

# 2008 HUNTER HORSE DIVISION

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### **Division Classifications:**

Horses/ponies are to be divided into two divisions: Hunter On The Flat and Hunter Over Fences . All exhibitors are eligible for showmanship, dressage and/or hunter under saddle then should select from either the Hunter On The Flat or Hunter Over Fences sequence of performance classes. Cross entering in both divisions is allowed, however the division in which the highest number of classes was entered will be used for calculating high point status. **Walk/Trot entries are not eligible for High Point Awards. Walk/Trot entries are eligible to enter into the following classes-Showmanship, Dressage w/t, Baby Green w/t over Cross Rails, Hunter Under Saddle w/t, Hunt Seat Equitation w/t.**

See General Rule #31 for further high point award details. The following summarizes eligible classes for high point tabulation (showmanship and three performance classes maximum).

#### ***Hunter On The Flat***

Showmanship

Dressage

Hunt Seat Equitation

Hunter Under Saddle

Green Rider 2' O/F **OR** Green Horse 2' O/F

#### ***Hunter Over Fences***

Showmanship

Hunter Under Saddle **OR**

Dressage (**not both**)

Equitation Over Fences

Limit Hunter 2'6" **OR** Low Hunter 3' O/F

Jumpers

**All 4-Hers riding or driving horses at 4-H events or activities are required to wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet at all times.**

## HUNTER HORSE DIVISION CLASSES

**DRESSAGE WALK/TROT**-Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on the performance of the horse and pony in executing the maneuvers listed in current USDF INTRODUCTORY TEST B. Dressage Test maneuvers can be found on the 4-H Horse Program website at <http://www.uky.edu/ag/4hhorse> under 4-H Rules & Resource Material. Exhibitors are eligible for the following riding classes: Hunter Under Saddle w/t, Baby Green Hunters w/t over Cross Rails, Hunt Seat Equitation w/t.

**DRESSAGE-I** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 11 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on the performance of the horse and pony in executing the maneuvers listed in current USEF TRAINING LEVEL, TEST #1. Dressage Test maneuvers can be found on the 4-H Horse Program web site at <http://www.uky.edu/ag/4hhorse> under 4-H Rules & Resource Material.

**DRESSAGE-II** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 12 - 14 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on the performance of the horse and pony in executing the maneuvers listed in current USEF TRAINING LEVEL, TEST #2. Dressage Test maneuvers can be found on the 4-H Horse Program web site at <http://www.uky.edu/ag/4hhorse> under 4-H Rule & Resource Material.

**DRESSAGE-III** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 15 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on the performance of the horse and pony in executing the maneuvers listed in current USEF TRAINING LEVEL, TEST #3. Dressage Test maneuvers can be found on the 4-H Horse Program web site at <http://www.uky.edu/ag/4hhorse> under 4-H Rules & Resource Material.

**DRESSAGE, FIRST LEVEL TEST 1, OPEN** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9-18 years old as of January 1 of the current year (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on the performance of the horse and pony in executing the maneuvers listed in current USEF First Level Test 1. Dressage Test maneuvers can be found on the 4-H Horse Program website at <http://www.uky.edu/ag/4hhorse> under 4-H Rules & Resource Material.

### **DRESSAGE EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION:**

An English type saddle with stirrups is compulsory for at all Dressage Levels. One whip no longer than 43.3 inches including lash may be carried. For Introductory, Training, and First Level Tests, a plain snaffle bridle and a regular cavesson, a dropped noseband, a flash noseband ( combination of a cavesson noseband and dropped noseband attachment), or a crossed noseband are allowed.

