

SUNSHINE HORSE SHOW SERIES



2025 RULEBOOK

SUNSHINE HORSE SHOW SERIES

www.ssshowseries.com

2025 CONTACTS

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ARTICLE I - PURPOSE OF THE SUNSHINE HORSE SHOW SERIES

The Purpose of the Sunshine Horse Show Series is to promote a friendly feeling between horse clubs and to cooperate in promoting attendance at affiliated equine events. To encourage and promote the use of horses for pleasure and show in a friendly atmosphere.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

- ❖ There is no membership requirement to participate at any of the Sunshine Horse Show Series events.
- ❖ Participants may wish to contact individual affiliated clubs to join, should they choose.

ARTICLE III - FISCAL YEAR AND SHOW SEASON

The fiscal year of Sunshine Series shall be the calendar year. The Sunshine Horse Show Series show season may differ from the fiscal year. The 2025 Sunshine Horse Show Series season is from May 1ST thru October 1ST. The Trail Riding Program of the Sunshine Horse Show Series runs from October 1ST thru September 30TH.

SECTION I - Rules Governing Affiliated Shows

APPLICATION FOR SHOW AFFILIATION

If your show would like to be affiliated with the Sunshine Series, please contact Linda Voehringer, email: teamassmann@live.com or call/text 518.577.3387 (cell).

ERRORS IN PRIZE LIST DISCOVERED AFTER PUBLICATION

If an error is detected notice shall be posted on the website and/or social media as soon as possible. In addition, corrections shall be posted on show day at the secretary's stand.

FAILURE OF JUDGE OR OTHER OFFICIAL(S) TO APPEAR

If a judge and/or other official(s) cannot officiate for any reason that fact must be reported, by the show management to the point keeper immediately. If possible, a written statement must be obtained from the Judge and/or other official(s). If the judge has not shown up, show management will wait 30 to 45 minutes from the start time of the show. If they have not heard from the judge at that time, show management will make decision depending on the resources available.

REQUIREMENTS OF SHOW DAY

- All patterns to be posted at least 30 minutes before said class is to begin.
- All shows are to use entry sheets and judges cards.
- Judges cards must have class specifications on them.

GENERAL

All specifications not covered in this rulebook shall be in accordance with the rules of governing organizations (if so affiliated). If there is no other affiliations, shows shall refer to the appropriate USEF or breed rulebooks when necessary at the discretion of the judge.

No exhibitor may approach the judge without permission from show management and must be accompanied by show management and/or ringsteward.

JUDGING REQUIREMENTS

1. **Fall of horse or rider** in any class once the gate is closed will be disqualified. Said entry will be dismissed and not allowed to stay in the ring and finish the class.
2. A rider not having his mount under sufficient control shall be dismissed from the ring and shall be disqualified from that class.
3. No attendant shall be allowed in the ring, except at the request of the judge.
4. If additional tests are desired, the judge's instructions to riders shall be publicly announced. It is suggested that the judge go over these instructions with the announcer immediately before they are announced to assure mutual understanding of the wording.
5. Any **equines deemed unfit to exhibit** will be dismissed from the ring by Judge, or Show Management. This includes but not limited to: Lameness and/or body condition.
6. Judges decision shall be final.

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Entries must be made in writing and signed by the exhibitor (**IF UNDER 18 BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**).

INDEBTEDNESS TO HORSE SHOW

Any indebtedness to an affiliated horse show owed by an exhibitor, owner, rider, trainer, agent and/or member shall be settled within 30 days, (14 days for bad checks). No points towards annual high score awards will be credited to that exhibitor/entry for that show or any subsequent show held while such indebtedness is outstanding. Affiliated shows are allowed to publish name and debt amount on affiliated website, facebook (and/or other social media) and/or at secretary stand at affiliated shows.

VIOLATIONS

- A violation is an act prejudicial to the best interests of the affiliated horse show, including, but not limited to the following:
- Violating the rules of this rulebook.
- Disqualification by an affiliated horse show.
- Penalization by another Horse Association, Humane Society or Court of Law for violation of affiliated horse show rules.
- Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the rules of the affiliated horse show, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, intemperate or prejudicial to the best interests of the affiliated horse show
- Any act committed, or a remark made in connection with the show, considered offensive and/or made with intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character of integrity of the judging.
- Approaching a judge before or after a decision, without first obtaining permission from the Show Committee/manager, or inspecting a Judge's card without the permission of the Judge.
- Failure of an exhibitor or his representative to sign the entry blank of a show in which he competes.
- Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse.
- Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the affiliated horse show.
- Exhibiting any horse while in the care, training or custody of a suspended trainer.
- Riding, exhibiting, coaching or training for the benefit, credit, reputation, or satisfaction of a suspended person.

AFFILIATED SHOWS RESERVED THE RIGHT TO:

- Add to or vary the list of invited officials.
- Decline or refuse any entry at this show without being held liable.
- Eliminate from further competition any exhibitor or equine should the best interest of the show be served.
- Not delay classes due to conflicts, and not to allow substitution of animals or classes.
- Change the order of classes before or during the show and combine or cancel classes.
- Should any questions or disputes arise not provided for in the foregoing rules, the same shall be referred to the show committee/manager whose decision shall be final.

REQUIRED EQUINE PAPERWORK

Affiliated shows are required to check for proof of negative Coggins and proof of Rabies vaccination. Rabies vaccinations are not required for horses 6 months and under; however, a negative Coggins test is required for any age horse. If a weanling has not been tested, entrants must show proof of the dam's current negative Coggins test. If the dam is on the show grounds, proof of Rabies and Coggins for the dam must be provided.

HORSE SHOW RESULTS

Affiliated shows are required to send in horse show results within 30 days to the point keeper.

CANCELLATION OF AFFILIATED SHOW

If an affiliated show must cancel and there is adequate time to notify exhibitors via mail, then said show must do so. If the cancellation is last minute, the show shall attempt to contact exhibitors via the affiliation's website, facebook or other social media outlets. The show must also either post a notice prominently at the show grounds and/or have a representative at the show grounds at least one hour before and one hour after the original show start time.

CONDUCT

- Any assistance in any class after the judge/official has begun may result in disqualification of the exhibitor. The judge/official may only be addressed through the show committee.
- The show committee and/or judge/official may and shall immediately order out of the ring or off the grounds; any exhibitor not showing good sportsmanship or using profane language.
- Any exhibitor or member of his/her family who harasses or is abusive to the judge/official, and/or show committee/management, at any time, shall be barred from showing for the balance of the year and will lose all points received up to and including that date.
- Cruelty to, or abuse of an equine by any person at a recognized event is forbidden. The judge/official and/or the show committee have the authority to dismiss from the class or event, any exhibitor for cruelty to, or abuse of an equine. If an exhibitor is disqualified from showing by the show committee or by the judge/official, the entry fee(s) will not be refunded and premium/prize-money will be forfeited. See Violations above.

SECTION II - Sunshine Horse Show Series High Score Championship Awards

The Sunshine Horse Show Series annually offers Year End Championship Awards in numerous divisions to encourage participation in Sunshine Horse Show Series affiliated Shows. In making the Awards, the Sunshine Horse Show Series certifies that winning entries acquired the greatest number of points during a given year, in qualifying classes.

Part I - Award Titles

Listed here are the divisions in which Awards are offered and the names of those Awards. Complete specifications for each point class are found in SECTION III.

Showmanship/In-Hand Divisions (points accumulated from May 1ST thru October 1ST)

Please refer to the current Nomination sheet for more details/specifications

Fitting & Showmanship 18 & Over
Fitting & Showmanship 17 & Under (may be split by age if sponsored)
Western Geldings/Stallions In Hand
Western Mares In Hand
English Geldings/Stallions In Hand
English Mares In Hand
Miniature Horse Mares In Hand
Miniature Horse Geldings In Hand
Miniature Horse Stallions In Hand
Pony 11.2 hands & Under In Hand
Pony over 11.2 hands In Hand
Driving Type In Hand (horse/pony/mini)
Five & Under In Hand (horse/pony/mini)

Performance/Equitation Divisions (points accumulated from May 1ST thru October 1ST) Points for Performance on Horse/Equitation points on the Exhibitor

Please refer to the current Nomination sheet for more details/specifications

Western Performance Horse/Pony
Ranch Performance/Equitation
Western Equitation –all ages
English Performance Horse/Pony
English Equitation –all ages
Liberty
Solid Color Horse/Pony/Mini
Multi-Color Horse/Pony/Mini
Starter Horse/Pony (2-gaited)
Green Horse/Pony
Jack Benny (Rider 39 & Over)
Pony Performance
Very Small Equine Performance (11.2H & under)
Driving Very Small Equine (11.2H & under)
Driving Horse/Pony over 11.2 hands
Walk/Trot Hunter over Ground Poles Div.
Hunter Over Fences – Cross Rails Div.
Hunter Over Fences – 2' Division
Hunter Over Fences – 2'3" Division

(Continued on next page)

Performance/Equitation Divisions continued

Please refer to the current Nomination sheet for more details/specifications

Leadline Riders Rider 3-8yrs

Walk/Trot Rider 13yrs & Over (all seats)

