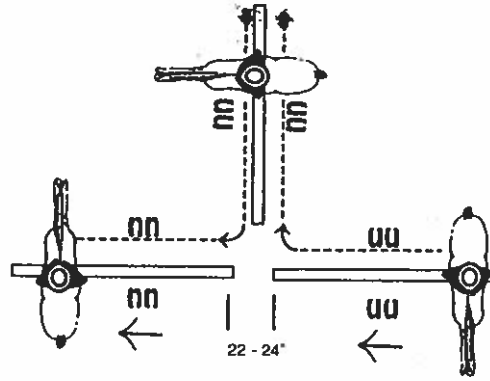
- i. elements may be elevated a maximum of 30 cm (12")
- ii. elements are a minimum of 1.06m (3'6") apart if all 4 hooves of horse are within obstacle; a minimum 51cm (20") apart if only front hooves or 61 cm (24") if only hind hooves of horse are with in the obstacle
- iii. Side pass may be through L,T,V,Z, or straight paths and may include
 - i) Hawk and/or forehand turns
 - ii) Confined space (path) for front hooves, hind hooves, or all 4 hooves
- h) A square consisting of 4 logs (rails) a minimum of 1.53m (5') long
 - i. Athlete will enter square over designated log (rail), execute any maneuver as indicated and depart over log (rail) as indicated
- i) Any other safe, negotiable obstacle which could be expected to be encountered on trail rides and meets the approval of the judges may be used
 - i. Figure the horses wheelbase at 1.53m (5') front hooves to back hooves
- j) Pass between two sawhorses of standard dimensions with solid ends and 1.83m (6') apart at the center with a saddle blanket draped over each
- k) Ride through water
- l) Ride through or under brush
- m) Guide horse through L, V, or Z of ground poles
- n) Into or out of ditch with out lunging or jumping
- o) A combination of 2 or more obstacles is acceptable

TROT OVERS, LOPE OVERS, AND WALK OVERS

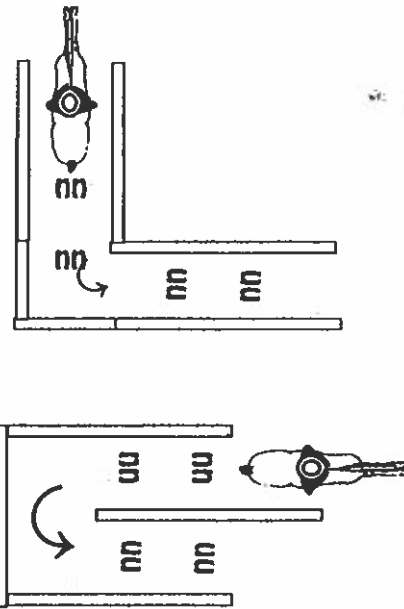
Can use Walk Overs, Trot Over, and
Lope Overs in One Class



