

# AMERICAN SHOW PONY REGISTRY

## Driving Performance Division Rules

### 3.1 Performance Division Rules and Class Specifications

#### A. General Rules

1. Observance of Rules: Everyone connected with exhibiting or judging American Show Ponies shown in Performance Division classes shall observe the following rules as well as all general rules.

#### B. Tack and Equipment

1. Whips, aprons, robes and similar equipment are optional unless definitely called for in the class specifications.
2. There shall be no penalty for use of hand holds.
3. The breakage of equipment or casting of a shoe shall be handled in accordance with Current USEF Rule Book, General Rule (GR)833.
4. No item disturbing to other entries may be used inside or outside the ring while showing a pony except the driver is allowed one whip no longer than 6 feet, including snapper and handle.

### 3.2 Harness Division – Performance Class Specifications.

#### A. Tack and Equipment:

1. Harness ponies, are to be driven to a viceroy, side bar buggy or four wheeled vehicle of similar type.
2. Harness ponies are to wear show type harness including round blinkers, side check and choice of bit.
3. Ladies, Amateur and Youth must be driven in the half cheek. (*See diagram in 1.1 h. (4) above for acceptable half cheek bits*).
4. Martingales, boots, rubber bands or strings of any description on the feet or legs are prohibited. However, high tail cruppers or other tail appliances are permitted.

**B. Open Harness Class** is to be judged **40% on conformation and 60% on performance, quality and manners.** Excessive speed is considered undesirable.

1. Ponies are to enter the ring, shall be worked both ways at gaits specified by the Judge and lined up in the center of the ring. **“Park Pace” and “Show Your Pony”** are the commands to be given. At the “Park Pace” the feet should be lifted well off the ground and the stride medium in length, elastic and straight. “Show Your Pony” designates a smart trot which should be a straight forward, diagonal movement, forelegs being raised at least to a point where the forearm is extended in a horizontal position with the elbow and the hocks flexed, with the feet well under the body and well off the ground. The body at all times should be in perfect balance, with head carried high. **These ponies are not required to back.**
2. Only one attendant (header) per entry shall be permitted to enter the show arena when the class is instructed to line up. While the class is in progress, attendants (headers) must remain outside the in-gate of the show arena. They may set up, uncheck, and/or head ponies as needed.
3. Stallions, mares or geldings may be shown.
4. When in the lined up, ponies may be unchecked in any harness class except Ladies, Youth or Amateur.

**C. Ladies Harness Class** is to be judged **40% on conformation and 60% on manners, quality and performance.** Excessive speed is undesirable. Ponies are to enter to the right, shall be worked both ways at a “Park Pace” and lined up in the center of the ring. Ponies are required to stand checked.

1. Attendant (header) may assist in lining up an entry and thereafter shall remain at least two paces distant from the head. When lined up, ponies are required to stand without holding and back willingly without rearing.

2. **The judge must require ponies in this class to back.**
  3. Entries Limited to mares and geldings.
- D. **Youth Harness Class** is to be judged on the same basis, shall perform in the same way, and subject to the same specification as Ladies Harness. **Attendants (riders) are optional** in Youth Harness classes.
1. Entries limited to mares and geldings.
- E. **Junior Pony Harness Class** shall be for the American Show Ponies, four years old and younger, 48" and under or ponies that have not won three (3) first place ribbons in Class "A" or "AA" Shows with competition. Ponies to be judged on the same basis and are subject to the same specifications as the Harness class.
- F. **Amateur Harness** is to be judged on the same basis as Ladies Harness, except stallions may be shown. Driver must meet the ASPC/AMHR/ASPR requirements for Amateur status.
- G **Fancy Turnout Class** is to be judged, **50% on the children's attire, 40% on conformation, manners and performance of the pony and 10% on the neatness and cleanliness of their harness and vehicle.**
1. Ponies are to be driven to a viceroy.
  2. Ponies are to enter to the right, shall be **worked both ways at a "Park Pace"** and lined up in the center of the ring. When lined up, ponies are required to stand checked. Ponies are to be driven at a safe speed at all times. **One attendant (header) is required.** Only mares or geldings may be shown.
  3. Participants in this class shall be a girl and a boy both 17 years of age or younger.
  4. Attire:
 

Accepted attire for afternoon – the girl shall wear a summer type dress, hat, and parasol, with flow-

ers optional; the boy shall wear a sport coat of any color (except black), white shirt, bow tie, slacks or jodhpurs of a color to harmonize with the coat and either dress straw hat or bareheaded.

