

State Show Rule Changes

The following rules have been adopted and will be enforced for the 2018 Virginia 4-H State Horse Show. Please read the 2018 Rulebook (will be available soon) for more detailed rules as this is only an outline. If you have questions or comments about any of the rules, please contact the State 4-H Horse Office at 540-231-6345

- **Trail Preliminary Qualifier**
 - Riders are encouraged to qualify on Thursday
 - No sign up on Thursday to qualify
 - Limited to 3 minutes per rider
 - **Added Friday qualifying time**
 - 6:00 – 8:00am
 - **Sign up required in the show office**
 - Limited to 3 minutes per rider

- **Wednesday Arrival**
 - Youth now have the option to arrive Wednesday with horses.
 - **You may only arrive between 5 – 10 pm – NO EXCEPTIONS**
 - Register for Wednesday arrival upon entry for the show and include **an additional \$30 fee per horse**. Tickets for early arrival will be mailed to the county offices and youth are responsible for picking them up and bringing them to check in at the show.

- **Novice Walk/Trot Division**
 - **Will be offered as a pilot program this year – this division is not guaranteed after this year**
 - May only compete in this division one year
 - Riders may not have been a high point champion, or classic champion in the last 3 years (on any horse) to enter this division
 - There will be a walk/trot first and second go and a walk/trot equitation class per each division that will offer the walk/trot classes
 - Exhibitors may enter the corresponding showmanship class per their division
 - Exhibitors may not cross enter in to canter classes on the same or a different horse
 - Exhibitors may not do Trail
 - Exhibitors may not do Gymkhana
 - Exhibitors are not eligible for any High Point Awards, Champion or Reserve Champion or any corresponding Classic Class.
 - Novice Exhibitors may not bring two horses
 - Exhibitors in this division may not qualify for Southern Regionals.

 - The classes will be split into Junior and Senior, however show management reserves the right to combine the classes into an all age division.
 - All qualifying rules still apply
 - Novice Exhibitors must still pass Horsemanship Skills 1 and 2 fully
 - **Classes Offered:**
 - Hunter Pleasure
 - Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Horse – Go 1
 - Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Horse – Go 2

- Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Pony – Go 1
 - Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Pony– Go 2
 - Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Horse – Go 1
 - Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Horse – Go 2
 - Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Pony – Go 1
 - Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure - Pony – Go 2
 - Western
 - Junior Walk/Jog Western Pleasure – Go 1
 - Junior Walk/Jog Western Pleasure – Go 2
 - Senior Walk/Jog Western Pleasure – Go 1
 - Senior Walk/Jog Western Pleasure – Go 2
 - Saddleseat
 - Junior Walk/Trot Saddleseat Pleasure – Go 1
 - Junior Walk/Trot Saddleseat Pleasure – Go 2
 - Senior Walk/Trot Saddleseat Pleasure – Go 1
 - Senior Walk/Trot Saddleseat Pleasure – Go 2
 - Dressage
 - Junior Intro Test A
 - Senior Intro Test A
 - Junior Intro Test B
 - Senior Intro Test B
 - Equitation
 - Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Horse
 - Junior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Pony
 - Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Horse
 - Senior Walk/Trot Hunter Equitation On The Flat – Pony
 - Junior Walk/Jog Western Horsemanship
 - Senior Walk/Jog Western Horsemanship
 - Junior Walk/Trot Saddleseat Equitation
 - Senior Walk/Trot Saddleseat Equitation
 - Junior Walk/Trot Dressage Equitation
 - Senior Walk/Trot Dressage Equitation
- **Body Condition Score Rule**
 - Research has shown that health complications such as heat stress, stress of traveling, and showing can be exacerbated at low body condition scores. Due to concerns for animal welfare and the objective of 4-H to educate and promote quality animal husbandry; horses, ponies and/or mules shall not be shown at the Virginia 4-H Horse Program State Show and/or Virginia 4-H State Fair Horse Show with a body condition score of less than 4 based on the Henneke scale (ribs easily discernible, tops of spinous process easily discernible, tail-head prominent with hook bones easily discernible, withers accentuated and neck obviously thin). If you have questions about the body condition score of your horse or if you are not sure your horse will pass inspection, please contact the state horse program office (540-231-6345). The Virginia 4-H Horse Program staff will assess animals in question. If there is a thin animal, the show management will make a final decision whether or not to disqualify the animal.

- **Alumni Showmanship Class**
 - Open to any 4-H Alumni
 - Not eligible for any other class or Southern Regionals
 - Must use a horse already on the show grounds participating in the show
 - \$50 entry fee but alumni exhibiting are encouraged to be sponsored by clubs and donate more than the entry fee
 - The class will be judged according to the Virginia 4-H State Show Horse Showmanship Rules and exhibitors are encouraged to wear show attire (fun but safe attire will also be accepted)
 - Exhibitors will be placed 1-10
 - Other Awards
 - Crowd Favorite
 - Highest Level of Sponsorship