

## Judge's Criteria

1. No Main Ring Judge shall judge more than one RFSC show per series, per year.
2. A Judge shall not converse with owners, trainers, or exhibitors, nor discuss any horse entered in the show prior to judging.
3. A Judge may not judge a horse owned or exhibited by any member of his/her immediate family (daughter, son, spouse, mother, father, or sibling).
4. A Judge may not judge any horse that he/she has owned, trained, or managed in any capacity within the previous three months.
5. A Judge shall exhibit professionalism in attire and conduct.
6. All complaints regarding judges should be forwarded to the Protest Committee for review and possible action by the RFSC Board.
7. It is the responsibility of the Show Committee to make the judge aware of all judging criteria.
8. A Judge shall not consume alcoholic beverages during a show he/she is judging.
9. A Judge shall know all RFSC rules and shall have a copy of the rulebook in his/her possession.
10. The Judge shall position him/herself properly to fairly evaluate each event. Please ask Show Committee for special requirements.
11. The Judge must remain in the arena for the duration of each class.
12. All Main Ring judges shall hold a valid judges card.
13. Judges are encouraged to provide riders with comments.
14. Main Ring Judges are to provide RFSC with class patterns: Showmanship (all series), Equitation and Horsemanship (Casual Pleasure Series), Sweepstakes (Casual Series).
15. Trail Judges are to provide RFSC with class patterns – *as needed*. RFSC has a bridge, cones, poles, and a tire for creating the wagon wheel pattern, rope gate, paper box, and barrels. Please advise Show Committee of any other needs for the trail pattern at least a week in advance.

## RED FLANNEL SADDLE CLUB RULES

1. All officers of RFSC are non-paid members of RFSC. If a Current Non-Member would like to run for an office they may, however they must sign up as a Member and meet the criteria called out in the RFSC By-Laws.
2. The Protest Committee delegates are members of the Executive Board and as such shall be elected and assigned to the Committee. The Executive Board consists of all elected positions: President, Vice President #1, Vice President #2, Secretary, Treasurer, and four Board Members.
3. All rule book suggestions/rule changes must be submitted before the final horse show of the season. Changes/Suggestions will be compiled and printed. If possible they will be posted on the RFSC website. Changes will be voted on at the Awards Banquet/Annual Meeting and will become effective immediately. A suggestion/rule change box will be at all RFSC shows.
4. The Teddy Bear Show on the last Saturday of April is the beginning of the show year. The show year will end no later than the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in October.
5. All Pleasure/Fun shows begin at 8:30 AM. Gymkhana Classes will not begin before @ 2 PM.
6. All Speed shows begin at 9 AM.
7. No Refunds for scratched or missed classes.
8. Insufficient check fee - \$30 plus the amount owed on the check. To be paid in cash, cashier check, or money order. If a Member, rider will not accumulate points until issue is cleared up. Rider will be on cash only basis for rest of the show season.
9. All regular Pleasure and Fun Series classes will be awarded a ribbon to 6 places.
10. Sweepstakes classes are an 80% payback class paid to the horse and will be placed to 3 places. Division of the purse is 60% to 1<sup>st</sup>, 30% to 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 10% to 3<sup>rd</sup>. No trophies or ribbons will be handed out. Points will not count in any sweepstakes class. There must be 5 entries in the sweepstakes classes or they will be canceled. Refunds will be given in the event of sweepstakes cancellation.
11. Contesting/speed class participants will be awarded a ribbon to 6 places.
12. Contesting payback class will be Cloverleaf.

