2025 SANCTIONED NORTHEASTERN OHIO HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION NEOHA GUIDELINES & CIRCUIT RULES

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2025 Point & Membership Secretary

Dana Johnson

2025 NEOHA Show Stewards

Carrie Morrison Kim Brewster Jason Brown

<u>www.DustyBootsRidingClub.com</u> Caitlyn Visnosky – Webmanager

Email: <u>info@dustybootsridingclub.com</u> Facebook: **NEOHA**

Changes for 2025

- Family memberships can be obtained for 2 adult members in a household and all youth in the home regardless of marital status.
- All parties interested in hosting a N.E.O.H.A show are required to submit intent prior to January 15th or will incur a late fee of \$50.
- A fee of 50 cents per entry will be assessed to each hosting organization of an N.E.O.H.A. show.
- Rail work in Horsemanship and Equitation classes will be held at the discretion of the judge, not being mandatory.
- The point system was updated for both daily highpoints and year-end awards to be the same. It is also no longer dependent on the amount of entries in the class.
- Awards for year-end will be based on the placing you have in each class.
- Entry fees have increased to \$6 per class and \$12 per Jackpot Class.
- The Daily Highpoint categories will now be: Youth 12 & under Walk- Trot, Novice Rider Walk-Trot 13 & over, Youth 18 & under, Adult 19 & over, Open, Adult Ranch 19 & over, Youth Ranch 18 & under, Walk-Trot Ranch
- There will be no required work hours or sponsorship fee. However, we are hopeful that members contribute time to help at shows and support the organization.
- Only horses or exhibitors placing in the top 5 and which have shown in at least 50% of the shows in a class or earned 10 points in said class shall be eligible for year-end awards in that class.
- Points will follow the same horse/ exhibitor pairing for all classes.
- Exhibitors may show more than one horse in a showmanship, ranch riding, or trail class.
 Likewise, a horse may be shown by multiple exhibitors in showmanship, ranch riding, and trail classes. There shall be no limit on the amount of times an exhibitor or horse enters these classes
- Trainers may show in any class they desire.
- Ranch Trail, Trail, Open Ranch Training classes added.
- Ranch Conformation split into Youth and Adult age divisions
- The 40 & Over and Halter divisions discontinued. Open Division Added for daily highpoint.
- Classes changed for each division.
- The Walk-Trot age divisions changed.
- Paint & Appaloosa halter is now All Breed Halter
- The age restriction was revised to 8 & Under for Advanced Leadline
- Exhibitors are not eligible to receive year-end highpoints for the same division more than twice consecutively.
- Royalty Contestants must be signed up by August 1st.
- Daily HighPoint categories will follow the same classes in each category as year end divisions

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SANCTIONED NORTHEASTERN OHIO

HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION NEOHA / DUSTY BOOTS RIDING CLUB RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

Dusty Boots Riding Club, Inc., a family-centered riding group, has been in existence for over 70 years. Dusty Boots sponsors the Northeastern Ohio Horseman's Association (NEOHA). NEOHA is **not** an organization in itself, but an outgrowth of Dusty Boots; the NEOHA having been created to tabulate points, award yearly honors, and give the shows a certain consistency. The shows are approved by NEOHA but are actually produced by totally independent organizations. Dusty Boots Riding Club, Inc./ NEOHA, follows the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) rules as a guideline.

2. MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership dues for Dusty Boots Riding Club shall be for January thru December of current year.

B. Family membership includes household and family members 18 years and under. Youth 18 years and under as of January 1st must have a family membership.

C. All individuals showing for point tabulation must be a paid Dusty Boots Riding Club member.

D. Horses must be nominated prior to competing to receive any points toward year-end awards. <u>No</u> points will be awarded for classes shown prior to the moment the horse sign-up fee was paid.

E. Everyone who shows NEOHA for year-end awards must be a Dusty Boots member and therefore has all the rights of membership, including voting privileges for those ages 19 and over. Dusty Boots Riding Club meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. <u>All members</u> <u>are encouraged to attend</u>.

3. PAYMENT OF FEES

A. Membership dues, horse nomination fees, daily entry fees, grounds fee and all other fees as may be incurred in the course of an individual or family's involvement with NEOHA and/or Dusty Boots Riding Club, are considered paid on the date submitted. However, all checks received are subject to payment by the payer's bank.

- If a check is returned unpaid from the bank for any reason, the check writer will be notified. They will have 30 days from notification to remit payment for the amount of the check, as well as the amount of any and all fees incurred by NEOHA/Dusty Boots Riding Club and/or the organization sponsoring the show as a result of the returned check.
- 2) If payment on a returned check is not remitted within the allotted time, any membership and/or horse nomination fees that were assumed paid with the returned check will be canceled. Any points earned from the time the bad check was submitted, until the time the matter is settled to the satisfaction of NEOHA, will be forfeited.
- Any letter of notification sent via mail that is not returned to the club by the post office, will be considered served.
- 4) Anyone submitting a check must assure that the check is honored at the time it is presented for payment. Any delay on the part of NEOHA or the sponsoring organization in depositing a check for collection will not affect the standard procedure of debt collection as defined by NEOHA, if a check is returned unpaid.

B. In the event that a returned check is not reimbursed within the allotted time, any and all individuals whose fees were paid with that check will be prohibited from showing at any sanctioned NEOHA shows, and they will not be permitted to renew their Dusty Boots membership until the matter is resolved. This will apply regardless of that individual's membership in Dusty Boots Riding Club at the time the check was submitted, and regardless of whether the returned check was written in their name. For example: If John Doe writes a bad check to cover the entry fees of Jane Doe, both Jane and John Doe will be prohibited from participation in NEOHA events until the matter is resolved.

> If sanctions are taken against individuals whose fees were paid with a bad check, NEOHA will notify all parties affected by the sanctions.