Walk/Trot Rider 12yrs & under Western

Walk/Trot Rider 12yrs & under English

also offered

Saddle Up For Sunshine Trail Riding/Driving Program (which runs from time of nomination thru September 30TH)

Part II - General Requirements

AWARDS

Awards shall be given as described on the nomination sheet. To receive an award, nominees must show at 2 affiliated shows in the division they nominated.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for an Award, equine and/or exhibitor must be recorded with the Sunshine Horse Show Series point keeper via the Year-End Nomination Form and must be in good standing with all affiliated shows. No points will be credited before equine and/or exhibitor is recorded. Exhibitors may nominate themselves and/or their equine \$20 for each nominated category or 3 categories for \$50 for 2025. Exhibitors must indicate on the nomination form which classes/divisions they choose to qualify for a year end award in. Equine must be shown under the same name throughout the season and if registered must be entered under their full registered name.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

Year End Awards/Prize Lists/Placings

1. Winners for year end awards, shall be those entries which score the highest number of points in their award categories and have shown and placed in any qualifying class(s) in at least three affiliated shows during the current show.
2. An affiliated show is one judge, which equals one show (per class shown). For instance: if a show runs the same class on two different days with 2 different judges or the same judge, this is considered 2 shows; If a show is double judged, this is considered 2 shows; If a show has a judge in the main ring, and another judging trail, this is considered one show.
3. No points will be given for classes whose specifications are not in accordance with the Sunshine Horse Show Series rules.
4. No points will be given for classes added after the prize list has been posted on Sunshine Horse Show Series website, printed and/or mailed, unless said class has been added a minimum of 10 days before said show and notice of the added class is posted on the Sunshine Horse Show Series website.
5. Show management reserves the right to combine similar classes or divide classes in any way deemed appropriate regardless of the number of entries.
6. Points will be given for the first six placing(s) only, regardless of the number of ribbons offered.
7. Competition is open to all meeting the criteria of the event. Membership in a club is not required.

Patterns and/or Additional Performances/ Timer(s)

1. Patterns to be posted at least 30 minutes before the class in which they may be used.
2. Off pattern is considered a disqualification.
3. Judges may use their own discretion for additional performance from exhibitors.
4. Events which are timed, shall be timed by electronic timer, the judge and/or ring steward.

Exhibitor Show Numbers

1. Exhibitors **must wear the correct show number** for a class/event to count for points.
2. Numbers must be worn on the back of the exhibitor or on both sides of the equine while in the ring. Driving entries may also place their show number on the back of the vehicle or on both sides of the vehicle.
3. Failure to wear Exhibitor Number will result in disqualification.

Tack Holds

1. If tack holds are granted exhibitors will have a maximum of (4) four minutes to complete. The exhibitor with the tack hold may be excused from the ring when the judge's cards are handed to the ringsteward.
2. The announcer or ringsteward is to time tack holds starting when the last exhibitor leaves the ring.
3. Tack holds must be done near the show ring.

Stallions and/or Equines that may kick:

1. Stallions one (1) year old and over **MUST** be shown by an exhibitor 18 years old or over.
2. It is suggested that all stallions and equines that have a tendency to kick wear a red ribbon in their tail.

Honor System

1. The Sunshine Horse Show Series affiliated shows cannot police what happens at non-affiliated shows. Exhibitors shall take it upon themselves to be honest about divisions they show in. For example, "Walk-Trot" exhibitors should not be cantering at a non-affiliated show knowing that this division is only walk/trot.
2. Exhibitors may not cross enter between walk/trot and walk/trot/canter classes at the same show, with the exception of Schooling WT, "Anything Goes WT", Rescue Equine, or similar classes as noted on prize list.

Schooling

1. Schooling over any type of course (trail, jumping, etc) is at the discretion of the show.
2. If schooling is not permitted, exhibitors who violate this rule will be disqualified from competing in the class.

POINT VALUE

Points in all classes, except where otherwise provided in these rules, will be scored as follows:

#Exhibitors:		Placings					
In Class		1	2	3	4	5	6
1	*	2					
2	P	3	1				
3	O	4	2	1			
4	I	5	3	2	1		
5	N	6	4	3	2	1	
6 & Over	T S	7	5	4	3	2	1

TABULATION OF POINTS

Points will be assessed on the number of entries in the ring. The judge shall mark on the score card the number of entries completing the class. The point keeper will keep scores of all classes. Every care will be taken by the Sunshine Horse Show Series to achieve accuracy in compiling the scores, but shall not be liable for failure of a show to file a properly executed report form. See chart above for point/score values. Exhibitors are encouraged to keep track of their points and review the point standings periodically on the Sunshine Horse Show Series website. Any questions or disputes shall be brought to the attention of the point keeper. The point-keeper shall post points and specify a cut-off date at which time they will be considered final.

PRIZES

Prizes in the Year-End Award competition for all divisions shall be placed Champion for the highest scoring entry; Reserve Champion for the next highest scoring entry. Additional award placings at the discretion of the Sunshine Horse Show Series. Awards for Champion and Reserve Champion will include Ribbon and an award given at the discretion of the Sunshine Horse Show Series. Prizes/Awards at affiliated horse shows given at the discrepancy of each individual show.

Any exhibitor with indebtedness to an affiliated event that is not resolved within 30 days of said event will not be awarded a year-end award. See Indebtedness, page 3.

Any year-end award not picked up within 30 days of the Award presentation ceremony are considered forfeited.

TIES

In the event of a tie, the Year-End Awards will be awarded to each competitor. Ties at affiliated horse shows broken at the discrepancy of said show.

PRESENTATION

Presentation of the Awards will be made at the Sunshine Horse Show Series Annual Awards Banquet.

PROPER SHOW RING ATTIRE

1. General Attire Guidelines

- a. Traditionally in the show ring, ALL riders, drivers, and attendants shall be neatly, cleanly, and correctly attired for the class and seat in which they are exhibiting. It shall be the prerogative of the show manager, and/or the judge to exclude from the ring anyone whom they do not consider suitably presented to appear before an audience interested in their class. Definitions of correct attire can be found in the current USEF Rule Book (GR318, etc.) or any of the specific breed rule books.
- b. All riders may wear protective headgear passing or surpassing current application ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards and harness secured while riding/driving anywhere on the competition grounds and without penalty in the show ring. All riders and drivers, 17 years of age and under or competing in 17yrs & Under classes must wear a helmet meeting or exceeding ASTM F1163 (Safety Equipment Institute Certified) Equestrian Standard per NY State Law No. VAT1265. Parent/guardian who signs the release form for an exhibitor 17 years and under is personally responsible for seeing that those exhibitor(s) in their care, custody and control obey this law.
- c. **Hats**, where optional, may **not** be baseball caps.

2. Academy Classes Attire

- a. All academy riders must wear protective headgear.
- b. All academy riders may NOT wear jackets. Vests, sweaters and gloves are optional.
- c. Leadline: Riders to wear black jodhpur pants or black pants, jodhpur boots or closed toe boots, boots with heel, long sleeved, buttoned down shirt with a tie.
- d. Hunt Seat: Riders to wear jodhpurs, breeches or black pants, jodhpur, paddock, hunt boots or closed toe boot with a heel, long sleeved, buttoned down shirt with tie or choker. Half-chaps with paddock boots optional.
- e. Western/Stock Seat: Riders to wear well-fitting long black pants, boots or closed toe shoes with a heel, long sleeved buttoned down shirt and tie. Vest or sweaters are optional. Academy stock seat riders may NOT wear chaps.
- f. Saddle Seat: Riders to wear black or navy blue jodhpur pants or black pants, jodhpur boots or shoes with a heel, and long sleeved, buttoned down shirt with straight tie.

3. Driving Attire

- a. Driving attire to be neat and appropriate to vehicle shown. Period attire is optional with antique vehicles.
- b. Apron, gloves, whip, hat are optional. Hats, if worn may not be baseball caps. Aprons, if used, must be of conservative color.
- c. Headers that are appropriately dressed may enter the ring to assist drivers in the line up. Headers may not wear shorts, and must wear a closed toe shoe.
- d. Roadster classes - drivers to wear stable colors (silks) with hat or protective helmet. Pants to be solid in color or racing slacks, closed toe shoe. Gloves, whip optional.

4. Gymkhana Attire

- a. All riders may wear protective headgear passing or surpassing current application ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards and harness secured while riding/driving anywhere on the competition grounds and without penalty in the show ring. All riders and drivers, 17 years of age and under or competing in 17yrs & Under classes must wear a helmet meeting or exceeding ASTM F1163 (Safety Equipment Institute Certified) Equestrian Standard per NY State Law No. VAT1265. Parent/guardian who signs the release form for an exhibitor 17 years and under is personally responsible for seeing that those exhibitor(s) in their care, custody and control obey this law.
- b. Gymkhana attire must include long sleeve western style button (or snap) up shirts of any color (or optional shirt noted below) and western pants or jeans. Protective headgear (as noted above) acceptable in all events or Western style hats, riding boot with heel are required.
- c. Only "Sunshine Horse Show Series" T-shirts are optional. They can be purchased in advance at www.ssshowseries.com.
- d. No tank tops, baseball caps, or sneakers allowed.

