

EWD guidelines.

Dusty Boots will be following the same guidelines as AQHA.

Please forward these to your judges to familiarize themselves if they are new to EWD. We are only offering walk/trot (except in the case of SMS)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

SHW762. GENERAL RULES. To provide show management with the option to include equestrians with disabilities competition, AQHA has adopted these rules and provided an achievement points and awards system for participants. In doing so, AQHA does not assume responsibility for safety of participants. Since it is show management, which conducts these events and controls both the physical facility and all aspects of the events, responsibility for participant's safety remains solely with show management.

SHW762.1 Each participant or their parent or guardian by allowing participation, assumes all risk of personal injury or property damage occurring as a result of the participation and does hereby release and discharge the AQHA and show management, their respective officers, directors, representatives and employees from any and all liability, whenever or however arising, from such participation, except for the negligent act or omission, if any, of indemnities. Further, as parent or legal guardian, they agree to indemnify and hold harmless AQHA and show management from such liability to the minor.

SWH765. DIAGNOSIS. In order to be participate, an exhibitor must have a medically diagnosed condition that causes a permanent impairment that can be measured objectively. Examples of conditions, diseases or disorders that may lead to permanent impairment are: paresis, amputation (partial to full joint), ankylosis, upper motor neuron lesions, vision impairment, and intellectual disability. Eligible conditions include: amputation, arthrogryposis, Asperger syndrome, autism spectrum disorder, Batten disease, cerebrovascular accident (stroke), cerebellar ataxia, cerebral palsy, Coffin-Lowry syndrome, cystic fibrosis, Down syndrome, dwarfism, fragile X syndrome, Friedreich's ataxia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, hearing impairment, Hunter syndrome, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, mental retardation, microcephaly, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, Rett syndrome, spina bifida, spinal cord injury, Tourette syndrome, traumatic brain injury, trisomy disorders and visual impairment. Additional diagnosis will be considered upon request.

SHW765.1 Diagnosis Form and Acceptable Adaptive Equipment Form. In order to participation in EWD events, a licensed medical physician must sign an AQHA diagnosis form. Also, an AQHA acceptable adaptive equipment form and riding ability form completed and signed by a certified instructor or coach of Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.), Special Olympics, US Para-Equestrian, Certified Horsemanship Association or IRD or a certified therapeutic riding instructor who is also a member in good standing of AQHA, indicating the riding ability and adaptive equipment that is required. A valid AQHA membership number or AQHA membership application must be submitted to AQHA. Upon receipt of the forms the AQHA membership card will be noted with EWD endorsement.

SHW767.3 The welfare of the horse is outlined in the rulebook, however, horses with a slight disability or lameness may be used at the discretion of the judge.

SHW768. GENERAL RULES FOR TACK AND EQUIPMENT. English and western equipment and attire will follow rules as set forth in the rulebook with the exception of EWD acceptable adaptation equipment.

SHW768.1 Helmet. Exhibitors must wear a properly fitted and fastened with harness, ASTM approved protective helmet. A western hat may be affixed over the helmet in western events. Equipment should conform to the riding ability of the competitor and be suitable for the horse.

SHW768.2 Halter. All horses when ridden must wear a halter in a manner that does not interfere with reining of the horse. A halter must be on the horse either over or under the bridle for use by the handler if needed. All exhibitors should be able to hold reins.

SHW768.3 Bits or bosal. A snaffle bit, curb bit or bosal/hackamore may be used no matter the age of the horse.

SHW768.4 Exhibitors are allowed to ride with one or two hands at any time during the class.

SHW768.5 Exhibitors are allowed to hold the saddle with either hand without penalty.

SHW768.6 EWD Acceptable adaptive equipment includes but not limited to:

SHW769. HANDLER. Required for all independent exhibitor classes: one handler per entry to facilitate the safety of the exhibitor. The handler must be 16 years of age or older. The handler must have a lead line without a chain in their hand in case of safety issues.

SHW769.1 Handlers shall stand quietly in a designated area, not obscuring the judge's line of vision, unless their assistance is required and requested by the judge or ring steward in the event of a safety issue. The handler may either take a position behind, beside or in front their respective exhibitor's horse or quietly walk forward and snap onto the horse's halter after the exhibitor's pattern is completed or the class has come in to line up.

SHW769.2 A blind or deaf exhibitor may have an assistant who communicates via verbal or sign language or cue cards to the competitor so they may hear the judge's directives or pattern instructions. This assistant will be outside the ring and their position known to the judge and ring steward.

SHW769.3 LEADERS AND SIDEWALKERS The supported exhibitor must have a leader with a loose lead without a chain, attached to the halter in a manner that does not interfere with reining of the horse. The supported exhibitor may need the assistance of one or two side walkers. Once the class has started, unauthorized assistance from horse leaders, spotters and side walkers will result in penalties. Side walkers may not give verbal commands or extra physical prompting, except in case of emergency.

SHW769.4 Handlers, leaders, side walkers, or extra spotters other than the required horse handler are not considered tack or equipment.

SHW770. ARENA SET UP. Markers must be used and may be numbered or lettered. People shall not be used as markers.

SHW771. PATTERNS All patterns must be posted one hour before the class. One of the suggested EWD patterns(s) must be used, however a judge in concert with the show management may utilize a different pattern in the walk-trot showmanship at halter, walk-trot-canter hunt seat equitation, walk-jog-lope western horsemanship, trail and para-reining using the acceptable maneuvers.