C. After two instances of passing a bad check for any NEOHA sanctioned show or event, whether the check is reimbursed or not, that individual will no

longer be permitted to submit a check for payment. Cash or a cashier's check will henceforth be the only form of payment accepted from that individual, regardless of their membership in Dusty Boots Riding Club. A list of the individuals who are not permitted to submit checks will be kept in the entry box for the reference of the entry booth staff.

D. Any organization receiving bad checks must notify an NEOHADirectorimmediately, so that the appropriate procedure for collection may be put in motion.

4. SHOW DATES

A. A maximum of 15 show dates will be approved by NEOHA in a calendar year. The first sanctioned show shall be no earlier than the first Sunday of May. The final approved show shall be no later than September 30. Organizations having held previous sanctioned shows will receive first consideration for approval of shows by NEOHA the following year. Any show date not renewed by the organization previously having that date may be applied for by another organization.

 Applications for show dates must be mailed to: Dusty Boots Riding Club PO Box 875 Ashtabula, Ohio 44005-0875 ATTN: SHOW DATE COORDINATOR

Postmarks will determine the dates of applications. A \$25.00 deposit to the NEOHA must accompany all applications for show approval. This deposit will be returned to the applying organization if the show date is not sanctioned. If more than one organization applies for the same date, the organization with seniority for that date shall be used to determine priority. Applications must be received by **January 15th**^t for shows in the upcoming year or will incur a \$50 late fee. All Judges and Show Flyers must be submitted for approval by March 1st of the show year.

C. To avoid withdrawal of NEOHA sanction, loss of deposit and unnecessary reprinting costs, a copy of the proposed show flyer, the name of the confirmed judge and show steward *must* be submitted for approval to NEOHA *before* it is published.

5. SHOW REQUIREMENTS

A. All NEOHA sanctioned shows must post at the entry booth before the start of the show, a copy of the NEOHA Rule Book. All participants at NEOHA sanctioned shows, members and non-members, must adhere to NEOHA rules. **B**. To cover the cost of a NEOHA sanctioned show and/or drug testing and the supplied entry card kit, a fee of 50 cents per entry will be assessed to each sponsoring organization by NEOHA.

C. Any organization choosing to use the Dusty Boot's computer system will pay an additional fee plus payment to the computer operator.

D. All patterns must be posted 30 minutes prior to the start of the show. Patterns are mandatory for all Horsemanship and Equitation classes. Rail work may be called for at the discretion of the Judge. Only posted patterns may be used; and once posted, patterns may not be changed.

E. A 9:00 a.m. start time is recommended for all shows. All shows should start as close as possible to the published start time.

F. Every organization sponsoring a show must give awards for first through fifth place in each class. (Examples of awards include ribbons, trophies, cash, etc.) Every organization must award and use the Dusty Boots point scale for calculating daily highpoint and reserve highpoint awards.

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	partici
place	place	place	place	place	pation
6 pts	5 pts	4 pts	3 pts	2 pts	1pt

Daily HighPoint categories will follow the same classes in each category as year end divisions:

- Youth 12 & under Walk-Trot
- Novice Rider Walk-Trot 13 & over
- Youth 18 & under
- Adult 19 & over
- Open
- Adult Ranch
- Youth Ranch
- W/T Ranch

G. Ties for HighPoint tabulation shall be broken by the amount of 1st places if a tie still remains, then the tie will be broken in favor of the entrant who has the most 2nd places, 3rd places, number of classes the exhibitor showed in, 4th places, or 5th places, respectively.

H. Each Horse/Exhibitor pairing is only eligible to win one daily high-point or reserve high-point division. The exhibitor shall be awarded the division in which they accumulated the most points.

I. Every organization sponsoring a show must use the NEOHA approved list of classes. All NEOHA classes must be included in their proper order. Organizations wishing to add approved classes may do so as long as all regular NEOHA classes are used in their order.

J. Each sponsoring organization is responsible for getting all needed information to the NEOHA Point Secretary or Show Steward at the close of the show. This includes the names of all exhibitors in all classes, all entry cards (including non-point classes), all judge's cards, and all Dusty Boots memberships and horse nominations.

K. A maximum entry fee of \$6.00 will be charged for all classes except stakes and/or jackpot classes. The entry fee for stakes and/or jackpot classes will be determined by the organization sponsoring the show.

L. There will be a fee equal to the national standard mileage rate to deliver or return the entry box, if it is not picked up from and/or returned to the Point Secretary by a representative of the sponsoring organization.

6. SHOW OFFICIALS

A. Show Stewards and a Point Secretary will be elected for each calendar year. A Steward or a substitute appointed by the Steward will be at each sanctioned show to explain and enforce the NEOHA Rules. In the event a Steward is not available, questions regarding the governing of a show may be brought to the attention of any available NEOHA Director.

B. Each sponsoring organization must appoint a Show Manager from their organization to help their show run smoothly.

C. The Show Stewards and/or club officers shall be empowered to make private arrangements for drug testing for the current show season.

7. SHOW EVALUATION

A. To encourage quality shows, the NEOHA Directors will evaluate each show on the basis of entry fee, judge, awards, ring crew, equipment, condition of grounds, adequacy of facilities, layout of the flier, and adherence to NEOHA Rules. *The NEOHA reserves the right not to approve*, the following year, shows which have been found significantly deficient in these or other important areas. **B**. The NEOHA Directors will meet to evaluate shows following the final show of the year.

8. JUDGES

A. NEOHA reserves the right to approve or disapprove any judge hired for an NEOHA sanctioned show.

B. Judges must meet certain criteria before they will be approved by NEOHA. No judge will be approved whom: has shown at any NEOHA sanctioned show within the last year; has judged any NEOHA sanctioned show within the last year; or that has been approved to judge any other NEOHA sanctioned show in the same year.