5. Hunter Seat Attire

- a. Conservative hunt seat jacket or coat, breeches (or jodhpurs), appropriate shirt, tie, choker, and/or pin and boots. Conservative dark hunting cap or protective headgear is mandatory.
- b. Spurs of the unrowelled type, crops or bats, optional.
- c. In all classes where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the show grounds, must wear ASTM/SEI headgear. Harness must be secure and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place.

PROPER SHOW RING ATTIRE (continued)

6. In-Hand/Model/Showmanship/Liberty Attire

- a. Exhibitors to be clean and neat in appearance, and attired in appropriate appointments consistent with seat or breed shown.
- b. Hats, gloves, optional.
- c. T-shirts, tank tops, chaps, and/or spurs not allowed.
- d. For in hand hunter/saddle seat entries, if showing in a bridle, attire should be appropriate for tack used.
- e. Very Small Equine exhibitors may wear pant suit, dress slacks w/appropriate shirt and/or jacket, khaki or dress slacks along with a polo shirt are also acceptable. Sensible, closed toe shoe or boots required.
- f. Driving In Hand may show in dress slacks with appropriate shirt and/or jacket. Khaki's or dress slacks, along with a polo shirt are acceptable. Sensible, closed toe shoe or boots required.

7. Leadline Attire & Leadline Handler Attire

- a. Leadline exhibitors to follow same attire rules for seat shown.
- b. Leadline exhibitors must wear protective headgear.
- c. Leadline handlers are to be neatly dressed in attire appropriate for entry. other acceptable attire is clean conservative clothing such as polo shirts, long or short sleeve dress or western style collared shirts, jodhpurs, breeches, dress pants or belted jeans. No T-shirts or tank tops.
- e. Leadline handlers must wear safe, appropriate shoes or boots. No sandals, or bare toed shoes.

8. Rescued Equine Division Attire

- a. Same attire requirements for In Hand, driving, western, hunt seat, or saddle seat exhibitors. Exception: in under saddle classes that attire must be in compliance with the saddle equine is shown in.

9. Saddle Seat Attire

- a. Attire includes informal attire, formal attire (optional) if time designated, and day coats of any color. Kentucky jodhpurs, jodhpur boots and hat is required. Hats may be derby style or soft hat, or ASTM/SEI headgear.
- b. Informal attire conservative in colors are preferred for saddlesuits (i.e. herringbone, pinstripes and other combinations of colors that appear to be solid). Solid colors include black, blue, gray, dark burgundy, dark green, beige or brown jacket with matching jodhpurs. Day coats are acceptable in all classes, except Equitation for riders 18 years or under. Day coats allowed in adult equitation. Formal attire may not be worn before 6pm. Please refer to USEF rules for detailed descriptions. Contrasting colored jackets may be worn.
- c. Gloves, spurs of the unrowelled type, riding crops, optional

10. Western (Stock Seat) Attire

- a. Appropriate western style clothing and a western hat or protective headgear and boots are mandatory. Long sleeve shirts must be worn in all western classes. Jeans, if worn, must have a belt. Jackets, vests are optional.
- b. **Chaps are optional** for all western riders for under saddle classes.
- c. Western Ranch Horse specific classes - to be shown in basic western attire, excessive silver or bling will be penalized.

PROPER SHOW RING TACK/EQUIPMENT

All equines being exhibited shall have the correct equipment for the class and seat in which they are exhibiting. It shall be the prerogative of the show manager and/or the judge to exclude from the ring anyone whom they do not consider suitably presented to appear before an audience interested in their class. **Definitions of correct equipment can be found in the current USEF Rule book or in any of the specific breed rule books.**

1. Academy Classes Tack

- a. Schooling Equipment may be used. Show equipment not required.
- b. Fitting & Showmanship: Shown in halter or bridle
- c. Leadline: Entry must be shown in bridle with halter under/over bridle with lead attached to halter.
- d. Western/Stock Seat: Any standard Western or snaffle bit may be used. Appropriate western saddle required. Riding crops not allowed.
- e. Hunt Seat: Any standard English bit may be used. Martingales are allowed. An appropriate English saddle is required, preferably of the hunt seat (forward seat) style. Riding crops optional
- f. Saddle Seat: May be shown in a snaffle bit with running martingale and two reins or a pelham/full bridle. Flat cut back /lane fox style English saddles are to be used. No dressage saddles. Riding crops, optional.

2. Driving Tack

- a. Horses/ponies to be shown in appropriate light, fine or draft type driving harness with at least one bit. Check bits are allowed, but not required. Side-checks and/or over-checks, optional. The use of a cavesson is strongly encouraged. All harness must have britchen, thimbles or the vehicle must have "shaft stops" to prevent the vehicle from running up behind the entry. It is preferred that harness leather match leathers on shafts.
- b. Running martingales are allowed with snaffle bits only. Standing martingales are allowed if hitched to gigs/phaetons.
- c. Kicking straps prohibited.
- d. All driving vehicles must be equipped with 2 or 4 wheels, with a minimum diameter of 20". All pleasure driving classes entries must have a basket-type cart or if 4 wheeled, must have a floor. No stirrup-type carts or sulkies allowed, except in Quadrangles. No pets allowed to ride in vehicles. Driving whips are optional, but if used, must be held in hand.
- e. Obstacle Ground Driving classes - to use suitable harness as described above including bridle, check and surcingle, with driving lines run through ring turrets and not in any other parts of the harness including tugs or shaft loops. Any additional harness parts must be secured. Driver may carry a suitable driving whip.
- f. Roadster classes - to be shown in a harness with over-check and snaffle bridle with square blinders. Over-check bit optional. Vehicle must be a 2 wheeled cart/bike without basket. Whip optional.

3. Green Horse/Pony Classes Tack

- a. To be shown under appropriate tack for seat as noted above.
- b. Any standard English bit may be used. Bit converters are prohibited.
- c. Any standard Western bit may be used. Bosals are allowed for animals 5 years and younger. Equines in snaffle bit will be ridden with two hands.
- d. Mechanical hackamores are prohibited.
- e. Judge has the right to excuse any exhibitor that he/she deems is using an inappropriate bit/bridle.

4. Gymkhana Tack

- a. English or Western saddle must be used. Any standard English or western bit, hackamore or noseband may be used. The method of holding reins is optional.
- b. Standing Martingales and tie-downs are allowed.
- c. Bats, crops, quirt no longer than 24" and over/under are allowed, but may not be used forward of the cinch/girth.

5. Hunter Seat Tack

- a. In all English/hunt seat/hunter classes, a traditional English style forward seat, close contact, or dressage saddle is acceptable. Flat saddle seat type saddles (Lane Fox style) are prohibited.
- b. Bridles must have a bit - no hunter hackamores, etc. allowed. A traditional snaffle bridle (or ergonomic bridle) with an O-Ring, D-Ring, kimberwick, or egg-butt bit is acceptable. Pelham or full bridles are allowed. Bridle must have a cavesson nose-band. One reined shank/curb bits, gag bits, Argentine/Tom Thumb snaffles are prohibited. Bits of unconventional type are to be penalized at the judge's discretion. Bridles must be properly fitted.
- c. Martingales and tie-downs are prohibited. Standing martingales are permitted in over fences classes only.
- d. Flash, drop or Figure-8 nosebands are prohibited. No straps below the bit on any bridle is allowed.
- e. Riding crops, optional.

6. In-Hand/Model/Showmanship Tack

- a. Western entries shall be shown in a suitable leather or nylon halter in good condition and fit to the horse with a suitable lead. No whips or bats allowed for entries shown western style.
- b. English entries shall be shown in a traditional English-type bridle or halter.
- c. Driving In Hand entries shall be shown in a halter or English-type bridle. Stallion tack is allowed on stallions and geldings.

7. In-Hand- Individual Performance

- a. In Hand Hunter & Jumper - to be shown in halter and lead. No boots, bandages, whips/crops permitted.
- b. In Hand Obstacle - to be shown in halter and lead. No boots, bandages, whips/crops permitted.

8. Leadline Classes Tack

- a. To be shown under appropriate tack for seat as noted above.
- b. Leadline Fitting & Showmanship to be shown in halter & lead, with a 2nd lead attached to halter for handler to hold.
- c. Under Saddle classes: Entry shown in bridle with halter under/over bridle with lead attached to halter.
- d. Over horn stirrups are allowed.

9. Miscellaneous Equipment

- a. Hoof boots that cover the entire sole of a hoof are allowed in performance classes only, not in halter/In-hand.
- b. Polo bandages, wraps, bell boots, splint boots or other equipment prohibited unless request made to show management, who shall consult with the judge, who will consider the footing at the event.
- c. Anti-grazing attachments to the bridle or saddle are prohibited.
- d. Whips, shaker bottles, and bell boots are optional in Liberty Classes.
- e. Obstacle In Hand - to be shown in halter with lead. No whips/crops permitted.
- f. In Hand Hunter & Jumper - to be shown in halter and lead. No boots, bandages, whips/crops permitted.