Acceptable attire for evening – the girl shall wear formal evening dress and carry flowers; the boy shall wear current formal attire, ruffled or tucked shirt of white or color, a formal dinner jacket of suitable material of any color, including but not limited to brocade, or velveteen, etc. Trousers of black or midnight blue, formal bow tie, black socks and shoes, bareheaded, or dress straw hat.

Formal full dress attire of top hat, tuxedo, or tails, white dress shirt, wing collar, white tie acceptable if available. Boy driver not required to wear gloves. “Hoops” fastened to buggy may support the girl’s dress for evening formal attire.

5. In the event of postponement, it is recommended that the attire be judged as originally scheduled. It is also suggested that duplicate awards be given for each placing.
6. Fancy Turnout is not a qualifying class for the Harness Championship/Stakes class.

H. **Harness Championship/Stake Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as Open Harness.

### 3.3 Roadster Division – Performance Class Specifications

#### A. Tack and Equipment

1. Roadster American Show Ponies are to be driven to a sulky, bike or two-wheeled vehicle of similar type.
2. Roadster ponies are to wear harness with a low crupper, over check, square blinkers with straight or broken snaffle bit. Martingales and trotting boots are permitted.

**B. Open Roadster Class is to be judged 60% on speed in form, 20% on manners and way of going, 20% on conformation.**

1. Roadsters shall enter ring clockwise (left) at a **“Jog Trot”**; show the **“Road Gait”** when asked for; the turn counterclockwise at a **“Jog Trot”**; show the **“Road Gait”** when asked for and then **“Trot at Speed”**.
2. At all speeds ponies should work in form; that is, their chins set and their legs working beneath them, going collectedly and in form. At the trot, a pony's action should feature folding of knees, flexing of hocks, with straight true action of front legs and with hocks carried close together and with motions coordinated is executing a balanced trot. Long sprawling action in front, dragging or trailing hind legs and spraddle gaited action behind makes a balanced trot impossible. Animation, brilliance and show ring presence should characterize the roadster in working at a jog trot or road gait. When asked to drive on, the pony must show speed and go in form. Pace gaited or mix gaited ponies that pace and rack the turns, or break and run on the turns shall be penalized. Ponies should be shown on the rail at all times except when passing and should go to the far end of every corner with outside reining; should be light mouthed, capable of being taken up at any time, willing to walk and stand well when being judged in the center of the ring. When ponies are lined up, the driver shall not leave his/her own vehicle except for necessary adjustments. Driver is permitted, however, to uncheck and stand at pony's head when left in the center of the ring while a part of the class is on the rail for a workout.
3. **No attendant (header) shall be permitted.**
4. Stallions, mares and geldings may be shown.

**C. Ladies Roadster Class is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as the Open Roadster class.**

1. Except entries are limited to mares and geldings.
  2. **Headers Optional.**
- D. **Youth Roadster Class** is to be **judged 20% on conformation, 40% on manners, 40% on speed and form.** Pony must stand quietly and be suitable for a Junior Exhibitor.
1. Entries limited to mares and geldings.
  2. **Headers Required.**
- E. **Junior Pony Roadster Class** shall be for the American Show Ponies, four years old and younger, 48” and under or ponies that have not won three (3) first place ribbons in Class “A” or “AA” Shows with competition Ponies to be judged on the same basis and are subject to the same specifications as the Open Roadster class.
- F. **Amateur Roadster** is to be judged on the same basis as Ladies Roadster, except stallions may be shown. Driver must meet the ASPC/AMHR/ASPR requirements for Amateur status.
1. **Headers Optional.**
- G. **Roadster Championship/Stake Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as Open Roadster.

### 3.4 Open Pleasure Division – Performance Class Specifications

#### A. Definition

Ponies are **to be judged on manners, quality and performance, with emphasis in that order.** Ponies to be shown with tail in natural position. Ponies to be judged on an easy, animated but not extreme way of going. The pony should be of superior type, conformation, attitude and training for the specific qualifications of the class. The American Show Pony Pleasure pony generally has less animation than that of the Roadster or Harness pony and must display an absolutely agreeable attitude. While its gait must be collected and balanced, it need not have

the brilliance or the high action of the Roadster or Harness pony.

B. American Show Ponies entered in any American Show Pony Pleasure Pony Division class may not cross enter in the following ways at any given show:

1. Into any other American Show Pony Performance driving (i.e., Roadster or Harness) division.
2. Between Open and Country Pleasure Performance.

C. Tack and Equipment

1. Pleasure American Show Ponies are to be show to a suitable two-wheeled cart with foot basket or four-wheeled vehicle, but not a viceroi, racing sulky or fine harness rig.
2. Pleasure ponies are to wear a show-type harness, including side or over checks, square or round blinkers with straight or broken snaffle bit. A properly fitted cavesson or nose band is required. Check bit and martingales are optional. No Liverpool bits, curb chains, or curb straps are allowed.