SHW773. Judging Equestrians with Disabilities Supported Exhibitor. Classes shall follow these guidelines, reversing only at the walk and omitting all extended gaits. Horses should be backed in the line-up, not on the rail. Horses should be worked for the amount of time necessary to evaluate each gait in each direction, taking into account the stress on the exhibitor and/or leader-side-walkers. The judge could choose to have the horse(s) walk briefly before resuming the jog/trot and completing the judging. The horses in the EWD supported classes are judged doing their jobs in spite of the challenges that may be presented due to the type of support or adaptive equipment that is required. Neither the amount of support and type of EWD acceptable adaptive equipment nor the unique characteristics of a specific exhibitor's disability should enter into the judging criteria.

SHW774. **EWD SHOWMANSHIP AT HALTER** – Walk Only, Walk-Trot/Jog, Walk-Trot/Jog. EWD exhibitors may show in only one showmanship class.

SHW774.1 Equipment and attire. Class can be shown English or western attire but must be one way or the other. There will be no mixing of attire or equipment on a horse/exhibitor. It is recommended to use a plain leather halter and plain lead for English attire. A plain leather halter or sterling silver mounted leather halter with leather lead is recommend for western attire. The use of a chain is permitted but discouraged. No bridles and/or bits and/or lip chains may be used.

SHW774.4 Individual Workout. The judge may select an appropriate EWD pattern. In the event that the judge in concert with the show management develops a walk-trot/jog showmanship at halter pattern instead of using existing EWD pattern(s) maneuvers found in SHW370 are acceptable, however the following are unacceptable: back in a curved line, pull turns. No exhibitor will be disqualified except for safety reasons at the judge's discretion. Exhibitors going off pattern will be penalized and placed at the bottom of the class.

SHW775. **EWD WALK & TROT HUNT SEAT EQUITATION ON THE FLAT** – Independent or Supported

SHW775.1 Refer to the SHW616 for rules on attire, exhibiting and how the class is judged.

SHW775.2 Class Procedure. All exhibitors must enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. When exhibitors are worked individually from the gate, a working order is required. Exhibitors should be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their individual work. The whole class, or just the finalists, must work at the appropriate gaits at least one direction of the arena.

SHW775.3 Individual Workout. The judge must select an appropriate EWD pattern.

SHW775.4 Scoring. Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to 100, in 1/2-point increments.

SHW777. **EWD WALK & TROT HUNTER UNDER SADDLE** – Independent or Supported

SHW777.1 Refer to SHW601 for rules on attire, exhibiting and how the class is judged.

SHW777.2 Class Procedure. Exhibitors will compete on the rail at a walk and trot both ways of the ring, line up. No extended gaits. Exhibitors will back in the lineup not the rail.

SHW779. **EWD WALK & JOG WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP** – Independent or Supported

SHW779.1 Refer to SHW430 for rules on attire, exhibiting and how the class is judged.

SHW779.2 Class Procedure. All exhibitors must enter the ring and then work individually, or each exhibitor may be worked from the gate individually. When exhibitors are worked individually from the gate, a working order is required. Exhibitors should be instructed to either leave the arena, fall into line, or fall into place on the rail after their individual work. The whole class, or just the finalists, must work at the appropriate gaits at least one direction of the arena.

SHW779.3 Individual Workout. The judge must select an appropriate EWD pattern.

SHW779.4 Scoring. Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to 100, in 1/2-point increments.

SHW781. EWD WALK & JOG WESTERN PLEASURE – Independent or Supported.

SHW781.1 Refer to SHW402 for rules on attire, exhibiting and how the class is judged.

SHW781.2 Class Procedure. Exhibitor will compete on the rail at a walk and jog both ways of the ring, line up. No extended gaits. Exhibitors will back in the lineup not the rail.

SHW783. EWD WALK, JOG/TROT TRAIL HORSE CLASS – Independent or Supported.

SHW783.1 Equipment and attire. Class can be shown English or western attire but must be one way or the other. There will be no mixing of attire or equipment on a horse/exhibitor.

SHW783.2 Refer to SHW461 for rules on exhibiting and how the class is judged.

SHW783.3 Class procedure. This class will be judged on the performance of the horse and while maneuvering a minimum of 5 obstacles for walk, trot/jog trail. Exhibitors are to work individually. There will be no rail work.

SHW783.4 Course. Refer to SHW461 for acceptable and unacceptable obstacles. Safety should be the first consideration in designing and setting up the course. All obstacles found in SHW461 are acceptable however the following are unacceptable: carrying an object, water hazard, slicker, mailbox.

SHW783.5 Scoring. Scoring will be on the basis of 0-100, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each maneuver will be scored SHW779.3 Individual Workout. The judge must select an appropriate EWD pattern.

SHW779.4 Scoring. Exhibitors are to be scored from 0 to 100, in 1/2-point increments.

Equipment

SADDLE Raised pommel, Raised cantle, Hard hand holds, Soft hand holds, Seat saver, Knee rolls/blocks, Thigh rolls/blocks, Padded saddle flaps

STIRRUPS Rubber bands around foot and stirrup, Enclosed stirrups, Strap from stirrup leather to girth/cinch, Strap from stirrup to girth/cinch, No stirrups, One stirrup

BRIDLE/REINS Looped rein/s, Connecting bar reins, Bridging rein, Ladder reins, Rein guides (rein through ring on saddle), Elastic insert in reins, Side pulls

WHIPS One or two whips, Strap attaching whip to hand

RIDING ATTIRE No boots if using safety stirrups (Peacock, S-shaped irons or Devonshire stirrups), Modified riding boots, Gaiters, Half chaps, Off set spurs, Safety vest

POSTURE, POSTURAL SUPPORTS & ORTHOSES L or R Arm sling, Neck collar, Ankle foot orthoses, Prosthesis, Wrist brace, Back support, Trunk support, Gait belt

OTHER AIDS Commander using sign language, Enlarged arena letters, Audio Communications (for hearing impaired), Voice, Bareback Pads, Surcingles, Other equipment will be considered upon request