13. Contesting payback classes are an 80% payback class paid to the horse. Division of the purse is 60% to 1<sup>st</sup>, 30% to 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 10% to 3<sup>rd</sup>. No trophies or ribbons will be handed out. Point will not count in any payback class. There must be 5 entries in the payback classes or they will be canceled. Refunds will be given in the event of payback cancellation.
14. Only paid members in good standing will collect RFSC points. The membership fee is \$20.00 per individual and \$40.00 per family. **Point accumulation begins upon date of payment of membership fee and is not retroactive.** SEE RFSC BY-LAWS FOR MORE DETAILS.
15. Age of rider will be determined as of January 1 of the current year.
16. Points will be awarded in all classes as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> – 6 points	4 <sup>th</sup> – 3 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 points	5 <sup>th</sup> – 2 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 points	6 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point
17. All year-end points are based on a one horse/one rider team for Pleasure or Speed series/shows (See It's A Red Thing Fun Series). In the event of a death or lameness of their horse, a member in good standing may continue accumulating points with a new horse. A certified Veterinary Certificate is required in the event of death or lameness. There shall be 1 switch over only. Once you have shown the required certificate and switched horses you may NOT switch horses again. No other substitutions will be allowed and proof of the member's horse's death must be presented to the board. Certificate must be provided before the next show or if it's the last show, within one week.
18. Points will be awarded on qualified first-time rides only. If all riders disqualify, the event will not be rerun.
19. Casual Pleasure Series: A member must show in 3 of the 4 shows to qualify for Year-End awards in that series. Age divisions: 35 & Over, 19-34, 14-18, 13 & Under, Pony, W/T 15 & Under, W/T 16 & Over, Lead-line. Daily high point awards will be given.
20. It's a Red Thing Fun Series: A member must show in 3 of the 4 shows to qualify for Year-End awards in that series. Age divisions: 35 & Over, 19-34, 14-18, 13 & Under, W/T 15 & Under, W/T 16 & Over, Lead-line. Daily high point awards will be given for both Pleasure and Speed. For Year-End awards – points are combined from both Pleasure and Speed. Rider may use a separate horse for pleasure versus speed. Only one horse/rider combo per division (Pleasure/Speed) will be counted towards Year-End points.
21. Speed Series: A member must show in 5 of the 6 shows to qualify for Year-End awards in that series. Age groups are 8 and under, 9-13, 14-18, 19-34, and 35 and over. Daily high point awards will be given.

22. Ties for Year-End Awards will be resolved using the following procedure: Ties will be broken in order by the number of shows attended, then by the most first places, second places, thirds, etc., until the tie is broken. If a tie remains through sixth place, both members will be awarded the higher placing, with the next lower placing remaining vacant.
23. Year End Awards – At the Award Committee’s discretion awards and/or an RFSC award check will be offered as Year-End award. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion for each of the three series by division as qualified. Additional awards by level (runner-up/3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.) as monies are available.
24. Over All High Point Award:
  - a. Rider must show in 2 out of the 3 series.
  - b. Rider must show in required amount of shows per series (3 of 4 in Casual Pleasure or It's A Red Thing Fun Series, 5 of 6 of the Speed Series).
  - c. The Teddy Bear and It's a Bling Thing shows count as individual point shows and will count towards Over All High Point Award. They are not included in any series points and cannot be used as a substitution for missed Pleasure shows.
  - d. Rider must compete in both Pleasure and Speed Events.
  - e. Rider's points can be accumulated on more than one horse as called out in the Pleasure and Speed Series rules (Each side of the It's a Red Thing Fun Series is ruled by Pleasure - AM and Speed - PM rules. See rule 20 above).
  - f. Horse/rider combination can only receive points inside one division per series (cannot show in a W/T/C and W/T and accumulate points in both. Must declare a points division).
  - g. Rider must be a member and has met membership requirements.
25. A RFSC show may be cancelled once it has begun if deemed unsafe for all. If inclement weather should occur during a show that would endanger lives, the show may be delayed for a period of approximately no more than one hour. In the event of lightning and/or thunder, the show will be stopped immediately. After approximately one hour, another decision will be made as to when the show will continue or if the show will be cancelled. There will be NO REFUNDS.
  - a. If the show cancellation takes place and over 50% of classes have been completed, the points accumulated will count towards year end.
  - b. If a cancellation occurs with less than 50% of the classes completed, the last show of the season will count as double points for any Member whom signed up at the cancelled show. Any class that was ran on the date of cancellation will not receive points for the day.
26. A fifteen minute tack change will be in the Casual Pleasure Series between Showmanship and the first English class. A thirty minute lunch break will follow English classes, before Western/Stock classes.
27. Michigan law #826A states that all equine on show grounds must have proof of a current negative Coggins or it is required to leave the grounds.