All bits must be smooth and with a solid surface. Twisted, wire and roller bits are prohibited. Bits permitted included: Ordinary snaffle with single-jointed mouthpiece, Ordinary snaffle with double-

jointed mouthpiece, Racing snaffle (D-Ring), Snaffle with cheeks-with or without keepers, Snaffle without cheeks-Egg Butt, Snaffle with upper and lower cheeks, Unjointed snaffle-Mullen mouth, Snaffle with cheeks- Hanging or drop check; Baucher (This may be a D-Ring or other ordinary snaffle), Dr. Bristol, Fulmer, French Snaffle, or Snaffle with rotating mouthpiece. Any of these bits may be covered with rubber or leather. Bits with mouth pieces made of synthetic material are permitted, provided that the contours of the bit conform to the contours of bits listed above.

Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running, balancing reins, tongue tied down, etc.), any kind of boots (including "easy-boots") or bandages (including tail bandages) and any form of blinkers, ear muffs or plugs, nose covers, seat covers, hoods are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden. Any decoration of the horse/pony with unnatural things, such as ribbons or flowers, etc. in the tail, etc., is strictly forbidden. Braiding of the horse/pony's mane and tail, however, is encouraged.

**SHOWMANSHIP I** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 11 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship).

**SHOWMANSHIP II** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 12 - 14 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship).

**SHOWMANSHIP III** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 15 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on appointments, fitting and grooming and method of showing (See Standards for Showmanship).

**HUNTER HORSE & PONY YEARLING, OPEN INVITATIONAL** - Registered and grade fillies and geldings foaled anytime during the previous year. Class judged on the yearling's conformation, way of moving, quality, substance, soundness and suitability to become a hunter.

**BABY GREEN HUNTERS WALK/TROT OVER CROSS RAILS** - Exhibitors 9 - 18 years of age as of January 1 of the current year may enter this class for one year only. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she can not show in any class which asks for a canter or any other jumping class. Registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Class judged on the horse's or pony's manners, style of jumping, hunting pace and way of moving over the designated jumping course. Jumps consist of 18" cross-rails, trotting in the class will be permitted, and cantering will not be penalized. The course must contain at least four (4) jumps which simulate obstacles found in the hunting field. Horses and ponies must take at least eight (8) jumps with all obstacles at least fifty (50) feet apart. Exhibitors are eligible for the following riding classes: Dressage Walk/Trot, Hunt Seat Equitation Walk/Trot and Hunter Under Saddle Walk/Trot.

**GREEN RIDER OVER FENCES 2'** - Open to registered and grade mares and geldings

of any size. Exhibitors 9 - 18 years of age as of January 1 of the current year are eligible in their first or second year of showing. Class judged on the horse's or pony's manners, style of jumping, hunting pace and way of moving over the designated jumping course. Jumps consisting of 2 foot vertical poles. The course must contain at least four (4) jumps which simulate obstacles found in the hunting field. Horses and ponies must take at least eight (8) jumps with all obstacles at least fifty (50) feet apart. Trotting on course will not be penalized. **Horses entered into Green Rider Over Fences may not enter into Green Horse Over Fences or any other jumping class.**

**GREEN HORSE OVER FENCES 2'** - Open to registered and grade mares and geldings of any size who are in their first or second year of showing in any class. Exhibitors 9 - 18 years of age as of January 1 of the current year. Class judged on the horse's or pony's manners, style of jumping, hunting pace and way of moving over the designated jumping course. Jumps consisting of 2 foot vertical poles. The course must contain at least four (4) jumps which simulate obstacles found in the hunting field. Horses and ponies must take at least eight (8) jumps with all obstacles at least fifty (50) feet apart. Trotting on course will not be penalized. **Horses entered into Green Horse Over Fences may not enter into Green Rider Over Fences or any other jumping class.**

**LIMIT HUNTER 2'6"**- Open to registered and grade mares and geldings of any size who have not won six or more blue ribbons in any hunter over fences classes at any competition. Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on the horse or pony's manners, style of jumping, hunting pace and way of moving over the designated course. The course will contain at least four (4) jumps set at 2'6" which simulate obstacles found in the hunting field. Horses will make at least eight (8) jumping efforts with all obstacles at least fifty (50) feet apart.

