



**Oregon Family
Equestrian Association
Rulebook
2026**

Welcome to the Oregon Family Equestrian Association (OFEA) Rulebook.

Whether you are preparing for your very first class or you've spent years in the show ring, this rulebook is designed to support you with clear, consistent, and exhibitor-friendly guidance.

OFEA hosts live shows and has OFEA approved shows, and these rules apply to all OFEA events and to ensure that every exhibitor - regardless of discipline, breed, or experience level - has a fair and enjoyable showing experience.

This rulebook includes information on the various OFEA classes and their procedures. The procedures included may include instructions for those that walk, jog/trot, and lope/canter. If you only walk and jog/trot you should follow the instructions but understand that any specific lope/canter instructions may not be required for your walk/trot/jog classes.

Our goal is to create an environment that is:

- **Fair** – Judging standards and class procedures are consistent across all OFEA events.
- **Educational** – Rules are written to help exhibitors understand *why* certain standards exist, not just what they are.
- **Inclusive** – We welcome riders and handlers of all backgrounds, disciplines, and experience levels.
- **Adaptable** – Non-OFEA shows may adopt these rules in full or in part, allowing for consistency across events while giving show management flexibility to meet local needs.
- **Evolving** – OFEA reviews and updates classes and rules annually to reflect exhibitor feedback, industry standards, and the needs of our growing community.

Whether you show for personal growth, competitive goals, or simply the joy of spending time with your horse, we're glad you're here. Let's get started.

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OUR MISSION

Oregon Family Equestrian Association (OFEA) is a statewide organization; it is our objective to hold and authorize performance horse shows and educational events that are consistent and fair to competitors while at the same time are friendly and relaxed.

OUR VISION

To join families and their horses together, to encourage friendly competition and meet other people with similar interests. We are here to have fun with horses and promote them in a positive and enjoyable manner. In short, it is our goal to hold family-oriented outings for fun!

OUR VALUES

We value the competitive spirit while also demanding ethical treatment of our horses and sportsmanlike conduct to our fellow competitors and show officials. OFEA encourages seasoned competitors to contribute to the horse show world by mentoring novice competitors.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. YEAR END AWARDS PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP

1.1. There shall be no members of this corporation.

1.2. An exhibitor may elect to participate in the Year End Awards Program. They must be good standing when they have submitted the appropriate year end awards program registration form, have paid the annual year end awards program registration fee for the current year.

1.3. Year End Awards Program memberships are good for one calendar year, beginning on January 1 through December 31 of the same year. Points and awards can be earned by members beginning on the date when the year-end awards program registration form and payment have been received by OFEA.

1.4. Judge members are those members that are OFEA carded open horse show judges. Judge memberships are a one calendar year membership. Judges may participate in the year end awards program; they must pay the year end awards program membership fee to be eligible for awards as well as dues for their judge's card.

1.5. Year End Awards Program dues are payable by cash, check, or card and points from OFEA shows and OFEA approved shows start accumulating after the application and payment has been received.

2026 Fees

Year End Awards Program Membership dues \$55.00

Judge Membership dues \$25.00

1.6. Competitors may submit a membership application and dues with their first competition form. In no instance will points earned from a show count toward awards if the membership application and dues are not submitted either prior to or with the first competition form submission.

2. CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

2.1. Because of the nature of OFEA, the Association is primarily self-policed. It is up to OFEA members to observe and report actions they believe are cause for discipline. Year End Awards Program participants and Judges are subject to these rules and may be subject to discipline for failing to uphold OFEA ethical standards or for violating rules, regulations, terms, and/or conditions of this rulebook.

2.2. Abuse of any horse on the grounds of an open show by an exhibitor may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including revocation of participation in the year end awards program. Abuse is considered to be cruel or inhumane treatment of a horse or other equine. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures would determine to be cruel, abusive and/or inhumane.

2.3. Exhibitors are expected to conduct themselves with good sportsmanlike conduct. Instances of poor sportsmanship include being verbally or physically abusive, including showing disrespect to any show official including a judge. Unsportsmanlike conduct is also defined as deceit or fraud, to any show, show official, or the Association (this includes failure to pay any fees, dues, or required payments or revoking/reversing prior payments that were due to the Association). Failure to adhere to the Association's conduct rules may be grounds for suspension or membership revocation.