C. NEOHA will provide to the sponsoring organization a list of judges that are *not* to be used in a given year along with a list of recommended judges.

D. In an emergency, an alternate judge may be selected by the sponsoring organization. Approval of the show will then rest on a majority vote of those members of the NEOHA Directors present at that time.

E. Prior to or during the show, there will be no socializing in any way between the judge and anyone on the grounds, with exception of show officials.

- Exhibitors having questions regarding their class should address their questions to the Show Steward on duty in the entry booth and/or the show ring, who will relay the question to the judge.
- 2) The only time, during the course of a show, that the exhibitor should approach the judge with a question is if the judge has specifically addressed the class and asked if there are any questions regarding the class or the pattern; or if the judge asks the individual exhibitor specific questions regarding their performance.
- Exhibitors are welcome to address the judge with questions regarding the placement of a class or their individual performance; however, these questions must be held until after the end of the show. Exhibitors should not address the judge during any of the scheduled breaks or intermission.

4) In the interest of fairness to all exhibitors, if the judge recognizes a particular horse or a particular exhibitor, in either a professional or personal context, NEOHA strongly recommends that the judge refrain from socializing with or about said individuals during the course of the show.

F. Judges' cards are to be handed directly from the ring master/mistress to the announcer or entry booth workers.

G. In the event that certain exhibitors are disqualified from a class for any reason, the judge is not required to fill all five places. Exhibitors who have been disqualified should be made aware of the reasons for their disqualification in a discreet manner, but they should not be used in the placing of the class.

H. The Judge's decision is final. NEOHA has no control over judging decisions, and will not hear complaints or protests regarding these decisions. Complaints or protests involving the improper running of a class should be addressed to the Show Steward as per the procedure outlined in section 11.

I. NEOHA would prefer that the judge send the patterns they intend to use for the day to the sponsoring show committee one week prior to the day of the show.

J. NEOHA will follow AQHA guidelines regarding the use of illegal bits and spurs. A copy of the AQHA Rule Book is available at the entry booth for review for those who are not familiar with these guidelines. <u>Bits and spurs must be checked by</u> <u>the judge in at least one class per show.</u> English spurs must be one inch or less, worn down, not altered, and are not to have rowels.

9. POINTS FOR YEAR-END AWARDS

A. All exhibitors signing up for year-end point tabulation must be Dusty Boots Riding Club members.

B. All horses being exhibited for year-end point tabulation must be signed up prior to receiving any points. A yearly fee of \$25 per horse will be assessed. This fee is separate from membership dues in Dusty Boots Riding Club.

 Anyone with evidence that there is a discrepancy with the points must contact the point secretary as soon as possible to have the situation reviewed.

- Only points earned after the time of payment of fees will be tabulated to count toward year-end awards. Points will begin with the class following the payment of fees.
- Every exhibitor of every animal signed up for points must be a member of Dusty Boots for points to be recorded.
- Exhibitors may receive points only with horses that are nominated for point tabulation.

C. NEOHA Year-End Award point tabulation:

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	partici
place	place	place	place	place	pation
6 pts	5 pts	4 pts	3 pts	2 pts	1 pt

Each member who shows in a class, but does not place, will receive one (1) participation point. Any exhibitor that is disqualified from a class for any reason will still receive their participation point for that class. <u>Except for exhibitors testing positive</u> for drugs or using illegal equipment.

D. NEOHA points will follow the same horse/same exhibitor in all classes.

E. Only horses or exhibitors placing in the top 5 and which have shown in at least 50% of the shows in a class or earned 10 points in said class shall be eligible for year-end awards in that class.

F.Exhibitors are not eligible to receive year-end highpoints for the same division more than twice consecutively, regardless of what equine they are showing. They may still show in the classes and earn awards for each class. After one year of not earning the year-end award for that division, they would become eligible again for the year end award.

G. Ties for year- end point tabulation shall be broken by the amount of 1st places if a tie still remains, then the tie will be broken in favor of the entrant who has the most 2nd places, 3rd places, number of classes the exhibitor showed in, 4th places, or 5th places, respectively.

H. Each Horse/Exhibitor pairing is only eligible to win one year-end high-point division. The exhibitor shall be awarded the division in which they accumulated the most points.

10. NEOHA YEAR-END HIGH POINT DIVISIONS

YOUTH 12 & UNDER WALK-TROT DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Youth 12 & Under W/T Showmanship
- Youth Halter 18 & Under
- Youth 12 & Under W/T Hunter Under Saddle
- Youth 12 & Under W/T English Equitation
- Youth 12 & Under W/T Western Pleasure
- Youth 12 & Under W/T Western Horsemanship
- Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon (All ages)
- Walk-Trot Trail (All ages)

NOVICE RIDER 13 & Over WALK-TROT DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Showmanship
- Adult Halter 19 & Over
- Youth Halter 18 & Under
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Hunter Under Saddle
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T English Equitation
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Western Pleasure
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Western Horsemanship
- Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon (All ages)
- Walk-Trot Trail (All ages)

YOUTH 18 & UNDER DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Youth Showmanship 18 & Under
- Youth Halter 18 & Under
- Youth Hunter Under Saddle 18 & Under
- Youth English Equitation 18 & Under
- Youth Western Pleasure 18 & Under
- Youth Western Horsemanship 18 & Under
- Youth Trail

ADULT 19 & Over

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Adult Showmanship 19 & Over
- Adult Halter 19 & Over
- Adult Hunter Under Saddle 19 & Over
- Adult English Equitation 19 & Over
- Adult Western Pleasure 19 & Over
- Adult Western Horsemanship 19 & Over
- Adult Trail

OPEN DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Open Showmanship
- Open Quarter Horse Halter
- Open All Breed Halter
- Open Hunter Under Saddle
- Open Walk-Trot Pleasure/Hunter Under Saddle in
- Open Walk-Trot
 Horsemanship/Equitation
- Open Western Pleasure

***Points may be accumulated in all classes in the division, however, for year end placings the highest accumulated points in either the loping/canter classes or the walk trot classes will count for overall tabulation, whichever is highest for each exhibitor/horse pairing.