**LOW HUNTER 3'**- Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Open to registered and grade mares and geldings of any size. Class judged on the horse and pony's manners, style of jumping, hunting pace and way of moving over the designated course. The course will contain at least four (4) jumps set at 3' which simulate obstacles found in the hunting field. Horses will make at least eight (8) jumping efforts with all obstacles at least fifty (50) feet apart.

**HUNT SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES-JR. RIDER-** Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 13 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). **Contestants must take eight (8) fences in order with ponies jumping 2' and horses jumping 2'3" obstacles. A change of direction in the jump course is required.**

**HUNT SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES-SR. RIDER-** Exhibitors must be between the ages of 14 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General

Rules Page 5). **Contestants must take eight (8) fences in order with ponies jumping 2'3" and horses jumping 2'6" obstacles. A change of direction in the jump course is required.**

**HUNTER OVER FENCES DESCRIPTION:**

All classes are judged on performance, suitability, manners and soundness. When a horse/pony makes two faults at one obstacle, only the major fault will be scored with the exception of cumulative refusals. At a combination, the faults committed at each obstacle are considered separately. In the case of a run out or refusal at one obstacle in a combination, the competitor may rejump the previous and following obstacle.

The following faults are scored according to the judge's opinion and, depending on severity, may be considered major or minor faults:

- Showing an obstacle to the horse
- Kicking out
- Jumping out of form
- Missing a lead change
- Spooking
- Jumping into the corners of a jump

The following should be considered major faults:

- Knock down of any part of an obstacle
- Trotting on course when not specified
- Circling on course
- Stopping for loss of shoe or broken equipment
- Refusal
- Bucking
- Dangerous jumping

The following may or may not be considered faults, depending on their severity and frequency:

- Light rubs
- Late lead changes
- Adding or eliminating a stride in a line
- Swapping leads in a line
- Excessive show of animation

**JUMPERS**- Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Open to horses and ponies. Height of obstacles must be a minimum of 2' and not exceed 2'6". See Jumper Description below. Class will follow Table II, Sec. 2 (b) of the current USEF rules.

**JUMPER CLASS DESCRIPTION:**

A minimum of four obstacles must be used with a minimum of eight jumping efforts. A starting line at least 12 feet in front of the first obstacle and a finish line at least 24 feet after the last

obstacle must be indicated by markers (at least 12 feet apart.) Horses/ponies must start and finish by passing between markers. Jump-offs will be held over a shortened version of the original course and will contain at least one-half of the original number of obstacles.

Time will begin when the horse's chest crosses the starting line and time will end when the horse/pony's chest crosses the finish line. The clock shall be stopped when a knocked down jump is being rebuilt (from the moment the rider gets his mount in a position to retake the jump until the proper authority signals that the jump has been rebuilt).

Jumpers are scored on a mathematical basis and penalty faults.

1. Knock down: 4 faults

A knock down constitutes the lowering of any part of the obstacle which establishes the height of an obstacle or the height of any element of a spread obstacle even when the falling part is arrested in its fall by any portion of the obstacle or moves any part thereof which establishes the height of the obstacle so it rests on a different support from the one in which it was initially placed. If an obstacle falls after the horse leaves the ring, it is not considered a knockdown.

2. Disobedience: 4 faults

A disobedience includes a refusal, run-out, loss of forward movement, and unnecessary circling on course.

3. Elimination

Causes for elimination include: Second cumulative disobedience, jumping an obstacle before it is reset, starting before judges signal to proceed, failure to cross starting line within one minute after an audible signal from the judge, jumping an obstacle before crossing the starting line, off course, deliberately addressing an obstacle, rider and/or horse leaving arena before completing course, and fall of horse or rider.