2.4. Court of law convictions for equine abuse will be cause for immediate permanent revocation from OFEA.

2.5. Falsifying Competition Forms is grounds for suspension and/or revocation of being a participant of the year end awards program. Any exhibitor may alert OFEA to possible fraud. OFEA will then investigate the potential fraud and will take action as deemed appropriate per the outcome of the investigation. Any points awarded, and then found that they were submitted fraudulently, will be revoked along with any potential awards.

2.6. Judges must complete their duties in a professional and ethical manner. Failure to uphold the highest ethical standards is cause for discipline. These standards include: Placing classes to the best of their ability and knowledge; Seriously undertaking their judging duties including not abusing their power and treating all exhibitors, show management, and spectators equally and with respect.

2.7. Additionally, Judges must not perform their duties, including placing classes, in a discriminatory manner. This includes exhibitors' race, ethnicity, gender, disability, religion, or any other discriminatory category. Judges must also be above reproach.

3. JUDGES

3.1. OFEA requires that approved OFEA judges carry out their duties in a professional and ethical manner. OFEA judges must place classes fairly and objectively on the performance of the horse and/or rider. Judges should be knowledgeable, not just in general horse showing rules, but in general horse management and care. Judges must judge each horse or exhibitor fairly, without bias, without prejudice, without influence, and based solely upon the performance before the judge on that day, in that class. Judges may not participate in a show or class in which they are also the judge.

3.2. OFEA approved judges must pass the OFEA Judges open show test. Judges will be required to attend an OFEA judge's clinic every three years.

3.3. OFEA does not perform background (criminal or civil) checks on OFEA judges or prospective judges. Individual shows should use their best judgment when hiring any judge.

3.4. OFEA exhibitors are encouraged to submit Judge Evaluation forms for any approved OFEA judge that officiates at a show where they are participant or spectator. This feedback may be used to commend a judge for exceptional judging, or it may be used when complaints are filed against a judge.

3.5. OFEA approved judges and their contact information will be listed on the OFEA website. OFEA approved judges agree to allow OFEA use of their name and/or likeness to be used in promotional activities for the organization.

3.6. Judges must dress in appropriate professional attire. Cell phone use, smoking, drug/alcohol use are prohibited while officiating.

3.7. Each judge is to judge each class in union with the OFEA rules and specifications of that class as outlined in OFEA, USEF, and/or breed rulebooks.

3.8. Each judge must place classes 1st through 5th place (or more places if show requires) with a reserve. In the event of a disqualification, reserve will move up to 5th place all others accordingly.

3.9. OFEA judges must be at least 19 years of age, with an updated rulebook and have paid a \$25 processing fee and be recognized as another organization's horse judge's license (i.e., OHA, USEF, or breed carded judge).

3.10. A judge may not be the owner of any equine being shown to them, nor judge any exhibitor that has taken lessons from them within 90 days of the show date. A judge may not judge any horse that has been sold or trained and /or boarded by said judge within 90 days of show date, excluding clinics.

3.11. An OFEA judge will always represent the OFEA in a professional manner both in and out of the arena. The Board of Directors may terminate a judge if found that their activities/actions, including social media, are embarrassing to OFEA, do not promote the welfare of OFEA, causes dissention with OFEA or otherwise contrary to the purposes of OFEA.

4. APPRENTICES

4.1. Any person who is at least 19 years of age and is interested in becoming an OFEA judge and who does not qualify under Article 4, may apply to the OFEA Judges Coordinator as an apprentice. The coordinator shall have the responsibility and authority for approving judges under the apprentice program.

4.2. Apprentice judges can obtain an application by contacting the OFEA Judges Coordinator. A \$5 non-refundable application fee shall apply. Once licensed, the \$5 will be applied towards the apprentice judge's first year judges' card fee.

4.3. Minimum requirements shall include a satisfactory score on a test (information and rules) and apprentice at two OFEA approved open shows under OFEA senior judge.

