

Rules for Johnson County 4H Horse Shows

1. Johnson County 4H Horse Committee (JC4H) accepts the Texas 4H Horse Show Rules and Regulations for the current year as the standard for all horse show rules. Additional rules as specified herein are in addition to and, in the event of conflict, supersede any other rule.
WARNING: UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), A FARM ANIMAL PROFESSIONAL OR FARM OWNER OR LESSEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN FARM ANIMAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING AND EMPLOYEE OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF FARM ANIMAL ACTIVITIES.
WARNING: UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), A LIVESTOCK SHOW SPONSOR IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN A LIVESTOCK SHOW RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF LIVESTOCK SHOW ACTIVITIES. All exhibitors show at their own risk. As stated in Chapter 87 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, due to the inherent risk in equine activities, anyone participating in any such activity shall assume all liability for injury or death and hold the Johnson County 4-H Horse Committee (JCHC), its agents, assigns, officers, members and the owners or operators of locations where events are held, blameless and harmless of any liability, civil action or remedies. The JCHC, its members and the owners or operators of locations where events are held are not responsible for accidents, theft, or any other damage to real or personal property.
2. No illegal drugs or alcohol, of any kind, will be tolerated anywhere on the show grounds. Use of these or any illegal substances shall be reason for immediate ejection from the grounds.
3. Conduct nor promoting sportsmanship, such as showing disrespect to anyone, obscene or vulgar language or gestures, inciting or causing conflict, excessive force or display of temper with animals or persons will not be permitted. Use of such will be cause for immediate ejection from the grounds. Any conduct that exposes others to danger will not be tolerated and will be grounds for immediate ejection from the grounds.
4. Should a spectator or an exhibitor be ejected from the grounds, regardless of reason, there will be no discount or refund of funds paid.
5. A majority decision of three (3) voting members of JC4H (must include at least one chair or secretary) has the right to re-classify exhibitors.
6. All protests regarding violations of rules and rules only must be taken to the ring steward before the class is pinned and/or has left the arena. All other conflicts or protests must be taken to the event or committee chairman, in writing, for resolution on the day of the event in which the conflict occurred. All such protests must be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee. A committee consisting of at least three (3) voting members of JC4H (must include at least one chair or secretary) and/or the Ring Steward will resolve any conflict. Fee will be refunded if found in favor of the person protesting. Any interpretation of the rules will be made by a majority decision of this committee are final.
7. High points will be figured on the six-point system. To qualify for daily awards you must ride in all the classes for that discipline. Daily and Series High Point tiebreakers are as follows: points in Showmanship, then points in Horsemanship then Trail (of chosen discipline). In Speed, if riders have shown in no other classes, the first tiebreaker is poles, second tiebreaker is barrels and last is stakes. Series Overall, Champion points are all points earned in Showmanship, Western, Ranch, and Speed. English is a standalone discipline and points are not added to the series overall champion total."
8. Youth exhibitors may only show in one age division (Beginner, Novice, Junior, Senior).
9. Exhibitors are limited to one discipline for high point per show per horse. Exhibitors must select a discipline, failure to do so will default to "Western".
10. Exhibitors may not ride more than one horse in any one class. Points will be kept separately according to each horse and rider combination.
 - a. Exception: A second horse may be shown in Trail In-Hand, Western Trail and Ranch classes.
11. Exhibitors will use the same back number for the same horse and rider combination.
12. Beginner Youth: This class is limited to youth at least 8 years of age and in the 3rd grade who have never loped, cantered, or galloped in any competition; and have not previously shown in any mounted point earning class.
 - a. Beginner Youth classes may ride two-handed regardless of bit type.

- b. Beginner Youth classes do not lope, it is Walk/Trot only.
 - c. Any gait other than Walk/Trot in the Beginner Youth class will be cause for disqualification.
 - d. Once an Exhibitor wins a year-end Series High Point in this division they must move up to Novice at the next series.
13. Novice: This class is limited to youth at least 8 years of age and in the 3rd grade who have are just beginning to show at a canter.
- a. Exhibitors may not remain in this division more than 12 months.
 - b. Once an Exhibitor wins a year-end Series High Point in this division or has exceeded the twelve month time limit they must move up to the appropriate age level class for the next series.
14. Junior Youth Division: This class is limited to youth at least 8 years of age and in the 3rd grade but not above the 8th grade.
15. Senior Youth Division: This class is limited to youth in the ninth grade but not above the 12th grade and not above 18 years of age as of August 31 of that school year.
16. Adult Division: This class is limited to people who are either no longer in High School or greater than 18 years of age.
17. Limited Adult Division: Exhibitors must have some limitation such as; new to the show arena, 60+ or otherwise unable to canter due to recent surgery, injury or medical condition.
- a. Limited Adult classes may ride two-handed regardless of bit type.
 - b. Limited Adult exhibitors cannot also ride in the Adult class
 - c. Once an Exhibitor wins a Series High Point in this division, and they choose to stay in this division, then they cannot win another Series High Point in a consecutive series.
18. "All Day Fee(s)" and/or "4H Member Fee(s)" apply to each horse/rider combination. *For example: If one rider is entering two horses, then they must pay two fees.*
19. Entries close as the preceding class begins.
20. Minor exhibitors must have the signature of a parent or legal guardian before showing.
21. Timed events will run with all gates closed per state 4h rules. Exhibitors will begin their run after the entry gate has been closed. Exhibitors who begin their run before the entry gate is closed will receive a no time.
22. Timed event exhibitors must enter the arena mounted and unassisted within 60 seconds of being called.
23. Training tack is not allowed in judged events
24. All divisions except beginner and limited adult must ride one-handed in Western, and Ranch judged classes when using a curb bit.
- a. Novice, Junior, Senior, and Adult Classes may ride two-handed when using a bosal or shankless snaffle bit.
25. Registration requires the following:
- a. Proof of negative Coggins within the last 12 months on each horse
 - b. Completed Show Entry Form
 - c. Proof of current 4h membership if requesting 4h discount
26. English Classes require English tack and dress (Helmet, jacket, collared shirt, breeches, English boots).
27. Western/ranch Classes require Western tack and dress (Hat or helmet, collard long sleeve shirt, pants and heeled boots. Chaps optional)
28. Banding, hoof black, silver tack etc. will not be grounds for disqualification in Ranch classes.
29. Halter, Walk-Trot, and In-Hand (identified by an "*") are non-point classes
30. Exhibitors must show in ALL classes of a division to be eligible for that division's daily high point.
31. No stallions over one year of age will be allowed on the grounds.
32. Safety helmets are strongly recommended. Hats are required in all classes except speed.
33. If a horse kicks, or if a horse is known to kick; a red ribbon will be required to be tied on its tail. If an exhibitor is directed to apply a red ribbon to their horses tail, the horse will be unable to participate until the ribbon is in place.
34. Exhibitors may not be fastened in the saddle in any manner.
- a. Exception: Rubber bands are permitted in the speed division classes only.
35. Exhibitors must use a saddle that fits the rider.
36. Spurs must be attached to the boot or the rider with leather spur straps.