10. Prohibited Equipment - All Entries/ All Divisions

The Sunshine Horse Show Series affiliated shows prohibits specific types of harsh training anywhere on show grounds. Prohibited equipment includes:

- a. Riding in a curb bit without a properly adjusted curb strap/chain is not allowed.
- b. Wire or solid-metal curb straps no matter how padded are not allowed.
- c. Wire cavessons; wire or cable tie-downs; bumper bits; metal bosals, no matter how padded; chambons; headstalls made of metal (even if encased in protective material); twisted rawhide or rope are not allowed.
- d. Running martingales with curb bits are allowed with rein stops (they are not allowed without rein stops).
- e. Draw reins are allowed (with snaffle or curb bit) when attached no lower than the elbow of the horse (not allowed when attached between or around the front legs).
- f. For training equipment, there are no restrictions on the kind of mouthpiece used unless a judge or steward deems the use of it inhumane.
- g. Lip chains, cord or lip strap(s) not allowed.

11. Rescued Equine Division Tack

- a. Model class - shown in halter and lead, or English style bridle
- b. Under Saddle - may be shown in any type saddle and bridle, although style of bridle and saddle do not have to match. See division for further explanation. Mechanical hackamores, gag bits not permitted.
- c. Driving - to follow same tack rules as Driving Tack listed above.
- d. Protective boots, bandages are allowed.

12. Saddle Seat Tack

- a. In all Saddle Seat/English Performance classes, a traditional flat cutback saddle seat/Lane Fox type saddle is required. Dressage saddles are prohibited. Entries shall be shown in a full, double-reined bridle with weymouth bit and bradoon bit or pelham bit.
- b. Riding crops, optional.

13. Starter Horse/Pony Division Tack

- a. To be shown under appropriate tack for seat as noted above.
- b. Any standard English bit may be used. Bit converters are prohibited.
- c. Any standard Western bit may be used. Bosals are allowed for animals 5 years and younger. Equines in snaffle bit will be ridden with two hands.
- d. Mechanical hackamores are prohibited.
- e. Judge has the right to excuse any exhibitor that he/she deems is using an inappropriate bit/bridle.

PROPER SHOW RING TACK/EQUIPMENT (continued)

14. Western (Stock Seat) Tack

- a. In all western classes, a traditional western saddle made of leather or suitable synthetic fabric allowed. Stirrups shall not be tied to one another or to the saddle. Bridle may be of standard plain or silver headstall, split ear, browband, shaped ear, etc. Western style curb or shank bits (broken or solid) with a port no higher than 3 1/2" and a curb strap at least 1/2" wide of leather, nylon, or flat chain are required in all classes except Junior horse classes. Riders to use only one hand when using a shank bit.
- b. Only junior horses may use a traditional O-ring, D-ring or eggbutt snaffle with a ring between 2: and 4:, bosal or hackamore and may use two hands. Slip and gag bits and snaffles with fixed rein attachments providing leverages are prohibited.
- c. Western Ranch Horse specific classes - to be shown in good working equipment, excessive silver or bling will be penalized. Use of false tails in this class discouraged.
- d. Nosebands, martingales, and tie-downs prohibited.

DEFINITION OF HORSE AND PONY & HEIGHT

1. When the term "horse" or "pony" is used in prize lists of Affiliated Shows where height is one of the qualifications of the class, the word "horse" denotes animals 14.2 hands and over. The word "pony" denotes mature equine under 14.2 hands. Small pony is defined as 11.2 hands and under.
2. Very Small Equine (VSE) maximum height is 11.2 hands.
3. Miniature Horses not to exceed 38 inches **at the withers**.
4. All measurements are taken at the withers, including miniature horses.
5. Height of measurement includes shoe and pads, if worn. Shoe/pad height is not deducted from height measurement.
6. Show committee reserves the right to measure any horse/pony at any time. Exhibitors not willing to comply will forfeit all awards won, any points earned and any entries paid at said show.
7. Young horses are not eligible for pony classes, even if they are of pony height.

DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS

ALL AGES ARE AS OF JANUARY 1ST OF THE CURRENT YEAR. Exhibitors may be asked to show proof of age (for themselves and/or their horse/pony).

- a. **Academy** - any age exhibitor, unless otherwise specified. Mount to be at least 3 years old. Academy riders may not cross enter any other division. Once a rider shows out of the Academy division, they may not return to this division. Once a rider has shown in an academy walk, trot, canter class, they may not return to the walk, trot academy classes. Academy horses are to be of lesson type. These horses must display the characteristics of such. The Academy classes are for growing and learning experiences and exposure to horse shows. No cross-entry from Academy 2-gait to Academy 3-gait classes.
- b. **Adults** – Exhibitors 18 years and over. Mount to be at least 3 years old.
- c. **Driving Equines** - Horses/ponies must be 2 years old or older to be shown in this division. Any exhibitor who is seen hitching the entry to the cart/vehicle before having the bridle on the entry or has removed the bridle before unhitching the entry from the cart/vehicle is **disqualified** from the show and any awards won in driving classes on show day are forfeited along with entry fees paid. This is a major safety issue.
- d. **Five & Under** - equines to be no older than 5 years old.
- e. **Green Horse/Pony Division** –Horses/ponies must be 3 years old or older and in their first or second year of showing at the canter/lope to be shown in this division. This is a 3-gait division. Cross-entry into other 3-gait classes is allowed.
- f. **Gymkhana Division** – mount to be at least 3 years of age. Gymkhana division defined in Gymkhana Division (page 24) of this rule book.
- g. **In Hand Hunter & In Hand Jumper** classes - Equine must be 3 years old or older.
- h. **"Jack Benny"** - Exhibitor to be 39 years & over. Mount to be at least 3 years old. Jack Benny classes may be 2-gaited or 3-gaited. Cross-entry from Jack Benny 2-gait to Jack Benny 3-gait classes is allowed at same show.
- i. **Junior Exhibitors** – Exhibitors 17 years & Under. Mount to be at least 3 years old.
- j. **Leadline** – Riding exhibitors 3-8 years; mount to be at least 3 years old. Fitting & Showmanship 5-8 years old and may not enter any other classes except those specified as "Leadline." Leadline Exhibitors to be led by a competent exhibitor who is at least 14 years of age.
- k. **Liberty classes** - Equine must be 2 years old or older to be shown in this division.
- l. **Rescued Equine** - Horse/Pony/Mules/Donkeys of any age for model. Must be at least 3 years old for performance classes. May cross enter into any other classes.
- m. **Stallions** one (1) year old and over **MUST** be shown by an exhibitor 18 years old or over.
- n. **Starter Horse/Pony** - Horses/ponies must be 2 years old or older to be shown in this division. Starter division entries do not canter and may not enter any canter classes at any competition or exhibition. Equines may enter this division for as long as they do not canter or lope at any competition or exhibition. They are allowed to cross-enter into any other walk-trot/jog class.
- o. **Walk-Trot/Jog** – Exhibitors 12 years & under, 13 years & over. Mount to be at least 3 years old. Rider eligible for Open Walk/Trot classes (with points going towards respective age division). Once a rider has shown out of W/T they may not return to walk/trot classes. Walk/Trot Riders (of any age) can NOT cross enter into any class, which requires a canter. ** Exceptions at the discretion of the Sunshine Committee, and if approved, must remain WT for the current show season. Any one wanting to drop back to WT must be approved prior to the first show they enter and must ask for approval by the pre-entry cut off date of said show.
- p. **Schooling Walk/Trot**- Open to anyone who wants to show walk/trot, any age rider unless specified, except leadline & academy exhibitors. Open to all riders, of all abilities, including riders who show Walk/Trot/Canter. Examples of schooling type classes include *Schooling Walk/Trot*, *"Anyone Can Ride" Walk/Trot*.

SECTION III - Class Specifications

ACADEMY DIVISION

ACADEMY FITTING & SHOWMANSHIP

Horse/pony should be of lesson type. May **not cross enter** into regular Fitting & Showmanship. Entries to be shown in halter or bridle.

ACADEMY EQUITATION (2 & 3-Gait)

Horse/pony should be of lesson type. Same class specifications for equitation seat ridden (see specs in appropriate seat). No more than 8 riders to canter/lope at a time in walk, trot/jog, canter/lope academy equitation classes. No cross-entry from Academy 2-gait to Academy 3-gait classes

ACADEMY LEADLINE

May **not cross enter** into regular leadline. Horse/pony should be of lesson type. To be led by a competent leader, 14 years of age or older with lead attached to a halter under or over the bridle; (lead not attached to bit or bridle) in all seats. To enter the ring to the right, and shown at a walk. The judge may ask for a trot/jog, which must be worked individually. Riders NOT to be asked to back. To be judged on the ability and presence of the rider, seat, hands and ability to control mount.