D. **Open Pleasure Class to be judged 40% on conformation and 60% on manners, quality and performance.**

There should be light contact with the mouth, slight flexion at the poll without evidence of undo restraint. The pony should be relatively high headed and have a free way of going. The check rein should not interfere with the relaxed and free way of going.

1. Pony to be shown barefoot or with an evenly weighted shoe of uniform thickness and an optional light pad. Caulks and trailers allowed on hind shoes. Toe clips and/or side clips are permitted. No artificial attachments such as lead chunks, weights, rings, etc. are allowed. Artificial appliances (rubberbands, chains, shackles, etc.) are prohibited in the ring or warm up area at the horse show.
2. Ponies are to enter the ring to the right and be shown both ways of the ring at the **“Walk”**, **“Pleasure**

**Trot” and “Extended Trot”.** Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized. The “walk” should be a relaxed flatfooted walk, a four beat straight movement and not a jog trot. The “Pleasure Trot” should be easy going, square with elasticity and freedom of movement. The “Extended Trot” should be ground covering, open and reaching. Ponies are to line up in the center of the ring, stand quietly and back readily. **It is imperative that ponies stand quietly, back readily and return to the line up.**

3. Driver to be dressed in appropriate attire (no silks or colors).
  4. **Attendant (header) optional (except in Youth class).**
  5. Stallions, mares and geldings may be shown.
- E. **Ladies Pleasure Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as the Open Pleasure class.
1. Except entries are limited to mares and geldings.
- F. **Youth Pleasure Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as the Open Pleasure class.
1. **Attendants (riders) are optional. header required.**
  2. Entries limited to mares and geldings.
- G. **Junior Pony Pleasure Class** shall be for the American Show Ponies, four years old and younger, 48” and under or ponies that have not won three (3) first place ribbons in Class “A” or “AA” Shows with competition. Ponies to be judged on the same basis and are subject to the same specifications as the Open Pleasure class.
- H. **Amateur Pleasure** is to be judged on the same basis as the Open Pleasure class. Driver must meet the ASPC/AMHR/ASPR requirements for Amateur status.
- I. **Pleasure Championship/Stake Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as Open Pleasure.

### 3.5 Country Pleasure Division – Performance Class Specifications

#### A. Definition

Ponies are to be **judged on manners, quality and performance, with emphasis in that order**. Ponies to be shown with tail in natural position. Ponies to be judged on an easy, animated but not extreme way of going. The pony should be of superior type, conformation, attitude and training for the specific qualifications of the class. The American Show Pony Pleasure pony generally has less animation than that of the Roadster or Harness pony and must display an absolutely agreeable attitude. While its gait must be collected and balanced, it need not have the brilliance or the high action of the Roadster or Harness pony.

#### B. American Show Ponies entered in any American Show Pony Country Pleasure Pony Division class may not cross enter in the following ways at any given show:

1. Into any other American Show Pony Performance driving (i.e., Roadster or Harness) division.
2. Between Open and Country Pleasure Performance.

#### C. Tack and Equipment

1. Country Pleasure American Show Ponies are to be show to a suitable two-wheeled cart with foot basket or four-wheeled vehicle, but not a viceroy, racing sulky or fine harness rig.
2. Country Pleasure ponies are to wear a show-type harness, including side or over checks, square or round blinkers with straight or broken snaffle bit. A properly fitted cavesson or nose band is required. Check bit and martingales are optional. No Liverpool bits, curb chains, or curb straps are allowed.

#### D. **Open Country Pleasure Class** to be judged 40% on conformation and 60% on **manners, quality and**

**performance.** There should be light contact with the mouth, slight flexion at the poll without evidence of undo restraint. The pony should be relatively high headed and have a free way of going. The check rein should not interfere with the relaxed and free way of going.

1. Entries to be shown barefoot or with an evenly weighted shoe of uniform thickness and an optional light pad. Toe clips and/or side clips are permitted. No artificial attachments such as lead chunks, weights, rings, etc are allowed. Artificial appliances (rubberbands, chains, shackles, etc.) are prohibited in the ring or warm up area at the horse show.
  2. Ponies are to enter the ring to the right and be shown both ways of the ring at the **“Walk”, “Pleasure Trot” and “Extended Trot”**. Excessive speed and extreme action to be penalized. The “walk” should be a relaxed flatfooted walk, a four beat straight movement and not a jog trot. The “Pleasure Trot” should be easy going, square with elasticity and freedom of movement. The “Extended Trot” should be ground covering, open and reaching. Ponies are to line up in the center of the ring, stand quietly and back readily. **It is imperative that ponies stand quietly, back readily and return to the line up.**
  3. Driver to be dressed in appropriate attire (no silks or colors).
  4. **Attendant (header) optional (except in Youth class).**
  5. Stallions, mares and geldings may be shown.
- E. **Ladies Country Pleasure Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as the Open Country Pleasure class.
1. Except entries are limited to mares and geldings.

