

MVPHC HORSE SHOW RULES

MVPHC uses APHA rules as a general guideline, with some exceptions: (Novice Horse/Rider rules below).

1) **ATTIRE AND TACK:** Western hat, boots, and long sleeve shirts for Western classes (chaps are optional). English pant color is optional, hunt cap or derby for English classes. Saddles must be appropriate for class entered. All English style saddles accepted. No Training Devices are allowed.

2) **NOVICE RIDER: Novice Riders** have not won more than 3 first place ribbons (with 4 or more in the class) at any show prior to the MVPHC 2010 show season. If you qualify for Novice Rider, you will be eligible to compete in Novice Rider classes through the 2010 season in English, Western, Trail, and Showmanship. (In 2010 if you win more than 3 First Place ribbons in Novice Rider classes with 4 or more in the class you will not be eligible to ride Novice Rider classes in 2011.) All riders who compete as Novices are "on their Honor" regarding their eligibility. The committee will investigate if a written complaint is filed against any rider. Any unqualified rider will not receive points for that show or towards year end awards.

3) **NOVICE HORSE: Novice Horses** can be of any age, but have not won more than 3 first place ribbons (with 4 or more in the class) at any show prior to the MVPHC 2010 show season. Any aged horse may be ridden two handed in a bosal or snaffle. Any shank snaffle must be ridden single handed. If the horse is 6 years or older, it must be ridden single handed with a shank bit in any other division. All riders who compete as Novices are "on their Honor" regarding their eligibility. The committee will investigate if a written complaint is filed against any rider. Any horse found unqualified will not receive points for that show or towards year end awards.

4) **10 & UNDER WALK/TROT ONLY:** Walk-Trot Only riders may NOT cross enter into other divisions, but may enter class 32 Western Walk/Trot 13 & under, although it will not count towards their division high point.

5) **ETIQUETTE:** Discourteous manners and unsportsmanlike conduct in or out of the arena will not be tolerated. Have fun!

6) **RIBBONS** will be presented at the in-gate after placings are announced. You may only pick up ribbons won that day.

7) **HIGH POINT:** With the exception of Paint halter classes 23, 24, and 25 which count towards Paint All Around High Point, halter classes do not count towards high point. Hunter Hack, Western Riding, and Reining points will count towards age group. Showmanship points will count towards either Western or English Age Group. (Indicate choice on entry form. Discipline appropriate attire required)

Competitors will be given 1 point + 1 point for each exhibitor who places after them, with a maximum of 6 points awarded. For six or more entries in a class, points will be counted as follows: 1st place- 6 points, 2nd place- 5 points, 3rd place- 4 points, 4th place- 3 points, 5th place- 2 points, 6th place- 1 point.

High Points are awarded daily and at the year's end. Divisions are as follows:

Western Age Group High Points

10 & under walk-trot only

13 & under

14-18

19 & over

All Around High Points: Novice Horse, Novice Rider, Paint Horse

English Age Group High Points

10 & under walk-trot only

13 & under

14-18

19 & over

8) **YEAR END AWARDS:** A special All-Around High Point Champion award will be given to the age group rider who finishes the year with the total highest English and Western combined points. To qualify for any year end award you *must be a MVPHC member*, compete in at least 3 of the 4 shows, and volunteer more than 2 hours of work that year at a show, event, or club activity. (see a board member for details)

9) **SCHOOLING:** No gimmicks or training devices are allowed unless you are auditing the class. (In such cases you will pay for the class but not be judged, and upon entering the arena you must notify the gatekeeper that you are auditing.) Only junior horses (5 years and younger), and horses 6 years and older in only the Novice Horse classes will be allowed to be ridden Western two handed with a snaffle bit or bosal. Junior and novice horses must be ridden single handed in a shank bit in all other Western classes. Junior horses may still be ridden in Novice classes with a shank bit, but it must be single handed.

10) **CLASS STARTS:** All competitors must be at the gate before the beginning of their class or notify the gatekeeper.

11) **ADDING CLASSES:** Anyone adding a class must do so at the entry booth at least 3 classes ahead of time, not with the gatekeeper or announcer.

12) **NUMBERS:** Exhibitor numbers will apply to Horse/Rider combinations and will be kept the same for the whole show season.

13) **FEES:** There will be a \$5.00 office fee charged to each rider/handler who is a MVPHC member, and \$10.00 to non members. Office Fee will be waived if entry form is mailed and postmarked 7 days before the show. Faxes must be received by the Wednesday before the show.

14) **CHARGES:** There will be a service charge on all bounced checks. The bank will determine the amount charged. Points will not be awarded until payment is received.

15) **REFUNDS:** No refunds will be given except for an injured horse or rider, or at the discretion of the show manager.

Please direct show questions to Alison Eddy.