ACADEMY PLEASURE WALK/TROT (2-Gait)

Horse/pony should be of lesson type. To be shown at a walk, trot/jog both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. Additional testing at judge's discretion. To be judged on manners, performance and suitability of a pleasure mount. Controllability should be of utmost importance. No cross-entry from Academy 2-gait to Academy 3-gait classes

ACADEMY PLEASURE (3-Gait)

Horse/pony should be of lesson type. To be shown at a walk, trot/jog, canter/lope both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. Additional testing at judge's discretion. To be judged on manners, performance and suitability of a pleasure mount. No more than 8 exhibitors to be asked to canter/lope at one time. Controllability of mount to be of utmost importance. No cross-entry from Academy 2-gait to Academy 3-gait classes

DISCIPLINE RAIL/COMMAND/OBEDIENCE

DISCIPLINE RAIL (3-GAIT)

Walk, Trot/Jog, Canter/Lope to be judged with each disobedience adding up with the winner being the one with the lowest score not the one with the last mistake. Other commands could be extensions at any gait, back, counter canters, turns on the forehand or haunches, side passing and any other commands that the judge deemed fitting.

WALK/TROT DISCIPLINE RAIL (2-GAIT)

Walk, Trot/Jog to be judged with each disobedience adding up with the winner being the one with the lowest score not the one with the last mistake. Other commands could be extensions at any gait, back, turns on the forehand or haunches, side passing and any other commands that the judge deemed fitting.

COMMAND (OBEDIENCE) - WALK, TROT/JOG, CANTER/LOPE (3-GAIT)

Judged on ability of horse and rider to obey immediately the commands given by the judge at any gait. Failure to follow command is elimination. Riders should be on their honor. Judge may ask for assistance and/or spotters.

When 6 entries are left in the class, if two or more horses are called in on the same command at the same time, then there must be a run off between those entries for the placing to be decided. Reverse at a canter may not be called when there are more than 8 horses inside the ring, including those in the center (which have been previously eliminated), and the judge must specify whether the exhibitors must change or stay on the same lead. When horses are excused, those on the rail may stand at ease. Bucking is a disqualification.

COMMAND (OBEDIENCE) (SIMON SAYS) - WALK, TROT/JOG (2-GAIT)

To be judged the same as the 3-gait Command/Obedience, but judge has the option of having riders perform Simon Says commands. This allows the judge creative ways to test the riders abilities.

DRIVING

PLEASURE DRIVING

To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, pleasure trot, and extended trot. Stand quietly and to rein back. To be judged 60% on performance, manners and way of going, 30% on condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle and 10% on neatness, appropriateness of attire and overall impression. Excessive speed will be penalized. A four beat walk regular and forward moving, energetic but calmly with an even, determined pace. Pleasure trot should show forward impulsion while showing submission to the bit. The trot is slower and more collected, but entry should indicate willingness to be driven on the bit while maintaining a steady cadence. Extended trot is clear but not excessive in gait and length of stride; forward freely engaging the hind legs with good hock action, on a taut light rein, the position balanced and unconstrained.

COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING

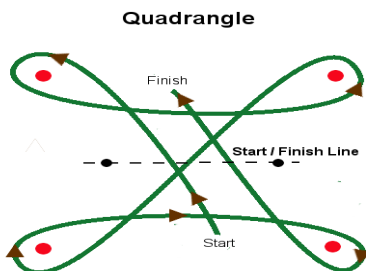
To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, country pleasure trot and extended trot. To stand quietly and to rein back. To be judged 60% on performance, manners and way of going, 30% on condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle and 10% on neatness, appropriateness of attire and overall impression. Over-checks and side-checks should be slightly loose, not snug. The head set should appear natural for the horse. Excessive knee action and speed to be penalized.

REINSMANSHIP

To be judged on driver's ability to control equine. No rail work is required. The judge shall ask each driver to execute an appropriate test or individual pattern.

OPEN DRIVING QUADRANGLES

Entries shown individually. Entire course must be at a trot. There is a 10 second penalty for cantering. Time starts when you cross the start/finish line. You make a left turn around each upper cone, go back through the center, make a right turn around each bottom cone. Go back through the center and cross the start/finish line to stop your time. Going off pattern is a disqualification. No penalty for knocking over cones. An equine can only be shown by one exhibitor. Pattern:



ROADSTER

Entries enter the ring to the LEFT (clockwise) at a jog-trot, show both ways at a jog-trot and road gait; and only the second way of the ring "at speed". Entries not to walk. Entries not to back up. To be judged 100% on performance. Class to be called as follows: enter at a jog-trot, then show at road-gait, down to the jog-trot and reversed (at the jog-trot), then road-gait and then entries are asked to go "at speed". Entries to show in a 2 wheeled bike w/stable colors. Entries NOT required to stand for long period of time in line up. Circling is allowed in line up, before/after judge has inspected each individual entry (in line up).

Open Driving Cloverleaf Race

Entries shown individually at a pace no faster than a trot, performing the Cloverleaf pattern around barrels/cones, and timed. Time starts/ends when you cross the start/finish line. 10 second penalty for each incident of cantering and/or knocking down barrel/cone(s). An equine can only be shown by one exhibitor.

IN HAND, MODEL, FITTING & SHOWMANSHIP, COLOR CLASSES

FITTING & SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

18 years & older, 14-17 years, 13 years & under, Academy, Leadline ,Very Small Equine (points on exhibitor)

Class Procedure: Enter and exit ring at judge's discretion. Exhibitors must lead from the near side. Horses may be posed according to breed or type. Exhibitors will be asked to work individually at the judge's direction. Exhibitors may cross the center-line of the horse. Patterns may be used, and must be posted at least 30 minutes before the class.

Entries judge on: Appearance of Equine - condition, grooming, trimming/braiding, tack; Appearance of Exhibitor; Showing of Equine - leading, posing, individual performance, training, exhibitors poise, alertness and attitude. See Attire/Tack section for specifications. Conformation not to count.

Note: Leadline Showmanship exhibitors must be no younger than 5 years old, and not older than 8 years old. To be accompanied by a competent exhibitor 14 years or older, who shall also have a separate lead attached to halter. Leadline Showmanship exhibitors may not cross enter into any other showmanship class.

IN HAND (non-obstacle classes)

Class Procedure: horse/pony will walk to the judge one at a time. As the horse/pony approaches, the judge will step to his/her right (left of the horse/pony) to enable the entry to trot straight to a cone placed 50 feet away. At the cone the entry will continue trotting, turn to the left and trot towards the wall or fence of the arena. After trotting the entries will be lined up head to tail for individual inspection by the judge. The judge shall inspect each entry from both sides, front and rear. To be judged on conformation, quality, substance, soundness and manners. Rating conformation depends upon objective valuation of balance, structural correctness, breed and sex characteristics. Only one handler allowed.

Driving Type In Hand - judged as stated above, but with the additional emphasis on suitability as an ideal driving equine.

MODEL CLASSES

Class Procedure: Enter the ring at a walk, leading on the near side and line up head to tail at the direction of the ring-steward or judge. Entries to be posed according to breed or type. Exhibitors may cross the center-line of entry.

Entries to be judge on: conformation, type, quality and over all condition.

SOLID COLOR IN HAND – H/P/M

Class to be held outside, in natural light, except in cases of inclement weather. Class Procedure: Enter the ring collectively at a walk. Continue to walk in a large circle. Entries to reverse and walk both directions. Stop and stand at judges direction. Judged 100% on the natural coloring of the equine. No other factors are to be considered. Entries must have solid body color. Roans are considered solid colored. White markings on face and legs (below the knee/hock) permitted. Open to horses, ponies and miniature horses.

MULTI-COLOR IN HAND – H/P/M

Class to be held outside, in natural light, except in cases of inclement weather. Class Procedure: Enter the ring collectively at a walk. Continue to walk in a large circle. Entries to reverse and walk both directions. Stop and stand at judges direction. Judged 100% on the natural coloring of the equine. No other factors are to be considered. Entries are to be of multi-color, such as those with white above the knees/hocks, those with pinto, paint or appaloosa coat color characteristics, with the exception of facial markings. Open to horses, ponies and miniature horses.

ENGLISH / HUNTER

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION -WALK, TROT, CANTER (3-Gait)

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown at a flat footed four beat walk, two beat trot and three beat canter both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. Exhibitors may reverse towards or away from the rail. Additional testing at judge's discretion. If the judge decides to call for a pattern it must be announced during the class, or posted (if known ahead of time) or may have riders perform one or more specific test(s). Riders will be judged on seat, hands, performance of horse, appointments, and suitability of horse to rider. Incorrect leads and/or incorrect diagonals to be severely penalized.

Suggested Equitation Tests include:

1. Back in line up.
2. Questions regarding basic tack and horsemanship.
3. Circle at the trot.
4. Figure 8 at the trot demonstrating change of diagonals.
5. Canter and halt.
6. Figure 8 at the canter demonstrating simple change of lead.
7. Figure 8 at the canter demonstrating flying change of lead.
8. Ride without stirrups/irons. or drop and pick up irons.
9. Dismount and mount.
10. Turn on forehand.
11. Change leads on line, demonstrating simple change of lead.
12. Ride serpentine course at trot demonstrating changes of diagonals.
13. Ride serpentine course demonstrating simple changes of lead.
14. Ride serpentine course demonstrating flying changes of lead.
15. Demonstrate 90 or 180 degree turn on the haunches.
16. Canter on counter lead.