### **RINGMASTER CRITERIA**

1. The ringmaster is responsible for the activity in the ring. He/she should act as mediator between the judge and the exhibitor. He/she shall carefully refrain from discussing or appearing to discuss the horses or exhibitors with the judge. The ringmaster shall wear appropriate footwear and attire.
2. The judge must know the RFSC rulebook and must possess thorough knowledge of horses. It is the responsibility of the ringmaster to see that the judge follows the RFSC rules.

## GENERAL PLEASURE RULES

1. One judge must judge all main ring pleasure events. One judge must judge all trail events.
2. The judge's decision will be final, provided all RFSC rules have been followed.
3. All questions asked of the judge by an exhibitor must be in the presence of the ring master or other show official.
4. Judging will begin when the ringmaster states, "The class is complete" (generally after last call and final rider is in the gate).
5. In all pleasure classes, all exhibitors will show their horses in both directions of the arena at a walk, trot/jog, canter/lope, or breed equivalent gait. All horse must back before being dismissed from the ring. The entire ring should be used for all pleasure classes, except for lead-line and/or very small classes of three or less. There shall be NO patterns for Equitation and Horsemanship classes, due to time. However, there may be a run off pattern for top 6 riders in all Equitation and Horsemanship classes.
6. When asking for a false lead / counter canter, the judge must allow horses to start at least 15' in from the rail.
7. If a horse leaves the ring without permission from the ringmaster after a class is declared complete, he/she will be disqualified from the class.
8. Horses and ponies 5 years and under ridden in snaffle bits or bosals with the use of two hands on the reins by the rider, will be given equal consideration by the judge with bitted horses.
9. If a horse or rider falls, the horse and rider will be disqualified from the class.
10. Horses must be serviceably sound, sound of wind, and have at least vision in one eye. Blemishes that cause lameness are not allowed.
11. A lame horse shall not place in any judged event.
12. Inhumane or abusive treatment of a horse will result in disqualification.
13. At no time may spurs be used forward of the cinch. Excessive spurring (drawing of blood on the horse) is not permissible. Spurring is only allowed while the feet are in the stirrups. Any of the above will result in disqualification of horse and rider.
14. Exhibitors under 18 years of age will not be permitted to show stallions.

15. Announcers are not to appear to be prejudging classes by careless remarks that might be construed as influencing the judge.
16. Disqualification from a class results in forfeiture of entry fee.
17. At a RFSC show, a horse entered in judged events may be entered in the same type of class, by a different rider at the same show. (IE: Rider Mrs. Ponytail in Horsemanship 20 & Over, Rider Bonnie Ponytail in 15 & Under W/T).
18. A horse/rider combo can only earn points in one division per series, (IE: Rider JQ Ponytail on Zip in 15 & over W/T division rides pleasure but in the afternoon runs in age group 16-19 contesting classes). Points will only accumulate in the declared division – not both.
19. If horse/rider team changes age division, points earned will stay in the division they are leaving and they will start from zero in the new division.
20. The show committee may excuse any person from the show grounds for inhumane treatment of a horse. Entry fees will be forfeited.
21. Any person making himself/herself a nuisance by constant complaints or harassment of officials or judges may be denied entry to a class(es) by the show committee. Continued poor behavior may cause eviction from the show grounds. Entry fees will be forfeited.
22. Profanity of any kind will not be tolerated on the grounds. Excessive use of profanity/vulgarisms will result in disqualification, the rider will be banned from further classes in that show. One warning only will be given and further violations of this rule will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund. A second offense will result in termination of that individual's RFSC membership.
23. Casual attire is acceptable at the Casual Pleasure, Speed, and It's a Red Thing Fun Series. Formal show attire by seat is acceptable but not required. Long pants and boots are required – no riding tennis shoes. Shirts are to be appropriate – no halter tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops. RFSC T-shirts and apparel are approved attire.
24. Chaps and spurs for pleasure, horsemanship, and reining classes will be optional to the rider.
25. All horses and ponies 6 years and older must be bitted. Horses 5 years and under have the option of riding with a snaffle bit or bosal in any western class (including horsemanship). When a rider elects to use a bosal or snaffle bit, two hands on the reins are required.
26. Tie downs and martingales are prohibited in pleasure and horsemanship classes.