RANCH HORSE WALK/TROT DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Ranch Horse W/T Pleasure
- Ranch Horse W/T Riding
- Ranch Horse W/T Trail
- Adult Ranch Horse Conformation
- Youth Ranch Horse Conformation

ADULT RANCH HORSE DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor of the horse with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Pleasure
- Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Riding
- Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Trail
- Adult Ranch Horse Conformation

YOUTH RANCH HORSE DIVISION

A Year-End High Point Division Award will be presented to the exhibitor of the horse with the highest combined point accumulation in the following classes:

- Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Pleasure
- Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Riding
- Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Trail
- Youth Ranch Horse Conformation

11. RULE CHANGES

The NEOHA Directors will evaluate and approve the rules and publish the rule book at the beginning of every calendar year. No rules for the year shall be changed after the rule book has been approved and published. Upon written request, signed by five (5) dues paying members 19 years of age or older, the NEOHA Directors will meet, and by a majority vote of Directors present, will clarify or define rule intent. Results of any rule clarification meeting will be provided to all committee members.

12. PROTESTS

A. The NEOHA has no control over judging decisions and such decisions may not be protested. *Judge's decision is final.*

B. Protests involving the improper running of a class must be presented to the NEOHA Show Steward before a class is placed. The Show Steward will consult with whomever he/she deems necessary and make a binding decision before the class may be placed.

C. Protests involving the administration of NEOHA rules must be presented to the NEOHA Steward in writing. A special meeting of the NEOHA Directors will be called before the next show and a decision made by a majority vote of members present. \$50 cash is to be posted with the written protest. If the

protest results in no change, the \$50 will go to the NEOHA. If the dispute is settled in favor of the protestor, the \$50 will be returned. All parties involved in the protest must attend the hearing.

13. DRUG TESTING

A. In the interest of fairness to all exhibitors, all animals being exhibited at any NEOHA approved show are subject to random drug testing. Illegal drugs include, but are not limited to, controlled substances and masking drugs. A refusal to comply with such requests, or positive results as determined by the testing laboratory, constitute grounds for immediate disgualification for the period of one (1) calendar year from the date of testing. This shall also constitute grounds for suspension of association membership and privileges to the exhibitor, owner and/or trainer. Any points earned by the disgualified horse, exhibitor and/or owner will be withdrawn for the entire year. The Show Steward and/or club officers shall be empowered to make private arrangements for drug testing for the current show season.

14.UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT OR INHUMANE TREATMENT

A. Unsportsmanlike conduct or any other form of misconduct that is irresponsible, illegal, indecent, profane, intimidating, threatening or abusive is prohibited. This applies to Dusty Boots Riding Club members, non-members, exhibitors, trainers, owners, owner representatives, spectators and all other persons on the show grounds of a Dusty Boots Riding Club approved event.

B. When any individual is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct and/or inhumane treatment of an animal as determined by the NEOHA Directors, including an individual's horse testing positive for drugs, certain rights of that individual, the exhibitor, owner and trainer of that animal may be suspended at the discretion of the NEOHA Directors. The right to participate in any remaining NEOHA shows may be suspended for such a time as deemed appropriate by the NEOHA Directors.

C. The standard by which conduct, or treatment will be measured is that which a responsible person, informed and experienced in the generally accepted equine training and exhibiting procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive or inhumane.

D. Any unsportsmanlike conduct, inhumane treatment or illegal drug use on a horse, should be reported immediately to the NEOHA Show Steward or any NEOHA Director.

E. Harassment of any exhibitor, judge, spectator or volunteer on the show grounds may be brought to the attention of the NEOHA Show Steward or any NEOHA Director. Immediate disciplinary action will be determined by the NEOHA Directors present. Disciplinary action may include but will not be limited to loss of points earned, suspension of membership, or dismissal from the show grounds. If further action is required, a formal disciplinary hearing may be requested by the parties involved.

F. Individuals found guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, testing positive for drug use, inhumane treatment or harassment of any type, will be dealt with immediately by the NEOHA Directors present. All current NEOHA Directors are empowered to enforce disciplinary action that they deem appropriate.

G. NEOHA sanctioned shows are privately sponsored events; and as such, NEOHA reserves the right to dismiss from the show grounds any exhibitor, spectator, owner or trainer that is found by the NEOHA Directors to be in violation of NEOHA standards of unsportsmanlike conduct, drug use, inhumane treatment, or harassment.

15. GENERAL SHOW RULES

A. All NEOHA Shows must run all classes by the NEOHA Rules.

B. Any rule violation occurring at any show must be brought to the immediate attention of either the Show Steward or an NEOHA Director. If the violation occurs in the show ring, the Director will then be responsible for notifying the announcer and ringmaster prior to the placing of the class.

C. All exhibitors, spectators, trainers or other persons participating at an NEOHA sanctioned show must adhere to the rules set forth in this rule book, regardless of membership in Dusty Boots Riding Club.

D.Exhibitors showing in breed-specific classes must have registration papers at all NEOHA sanctioned shows to be produced upon request.

E. Exhibitors are responsible for errors in entries.

F. Each horse/exhibitor combination must exhibit under a different back number. If an exhibitor shows more than one animal throughout the day, they must have separate back numbers for each animal. Likewise, if an animal is shown by more than one exhibitor, each exhibitor must use a different back number.