EQUITATION OVER FENCES (2' or 2'3")

To be shown over a course of 6-8 fences, with at least one change of direction. To be judged on hands, seat, and ability to maneuver equine through course of fences.

EQUITATION OVER GROUND POLES WALK/TROT

To be shown over at least 6-8 ground poles, with at least one change of direction. To be judged on hands, seat, and ability to maneuver equine through course of ground poles. Course to be shown at a trot, break into canter penalized.

EQUITATION OVER CROSSRAILS

To be shown over at least 6-8 fences not to exceed 18", with at least one change of direction. To be judged on hands, seat, and ability to maneuver equine through course of fences.

ENGLISH PLEASURE/HUNTER PLEASURE - (English Pleasure is open to Hunt Seat & Saddle Seat combined)

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Loose rein upon command. (An extended (road) trot may be asked for in Saddle Seat Pleasure). Additional testing at judges discretion. May be asked to back. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and suitability to purpose. Performance 80%, conformation 20%

ENGLISH ROAD HACK/HUNTER ROAD HACK

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown on a reasonably loose rein without loss of contact both ways of the ring at a flat-footed walk, trot, road-trot, and canter. To be asked to hand gallop at least one way of the ring; judge may split the class for the hand gallop at his/her discretion. Excessive speed at the hand gallop shall be penalized. To stand quietly and may be asked to back. To be judged on performance, substance, and manners.

BRIDLE PATH HACK

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. Open to hunter type only. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Entries must hand gallop one way of the ring. Judge's discretion to split the class for hand gallop. Entries should stand quietly and may be asked to back. May be asked to mount and dismount. Emphasis placed on actual suitability to purpose. No fences. Judged 80% on performance, 20% conformation.

HUNTER HACK HORSE/PONY

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. The Hunter Hack horse or pony should move in the same style as a working hunter. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. May be asked to hand gallop one way of the ring and/or after jumping, individually. It is the judge's discretion to split the class for hand gallop. Entrants are required to jump two (2) fences of standard white rails or rustic (natural) rails, 2' (or 2 '3") in height with ground lines and set 36' or 48' apart. To be scored as in working hunter as follows: fences 60%, performance 40%. No martingales permitted.

HUNTER HACK CROSSRAILS HORSE/PONY

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. The Hunter Hack horse or pony should move in the same style as a working hunter. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. May be asked to hand gallop one way of the ring and/or after jumping, individually. It is the judge's discretion to split the class for hand gallop. To jump two cross rails not to exceed 18" and set at a distance of at least 36' or 48' apart. To be judged 60% on jumping ability and 40% on rail performance. No martingales are permitted.

HUNTER HACK W/T GROUND POLES HORSE/PONY

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. The Hunter Hack horse or pony should move in the same style as a working hunter. To be shown at a walk and trot both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. May be asked to extend the trot one way of the ring and/or after jumping, individually. To trot over 2 ground poles and set at a distance of at least 36' or 48' apart. To be judged 60% on jumping ability and 40% on rail performance. No martingales are permitted.

HUNTER PLEASURE

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. Open to all hunter type equines ordinarily used for pleasure purposes. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, presence, substance and soundness.

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE (on the flat)

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. Open to hunter type equines shown under hunt seat tack/attire. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. May be asked for extensions at any gait. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. Equines to be alert, obedient, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. Entries to stand quietly and may be asked to back. Emphasis placed on actual suitability to purpose. To be judged 80% on manners, performance, quality, presence, substance and soundness, 20% conformation.

HUNTER OVER FENCES / HUNTER (OVER) CROSS-RAILS

Open to hunter type equines shown under hunt seat tack/attire over a course of 6 to 8 fences, with natural fences preferred. A ground line is recommended for all fences. A minimum of 24 feet between fences is allowed, however 36, 48, 60 or 72 feet is preferable. Judges are responsible for correctness of each course after it is set and shall call to the show committee's attention of any errors that would tend to result in unfair or inappropriate courses. Course must have at least one change of direction. Hunter Over Fences course jumps heights to be specified on course posted. Hunter Cross-Rails jump heights not to exceed 18".

To be judged on even hunting pace, manners, jumping style, together with faults and moving over the course as well as when being jogged for soundness. In case of broken equipment, the rider may either continue without penalty or stop and correct the difficulty, in which case he/she will be penalized 3 faults, which will be non-cumulative. In case of loss of shoe, rider may continue without penalty or be eliminated, at the discretion of the rider.

HUNTER WALK/TROT (OVER) GROUND POLES

Open to hunter type equines shown under hunt seat tack/attire over a course of 4 to 6 ground poles **at a trot**.. A minimum of 24 feet between poles is allowed, however 36, 48, 60 or 72 feet is preferable. Judges are responsible for correctness of each course after it is set and shall call to the show committee's attention of any errors that would tend to result in unfair or inappropriate courses. Cross-entering from walk trot ground poles to over fences is prohibited.

To be judged on even hunting pace, manners, jumping style, together with faults and moving over the course as well as when being jogged for soundness. In case of broken equipment, the rider may either continue without penalty or stop and correct the difficulty, in which case he/she will be penalized 3 faults, which will be non-cumulative. In case of loss of shoe, rider may continue without penalty or be eliminated, at the discretion of the rider.

WORKING HUNTER OVER FENCES/ WORKING HUNTER (OVER) CROSS-RAILS

Judged 100% on performance. May be jogged for soundness.

HANDY HUNTER (OVER FENCES) / HANDY HUNTER (OVER) CROSS-RAILS

Jumps should simulate those found in trappy hunting country. Judged same as Hunter Over Fences (see above). Handy Hunter Over Fences course jumps heights to be specified on course posted. Handy Hunter Cross-Rails jump heights to be specified on course posted.

ENGLISH / SADDLE SEAT

*Any "English" class is open to all styles of English riding, such as hunt seat, saddle seat, balanced seat, etc.

SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION - WALK, TROT, CANTER (3-Gait)

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. Exhibitors may reverse towards or away from the rail. Additional testing at judge's discretion. If the judge decides to call for a pattern it must be announced during the class, or posted (if known ahead of time) or may have riders perform one or more specific test(s). Riders will be judged on seat, hands, performance of horse, appointments, and suitability of horse to rider. Incorrect leads and/or diagonals to be severely penalized.

Suggested Equitation Tests include:

1. Pick up reins in line up only. (Address reins)
2. Circle at a trot.
3. Questions regarding basic tack and horsemanship.
4. Drop and pick up irons in line up only.
5. Change of diagonals down center line or on rail.
6. Figure 8 at the trot demonstrating change of diagonals.
7. Back for not more than 8 steps.
8. Execute serpentine at trot demonstrating changes of diagonals.
9. Circle at canter on correct lead.
10. Figure 8 at the canter demonstrating simple change of lead.
11. Execute serpentine at canter demonstrating simple change of leads.
12. Change leads down center or line, demonstrating simple change of leads.
13. Ride without stirrups/irons for a short time, pick up irons at the walk or a halt.

ENGLISH PLEASURE/ SADDLE SEAT PLEASURE (English Pleasure is open to Hunt Seat & Saddle Seat combined)

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Loose rein upon command. (An extended (road) trot may be asked for in Saddle Seat Pleasure). Additional testing at judges discretion. May be asked to back. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and suitability to purpose. Performance 80%, conformation 20%.

ENGLISH ROAD HACK/SADDLE SEAT ROAD HACK

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown on a reasonably loose rein without loss of contact both ways of the ring at a flat-footed walk, trot, road-trot, and canter. To be asked to hand gallop at least one way of the ring; judge may split the class for the hand gallop at his/her discretion. Excessive speed at the hand gallop shall be penalized. To stand quietly and may be asked to back. To be judged on performance, substance, and manners.

THREE-GAITED SADDLE SEAT PLEASURE

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, trot and canter. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and suitability to rider. Loose rein on command. Entries to stand quietly and may be asked to back. Performance 80%, conformation 20%.

THREE-GAITED TRIMMED & UNTRIMMED

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. Entries to be shown both ways of the ring at an animated walk, trot and canter only. Preference shown to horses with high action. To be judged on performance and quality. Performance 80%, conformation 20%.

PARK TYPE SADDLE (HORSE/PONY)

To enter the ring to the right, at a trot. Entries to be shown at a graceful and animated walk, collected trot and canter only, both ways of the ring. Light contact with mouth must be maintained. To be judged on manners, style, finish and all around brilliance. Performance 80%, conformation 20%.

FIVE & UNDER HORSE/PONY DIVISION

All classes titled "Five & Under" are limited to horses/ponies which are 5 years old and under. See DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS elsewhere in this rulebook for more details.

GREEN HORSE/PONY DIVISION

All classes titled "Green" are limited to horses/ponies 3 years old or older and in their first or second year of showing at the canter/lope to be shown in this division. This is a 3-gait division. Cross-entry into other 3-gait classes is allowed. See DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS elsewhere in this rulebook for more details.

JACK BENNY DIVISION

All classes titled "Jack Benny" are limited exhibitors 39 years of age and older. Mount to be at least 3 years old. Jack Benny classes may be 2-gaited or 3-gaited. Cross-entry from Jack Benny 2-gait to Jack Benny 3-gait classes is allowed at same show. See DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS elsewhere in this rulebook for more details.

