

SPORT HORSE DIVISION

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. In open classes the horses are judged on performance, manners, conformation, suitability as a working sport horse and quality. Junior horses are judged on quality, suitability as a working sport horse, performance, conformation and then manners. Horses in amateur to ride classes are judged on manners, performance, suitability as a working sport horse, conformation and quality. Dressage or informal hunter attire is required for the riders with either Dressage or Hunt Seat tack.

Sport Horse Show Hack – This elegant, harmonious class is essentially a Dressage class on the rail, **emphasizing straightness, impulsion, elasticity and balanced rhythm at 10 gaits and transitions**. The class is judged on manners, performance, quality and conformation in that order. Judges look for obedient, expressive, animated horses with an uphill build that can overstep to elevate their front end for the collected gaits and take longer, rather than more steps, as they extend the gaits. The judges are required to consider the performance at each gait equally.

Sport Horse In-Hand – These classes evaluate a horse's suitability as a sport horse according to movement, conformation and general impression. **Horses are judged 40 percent on movement, 40 percent on conformation, 10 percent on expression, manners and willingness and 10 percent on quality, balance and harmony.**

Dressage Type – Horses of this type carry a higher set-on neck than the Hunter type with sufficient length and flexion of the poll. Movement should be free, elastic, active and regular with good push from behind without tension and with a tendency toward uphill balance.

Hunter Type – Horses of this type carry a more level frame than the Dressage type horses, yet must display natural looking carriage. Movement should have good ground cover and tend to be long and low with good push from behind, free of tension and showing good balance.



United States Equestrian Federation rules state that 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."