



## **AWHA National Championships - Horse/Handler Presentation Requirements**

### **Handler Requirements - Led Classes**

1. All handlers and riders of exhibits (excluding colts and stallions) must be a minimum of fourteen years of age.
2. Entire male horses 3 years of age and over must adhere to Equestrian Australia's Stallion safe practices guidelines. No colt or stallion may be presented by anyone under 17 years of age. All entire males 2 years of age and over must be led with a bridle and bit.
3. Horse handlers are required to wear suitable (enclosed) footwear.
4. Horses are to be presented in a neat and tidy manner. Your horse should be well groomed and in good condition.
5. Plaiting is not mandatory, however manes and tails should be neat and tidy. It is not recommended to plait the tail, as it can affect the nerves going from the tail over the back and your horse may not use its back as well, if it pinches.
6. Horses (excluding Stallions) may be presented in a Halter or Snaffle Bridle - whichever suits your horse best.
7. It is not necessary to present your Foal in a Halter provided it is safe to do so in the area that they are being presented in. However, for safety reasons Foals must be led to / from the arena.
8. No makeup is to be applied to the horse being presented. Hooves can be oiled, but black polish is not allowed.
9. False Tails are not to be worn.
10. Boots and / or Bandages are not to be worn.
11. If you have an AWhA Registered horse entered into an AWhA & Open led class and choose not to re-present for the Open led class, please let the Judges know.

### **Handler Requirements - Ridden Classes**

1. ASA approved safety helmets must be worn at all times when riding, including during warm-up.
2. Suitable footwear for riding is also required to be worn.
3. All exhibits in ridden classes must be ridden in a snaffle bridle.
4. Use of side saddles and martingales is prohibited.
5. Spurs must comply with EA guidelines.
6. Horses are to be presented in a neat and tidy manner. Your horse should be well groomed and in good condition.
7. No makeup is to be applied to the horse being presented. Hooves can be oiled, but black polish is not allowed.
8. Plaiting is not mandatory, however manes and tails should be neat and tidy. It is not recommended to plait the tail, as it can affect the nerves going from the tail over the back and your horse may not use its back as well, if it pinches.
9. False Tails are not to be worn.
10. Boots and / or Bandages are not to be worn.
11. If you have an AWhA Registered horse entered into an AWhA & Open ridden class and choose not to re-present for the Open ridden class, please let the Judges know.

**Enjoy the day and have fun!**

### **Led Class Assessment Procedure**

Judging consists of an evaluation of your horse's exterior (i.e.; type and conformation) and movement (i.e.; correctness, impulsion, swing and rhythm).

Before the Assessment day, train your horse (Foals excluded) to lead willingly at the walk and trot and to stand still for inspection.

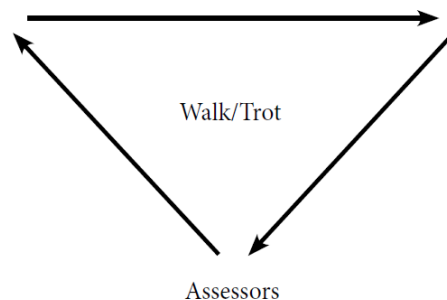
If you wish to have your horse assessed at the free movement (walk, trot and canter), ensure that your horse has been free run in an arena and is able to be easily caught once the free run component of the Assessment has been completed. Assistance can be used to ensure your horse moves in both directions freely, without stressing your horse.

Your horse will be presented before two official AWhA Judges for assessment. Both Judges will assign a mark against each category being judged, however the Average score is used.

The Judges will be assessing type, conformation and movement.

At the Judge's indication, each horse will be individually presented to the judges. You will be asked to stand your horse up for assessment of its conformation. Place your horse (foals excluded), so that the Judges can see all four legs at once from the near side (i.e.; the "Open Position").

When asked to move off, commence one circuit of the exhibition triangle (see diagram below) in walk, followed by a second circuit in trot on the Left Rein, to enable the Judges to evaluate your horse's movement from behind, from the side and head on – see Diagram below.



Then provided it is safe to do so, you will unclip the lead from your horse and allow your horse to free run in the arena to show off all 3 paces (walk, trot and canter), without the restriction of a handler.

The Judges will complete the Assessment sheet, then hand the results over to you and will also provide you with feedback.

### **Ridden Class Assessment Procedure**

Judging consists of an evaluation of your horse's movement (i.e.; correctness, impulsion, swing and rhythm) at the walk, trot and canter, as well as your horse's rideability and overall impression.

Your horse will be presented before two official AWhA Judges for assessment. Both Judges will assign a mark against each category being judged, however the Average score is used.

At the Judge's indication, each horse will be individually presented to the judges. You will be asked to ride the [AWhA Ltd Materiale Test](#).

The Judges will complete the Assessment sheet, then hand the results over to you and will also provide you with feedback.