**TWO & THREE YEAR OLD HUNTER UNDER SADDLE, OPEN**

**INVITATIONAL** - Registered and grade fillies and geldings that are two or three years old. Class judged on the horse/pony's manners and performance with light contact in the horse/pony's mouth at the walk, trot, and an extension of the trot both ways of the ring. Horses/ponies should back easily and stand quietly. Judges may reverse horses/ponies at the walk and trot only. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**HUNTER UNDER SADDLE WALK/TROT** -Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 18 as of January 1 of the current year. 4-Hers may show in this class one time only, with special consideration for special needs children. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she can not show in any class which asks for a canter. Class judged on horse/pony's performance. Horses/ponies will be asked to work both ways of the arena at a walk and a trot. Entries may be asked to back. **Exhibitors are eligible for the following riding**

**classes: Dressage Walk/Trot, Hunt Seat Equitation Walk/Trot and Baby Green Hunters w/t Over Cross Rails.**

**HUNTER UNDER SADDLE-PONY** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Registered and grade mares and geldings 14.2 hands and under. Class judged on the pony's manners and performance at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Light contact with the pony's mouth is required. Ponies should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. Judges may ask horses to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. No more than eight horses will be asked to gallop at a time. Ponies should back easily and stand quietly. Judge may reverse the ponies at the walk and trot only, and may ask for extension of the trot. Judge may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**HUNTER UNDER SADDLE HORSE-I**- Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 11 years-old as of January 1 of the current year are eligible (see General Rules Page 5). Registered and grade mares and geldings over 14.2 hands. Class judged on the horse's manners and performance at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. Judges may ask horses to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. No more than eight horses will be asked to gallop at a time. Horses should back easily and stand quietly. Judges may reverse horses at the walk and trot only, and may ask for extension of the trot. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**HUNTER UNDER SADDLE HORSE-II**- Exhibitors must be between the ages of 12 - 14 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Registered and grade mares and geldings over 14.2 hands. See Hunter Under Saddle Horse-I for judging criteria. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**HUNTER UNDER SADDLE HORSE-III**- Exhibitors must be between the ages of 15 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Registered and grade mares and geldings over 14.2 hands. See Hunter Under Saddle Horse-I for judging criteria. Judges may ask for additional work and may use conformation in cases of extremely close performances.

**HUNT SEAT EQUITATION WALK/TROT** -Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 18 as of January 1 of the current year. 4-Hers may show in this class one time only, with special consideration for special needs children. If the 4-H member shows in this class, he or she cannot show in any class which asks for a canter. Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Horses/ponies will be asked to work both ways of the arena at a walk and a trot. Entries will be required to back. Contestants will follow USEF rules for all Hunt Seat Equitation classes. **Exhibitors are eligible for the following**

**riding classes: Dressage Walk/Trot, Hunter Under Saddle Walk/Trot and Baby Green Hunter w/t Over Cross Rails.**

**HUNT SEAT EQUITATION-I** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 - 11 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on appointments, basic position, mounting and dismounting (optional) and class routine. Judges may ask exhibitors for one or more of the following additional tests: halt (four to six seconds) and back, hand gallop, figure eight at a trot demonstrating change of diagonal, figure eight at canter on the correct lead demonstrating a simple change of lead, and work collectively at the walk, trot and canter. Pattern is optional and all contestants will follow current USEF rules for all Hunt Seat Equitation classes.

**HUNT SEAT EQUITATION-II**- Exhibitors must be between the ages of 11 - 14 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on appointments, basic position and class routine. Judges may ask exhibitors for one or more of the following additional tests: halt (four to six seconds) and back, hand gallop, figure eight at a trot demonstrating change of diagonal, figure eight at canter on the correct lead demonstrating a simple change of lead, and work collectively at the walk, trot and canter. Pattern is optional and all contestants will follow current USEF rules for all Hunt Seat Equitation classes.

**HUNT SEAT EQUITATION-III** - Exhibitors must be between the ages of 15 - 18 years-old as of January 1 of the current year. (see General Rules Page 5). Class judged on appointments, basic position, mounting and dismounting (optional) and class routine. Judges may ask exhibitors for one or more of the following additional tests: halt (four to six seconds) and back, hand gallop, figure eight at a trot demonstrating change of diagonals, figure eight at canter on the correct lead demonstrating a simple change of lead, and work collectively at the walk, trot and canter. Pattern is optional and all contestants will follow current USEF rules for all Hunt Seat Equitation classes.