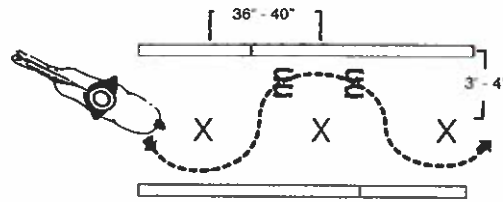
VARIATIONS OF SIDEPASS



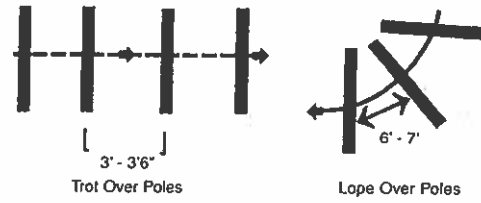
VARIATIONS OF L BACK THROUGH



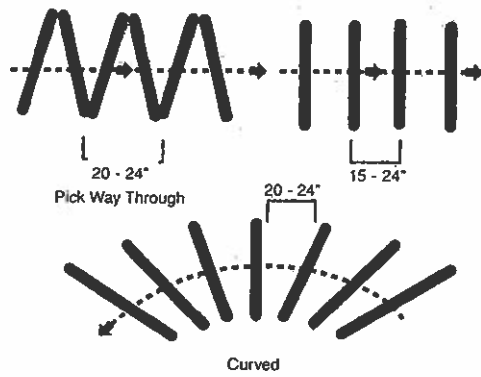
BACK THROUGH AND AROUND THREE MARKERS

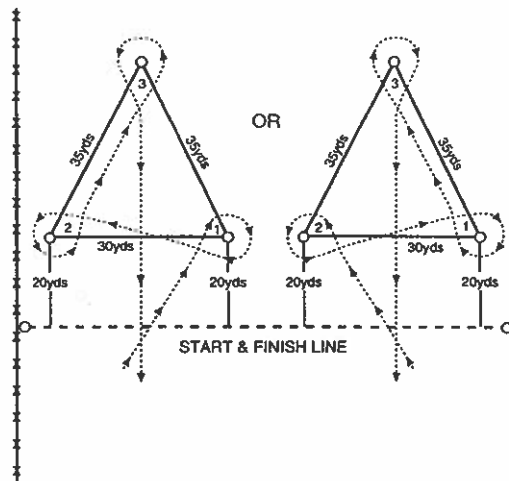


TROT OVERS, LOPE OVERS



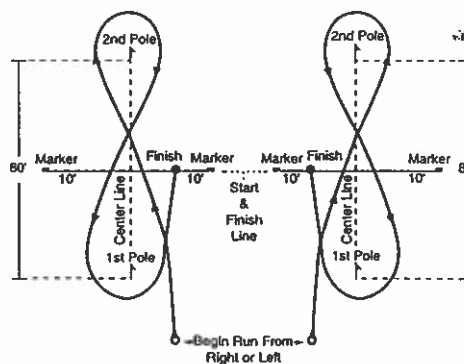
WALK OVERS





d. Figure 8 Stake Race

- 1) The start/finish line is 6.1m (20') wide, marked by two upright markers
 - a) Markers are 3.5m (10') on each side of the center line and short enough not to interfere with the electric timer
- 2) The first and second poles marking the center line are each 12.9m (40') from the start/finish line, making them a total of 24.83m (80') apart



e. Team Relay Events

- 1) The course shall be a total of 30 meters (98' 5") long for the walk-only division, and a total of 50 meters (164') long for the trot-only division depending on the course design
- 2) Bats are prohibited. Riders go when the nose of the previous horse crosses the line
- 3) Suggested relay patterns are to use the barrel, pole or figure 8 stake race or simply race a straight line

7. Drill Teams

- a. The arena will be the small dressage arena with the letters in place as a reference for riders

4. Disability (other than mental retardation) _____

5. Ambulatory Status

Wheelchair: Dependent _____ Electric _____ Propels Self _____

Ambulatory: Needs assistance or supervision _____

Independent with: Walker _____ Canes _____ Crutches _____

6. Track/Equipment Status

Saddle: English _____ Stock Seat _____ Australian Stock Seat _____ Other _____

Seat Cover _____ Handhold _____ Neckstrap _____ Adapted Reins _____

Crop _____ Dressage Whip _____

Peacock Stirrups _____ S-Shaped Stirrups _____ Devonshire Boots _____

Waistbelt _____ Other (please describe) _____

Instructors must bring SEI-ASTM or BHS approved safety stirrups and leathers, and any specially adapted tackle equipment which is required by the rider. Adaptive Equipment must be approved by the Venue Management. All athletes will use the ramp to minimize stress on the horses' backs.

7. Astride Assistance Status

Place an "X" in the appropriate box.

	Walk	Sitting Trot	Jog	Postg. Trot
Horse Handler				
1 Sidewalker				
2 Sidewalker				

8. Career and Accomplishments History (for announcer's purpose)

Began riding _____

Has instruction: Daily _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____

Describe the athlete's Special Olympics equestrian sports competition history.

Describe any open equestrian sports competition history.