G. Exhibitors may show more than one horse in a showmanship, ranch riding, or trail class. Likewise, a horse may be shown by multiple exhibitors in showmanship, ranch riding, and trail classes. There shall be no limit on the amount of times an exhibitor or horse enters these classes

H. NO STALLIONS SHALL BE HANDLED BY ANYONE UNDER THE AGE OF 19 WHILE ON THE SHOW GROUNDS, NO STALLIONS SHALL BE SHOWN IN A LEADLINE CLASSES.

I. Each exhibitor shall appear in appropriate English or Western tack and attire for the class in which they are showing. Any exhibitor found to be using inappropriate tack or attire shall be disqualified.

- ASTM approved hard hats with safety harnesses are required in all jumping classes and optional in all other classes. Exhibitors in English classes on the flat shall wear a hard hat of their choosing, and are not required to wear an ASTM approved hat. No exhibitor in any class, English or Western, choosing to wear an approved hard hat shall be penalized.
- 2) At the judge's discretion, they may allow the removal of hunt coats in English classes. In such cases, short sleeve shirts shall be considered appropriate. Short sleeve shirts are not considered appropriate in any Western class.
- Inappropriate tack or attire must be brought to the immediate attention of the ring master, Show Steward, or an NEOHA Director prior to the announcement of the placing of the class.
- 4) An exhibitor may not be disqualified because it was discovered after he/she had left the show ring that his/her tack or attire was not appropriate.

J. NEOHA will follow AQHA guidelines regarding the use of illegal bits. A copy of the AQHA Rule Book is available at the entry booth for review for those who are not familiar with these guidelines. Bits and spurs must be checked by the judge in at least one class per show. English spurs must be one inch or less, worn down, not altered, and are not to have rowels.

K. The exhibitor's age will be determined as of January 1st of the show year.

L. The age of the horse shall be computed on the basis of a calendar year starting on January 1st of the year foaled. It is a weanling during the year foaled and a yearling during the first calendar year following its foaling regardless of the time of year foaled. For example, a horse foaled any time in 2006 was considered a yearling on January 1, 2007 and two years old on January 1, 2008.

M. Any horse deemed unruly by either the NEOHA Steward, an NEOHA Director, or the judge, will be dismissed from the class and the exhibitor will forfeit their entry fee.

N. Classes will be Split if the number of entries exceeds sixteen (16) or at judge's discretion.

O. Entries for stakes and/or jackpot classes will close when the class immediately prior enters the show ring.

16. ENFORCEMENT OF NEOHA RULES

A. It is the duty of the NEOHA Directors to write, evaluate, clarify and enforce the NEOHA Rules.

B. Any individual having evidence that another individual is in violation of the NEOHA Rules, should present said evidence to an NEOHA Director immediately. The Directors will investigate the accusation and, if the accusation is substantiated, take appropriate action as may be required.

C. Rule violations that are discovered, during the course of the day, at a horse show will be handled and immediate disciplinary action decided by at least three NEOHA Directors present, including at least one Show Steward. The individual in violation of the rules will be notified verbally immediately upon discovery of the violation.

D. All rule violations will be discussed by the NEOHA Directors as soon as possible following the violation. At that time, the Directors will determine if further disciplinary action should be taken. If further action is required, the individual(s) affected will be notified in writing by an NEOHA Show Steward.

E. In some cases, individuals may have their memberships and/or showing privileges revoked or suspended for such a time as deemed appropriate by the NEOHA Directors. Rule violations that may incur suspension may include but are not limited to: horses testing positive for illegal substances; inhumane treatment and/or unsportsmanlike conduct, including the use of illegal bit or spurs; passing bad checks for payment of NEOHA fees; and willful violation of the terms of specific NEOHA class divisions.

F. Any individual participating in any capacity at any NEOHA sanctioned show will be bound by the NEOHA Rules. NEOHA reserves the right to take disciplinary action against anyone who stands in violation of the rules, regardless of their membership in Dusty Boots Riding Club. Ignorance of the NEOHA Rules will not be tolerated as an excuse for their violation.

17. 2025 REQUIRED NEOHA CLASSES AND ORDER

Every show sanctioned by NEOHA must include each of the following classes in the following order:

- 1. Open Showmanship
- 2. Adult Showmanship 19 & Over
- 3. Youth Showmanship 18 & Under
- 4. Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Showmanship (Not eligible in any canter class)
- 5. Youth 12 & Under W/T Showmanship (Not eligible in any canter class)
- 6. Adult Halter 19 & Over
- 7. Youth Halter 18 & Under
- 8. Open Quarter Horse Halter
- 9. Open All Breed Halter (No AQHA)
- 15 Minute Break Ranch Horses Only -
- 10. Open Ranch Horse Training

(Humane training devices allowed) (Judged, Year-end points only) (Not tabulated in Daily Hi-Point)

- **11. Ranch Horse W/T Pleasure (All ages)** (Not eligible in any canter class)
- 12. Ranch Horse W/T Riding (All Ages) (Not eligible in any canter class)
- 13. Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Pleasure
- 14. Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Riding
- 15. Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Pleasure
- 16. Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Riding
- 17. Ranch Horse W/T Trail
 - (Not eligible in any canter class)

- 18. Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Trail
- 19. Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Trail
- 20. Adult Ranch Horse Conformation
- 21. Youth Ranch Horse Conformation
- 22. Lead Line (Riders 6 & Under)
- 23. Advanced Lead Line (Riders 8 & under) (Walk/Trot)
- -15 Minute Break-WALK/TROT RIDING ONLY -
- 24. Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Hunter Under Saddle

(Not eligible in any canter class)

25. Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T English Equitation

(Not eligible in any canter class)

- 26. Youth 12 & Under W/T Hunter Under Saddle (Not eligible in any canter class)
- 27. Youth 12 & Under W/T English Equitation (Not eligible in any canter class)

– 15 Minute Break –

28. Open English Training

(Humane training devices allowed) (Judged, Year-end points only) (Not tabulated in Daily Hi-Point)

- 29. Open Hunter Under Saddle
- 30. Adult Hunter Under Saddle 19 & Over
- 31. Adult English Equitation 19 & Over
- 32. Youth Hunter Under Saddle 18 & Under
- 33. Youth English Equitation 18 & Under
- -15 Minute Break WALK/TROT RIDING ONLY -

34. Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Western Pleasure

(Not eligible in any canter class)

35. Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Western Horsemanship

(Not eligible in any canter class)

36. Youth 12 & Under W/T Western Pleasure (Not eligible in any canter class)

37. Youth 12 & Under W/T Western

Horsemanship (Not eligible in any canter class)

38. Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon

(All ages, E/W, Not eligible in any canter class.)