27. A flat chain chinstrap may be used in pleasure and horsemanship. It shall be checked periodically to insure it remains flat.
28. All straps, chains, bosals must be loose enough to insert 3 binders between the horse's jaw and the equipment.
29. Showmanship classes will be run from the gate. Patterns are posted for all of the classes. Exhibitors (one at a time) enter the ring from the warm up arena, complete the pattern and then exit the ring. There is no line up.
30. **Walk Only**, Walk/Trot Classes will be any horse or rider unable to canter.
31. Helmets must be worn at all times by any Lead-line **and Walk Only riders**.
32. Helmets are required to be worn by riders 18 & Under in English (Hunt/Saddle Seat), Bareback, and Speed/Contesting classes.
33. All dogs must be on a HELD leash at all times or tied to a truck or trailer. You are responsible to reimburse RFSC for any damage caused by your dog. No dogs are allowed in arenas or in the club house. You must clean up after your dog. One warning only will be given and further violations of these rules will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund.
34. RFSC will not be held responsible, individually or collectively, for loss or damages that occurred because of participation in these events or for any spectator personal or material damages or loss.
35. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the grounds. One warning only will be given and further violations of this rule will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund.
36. No open fires allowed on the grounds.
37. Profanity of any kind will not be tolerated on the grounds. Excessive use of profanity/vulgarisms will result in disqualification. One warning only will be given and further violations of this rule will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund.
38. Judges decisions are FINAL!

## **HALTER**

1. Horses and ponies ages are determined as of January 1 of the current year.
2. Halter is not a specific breed class. It is a traditional conformation class. Horses or ponies must be exhibited in proper tack. Western tack (no bats allowed) or English halter or bridle must be used. Chains are prohibited through the mouth. Whips are optional for English.

## SHOWMANSHIP

### Showmanship:

In judging showmanship/fitting and showing classes, judges should emphasize the exhibitor's ability to handle and show the horse and recognize breed customs.

### Tack:

- Neat, clean, and well-fitted tack is required
- Tack should complement, not detract from the horse
- Horses shown in Western are to be shown in a halter. Both leather and nylon show halters are permissible.
- Horses/ponies shown in English may be shown in either a halter or a bridle. Show halters must have a throat latch. Horses/ponies shown in a double rein bridle should have the snaffle rein laid over the withers and be handled with the curb rein. If the exhibitor wishes, the snaffle rein, bit and cheek pieces may be removed from the full bridle and the horse/pony handled only with the curb rein. The use of the chain end lead the chain under the horse's/pony's jaw or over the horse's / pony's nose is permitted for safety reasons.