LEADLINE DIVISION

LEADLINE FITTING & SHOWMANSHIP - Exhibitors 5-8 years of age.

To be led by a competent leader Leadline Showmanship exhibitors must be no younger than 5 years old, and not older than 8 years old. To be accompanied by a competent exhibitor 14 years or older, who shall also have a separate lead attached to halter. Leadline Showmanship exhibitors may not cross enter into any other showmanship class. To be judged under the same specifications as standard Fitting & Showmanship classes. Patterns are not required.

LEADLINE EQUITATION - Riders 3-8 years of age.

To be led by a competent leader, 14 years of age or older with lead attached to a halter (not a bridle) in all seats. To enter the ring to the right, at a walk. To be shown at a walk. The judge may ask for a trot/jog, which must be worked individually. Riders NOT to be asked to back. To be judged on the ability and presence of the rider, seat, hands and ability to control mount.

LEADLINE PLEASURE - Riders 3-8 years of age.

To be led by a competent leader, 14 years of age or older with lead attached to a halter (not a bridle) in all seats. To enter the ring to the right, at a walk. To be shown at a walk. The judge may ask for a trot/jog, which must be worked individually. Riders NOT to be asked to back. To be judged on the horse/pony's ability to give the rider a safe, pleasurable ride. Controllability and safety of mount should be of the utmost importance.

LEADLINE TRAIL - Riders 3-8 years of age.

To be led by a competent leader, 14 years of age or older with lead attached to a halter (not a bridle) in all seats. Must be held in a closed ring with no more than four (4) obstacles. Acceptable obstacles are: Serpentine or Figure-8 around cones' walk through line of cones, stop, reverse and walk to another cone; walk over ground poles; step into a box made of poles and make a 360 degree turn; stop at judge to answer questions. NO trotting or backing through or over obstacles. May trot between obstacles. May be asked to back at handler's discretion.

RESCUED EQUINES DIVISION

Purpose of this division is to reward exhibitors for taking the time to give equines a second chance to thrive and to shed light on the need of formerly unwanted equines. Entries **may cross enter** into any other halter class, riding classes (including walk/trot/canter classes), and driving classes or any other class if eligible, without penalty if qualified at this show. See DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS elsewhere in this rule book for more details. All classes designated as "RESCUE" in the class title refer to this division and year-end points can be earned in this division.

Open to horses, ponies, mules and donkeys who have been adopted from rescue organizations, purchased from kill buyers to prevent from going to slaughter, former race horses starting a 2nd career or similar situations. Entries must be able to show proof they are qualified to the satisfaction of show management at the time of entry. Examples: copy of adoption paperwork, reclassification of registration papers (Ex. non-racing registration papers for standardbreds), bill of sale from Moore's Equine Rescue (kill buyer), etc.

RESCUED EQUINE MODEL

Entries must meet specifications for Rescued Equine Division to be eligible as noted above. Class specifications same as Model. Class Procedure: Enter the ring at a walk, leading on the near side and line up head to tail at the direction of the ring-steward or judge. Entries to be posed according to breed or type. Exhibitors may cross the center-line of entry. Entries to be judge on: conformation, type, quality and over all condition. Please see In Hand/Model section of this rule book for an additional information.

RESCUED EQUINE PLEASURE UNDER SADDLE

Entries must meet specifications for Rescued Equine Division to be eligible as noted above. To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk and trot/jog/alternate gait. To be judged on the ability to give a nice pleasure ride, with manners being paramount. Entries may be shown without penalty in any type of saddle and bridle; bridle does not have to be the same style as saddle, but exhibitors attire must match seat shown. Although it is not preferred, exhibitors may use two hands on a shank bit without being disqualified in this class only. Example: a former Standardbred race horse may be shown in a snaffle English bridle with two hands and the ride uses a western saddle and is attired in western riding attire. Protective boots, bandages, etc. are optional.

RESCUED EQUINE PLEASURE DRIVING

Entries must meet specifications for Rescued Equine Division to be eligible as noted above. To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk and trot/jog/alternate gait. To be judged on the ability to give a nice pleasure drive, with manners being paramount. Refer to Driving Attire/Tack for appointments. Protective boots, bandages, etc. are optional.

STARTER HORSE/PONY DIVISION

All classes titled "STARTER" or "STARTER Horse/Pony". Horses/ponies must be 2 years old or older to be shown in this division. Starter division entries do not canter and may not enter any canter classes at any competition or exhibition. Equines may enter this division for as long as they do not canter or lope at any competition or exhibition. They are allowed to cross-enter into any other walk-trot/jog class. See DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS elsewhere in this rulebook for more details.

WESTERN/STOCK SEAT

WESTERN EQUITATION (HORSEMANSHIP) -WALK, TROT/JOG, CANTER/LOPE (3-Gait)

To be shown at a flat footed four beat walk, two beat jog and three beat lope both ways of the ring. May be asked to back. Exhibitors may reverse towards or away from the rail. Additional testing at judge's discretion. If the judge decides to call for a pattern it must be announced during the class, or posted (if known ahead of time) or may have riders perform one or more specific test(s). Riders will be judged on seat, hands, performance of horse, appointments, and suitability of horse to rider. Incorrect leads to be severely penalized. Suggested Equitation Tests include:

1. Back in line up.
2. Questions regarding basic tack and horsemanship.
3. Circle at the jog.
4. Figure 8 at the jog.
5. Lope and stop
6. Figure 8 at the lope demonstrating simple change of lead.
7. Figure 8 at the lope demonstrating flying change of lead.
8. Change leads down center, demonstrating simple change of lead.
9. Ride serpentine course demonstrating simple changes of lead.
10. Ride serpentine course demonstrating flying changes of lead.
11. Demonstrate 180 degree turn on the haunches.
12. Demonstrate 360 degree turn on the haunches.

WESTERN PLEASURE

To be shown at a flat foot walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint. Judge may ask for extended gaits. Entries shall be penalized for wrong leads, tail ringing, excessive speed. Four (4) beat lope is disqualification. Emphasis is to be placed on the walk and ability to give a good pleasure ride. May be asked to back at judge's discretion. Judged on performance 80%; conformation 20%.

WESTERN ROAD HACK

To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, jog, extended jog, and lope with ability to move on if required. Horses must hand gallop one way of the ring. May be asked to back. To be judged 80% on performance, substance, and manners and 20% on conformation. Class may be split a judge's discretion for hand gallop.

BOSAL PLEASURE

Open to equines of any age. To be shown at a flat foot walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint. Judge may ask for extended gaits. Entries shall be penalized for wrong leads, tail ringing, excessive speed. Four (4) beat lope is disqualification. Emphasis is to be placed on the walk and ability to give a good pleasure ride. May be asked to back at judge's discretion. Judged on performance 80%; conformation 20%.

WESTERN RIDING

Entries to be worked on course posted. Reasonable speed, ease of handling and changing leads throughout the pattern will be judged. Failure to follow exact course is cause for disqualification. Failure to maintain gait will be severely penalized. Judged 100% on performance.

WESTERN REINING

Entries to be worked on course posted. Reasonable speed, smoothness of performance, execution of each routine will be judged. Failure to follow exact course is cause for disqualification. Judge may request riders to drop bridle to inspect bit. Judged 100% on performance.

WORKING STOCK

Entries to be worked on course posted. To be judged on smoothness, finesse, attitude and control. Failure to follow exact course is cause for disqualification. Judge may request riders to drop bridle to inspect bit. Judged 100% on performance.

WESTERN RANCH PLEASURE

The ideal western ranch pleasure entry should be presented in a more forward-moving style than the typical western pleasure show horse, being able to cover long distances, softly and quietly like that of a working ranch horse at all gaits. Entries to be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, jog and lope. Extensions of any gait and/or additional testing at the judges request. If extensions are requested, exhibitors may rise in the saddle but are not allowed to post. To be shown in good working tack with appropriate western attire. Attire/tack with silver or excessive bling, banding of manes and use of false tails are discouraged and may be faulted.

WALK, TROT/JOG

Open to Walk Trot Riders only. May not cross enter into any canter class. Points go towards respective division. See page 14 for WALK/TROT DEFINITION OF AGE GROUPS/DIVISIONS/LIMITATIONS

WALK, TROT/JOG EQUITATION (2-Gait)

To be shown at a walk, trot/jog both ways of the ring. An extended trot/jog maybe asked for. May be asked to back. Additional testing at judge's discretion. If the judge decides to call for a pattern it must be announced during the class, or posted (if known ahead of time). Riders will be judged on seat, hands, performance of horse, appointments, and suitability of horse to rider. Incorrect diagonals for English riders to be penalized.

WALK/TROT PLEASURE (2-Gait)

To be shown at a walk, trot/jog both ways of the ring. An extended trot/jog maybe asked for. May be asked to back. Additional testing at judge's discretion. To be judged on manners, performance and suitability of a pleasure mount. Controllability should be of utmost importance.