39. Open Walk-Trot Pleasure/Hunter Under Saddle

(E/W, May cross to canter classes) 40. Open Walk-Trot Horsemanship/Equitation (E/W, May cross to canter classes)

- 30 Minute Break --

ROYALTY CLASSES

41. Open Western Training

(Humane training devices allowed) (Judged, Year-end points only) (Not tabulated in Daily Hi-Point)

- 42. Open Western Pleasure
- 43. Adult Western Pleasure 19 & Over
- 44. Adult Western Horsemanship 19 & Over
- 45. Youth Western Pleasure 18 & Under
- 46. Youth Western Horsemanship 18 & Under
- 47. Walk Trot Trail

(Not eligible in any canter class.)

- 48. Youth Trail 18 & Under
- 49. Adult Trail 19 & Over

18. LEAD LINE CLASS

A. Rider must be six years of age or under as of January 1st of the show year. This class is to be judged as a Horsemanship/Equitation class. Stirrups must be used. Riders must wear appropriate shirts, boots and hats; however, chaps are optional. Riders not wearing chaps will not be penalized. Riders may <u>not</u> show in the Advanced Lead Line class. However, they are eligible to show in the Youth Walk-Trot Showmanship 12 & Under Class and appropriate Halter classes. Year-end awards will be presented to all exhibitors who make an honest effort to show at as many shows as possible.

B. It is suggested that all riders wear protective headwear and will not be penalized.

C. Due to safety and liability concerns, there shall be no stallions shown in the Lead Line class.

19. ADVANCED LEAD LINE CLASS

A. Riders must be age 8 or under as of January 1st of the show year. Riders may <u>not</u> show in the Lead Line class. However, they are eligible to show in the Youth Walk-Trot Showmanship 12 & Under Class and appropriate Halter classes.

B. This class will be judged as a

Horsemanship/Equitation class. Horses may be shown either English or Western. Stirrups must be used. Riders must wear appropriate shirts, boots and hats; however, chaps are optional. Riders not wearing chaps will not be penalized. It is suggested that all riders wear protective headwear and will not be penalized. **C**. Riders will be accompanied by a handler. A lead line is optional at the discretion of the handler. It is recommended that the handler be an adult and remain approximately 5' away from the horse while being judged.

D. Rider and Handler will enter individually and proceed to <u>Walk, Trot, Stop, and Back</u> in a straight line. It is suggested that cones be placed for transitions. Judging should be done on the opposite side of the handler. Rider and Handler will then be required to work on the rail at a walk in at least one direction.

E. Due to safety and liability concerns, there shall be no stallions shown in the Advanced Lead Line class.

20. Youth 12 & UNDER WALK-TROT CLASSES

A. These classes are for exhibitors 12 years of age or under on January 1st of the current year.
 Exhibitors are not eligible in any canter classes.
 Any walk-trot exhibitor showing in any canter class will lose all accumulated walk-trot points. These classes are intended for bona fide walk-trotters; not exhibitors experienced in any canter classes.

B. The Youth Walk-Trot English Equitation and Western Horsemanship exhibitors will be asked to do a pattern. At the discretion of the judge, rail work in one direction may also be used.

C. Riders must wear appropriate shirts, boots and hats; however, chaps are optional. Riders not wearing chaps will not be penalized.

D. Riders exhibiting in these classes are not eligible in any other riding classes.

E. Due to safety and liability concerns, there shall be no stallions shown by any youth exhibitor.

F. Points for year-end awards will follow the same horse/exhibitor in the following classes:

- Youth 12 Under W/T Showmanship (E/W)
- Youth Halter 18 & Under
- Youth 12 & Under W/T Hunter Under Saddle
- Youth 12 & Under W/T English Equitation
- Youth 12 & Under W/T Western Horsemanship
- Youth 12 & Under W/T Western Pleasure
- Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon (E/W)
- Walk-Trot Trail (E/W)

21. NOVICE RIDER 13 & Over WALK-TROT CLASSES

A. Novice Rider Walk-Trot exhibitors must be at least 13 years of age on January 1st of the current year. Novice Rider exhibitors are not eligible for any canter classes. Any Novice Rider walk-trot exhibitor showing in any canter class will lose all accumulated walk-trot points. These classes are intended for bona fide walk-trotters; not exhibitors experienced in any canter classes.

B. The Novice Rider Walk-Trot English Equitation and Western Horsemanship exhibitors will be asked to do a pattern. At the discretion of the judge, rail work in one direction may also be used.

C. Riders must wear appropriate shirts, boots and hats; however, chaps are optional. Riders not wearing chaps will not be penalized.

D. An exhibitor may compete in the Novice Rider Walk-Trot classes year after year as long as there has been no demonstrated proficiency in canter classes.

F. Points for year-end awards will follow the same horse/exhibitor in the following classes:

- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Showmanship (E/W)
- Adult Halter 19 & Over
- Youth Halter 18 & Under
- Novice Rider 13 & OverW/T Hunter Under Saddle
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T English Equitation
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Western Horsemanship
- Novice Rider 13 & Over W/T Western Pleasure
- Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon (E/W)
- Walk- Trot Trail (E/W)

22. YOUTH 18 & UNDER CLASSES

A. These classes are for riders aged 18 years or under. Exhibitor's age will be determined as of January 1st of the show year.

