



ARABIAN HORSE DISCIPLINES

ENGLISH SHOW HACK The English Show Hack horse is balanced, shows animation, presence, has clean fine limbs and supreme quality, all while demonstrating the Arabian's elegance and versatility. They are ridden at normal, collected, and extended gaits.

COUNTRY ENGLISH PLEASURE The horse's appearance of being a pleasure to ride at the walk, trot, strong trot, canter and hand gallop with a quiet, responsive mouth is imperative in this class. All gaits must be performed with willingness, cadence, balance and smoothness.

ENGLISH PLEASURE English Pleasure horses give a distinct appearance of being enjoyable to ride and display a pleasing attitude. They are ridden in informal saddle seat attire at the walk, trot, canter and hand gallop.

PARK HORSE Park horses are shown at the walk, trot and canter. The Park horses' gaits are distinguished by an animated motion.

MOUNTED NATIVE COSTUME Mounted Native Costume horses are shown at a walk, canter and hand gallop both ways of the arena. The rider's attire is of native, Bedouin type. Flowing capes, coats, pantaloons, head dresses, scarfs, sashes and any other decoration in keeping with colorful desert regalia are allowed.

PLEASURE DRIVING Pleasure Driving horses are shown in a light show harness with blinkers, overcheck or side check. Either a two- or four-wheeled vehicle may be used. They are shown at a brisk, flat footed four beat walk, a balanced and free moving normal trot and a cadenced strong trot.

LADIES SIDE SADDLE A Ladies Side Saddle class harkens back to the days when proper ladies did not ride astride. Horses may be shown in English or Western tack and attire. Period attire is accepted and encouraged.



WESTERN PLEASURE Horses wear stock type saddles and a standard western type bridle and bit. Riders wear western hats, long sleeved shirts with collars and scarves or ties. The horses are shown at a flat footed, ground covering walk, jog, and lope.

HUNTER PLEASURE This is a pleasure class for the horse that can cover the ground easily and with a long, low, efficient stride, while wearing hunter style tack.

BREEDING /IN-HAND Arabian Halter horses are shown at Halter in a light headstall or halter with throatlatch. The horses are presented to the judges in-hand at a walk and trot. Horse are judged on type, quality, balance, substance at the walk, legs and feet, head, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip, and movement.

PERFORMANCE HALTER Horses shown in Performance Halter must have been entered, shown, and judged in a recognized performance class at the same show, or an AHA sanctioned Endurance or Competition Trail Ride. The horses are judged using the Arabian or Half/Arabian Performance Halter Score sheet, with the results based on the total score. Athletic structure is the first criteria.

DRESSAGE Today Dressage is both an equine discipline and a training method to prepare the horse for other equine sports. Dressage riders compete in a 20x60 meter arena, performing a pattern of required movements at specific letter points set along the rail. Nine levels of increasing difficulty require a higher degree of physical and mental development with tests at each level.



WESTERN DRESSAGE A Western Dressage horse achieves balance physical strength and flexibility by using the principles of classical Dressage training while emphasizing the lightness and harmony with the rider which is a hallmark of a Western Dressage horse.

EVENTING Often called the equestrian triathlon, eventing combines the disciplines of dressage, cross-country, and show jumping to test the versatility, athleticism, and partnership of horse and rider.

HUNTER/JUMPER DIVISION

HUNTER HACK Exhibitors walk, trot, canter and gallop and then jump two obstacles.

WORKING HUNTER Good working Hunters must not only be able to clear fences with ease, but they must jump in a fluid, forward manner.

JUMPER Jumpers are evaluated only on their ability to jump a clean round, or pick up as few penalty points as possible, within a specified time limit.

SPORT HORSE DIVISION The purpose of the Sport Horse Section is "to evaluate and encourage the breeding of Arabian and Half-Arabian/ Anglo-Arabian horses suitable for Dressage, Working Hunter, Eventing, Jumper, Combined Driving and Competitive Trail and Endurance, and to provide an opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of breeding programs. Form to function will be emphasized."

