

OHSET State General Meeting Saturday December 3, 2011

Welcome from Candi Bothum, State Chair

- New for OHSET – trying to get more on the same page from district to district in terms of procedures and policies
- Taking two youth to AYHC this year
- Getting to a point where our rules are not needing so many changes from year to year

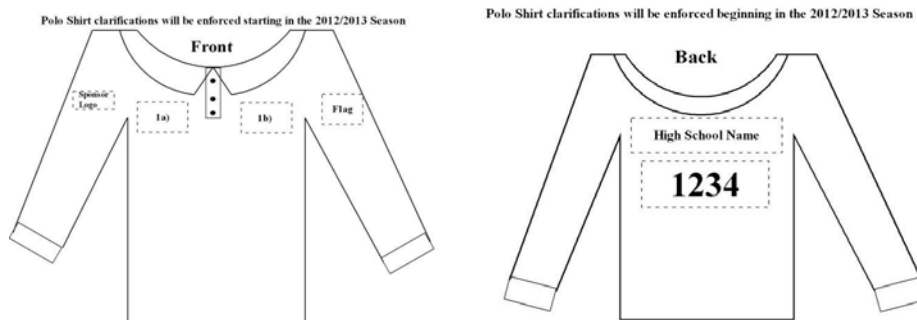
Rules Changes – Karen Bragg, State Rules Chair

- General Changes
 - Events will now be in alphabetical order
 - All information about each event will now be under that event
 - Karen’s cell phone number is on the state website; feel free to call her if there are questions about rules needing clarification, but please check the rule book first to make sure the rule isn’t already there.
 - Process
 - Submit changes throughout the year to Karen Bragg
 - Compiles suggested rules changes and presents them to rules committee (one representative from each district) who makes recommendations.
 - Recommendations are taken back to districts and to judges at judges’ clinic for input.
 - Rules committee meets for a second time to present their districts’ input.
 - Rules committee compiles a proposal based on the input received and the committee votes.
 - The final proposal is voted on and approved by the entire state board.
 - Rule changes are then presented at the Annual Meeting and added to the rulebook.
- Events
 - In Hand trail
 - Current Rule – An Equine used for in hand trail cannot be cross entered as a riding animal by anyone at any OHSET competition during the same season (Pg 33)
 - Rule Change – This rule will be deleted from the rulebook thus allowing any equine to be used in In Hand Trail
 - Fall of horse and rider
 - Current Rule – Fall of horse or rider shall not be an elimination
 - Rule Change – Fall of horse or rider SHALL be an elimination
 - Stock seat – change name to Western Horsemanship
 - Current Rule – Class title is “Stockseat Equitation”
 - Rule Change – Class title will be changed to “Western Horsemanship”

- Bits for various English classes
 - Current Rule – Any bit with a twist in the metal is prohibited in: Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences, Saddle Seat Equitation, Saddle Seat/Hunt Seat Trail
 - Rule Change – Delete all of the above. Bits with a twisted mouth piece will be allowed in the above classes. Note: Emphasis will now be placed on the hands of the rider rather than the bit.
- Timed event rules have been consolidated completely into OHSET rulebook. Most rules will be the same, but a few have changed.
 - Lariat Ropes are now prohibited in ALL timed events
 - An Over and Under MAY be inspected by the judge
 - Tie-downs, in addition to being attached to or under the breast collar, must also be fitted properly so as to not be a danger if equine falls or athlete loses control. Proper fit will be at the judge's discretion.
 - In NO event with the course be reset during a team or individual run (previous rule allowed re-setting in bi-rangle)
 - Re-Rides will be a true re-ride
 - No penalties will be carried over
 - All new penalties will apply
 - Re-rides will be ridden at the bottom of the order for that event
 - Dismounting at any time while on course (except Canadian Flags) will be an elimination.
 - Fall of the rider regardless of control over horse will be an elimination.
 - When a record is set, the electronic time will be accepted as official as long as the manual time supports it. This will be at the judge's and official timer's discretion.
 - If the electronic time fails and manual back up time is a record, the manual time may be used for class placing but will NOT be considered a record. Athlete has an option for a re-ride.
 - Individual Flags – Any barrel knocked over (and not re-set) at the end of run will be an elimination
 - Team Canadian Flags – If a handler is used for the 4th horse, the handler should be a coach, advisor, or athlete in boots or hard-soled shoes
 - Working Pairs Rule Clarification – Flags and/or any object other than reins may not be held during working pairs. No part of the costume may be on or held by the athlete. Crops are allowed, as they are listed in optional equipment.
 - Drill Rule Clarification – A horse may be used in both Freestyle 4's and Freestyle 6+ at the same meet. Athletes still may NOT ride in both. A horse may only be used in one 4's performance and one 6+ performance per meet.