### Showing the Horse:

- When the class is called the exhibitor must be ready to enter the ring in a brisk, alert manner.
- Exhibitors should ask for any instructions from the ring steward or judge
- Showmanship must be practiced from the time the exhibitor enters the ring until they exit the ring.
- Exhibitor and horse should demonstrate the ability to work calmly and quietly in the class.
- The exhibitor should lead from the left side of the horse/pony, holding the lead shank in the right hand about 8 to 12 inches from the halter. Smaller exhibitors may need a longer hold. Emphasis should be placed on light control of the horse/pony with minimum pressure on the lead shank to allow the horse/pony to hold its head naturally. A loose flopping lead strap is objectionable.
- The horse/pony should move readily and freely at a walk or trot (or second gait for gaited horses) with very little urging from the exhibitor. Those breeds which do not trot at halter, should be shown according to breed standards. The exhibitor should stay in position by the near side of the horse's / pony's neck. Preferably halfway between the horse's / pony's head and shoulder. A well-trained horse/pony will move rapidly at a gait and speed equal to the speed the exhibitor is moving.
- The horse/pony should set up quickly and squarely on all four feet (or according to breed standards).
- The exhibitor can pass between the judge and the horse/pony as the judge moves around the animals, but the exhibitor should avoid blocking the judge's view longer than the moment required to step between the horse/pony and the judge. The exhibitor should step quickly and quietly.
- The horse/pony should be trained to pose using the lead strap. Touching the horse/pony into position is prohibited. The horse/pony should move backward and forward freely, executing a full step or just a slight shifting of weight.
- Patterns should be executed as posted.

## ENGLISH EQUITATION

### **ENGLISH EQUITATION:**

POINTS: PERFORMANCE – 40% SEAT AND HANDS – 40% APPOINTMENTS – 10% SUITABILITY – 10%

Riders will be judged on hands, seat, horse handling skill and ability, appointments of the horse/pony and rider, and the suitability of horse/pony and rider. Open to all stallions, mares, ponies, and geldings suitable for English riding. Children 17 and under will not be permitted to ride stallions. Horse/pony must be serviceably sound and in good condition.

Offering of money prizes is prohibited, since rules governing international sports state a competitor accepting money prizes thereby becomes a professional. In equitation, the rider is the competitor and wins the award.

Horse or pony is to be shown under appropriate English tack. Martingales or similar tie-downs are prohibited. Attire may be casual with long pants and boots are required – no riding tennis shoes. Shirts are to be appropriate – no halter tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops. Optional: Hunt seat attire consisting of hunt jacket, shirt, choker, riding breeches, field boots, and English cap or helmet w/harness. Saddle seat attire consisting of a derby or soft hat, tie or choker, shirt, riding breeches or jodhpurs, jodhpur boots, and jacket. Spurs, gloves, and whip are optional for both seats. RFSC T-shirts and apparel are approved attire.

Light contact with the horse's/pony's mouth is required. The judge must, if asking for a false lead / counter canter, allow the horse/pony to start at least 15' in from the rail. Any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate individual test. The order to reverse may be executed either towards or away from the rail.

In all equitation classes all exhibitors will show their horse/pony both directions of the arena at a walk, trot, and canter or breed equivalent gait unless pattern is posted by the judge. All horses and ponies must back before being dismissed from the ring. If a pattern is posted the class will run only the pattern and no rail work, or the pattern, and only one way of the ring. (Time will be taken into account when determining if patterns can be used or not.)

## **ENGLISH PLEASURE/SWEEPSTAKES**

### **ENGLISH PLEASURE/SWEEPSTAKES:**

POINTS: PERFORMANCE – 70% CONFORMATION – 20% APPOINTMENTS – 10%

The horse or pony will be judged on performance and apparent ability to give a good pleasure ride with emphasis on manner and gait. Open to all stallions, geldings, ponies, and mares suitable for English riding. Children 17 and under will not be permitted to ride stallions. Horses and ponies must be serviceably sound and in good condition. Horse's/pony's trot should be square, collected, and balanced. The canter smooth and straight on both leads.