B. In the 18 & Under Horsemanship/Equitation classes, exhibitors will be asked to do a pattern. At the discretion of the judge, rail work in one direction may also be used.

C. Points for year-end awards will follow the same horse/exhibitor in the following classes:

- Youth Showmanship 18 & Under (E/W)
- Youth Halter 18 & Under
- Youth English Equitation 18 & Under
- Youth Western Horsemanship 18 & Under
- Youth Hunter Under Saddle 18 & Under
- Youth Western Pleasure 18 & Under
- Youth Trail (E/W)

23. ADULT 19 & Over

A. These classes are for exhibitors ages 19 & Over. Exhibitor's age will be determined as of January 1st of the show year.

B. In Adult 19 & Over Horsemanship/Equitation classes, exhibitors will be asked to do a pattern. At the discretion of the judge, rail work in one direction may also be used.

C. Points for year-end awards will follow the same horse/exhibitor in the following classes:

- Adult Showmanship 19 & Over (E/W)
- Adult Halter 19 & Over
- Adult English Equitation 19 & Over
- Adult Western Horsemanship 19 & Over
- Adult Hunter Under Saddle 19 & Over
- Adult Western Pleasure 19 & Over
- Adult Trail (E/W)

24. OPEN CLASSES

A. Points may be accumulated in all classes in the division, however, for year end placings the highest accumulated points in either the loping/canter classes or the walk-trot classes will count for overall tabulation, whichever is highest for each exhibitor/horse pairing.

B. In 19 & Over W/T Horsemanship/Equitation classes, exhibitors will be asked to do a pattern. At the discretion of the judge, rail work in one direction may also be used.

C. Exhibitors in Open Walk-Trot Pleasure/Hunter Under Saddle and Open Walk-Trot Horsemanship/Equitation may cross to canter / lope classes at the same show. **D.** Points for year-end awards will follow the same horse/exhibitor in the following classes:

- Open Showmanship
- Open Quarter Horse Halter
- Open All Breed Halter
- Open Hunter Under Saddle
- Open Walk-Trot Pleasure/Hunter Under Saddle
- Open Walk-Trot
 Horsemanship/Equitation
- Open Western Pleasure

25. TRAIL CLASSES

A. No horse/exhibitor pair may cross enter both Trail and Ranch Trail, regardless of division.

B. An exhibitor may not show in both Youth or Adult Trail and Walk-Trot Trail. Youth and Adult Trail exhibitors will be asked to canter or lope. Walk-Trot Trail exhibitors are not eligible in any canter class.

C. After three refusals of a given obstacle, the exhibitor will be asked to continue on to the next obstacle

D. After three obstacles have been refused, the exhibitor will be disqualified and asked to exit the course.

E. Exhibitors off course will be disqualified and asked to exit the course.

F. In some instances, it is necessary for a rider to change hands on the reins while performing a particular Trail obstacle. Exhibitors are allowed to change hands on the reins only once during the course of a Trail pattern. The definition of changing hands once shall be to change from the dominant rein hand to the non-dominant rein hand, and back again, as may be required in the working of a gate or similar obstacle. Exhibitors changing hands on the reins more than once during a Trail pattern will be disqualified and asked to exit the course.

G. All Trail patterns must ask for a minimum of five maneuvers. Obstacles used will depend on the materials available at the showgrounds. It is recommended that judges not write a trail pattern until they are aware of the obstacles available for use.

Suggested obstacles include:

<u>Trail:</u>

Gate Ride over logs or poles at a lope/canter, jog/trot/ or walk Back through obstacle Water Hazard Serpentine Obstacles Carry object from one part of arena to another Ride over wooden bridge Put on and remove slicker Remove and replace materials from the mailbox. Side pass Box Any other safe and negotiable obstacle which could reasonably be expected to be encountered on a trail ride and meets the approval of the judge may be used.

Prohibited Trail Obstacles:

Tire, Animals Hides, PVC pipe, Dismounting, Jumps, Rocking or moving bridges, Water box with floating or moving parts, Flames, dry ice, fire extinguisher, etc. Logs or poles elevated in a manner that permits such to roll, ground ties

Ranch Trail:

Ride over logs at a lope, trot. or walk. Opening, passing through and closing a gate Ride over wooden bridge **Backing obstacles** Side-pass obstacle Drag an object Jump obstacle Live or stuffed animals Carry an object from one part of the arena to another Remove and replace materials from a mailbox. Trot through cones spaced Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments. Swing rope or throw rope at a dummy steer head Step in and out of obstacles Put on a slicker or coat Stand to mount with a mounting block Walk through water obstacles Open gate on foot Pick up feet Walk through brush

Ground tie (hobbles are allowed) Lead at the trot Any other safe and negotiable obstacle which could reasonably be expected to be encountered on a trail ride and meets the approval of the judge may be used.

Prohibited Ranch Trail Obstacles:

Water obstacles with slick bottoms, PVC pipe used as a jump or walk over, tires, rocking or moving bridges, logs elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner, any type of pinwheel regardless of spacing or gait.

H. The judge may walk the course and has the right and duty to alter the course in any manner. The judge may remove or change any obstacle he deems unsafe or non-negotiable.

I. Open Trail and Walk-Trot Trail patterns may use the same obstacles, but it is highly recommended that the Walk-Trot Trail pattern use the obstacles in a manner befitting the experience level of the exhibitors.

26. RANCH HORSE CLASSES

A. Exhibitors showing in Ranch Horse Classes may NOT show in other pleasure or trail classes with the same horse. However, Exhibitors MAY show in Showmanship, Halter, Hunter Under Saddle, Equitation, and Horsemanship with the same horse.