- Revised State Championship Individual High Point Awards
 - High Point Timed Events (only individual points)
 - High Point Performance Events (only individual points)
 - High Point Versatility (4:1) (only individual points)
 - High Point Team Contributor
 - Highest individual earner of Team Points

- Uniform Rule Clarifications
 - Polo Shirt
 - Required to contain
 - Number (4"-5" font required on back; may be pinned)
 - May additionally only contain (Optional):
 - Athlete Name (right or left chest)
 - 1 school or team logo (right or left chest)
 - American Flag (left sleeve, 2" x 3")
 - 1 Sponsor Logo (right sleeve 2 sq")
 - School name (right or left chest and/or above number on back; maximum 3" font on back, included in 4x4 area on chest)



- This will be a transition year so if some kids on the team have old style and some have new style, that's okay. It's okay if there are some differences on the team events, too, as long as they are the same color.
 - It was suggested that more than one year for the transition would be helpful financially to teams.
 - Reply - State board decided to allow one year. Shirts can be purchased for \$15- \$20. The only thing required is the number, which can be pinned on. One year to prepare for the cost should be enough.
 - This is really the coaches' and districts' responsibility to make sure teams come into compliance, which helps judges focus on judging.
 - Question – Can sponsor logo be different for different team members?
 - Reply – At this point, there doesn't seem to be any reason not to allow this. This could allow teams to get more than one sponsor.
 - In a team event, if three athletes on the same team come in with sponsor logos and one doesn't, that would be okay.

- Pants
 - Western style pants or jeans of solid color, Breeches or Jodhpurs of solid color.
 - Only Factory stitching and rivets are allowed.
 - Pants with rhinestones, glitter, and other excessive adornments (even if factory created) may not be worn.
 - Pants should be worn on the outside of boots during performance classes.
 - Pants may be tucked into boots during timed events.
 - Pants should be neat and clean with no rips, tears, or holes
 - Note that these are not changes to rules, but we are clarifying because the rule hasn't been strictly adhered to.
 - What about excessive stitching? Be very careful.....the intent of the rule is to wear plain jeans. If the stitching is deliberately dramatic, that would be against the rules.

Patterns 2012 – Joann Oswald, State Judges' Chair and Karissa Dishon, State Vice Chair

- The Process
 - Patterns are designed by a committee of judges, taken to the annual judges training to go over and get feedback, presented to the state board for approval, then presented at the annual meeting.
- The Events
 - Dressage – 2011 Training Level Test 2
 - Driving
 - Should be straight and centered through cones
 - Turns should be soft and round
 - When will inspection take place? Up to districts (either all at once before event or one-on-one prior to taking course; at state, it will generally be the latter).
 - If required equipment is not present and is not a safety hazard, athlete can ride but will be considered an elimination. Any missing required equipment or presence of prohibited equipment is a DQ. If the situation does not present a safety hazard the athlete will be allowed to continue, but will still be given a DQ. If it is a safety hazard they will be excused immediately with a DQ. If it is a safety hazard, rider may not take course and will be DQ'd.
 - Over Fences
 - Regarding dimensions, this course fit inside a large dressage arena so it should fit in all district's event arena.
 - Regarding questions about the distance between 7a and 7b, Karen said this pattern was taken from a collegiate level over fences pattern and these distances have also been used in state 4H so it is a reasonable thing to ask our athletes to do.