Horses/ponies are to be shown under English tack. Saddle shall be of English type with leather or web girth. Bridle shall be English bit (Pelham or snaffle), single curb, or full bridle. Double or single reins may be used with a flat conventional chain only. No martingales or tie-downs are permitted. Attire may be casual with long pants and riding boots. Optional: Hunt seat attire consisting of hunt jacket, shirt, choker, riding breeches, field boots, and English cap or helmet w/harness. Saddle seat attire consisting of a derby or soft hat, tie or choker, shirt, riding breeches or jodhpurs, jodhpur boots, and jacket. Spurs, gloves, and whip are optional for both seats. RFSC T-shirts and apparel are approved attire.

All riders are to show their horses or ponies both ways of the arena at a walk, trot, canter, or breed equivalent gait, back their horses/ponies before the judge may dismiss any horse or pony from the arena. The judge must, if asking for a false lead / counter canter, allow the horse to start at least 15' in from the rail. The order to reverse may be executed either towards or away from the rail.

All sweepstakes are paid to the horse.

## **WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP**

### **WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP:**

POINTS: PERFORMANCE – 40% SEAT AND HANDS – 40% APPOINTMENTS – 10% SUITABILITY – 10%

Riders will be judged on hands, seat, horse handling skill and ability, appointments of the horse/pony and rider, and the suitability of horse/pony and rider. Attire may be casual with long pants and boots are required – no riding tennis shoes. Shirts are to be appropriate – no halter tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops. Optional: Western attire, including hat, shirt, and boots. Tie or brooch is optional. The use of spurs is optional. The saddle must be western/stock. Tie downs, martingales, and tight nosebands are prohibited. RFSC T-shirts and apparel are approved attire.

Classes are open to all horses, ponies, stallions, mares, and geldings suitable for English riding. Children 17 and under will not be permitted to ride stallions. Horses and ponies 6 years and older must be bitted. Only one hand may be used on the reins. Junior Horses/ponies (5 years and under) may be ridden with a snaffle bit or bosal. Riders of junior horses/ponies shown with a snaffle bit or hackamore/bosal must use two hands on the reins. Split reins must be crossed. Rider's hands should be carried near the pommel and not further than 4" out on either side of the saddle horn with very limited movement.

Horses and ponies must be serviceably sound and in good condition.

Offering of money prizes is prohibited, since rules governing international sports state a competitor accepting money prizes thereby becomes a professional. In horsemanship, the rider is the competitor and wins the award.

The judge must, if asking for a false lead / counter canter, allow the horse/pony to start at least 15' in from the rail. The rider should be able to perform any maneuver request by the judge to better enable him/her to assess the rider's ability.

In all horsemanship classes all exhibitors are to show their horses or ponies both ways of the arena at a walk, jog, lope, or breed equivalent gait, back their horses or ponies before the judge may dismiss any horse or pony from the arena.

### **WESTERN PLEASURE / SWEEPSTAKES**

#### **WESTERN PLEASURE / SWEEPSTAKES**

POINTS: PERFORMANCE – 60% CONFORMATION – 15% APPOINTMENTS – 15% SUITABILITY – 10%

It is to be remembered that a pleasure horse/pony is alert, willing, and gives an easy going pleasure ride. Classes are open to horses, ponies, mares, geldings, and stallions normally used for pleasure. Children 17 and under will not be permitted to ride stallions. Horses and ponies must be serviceably sound and in good condition. Horses and ponies should be shown with a reasonably loose rein, without undue restraint. Horses and ponies will be shown at a walk, jog, lope, or breed equivalent gait both ways of the arena to demonstrate their ability with different leads, and back their horses or ponies easily and stand quietly before the judge may dismiss any exhibitors from the arena. The judge must, if asking for a false lead / counter canter/lope, allow the horse or pony to start at least 15' in from the rail. The judge may ask for added performance suitable to a pleasure horse or pony.