WALK/TROT ROAD HACK

To be shown both ways of the ring at a walk, trot/jog and extended trot/jog. Will be asked to back and to stand quietly. To be judge on performance, substance and manners.

TRAIL / IN HAND OBSTACLE & JUMPING/ INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES

IN HAND HUNTER OVER FENCES

To be shown over a course of 6 to 8 fences with a minimum height of 18" and a maximum of 24". Distance between fences a minimum of 16 feet, and for In/Out fences a distance of 12 feet. Judged on style, manner and way of going with preference giving to those horses that cover the course of an even pace with a free-flowing stride, as in a brisk trot or canter, but must maintain the same gate throughout the course. Circling upon entering and leaving is permissible. Charging fences, or not maintaining the same gate the entire course shall be penalized. Jumps must be a minimum of 18 inches. The type of the exhibitor footwear may include athletic shoes. Major faults to be considered are: knockdowns, touched fences, refusal, bucking or kicking, spooking or shying, showing obstacle to the horse, and/or wringing of tail. Cause for elimination: three refusals, off course, crossing your own path, fall of the horse or exhibitor, jumping the obstacle by the exhibitor, or an unsound horse. An equine can only be shown by one exhibitor.

IN HAND JUMPER OVER FENCES

To be shown over a course of 6 to 8 fences with a minimum height of 18" and a maximum of 28". Distance between fences a minimum of 16 feet, and for In/Out fences a distance of 12 feet. This class to be time to by a stopwatch and the entry with the fastest time and fewest faults will be declared the winner. If more than one entry goes clean, the fastest time wins. Should there be a tie, a jump off will occur with those who tied with a clean around. Scoring for faults: knockdown, refusals, 3 faults. Causes for elimination 3 refusals, off course, crossing your own path, fall of the horse or the exhibitor, jumping of a jump by the exhibitor, or failure to pass the start or finish line. Exhibitor footwear may include athletic shoes. Jump-off(s) are to occur for the first place between entries that are tied. The jump off will be held over the original course with at least one jump raised. Final determination is the combination of the least faults and fastest time of the jump off. An equine can only be shown by one exhibitor.

LIBERTY (Horse/Pony/Miniature Horse)

Liberty is to demonstrate the natural beauty of the equine. Judged on style, grace, animation, gaits, presence, music suitability and ease of catching. Judging commences when the halter is removed by the exhibitor (person wearing the number) and until caught by the same exhibitor. (Helper may not catch equine). Time shall be 1.5 minutes for performance, 2 minutes for "catching". Failure to provide music, pushing the equine away when halter is removed, touching the equine during the performance with aids or hands, baiting at any point (including during catching) by either the exhibitor or helper or failure to catch within the 2 minute catch period will result in disqualification. No assistance from outside the arena will be permitted. It is suggested that shows announce this before the class is in session.

OBSTACLE IN HAND

To be judged on performance and way of going with emphasis on manners throughout the course. To be evaluated on responsiveness, willingness and general attitude. Suggested obstacles include the same in Trail classes with ingenuity and originality in adapting and combining various obstacles are encouraged. Obstacles must be designed with safety of exhibitors and equines in mind. Any obstacle that is a step over, or jump may not exceed one (1) foot in height. Touching entry and/or baiting is a disqualification.

OBSTACLE DRIVING

To be judged under the same general concept as a ridden trail class, but exhibitors must not be required to drive over logs or cavaletti's, open gates or perform any other task deemed potentially hazardous to horse or vehicle. Entries may be required to walk and/or trot only. A break into a canter of more than 3 strides shall be penalized. Three refusals will cause elimination from an obstacle. This class is not to be timed.

TIMED OBSTACLE DRIVING

A separate timed obstacle class, utilizing cones and balls only, and run in accordance with American Driving Society rules as a guideline.

TRAIL - WALK, TROT/JOG, CANTER/LOPE (3-Gait)

A good trail horse should be a good pleasure horse with the ability to navigate obstacles normally encountered along a trail. Entrant to be judged on their performance over and through a minimum of 5 obstacles. with emphasis on manners, response to the rider and attitude. Suggested obstacles include: (1) Gate: the rider will open and close the gate and the horse/rider must pass through without losing control; handle of the gate should be approximately 48" from the ground. (2) ride over poles, logs, water hazard (with no slick bottom), and/or brush on the ground (these can be in a straight line, curved or zigzagged); and (3) back through an obstacle. The additional obstacles may include carrying an obstacle from one place to another, side-passing, remove and replace material from a mailbox, ground tying, cross over a wooden bridge at least 3' x 6', to put on and remove a rain slicker, mount or dismount from either side of horse and perform over any natural conditions encountered along a trail. Trail class jumps are limited to 18" in height. Unacceptable obstacles would be tires, animals, hides, jumps, flames, dry ice and fire extinguishers. Course should include a walk, trot/jog, and canter/lope, if sufficient space is available. It is not required that the course be held in a ring.

TRAIL - WALK, TROT/JOG, (2-Gait)

Class specifications same as Trail 3-Gait, except it is suggested that the course does not include a gait or jump. Course should be designed with walk/trot riders abilities in mind, with safety paramount.

GYMKHANA EVENTS

General Gymkhana rules - regardless of division shown

1. Sunshine Horse Show Series welcomes our Gymkhana Exhibitors! We encourage the gymkhana exhibitors to stay over and participate in the horse shows!
2. Any dispute that may arise, show management decision is final.
3. Entries must meet the Gymkhana Attire/Tack requirements (see pages 9-12). *Please note* "Sunshine Show Series" T-shirts are optional attire, see website www.ssshowseries.com to order.
4. Entries must meet health requirements for said show (current coggins & proof of rabies).
5. Entries must have exhibitor number on riders' back or on both sides of saddle pad upon entering the ring. If number is on only one side of saddle pad, this will result in a disqualification.
6. Event host reserves the right to refuse any entry who has shown an objectionable attitude towards the Sunshine Show Series or previous unsportsmanship like behavior at the current show, other shows, or its management. Any entry refused by the show/gymkhana will forfeit any fees paid. There will be no refunds.
7. Gate will be closed upon entry entering the ring and will not be opened until the rider has completed the course.
8. Age or exhibitor/equine as of January 1 of current year.
9. Equine must be at least 3 years old.
10. **Stallions** if exhibited in Gymkhana's must be at least 3 years old and **can only be** shown by an exhibitor 18 years old or over.
11. No equine may be entered more than once in any class but horse/pony can be entered in more than one division.
Example: a horse can be entered in Junior Barrel Race and also entered in Senior barrel race.
In Leadline and Walk/Trot classes horse may be used no more than twice in a class – for example a family may have 2 children in leadline, so the horse can be used twice in that class/division; once per child.
12. Exhibitors may ride more than one horse in a class/division, but each horse/rider combination must have a separate entry and exhibitor number.
13. Same equine can be ridden in different classes/divisions with different exhibitors and they must have a different back number.
14. Leadline Gymkhana Division – riders 3-8 years old. Halter and bridle required. Lead must be attached to halter. Must be led by person 14 years or older. Spotter required for 3 & 4 year old exhibitors. No cantering allowed. May only compete in Leadline Division. Helmet required (see Gymkhana Attire requirements).
15. Walk/Trot Gymkhana Division – rider any age. No cantering. Canter more than 3 strides will be disqualified. Rider May only compete in the walk/trot gymkhana division. Helmet required (see Gymkhana Attire requirements).
16. Green Division – horses may not be shown in another division. Rider may ride another horse in Junior or Senior divisions. (see Gymkhana Attire requirements).
17. Junior Gymkhana Division – Riders 17 years & Under. May only compete in Junior Gymkhana and non-pointed gymkhana divisions, if age eligible. Helmet required (see Gymkhana Attire requirements).
18. Senior Gymkhana Division – Riders 18 years & Over. May only compete in Senior Gymkhana division and Open Gymkhana divisions.
19. Events/Shows – all exhibitors subject to paying timer fee, office fee, stabling fee or other fees as required by the host Event/Show.
20. Year End Awards – offered as listed on current Year End Nomination form.
21. Please see Gymkhana Attire/Tack requirements. A standing martingale or tie-down is permitted. An English or Western saddle must be used. The saddle must correspond to the bridle. Any standard or western bit, hackamore or noseband may be used. The method of holding the reins is optional. Bats, crops, quirt no longer than 24" and over/under are allowed, but may not be used forward of the cinch/girth.
22. All youth must wear a helmet meeting or exceeding ASTM F1163 (Safety Equipment Institute Certified) Equestrian Standard per NY State Law No. VAT1265. We encourage the use of ASTM/SEI helmets by all participants, regardless of age.

Disqualification

1. Failure to comply with rules of the Sunshine Horse Show Series.
2. Failure to meet Attire or Tack requirements for this division.
3. Exhibiting an equine younger than 3 years old.
4. Failure to wear exhibitor number on back or failure to have number on both sides of saddle pad.
5. Canter in Gymkhana leadline events(s).
6. Lead not attached to halter in Gymkhana Leadline event(s).
7. Canter more than 3 strides in walk/trot gymkhana division event(s) **may be** disqualified.
8. Going off pattern.
9. Starting before timer/course is set.

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