

## **NSPPR English Type Under Saddle**

This class is for the English Type Riding Pony: Hunters, Dressage, and Flat Seat ponies. It is imperative that the horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to ride and display a pleasurable and relaxed attitude. Distinction of movements within gaits is to be judged more highly than expressive movements within gaits.

The class is open to all ages of riders. Junior ponies under saddle are defined as 5 years or younger, while senior ponies under saddle are 6 years or older.

### **Tack:**

- a. Type of English saddle is optional from the following: hunter/jumper, dressage, or flat seat.
- b. Bridle must be appropriate for the discipline being shown. It shall be light, show type; either snaffle (including full or half cheek), pelham, full bridle or kimberwick bit acceptable. Bridle should be appropriate for the discipline being shown.
- c. It is preferable for junior ponies to be ridden in a snaffle bit.
- d. Breastplate or breast collar is optional.
- e. Martingales and tie-downs are prohibited.

### **Attire:**

- a. Must be modest and appropriate for the type of discipline being shown. Gloves are optional. The rider's attire should not distract from the performance of the horse and rider.
- b. Spurs are optional, at the exhibitor's discretion. Whips of any type are prohibited.

### **Qualifying Gaits:**

- a. *Walk*, a four-beat gait: Brisk, true and flat-footed with good reach.
- b. *Trot*, a two-beat gait: To be performed at medium speed with moderate collection. The normal trot must be mannerly, cadenced, balanced and free-moving. Posting is required.
- c. *Strong trot*, a two-beat gait: This trot is faster and stronger than the normal trot. It is performed with a lengthened stride, powerful and reaching, at a rate of speed which may vary between horses since each horse should attain its own strong trot in harmony with its own maximum natural stride. The horse must not be strung out behind. The horse should show moderate collection. The horse must present a willing attitude while maintaining form. The strong trot must be mannerly, cadenced, balanced and free-moving. Rider to post the trot.
- d. *Canter*, a three-beat gait: Smooth, unhurried, with moderate collection, correct and straight on both leads.
- e. *Hand Gallop*, The hand gallop is performed with long, free, ground covering stride under control. The amount of ground covered may vary between horses due to the difference in natural length of stride. The hand gallop is not a fast collected canter but a true lengthening of stride, correct and straight on both leads. Extreme speed to be penalized. There shall be a distinct difference between the canter and the hand gallop.

### **Class Specifications**

- a. OPEN. To be shown at a walk, walk on loose rein, trot, strong trot, canter and hand gallop both directions of the ring. To stand quietly and back readily. To be judged on quality, performance, suitability as a working-type English pony demonstrating good manners and conformation.
- b. AMATEUR and JUNIOR PONY. To be shown at a walk, trot, canter and hand gallop both directions of the ring. To stand quietly and back readily to be judged on quality, performance, suitability as a working-type English pony demonstrating good manners and conformation.
- c. YOUTH: To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both directions of the ring. To stand quietly and back readily to be judged on quality, performance, suitability as a working-type English pony demonstrating good manners and conformation.

<b>Rubric</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Minor Fault</b>	<b>Major Fault</b>	<b>Elimination General Items</b>
<b>Walk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground covering</li> <li>• 4-beat</li> <li>• Straight</li> <li>• Flat footed relaxed walk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slow</li> <li>• Fast</li> <li>• Lack of attention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short strided</li> <li>• Nervous</li> <li>• Uneven steps</li> </ul>	<p>Blood in the mouth, chin shoulder or flanks, lame (must be serviceably sound), whip marks, fall of pony or rider, bad manners which may be dangers to other exhibitors such as rearing, running backwards, bucking, out of control.</p>
<b>Walk on Loose Rein</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground covering</li> <li>• 4-beat</li> <li>• Straight</li> <li>• Flat footed relaxed walk</li> <li>• Pony to stretch down</li> <li>• Relaxed on loose rein</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speeding up</li> <li>• Neck not relaxed</li> <li>• Lack of attention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Break of gait</li> <li>• Not loosening of rein</li> <li>• Nervous</li> <li>• Uneven steps</li> </ul>	
<b>Trot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two beat gait</li> <li>• Efficient</li> <li>• Steady</li> <li>• Straight</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choppy on forehand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not cadenced</li> <li>• Uneven strides</li> <li>• Excessive speed</li> </ul>	
<b>Strong Trot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long, ground covering strides</li> <li>• Two beat gait</li> <li>• Efficient</li> <li>• Steady</li> <li>• Straight</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short strided</li> <li>• Choppy on forehand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not cadenced</li> <li>• Uneven strides</li> <li>• Not extending gait</li> </ul>	
<b>Canter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Even</li> <li>• Smooth</li> <li>• Unhurried</li> <li>• Straight</li> <li>• Ground covering strides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uneven strides</li> <li>• Too fast on forehand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Untrue gait</li> <li>• Extreme speed</li> <li>• No change of frame</li> <li>• Swapping leads</li> <li>• Cross cantering</li> </ul>	
<b>Hand Gallop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• True lengthening of stride and frame</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quicker rather than longer on forehand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out of control</li> <li>• No change of frame</li> </ul>	
<b>Back</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper flexion</li> <li>• Backs readily</li> <li>• Responsive</li> <li>• Backs in a straight line</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hesitates</li> <li>• Not straight</li> <li>• Slight resistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resistant</li> <li>• Refusal</li> <li>• Head throwing</li> <li>• Gapping</li> <li>• Pulling</li> </ul>	
<b>General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct, light contact at all gaits</li> <li>• Ground covering strides at all gaits</li> <li>• Pleasurable, relaxed attitude</li> <li>• Efficiency of movement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of contact</li> <li>• Loss of frame</li> <li>• Loss of cadence</li> <li>• Poor transitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over bridled</li> <li>• Busy mouth</li> <li>• High headed</li> <li>• Draped rein</li> <li>• On the forehand</li> <li>• Bad attitude</li> </ul>	