All horses and ponies must be bitted. The term curb bit means a bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks, and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical devices and should be considered a standard western bit. One hand will be used on the reins, and it is not to be changed. The hand is to be around the reins, index finger only between split reins is permitted. The free hand shall be to support the rider by being placed on any part of the saddle or horse. An exception is made for junior horses. They can be shown with an acceptable bosal/snaffle bit. When a horse/pony is shown with a hackamore/bosal or snaffle bit, the rider must have both hands on the reins. Split reins must be crossed. Rider's hand should be carried near the pommel and not further than 4" out on either side of the saddle horn with very limited movement.

Attire may be casual with long pants and boots are required – no riding tennis shoes. Shirts are to be appropriate – no halter tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops. Optional: Western attire, including hat, shirt, and boots. Tie or brooch is optional. The chaps, rope, use of spur, and other suitable stock equipment is optional. Tie downs, martingales, and tight nosebands are prohibited. RFSC T-shirts and apparel are approved attire.

All sweepstakes are to be paid to the horse.

## **LEAD-LINE / WALK ONLY**

### **LEAD-LINE / WALK ONLY:**

NOT TO RIDE IN ANY OTHER DIVISION AT THE SHOW.

Lead Line: Riders are evaluated but not placed (all 1<sup>st</sup>)

Walk Only: Riders will be placed to 6<sup>th</sup>.

POINTS: PERFORMANCE OF RIDER 100%

Riders will be judged on hands, seat, horse handling skill, and ability. Contestants will walk their horses or ponies both directions of half of the arena. They will reverse directions, line up and back up their horses or ponies before being dismissed from the arena. Rider's feet must be in the stirrups upon entering the arena. Rider may not enter the arena until complying with this rule. Buddy stirrups are acceptable.

Helmets are required for either seat. Attire may be casual with long pants and boots are required – no riding tennis shoes. Shirts are to be appropriate – no halter tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops. Optional: Western attire, including hat, shirt, and boots. Tie or brooch is optional. Chaps are optional. Hunt seat attire consisting of hunt jacket, shirt, choker, riding breeches, field boots, and helmet w/harness. Saddle seat attire consisting of a **helmet w/harness**, tie or choker, shirt, riding breeches or jodhpurs, jodhpur boots, and jacket.

## **WALK/TROT**

**WALK/TROT – HORSE/RIDER COMBO NOT TO RIDE IN ANY OTHER DIVISION**

English Equitation/Pleasure and Western Horsemanship/Pleasure rules will apply with the following exception: All riders are to show their horses or ponies both ways of the arena at a walk/trot or walk/jog, reverse, line up, and back their horse or ponies before the judge may dismiss any exhibitor from the arena.

## SPEED SERIES

1. Michigan law #826A states that all equine on show grounds must have proof of a current negative Coggins or it is required to leave the grounds.
2. Boots or approved riding footwear is required when riding.
3. Long pants or chaps must be worn when riding in the arenas. Western attire is encouraged; shirts and blouses must be worn when riding on the grounds. Shirts are to be appropriate – no halter tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops. RFSC T-shirts and apparel are approved attire.
4. Helmets are required for riders 18 and under. For adults, helmets are strongly encouraged.
5. No rider 18 years and under may attach themselves to their horse and/or saddle in any form (rubber bands, Velcro, resin, ties, etc.). Rider will be disqualified if found to be using anything to attach themselves to their horse and/or saddle.
6. All riders must submit a signed current year Red Flannel Saddle Club (RFSC) Risk and Liability form prior to riding in any RFSC classes.
7. Electric timers will be used. In case of timer malfunction, rider has the option to re-ride provided the first run was qualified. Penalties during the re-ride will not count provided the rider attempts a clean run as determined by the judge. If timers are inoperable, two stopwatches will be used, one on each side of the arena.
8. No re-rides will be given for any reason caused by the rider, owner, or tack.
9. If a horse or rider falls, the horse and rider will be disqualified from the class.
10. Horses must be serviceably sound, sound of wind, and have at least vision in one eye. Blemishes that cause lameness are not allowed.
11. A lame horse shall not place in any judged event.
12. Inhumane or abusive treatment of a horse will result in disqualification.
13. At no time may spurs be used forward of the cinch. Excessive spurring (drawing of blood on the horse) is not permissible. Spurring is only allowed while the feet are in the stirrups. Any of the above will result in disqualification of horse and rider.
14. Hitting the horse in the head with your hand or any used to assist in turns is not allowed. No whipping/striking the horse in front of the girth.