B. Exhibitors must be 18 or under to show in Youth or 19 or over to show in Adult. Age is determined to be the age of the exhibitor on January 1 of the current year.

C. W/T Ranch will be All Ages, but not eligible for any canter class. These classes are intended for bona fide walk-trotters; not exhibitors experienced in any canter classes.

D. Some preference will be given to exhibitors showing in "Ranch" type attire.

E. Trimming of facial hair, ears, bridle path, & fetlocks is discouraged.

F. Prohibited items will include:

- 1) Any saddle or bridle with silver attached.
- 2) Any tail extensions
- **3)** Braided or banded manes
- 4) Hoof black

G. Posting the extended trot is acceptable, Also, touching or holding the saddle horn is acceptable.

H. Ranch Horse Pleasure will be worked only on the rail with exhibitors possibly asked for extension at any or all 3 gaits.

- Judges will be looking for a horse suitable for ranch work. That is a horse with a free-flowing stride and natural headset working on light rein contact.
- 2) Ranch Horse Riding will be a pattern class with exhibitors working individually to demonstrate their horse's gait, flexibility, and response. There will be no rail work for this class.

I. Ranch Horse Conformation – Sweat marks and mud, if raining, will not count against any horse. Judges will be looking for a horse suitable for ranch work.

J. To be shown in ranch conformation or trail, a Horse must also be shown in a Ranch Riding, Pleasure, or Trail class.

K. Points for year-end awards will follow the same horse/exhibitor in the following classes:

ADULT RANCH HORSE DIVISION

- Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Pleasure
- Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Riding
- Adult 19 & Over Ranch Horse Trail
- Adult Ranch Horse Conformation

YOUTH RANCH HORSE DIVISION

- Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Pleasure
- Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Riding
- Youth 18 & Under Ranch Horse Trail
- Youth Ranch Horse Conformation

RANCH HORSE WALK/TROT DIVISION

- Ranch Horse W/T Pleasure
- Ranch Horse W/T Riding
- Ranch Horse W/T Trail
- Adult Ranch Horse Conformation
- Youth Ranch Horse Conformation

27. ROYALTY CONTEST

SENIOR CONTEST

Contestants competing for the title of **Dusty** • Boots King/Queen may be any male or female competing in the Dusty Boots Riding Club Canter/Lope or Walk/Trot classes. ages 14-24 as of January 1st of the show year. Qualifying contestants must be members in good standing of Dusty Boots and may not be married or divorced, may not be a parent, or expecting a child while competing for the title or during their reign. If a contestant's status changes at any time, they must withdraw from the competition or if having been crowned, must relinguish the title to the first runner-up, as well as returning all awards.

JUNIOR CONTEST

 Contestants competing for the title of Dusty Boots Prince/Princess may be any male or female competing in the Dusty Boots Riding Club Canter/Lope or Walk/Trot classes, ages 7-13 as of January 1st of the show year. Qualifying contestants must be members in good standing of Dusty Boots.

ROYALTY CONTEST RULES

- The Royalty contests will be composed of four separate parts, each contributing a different percentage to the total score.
 - A. Horsemanship 30% of total score.
 - There will be at least three opportunities offered to execute a horsemanship pattern. If no attempt is made, the score will be zero. If the contestant participates in more than two attempts, the two highest scored attempts will count towards the competition.
 - 2) The Royalty contestant may use any horse for the Royalty Horsemanship as long as that horse is signed up to receive Dusty Boots points. The contestants may use a different horse for each attempt. A \$6.00 entry fee will be paid at the show for each attempt.
 - The horsemanship attempts will be scored by the judges, not placed in reference to each other.

B. Written Test – 25% of total score.

- 1) Contestants will be given a written test of the NEOHA rule book.
- 2) The written test will be administered by the Royalty Committee.

C. Interview – 25% of total score.

- Contestants will be interviewed by a panel of judges selected by the Royalty Committee. There will be at least 3 judges on the panel.
- 2) The interview will take place on the same date as the written test.

D. Attendance – 20% of total score.

- Royalty contestants will be required to attend two Dusty Boots Riding Club membership meetings during the period January thru November. Contestants must sign the attendance sheet at the meeting.
- A Royalty sponsorship of at least \$50.00 per contestant is required and must be turned in to the Royalty Chairperson, no later than the last Dusty Boots show of the year, to complete the competition.
- A Royalty contestant is required to perform a minimum of four service hours for Dusty Boots Riding Club at shows or other DBRC functions OR serve on a committee as a participating member.
- The individual with the highest cumulative score at the end of the competition will earn the title of King/Queen/Prince/Princess.
 One winner will be crowned in each division along with a first and second runner up.
 Winner will be crowned at the annual awards banquet held the following spring.
- In the event of a tie, the winner will be the contestant with the highest overall horsemanship score.
- Once an individual has earned the title of King/Queen/Prince/Princess, they are eligible to compete in the contest every other year.
- <u>All contestants must be signed up by</u> <u>August 1st in order to compete in the</u> <u>contest.</u>
- Requirements of the King/ Queen/ Prince/ Princess during their reigning year may include but is not limited to:
 - 1) Pass out awards at the banquet following crowning.

- 2) Pass out awards at Dusty Boots shows (when they are not showing).
- Remain a Dusty Boots member in good standing.
- 4) Present royalty contestants at the shows.
- 5) Serve on and participate in fundraising or donation collection for the Royalty Committee.
- 6) Represent DBRC at all social and fundraiser events.
- If duties are not fulfilled, then the contestant will not be eligible to compete in the contest in the future.

The NEOHA / Dusty Boots Riding Club would like to say "Thank You" for your support and attending our shows and functions.

We cannot do this without you!