- Hunt Seat
 - Notice there is no start cone; it's up to athlete to figure out appropriate starting place
 - Regarding questions about simple change – It is expected to be a change through the trot, not through the walk.
- IHOR
 - Athletes are expected to be on the side of their horse through L (not in front), though they'll have to be close.
 - Make sure you're doing correct side pass.
 - Optional back should be one continuous movement, not back turn back turn.
 - All 4 feet of horse should go onto bridge.
 - Handler needs to do the obstacle with the horse, so they should be on bridge, inside cones, etc.
 - How far back does horse need to back in chute? Just until the horse is straight and set up to trot over the pole.
 - Where feet start in optional back doesn't matter, but they have to complete their circle ending in the same place they started.
 - There were some concerns about the position of the scattered poles. Karissa and Joann will look at that more closely and consider if it needs to be clarified. Clarification: Setup as diagramed is correct. Scatter Poles in IHOR and Trail are set up to be traveled as best suited for the horse. There is no requirement for a centered straight line of travel. Nor is a centered straight line of travel more correct. The element should be judged on completion by horse and handler, and points should be awarded for accuracy (horse stepping in each hole), smoothness, polish, and control. Horses are expected to step between every pole, and between the pole and bridge in trail
- In-hand Trail
 - Same course set-up as Trail but horses will move through them differently.
 - Remember you can now use a horse that is ridden in other events for In-hand Trail.
 - Two attempts and you'll be asked to move on. In the class is not the time to train the horse.
- Trail – Note on score sheet it should say jog/trot (#8). Karissa said it does lay out pretty nicely for arena crews.
- Working Pairs
 - Circles should be round with bend.
 - Ride to the letters, use the whole course.
 - In rule book, it will not be printed in color, but it will be in color on the website.

- Reining
 - NRHA pattern 3
 - Work for bend in circles, not counterbent.
 - Weight should be on haunches in spin
 - Attempt at flying change is required; if no attempt, score will be 0.
 - Element #7 will start as a large fast, but needs to come back to normal lope as horse goes around the arena so horse can build speed in rundown to sliding stop.
- Saddle Seat – no comments or questions
- Showmanship
 - Hint, be careful where you back to in element 3 to set yourself up to walk to judge.
 - Topline should not be overarched during turn. Preferable is straight topline throughout pattern.
 - You should always be set up as if for inspection so at start cone, handler should be on near side, then switch to off side to start pattern when judge nods.
 - Back should be smooth and fluent, not back turn back turn.
- Western Horsemanship
 - Need definite distinctions in energy from jog to extended and from lope to lope w/increased energy. Point is to show flying change with collection, so need to come back from increased energy before attempting change.
 - Demonstrate control by staying off of rail.
 - Okay to move SLIGHTLY forward for lope w/increased energy. Note that lope w/increased energy is not like a run-down in reining. It's a lengthening of stride, not a race.
 - It was recommended that athletes go to USEF rules website that shows what body position should be and common mistakes.
- Working Rancher
 - Number will be called and rider will cut that cow from herd.
 - Can cut cow to either side after making deep cut and hold in any corner.
 - Point is to move slowly through herd and keep them calm and settled.
 - Two opportunities to try, athlete will be asked to move on, or if rider is unsafe or cattle are being upset by rider's performance. Two failed attempts and rider will be asked to move on.
 - No gate person.
 - Calf head without horns and mounted in a hay bale.
 - Judges will know how to evaluate rider who handles difficult cattle better. Luck of the draw.
 - Rules same as for team penning in terms of roughing cattle.
 - The rule book will be fixed – equipment list that says herd will be rotated. It will NOT be rotated. Same cows for entire event, athletes will draw numbers.