SPORT HORSE IN-HAND These classes evaluate a horse's suitability as a sport horse according to movement, conformation and general impression.



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SPORT HORSE UNDER SADDLE Horses are shown as a group at the walk, trot, canter and hand gallop both directions of the ring, and must stand quietly and back readily.

SPORT HORSE SHOW HACK This elegant class is essentially a Dressage class on the rail, emphasizing straightness, elasticity and balanced rhythm at 10 gaits and transitions.

CARRIAGE DRIVING In the Driving division an entry is defined as the combination of the horse(s), vehicle and driver. A variety of vehicles are allowed in these classes, and the rules encourage drivers to strive "to present an appropriate turnout, factoring in compatible size, type and weight of horse and vehicle."

REINING Reining horses perform a prescribed pattern of spins, circles, lead changes, runs and stops.

REINED COW HORSE Horses are asked to work a single live cow in an arena, performing certain maneuvers that include circling the cow and turning it in a specified manner, as well as performing a reining pattern.

WORKING COW HORSE Working Cow Horse classes are designated to demonstrate the horse's ability to hold, contain and work a cow.

CUTTING Cutting horses are athletic, with a lot of "cow sense". They boldly enter a herd of cows to cut one (separating one from the rest of the herd) and do movements to keep the cow from returning to the herd for a set number of seconds.

TRAIL In this class, you will see natural obstacles simulating actual trail hazards. A good trail horse is skillful, eye appealing, confident, and gives the impression of being sure and a pleasure to ride over a course of obstacles. A trail horse is shown over and through obstacles at a walk, jog and lope. Classes can be offered for Western Trail, English Trail, and/or In-hand Trail.

RANCH There are numerous Ranch classes, including Ranch Riding. The purpose of the Ranch Riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena.

SHOWMANSHIP In this class, handlers exhibit their showmanship and presentation skills. Ideally this showman's performance consists of a poised, confident, appropriately attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness and precision.



EQUITATION Equitation classes span a variety of disciplines and riders are judged primarily on their riding skill and style. Riders are expected to be good matches with their horses and ride in an effective and beautiful manner.

DISTANCE RIDING Distance Riding tests a horse's condition and stamina, rider intelligence and horsemanship under veterinary supervision on a cross-country trail. Competitive Trail and Endurance are the two most popular Distance sports, and Arabians excel at both. The Endurance competitor's motto, "To Finish Is To Win," applies to all types of Distance events.

RACING Arabian Racing in North America was organized around 1959 and has more than quadrupled in size over the past 10 years. Today's Arabian racehorse has many advantages and opportunities. They race against other purebred Arabians at a growing number of racetracks across the United States and Canada.

POLE BENDING Pole bending is an exciting timed event that tests a horse's speed and agility as horse and rider weave through a course of six poles spaced 21 feet apart.



BARREL RACING Barrel racing is a thrilling race against the clock where horse and rider navigate a cloverleaf pattern around three barrels.

RANCH SORTING Ranch sorting is a fast-paced team event where two riders and their horses work together to sort cattle into two pens in numerical order, all within 60 seconds.

MOUNTED SHOOTING Cowboy mounted shooting is an exhilarating timed event where riders navigate patterns while popping balloons with two single-action revolvers loaded with black-powder blanks.

COMBINED DRIVING Modeled after three-day eventing, combined driving challenges a driver and their horse in three phases: Driven Dressage, Marathon, and Cones. Competing in singles, pairs, or teams of four, drivers aim to accumulate the fewest penalty points.

MOUNTED GAMES Mounted Games are a fast-paced, team-oriented equestrian sport featuring relay-style races that test agility, coordination, and teamwork. Riders perform tasks like weaving poles, picking up objects from the ground, and passing items to teammates—all while staying mounted.