- F. **Youth Country Pleasure Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as the Open Country Pleasure class.
1. **Attendants (riders) are optional.**
  2. Entries limited to mares and geldings.
  3. **Headers Required.**
- G. **Junior Pony Country Pleasure Class** shall be for the American Show Ponies, four years old and younger, 48" and under or ponies that have not won three (3) first place ribbons in Class "A" or "AA" Shows with competition. Ponies to be judged on the same basis and are subject to the same specifications as the Open Country Pleasure class.
- H. **Amateur Country Pleasure** is to be judged on the same basis as the Open Country Pleasure class. Driver must meet the ASPC/AMHR/ASPR requirements for Amateur status.
- Country Pleasure Championship/Stake Class** is to be judged on the same basis and subject to the same specifications as Open Country Pleasure.

**3.6 ASPR Carriage Driving** is to be judged 60% on manners, quality and performance 40% on conformation. To be shown at a walk, trot, and extended trot, both ways of the ring, to line up and stand quietly. This class is open to both single ponies and pairs.

- A. Tack and Equipment:
1. Light harness (breast or collar type).
  2. To be shown in a suitable two or four wheeled carriage pleasure type driving vehicle. No pneumatic or wire wheels permitted.
  3. Type of bit(s) optional: Snaffle, liverpools or acceptable driving bit and blinkers appropriate to type of harness.
  4. Martingales and overchecks are prohibited for all vehicles.

5. Side checks optional. Breeching or thimbles required unless vehicle is equipped with brakes. Tying down of tongues is prohibited. Bridles should fit snugly to prevent catching on the vehicle or other pieces of harness. A throatlatch and a noseband or cavesson is mandatory. Open bridles are permitted, but are not encouraged.
  6. Whip required to be carried in hand.
- B. Dress: Hat, gloves, and apron required to be worn.
  - C. Headers: Are allowed but must come from within the vehicle.
  - D. General Rules: All carriage driving classes are open to stallions, mares, and geldings unless otherwise specified.
  - E. Failure to comply with these rules will incur elimination.

### 3.7 Sunday In the Park

To be shown to a viceroy or suitable vehicle. **To be judged 50% on turnout of viceroy or suitable vehicle and driver attire.** Vehicle turnout can be decorated with floral arrangements or appropriate Sunday in the Park theme.

Acceptable women's attire for afternoon classes is summery type dress with hat, parasol/parasol whip is optional, but cannot be held or open while driving. Parasol can be opened in line-up provided a header is present.

Gentleman afternoon attire shall be sports coat of any color except black. Bow ties to match the sports coat and appropriate straw hat.

Evening ladies attire shall be formal length, parasol is optional, but cannot be held or open while driving. Parasol can be opened in line-up provided a header is present.

Evening gentlemen attire shall be formal dinner jacket, ruffled or tucked white shirt or color. Formal jacket

to be suitable or black suitable material to include but not limited to brocade or velveteen. Trousers of black, dark blue or midnight blue. Formal bowtie, black socks and shoes and dress hat.

**To show all-around action at a Park Trot and not faster. Must stand quietly and must back easily. To be judged on manners, quality and performance.**

Attendant/header can be available during line-up, but if a parasol is used and opened an attendant/header must be present. If no attendant/header and parasol is opened entry will be disqualified. This is a safety factor.

## **CLASSIC AMERICAN SHETLAND PONY**

### **Driving Performance Division Rules**

#### **4.1 Classic Driving Performance Division**

##### **A. General Performance Rules:**

1. All performance class animals must be a minimum of two (2) years old (must have reached their actual second birthday) or older at time of competition, unless otherwise specified.
2. **Headers required for youth in any driving classes.**
3. **Riding attendants are optional in Classic Youth driving classes.**
5. Stallions are not allowed in Classic Youth performance classes.
6. Cross entering at the same show is allowed between the Pleasure and Roadster Division.
7. Classic Pleasure and Classic Formal Pleasure ponies cannot cross-enter into Country Pleasure Driving classes at the same show.
8. Country Pleasure ponies cannot cross enter into Classic Formal Pleasure or Classic Pleasure classes at the same show.