

Ideal Ranch Horse

The Ideal Class is a performance event. This class displays the balance required of a pleasure horse which also exhibits good conformation.

Horses to be stripped and judged on conformation after the under saddle work.

To be judged sixty (60) percent on performance and manners, forty (40) percent on conformation.

Wheel barrows, carts or any type of mechanical apparatus are prohibited in the ring and will result in the disqualification of the entry.

Horses to be shown in a suitable halter for the halter portion of judging.

Ideal Class Performance

To be shown at a walk, jog, and lope, both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein, without undue restraint.

Extended jog maybe required.

Horses are required to back.

Ideal Class Grooming

Each Exhibitor must have at least one (1) groom, and no more than two (2) grooms to assist with tack removal and grooming. 3. Grooms shall wait at the gate until the announcer/ring steward indicates that the judge/s have directed the grooms/attendants to enter the ring. 4. Grooms/attendants are to walk to the Exhibitor and wait until the announcement is made to start grooming. The Exhibitor shall remain mounted until the announcer calls for grooming to begin. 5. Time limit for grooming/stripping is two (2) minutes. 6. Exhibitor to remain with Horse, and must retain number

RANCHMANSHIP

The purpose of this class is to bring forth the versatility in both the ranch horse and exhibitor, in the task of performing a designated pattern.

Each horse will work individually.

There will be no time-limit.

A simple or flying lead change should be executed precisely in the specified number of strides and/or at the designated location. A simple lead change is performed by breaking to a walk or trot for one to five strides (before break of gait penalty applies). Flying lead changes should be simultaneous front to rear. All changes should be smooth and timely.

This class will also be judged on quality of movement on horse.

Judge will score on all gaits performed at the end of the pattern on overall average of each gait.

Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness. Posting at extended trot is acceptable. Touching or holding the saddle horn during any extended gait is acceptable.

Exhibitor will be judged on ability and decision making in the show pen.

An exhibitor that puts their horse in the correct positions and making the horses job easier should receive credit.

RANCH RIDING DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the ranch riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena. The horse should be well-trained, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The ideal ranch horse will travel with forward movement and demonstrate an obvious lengthening of stride at extended gaits. The horse can be ridden with light contact or on a relatively loose rein without requiring undue restraint, but not shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the ranch riding horse to make timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner, as well as the quality of the movement are of primary considerations. The ideal ranch riding horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

Class requirements:

Each horse will work individually.

A specific pattern will be designated

The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be with an emphasis on forward movement, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated, with smoothness and responsiveness.

No time limit.

Sitting the regular trot and lope is recommended; though standing in the stirrups at the extended trot and extended lope, or posting the extended trot is acceptable.

Touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.

RANCH RAIL DESCRIPTION

The Ranch Rail class measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride and should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse. The horse should be well-broke, relaxed, quiet, soft and cadenced at all gaits. The movement of the Ranch Rail horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations. Maximum credit should be given to the horse that has a natural flowing stride and consistent, ground covering gaits. Transitions should be performed when requested, with smoothness and responsiveness. The ideal Ranch Rail horse should have a natural head carriage at each gait. The horse should be ridden on a relatively loose rein with light contact and without requiring undue restraint while being responsive to the rider and making timely transitions in a smooth and correct manner. The horse should be soft in the bridle, yield to contact and shall not be shown on a full drape of rein. Riders are encouraged to use adequate space given the extension of gaits required. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working pace while under control by the rider. The horse shall be balanced and appear willing and a pleasure to ride in a group situation.

In all gaits, movement of the ranch horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse.

Walk - the walk is a natural, flat footed, four-beat gait. The gait is rhythmic and ground-covering. As in all gaits, the horse should display a level, or slightly above level topline with a bright, attentive expression.

Extended Walk – the extended walk is an obvious lengthening of stride that will naturally increase the pace. The horse should move in a natural manner (not a running walk) as if it were moving across an open pasture.

Trot- the trot is a natural two-beat gait demonstrating more forward motion than the western jog.

Extended Trot- the extended trot is an obvious lengthening of the stride with a definite increase in pace. The horse should be moving in a manner as if it were covering a large area on a ranch with an above level topline.

Lope- the lope is a three-beat gait. The lope should be relaxed and smooth with a natural, forward moving stride.

Extended Lope- the extended lope is not a run or a race but should be an obvious lengthening of the stride, demonstrating a forward, working speed. The horse should display an above level topline with a bright, attentive expression.

Touching or holding the saddle horn during any extended gait is acceptable.

Horses are to be reversed to the inside (away from the rail). They may be required to reverse at the walk or trot at the discretion of the judge but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope.

Horses are required to back easily and stand quietly.

Horses may be brought to the center or backed on the rail.

The rider shall not be required to dismount except in the event the judge wishes to check equipment.

RANCH REINING DESCRIPTION

The ranch reining class measures the ability of the ranch horse to perform basic handling maneuvers with a natural head carriage in a forward looking manner. The ideal ranch reining horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver. Patterns may be chosen from any of the ranch reining patterns or approved by the show management and judge.

CREDITS AND PENALTIES. All runs begin upon entering the pen and any infractions are subject to penalty at that time such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.

To rein a horse is not only to guide him but also to control his movement. The best reined horse should be willingly guided or controlled with little or no apparent resistance. All deviations from the exact written pattern must be considered a lack of or temporary loss of control and therefore a fault that must be marked down according to severity of deviation. The horse/rider team's overall performance should be credited for smoothness, finesse, attitude, quickness and authority of performing various maneuvers while using controlled speed which raises the degree of difficulty and makes the horse/rider team more exciting a pleasing to watch.

RANCH TRAIL

This class should test the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered while being ridden through a pattern of obstacles generally found during the course of everyday ranch work. The horse/rider team is judged on the correctness, efficiency, and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated, and the attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well broke, responsive, and well-mannered horse which can correctly navigate and negotiate the course. The ideal ranch trail horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

RANCH PLEASURE

Ranch Pleasure measures the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from one ranch task to another and should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movement of a working horse. The Judge will evaluate the performance of the horse at the listed gaits on the rail individually.

Stock Horse Showmanship

Judges on the exhibitors ability to fit and train a horse for show or sale. ATTIRE: Neat and clean; dark colored jeans, plain white, buff or light colored long sleeve shirt. Hats should be clean and well shaped. Boots should be clean. Spurs and chaps are not allowed. Halter should be clean and well fitting. Silver on halters are not allowed other than what is found on buckles and hardware.

Video example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lei7FMogNZo&t=2s>