## **GENERAL ATTIRE AND TACK GUIDELINES**

**Appointments:** Exhibitors and judges should realize that all times entries are being judged on the ability of the horse/pony or rider rather than on personal attire. However, riders should have a neat, clean and well groomed appearance. Riders must wear appropriate hunter attire including coat, traditional riding shirt and choker or tie, breeches or jodphurs and tall field boots, dress boots or paddock boots (with jodphurs). When wearing jodphurs and paddock boots, garter straps should be worn. An ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet is required for all riding or driving at all times during the District and State 4-H Horse Shows (See General Rules). Spurs, gloves, crops and bats are optional. Horses/ponies should be well groomed and properly clipped.

**Tack:** Most importantly, tack should be clean, well serviced and properly adjusted to fit the horse/pony. Regulation snaffles, pelhams and full bridles, all with cavesson nose bands, are recommended. A judge may penalize for non-conventional bits (kimberwick) and nosebands

(including dropped, figure-eight or flash nosebands). Equipment should also include a forward seat or hunter type English saddle. Standing martingales are permitted in over fences classes but are prohibited in Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle Walk/Trot, Hunt Seat Equitation Walk/ Trot and Dressage. All other types of martingales may be considered unconventional and may be penalized. Bosals, mechanical hackamores, draw reins, boots, wraps and bandages are prohibited in all Hunter classes, except in the case of inclement weather when management may permit the use of bellboots. In Jumper classes, standing or running martingales (used in a conventional manner), boots, wraps and bandages are permitted. Whips must be no longer than 30 inches. Whips that are weighted at the end are prohibited at any time. Draw reins are prohibited.

## HUNT SEAT EQUITATION

**Basic Position:** Rider should have a workmanlike appearance, seat and hands light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control. Hands should be over and in front of the horse/pony's withers, knuckles thirty degrees inside the vertical, hands slightly apart and making a straight line from the horse/pony's mouth to the rider's elbow. Method of holding reins is optional and bight of reins may fall on either side. However, all reins must be picked up at the same time. The eyes should be up and the shoulders back. Toes should be at an angle best suited to the rider's conformation. Ankles should be flexed in, heels should be down and calf of the leg should be in contact with the horse/pony and slightly behind the girth. Iron should be placed on the ball of the foot.

While in motion, riders should maintain the basic position while keeping contact with the horse/pony's mouth. At the walk and sitting trot the body should remain vertical. At the posting trot, the body is inclined slightly forward with the rider working from the horse/pony's momentum while on the correct diagonal. On the left diagonal, the rider should be sitting in the saddle when the left front leg is on the ground; similarly, on the right diagonal, the rider should be in the saddle when the right front leg is on the ground. At the canter, the body should be inclined slightly forward from the hips. The half seat position should be used when galloping and jumping and the body should be inclined slightly more forward than at the canter with light contact in the saddle. Riders may reverse toward or away from the rail. All cues and aids should be applied as inconspicuously as possible. Any or all competitors may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in class requirements.

Entries will be scored on the cleanliness and neatness of the horse/pony, rider and tack, the rider's basic position and the method by which the rider executes maneuvers in order to obtain the desired performance. The horse/pony and rider should work as a team and show the horse/pony to its best advantage.

**Over Fences:** The performance begins when the horse/pony enters the ring or is given the signal to proceed after entering the ring. Each competitor may circle once before approaching the first obstacle and then proceeds around the course keeping an even hunting pace throughout. Except for refusals, jumping faults of the horse/pony are not to be considered unless it is the result of the

rider's ability. The following will result in elimination: fall of horse/pony and/or rider, three cumulative refusals, mount bolting from arena with or without rider, failure to complete the course or off course, and jumping an obstacle before it is reset. The following constitute major faults: a refusal, loss of stirrup, trotting while on course when not part of a test, and loss of reins.