15. In payback classes a horse may only be ridden once. You may keep your time from the payback class and use it for the regular class of the same event, but you must inform the office prior to the regular class starting. Payback classes are paid to the horse.
16. There will be a five second penalty for each knocked down barrel/pole in any payback or regular class.
17. You are given one minute to enter the arena after you have been called in for your turn to run or you will be disqualified.
18. Daily high point awards will be given. In the event of a tie, for the award only, contestants will have a run off as a tiebreaker. Each rider in the tiebreaker will maintain his/her placing points for year-end awards. The tie breaking event will be a down and back flag type race with the contestant retrieving a flag from a barrel and returning with it across the timer line; fastest time wins the award. If both contestants decline the run-off, they may flip a coin or concede to the other.
19. You must be a Red Flannel Saddle Club member in good standing to qualify for Year-End awards. You may miss only one of the scheduled shows in the series to qualify for year-end awards.
20. Ties for Year-End Awards will be resolved using the following procedure: Ties will be broken in order by the number of shows attended, then by the most first places, second places, thirds, etc., until the tie is broken. If a tie remains through sixth place, both members will be awarded the higher placing, with the next lower placing remaining vacant.
21. A horse/rider team can only win a year-end award in one division.
22. All year-end points are based on a one horse/one rider team. In the event of a death or lameness of their horse, a member in good standing may continue accumulating points with a new horse. A certified Veterinary Certificate is required in the event of death or lameness. There shall be 1 switch over only. Once you have shown the required certificate and switched horses you may NOT switch horses again. No other substitutions will be allowed and proof of the member's horse's death must be presented to the board. Certificate must be provided before the next show or if it's the last show, within one week.
23. You may pass your award to the next qualified rider.
24. If horse/rider team changes age division, points earned will stay in the division they are leaving and they will start from zero in the new division.
25. Age groups are 8 and under, 9-13, 14-18, 19-34, and 35 and over.

26. Rider's age is determined as of January 1st of the current show year.
27. No horse/rider team is allowed to enter more than once in the same event except for exhibition runs.
28. Points will be awarded in all classes as follows:
- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1st – 6 points | 4th – 3 points |
| 2nd – 5 points | 5th – 2 points |
| 3rd – 4 points | 6th – 1 point  |
29. Failure to complete a pattern properly results in disqualification. Rider to exit arena quickly and not repeat the pattern.
30. There will be no penalty for touching poles/barrels unless they need to be reset more than the set distance. Set distance is  $\frac{1}{2}$  the width of a barrel and 1 width of a pole base.
31. Places will be determined in order of fastest to slowest times in all classes.
32. In the 8 and under division, a child that rides/steers the horse themselves will place ahead of a child who is led through a pattern even if the time is greater.
33. All dogs must be on a HELD leash at all times or tied to a truck or trailer. You are responsible to reimburse RFSC for any damage caused by your dog. No dogs are allowed in arenas or in the club house. You must clean up after your dog. One warning only will be given and further violations of these rules will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund.
34. RFSC will not be held responsible, individually or collectively, for loss or damages that occurred because of participation in these events or for any spectator personal or material damages or loss.
35. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the grounds. One warning only will be given and further violations of this rule will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund.
36. No open fires allowed on the grounds.
37. Profanity of any kind will not be tolerated on the grounds. Excessive use of profanity/vulgarisms will result in disqualification. One warning only will be given and further violations of this rule will result in dismissal from the grounds without entry fee refund.
38. Judges decisions are FINAL!