4.4. Apprentice judges shall have two years to complete their apprenticeship.

YEAR END AWARDS PROGRAM

5. BASIC COMPETITION RULES

- 5.1. Every active Year-End Awards Program participant may earn points to accumulate for year-end high point awards by competing in OFEA hosted events and OFEA approved events.
- 5.2. Year-End Awards are presented annually and are based on points earned during the prior year. The prior year is defined as February 1st through November 1st of the same year. Under certain circumstances, board approval could happen if a schooling show is within 7 days at the beginning or ending of the OFEA year.
- 5.3. Points accumulate on horse and rider combinations regardless of ownership of horse. Showmanship and Equitation points will be accumulated on the exhibitor, regardless of horse shown. Halter points will be accumulated on the horse only, regardless of owner or handler.
- 5.4. Must attend two OFEA Crazy Ribbon Schooling Shows to keep your accumulated schooling division points from OFEA hosted shows and OFEA approved shows.
- 5.5. Must attend two OFEA Silver Buckle Open Show Series to keep your accumulated open show points from OFEA hosted shows and OFEA approved shows.

6. HORSE PARTICIPATION RULES

- 6.1. Horses do not need to be breed registered to compete.
- 6.2. Age of horse shall be determined by the birthday deemed to be January 1st, regardless of the actual birth date.
- 6.3. Ponies may compete in any class. However, the judge or show management may disqualify a pony if it is determined to be disruptive or presents a safety hazard.
- 6.4. Mini horses may compete in halter or driving classes.
- 6.5. Mules may compete in any class, other than a “breed” class at OFEA shows – SUBJECT TO DISCRETION OF SHOW MANAGEMENT. However, the judge may disqualify and exclude any mule if the show is disrupted or a dangerous situation exists.
- 6.6. Stallions are permitted only if the rider or handler is 18 years of age or older.
- 6.7. Any intermediate gait that is normal for a particular breed shall be acceptable in lieu of trot or jog and that horse shall not be penalized.
- 6.8. Any horse that is unsound in the opinion of the Judge shall be disqualified.

7. ACCEPTABLE SHOWS

- 7.1. All OFEA hosted or OFEA approved shows that are on the show calendar on our website. We will receive results from the show management of the OFEA approved shows and these results will be entered in the prospective divisions.

7.2. Non OFEA shows or OFEA approved shows can only accumulate points for the Western, English, or Gaming Versatility categories. The results from these shows must be submitted to OFEA by mail, email or online form.

7.3. Shows sanctioned by a national equine organization or association may include non-sanctioned classes on their show schedule and those classes may qualify for points in OFEA. For example, Northwest Buckskin Club is an affiliate of ABRA. Most classes offered at an ABRA show would not qualify for OFEA points. However, if the affiliate offers an all-breed class that is not nationally sanctioned by the ABRA, that class would qualify for points in OFEA.

7.4. All entry fees, show fees, and associated costs are solely the responsibility of the exhibitor. OFEA does not reimburse or pay for any show costs.

7.5. OFEA does not assume responsibility for the safety of any exhibitor or horse, show personnel or volunteers, or any spectator, entrant, competitor, or others involved with an open show. All liability remains with the individual and/or the show.

8. EARNING POINTS

8.1. All points are earned on a horse and rider combination. If more than one rider shows a horse and submits a year-end awards program registration form, each rider must have paid the registration fee.

8.2. One point will be earned for any paid entry for everyone who completes a class, even if disqualified or being off course in a pattern will still receive a participation point.

9. HIGH POINT TABULATION AT OFEA SHOWS

9.1. Points earned per class at OFEA schooling or open shows.

1st place = 10 points

2nd place = 8 points

3rd place = 6 points

4th place = 4 points

5th place = 2 points

9.2. Points earned per class are based on per judge.

9.3. Showmanship placings will be used in case of a tie. If a tie isn't broken by showmanship placings, then we will go off how many firsts the tied exhibitors have in the listed high point classes in that division.

9.4. OFEA recognizes that OFEA approved shows may have their own daily high point tabulations.

10. YEAR-END AWARDS POINT TABULATION – SCHOOLING DIVISION

10.1. Points are earned the same as the high point tabulation. Horses will earn one participation point if they did not place in the class.

POINTS AWARDED						
Number of horses in class	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place	5 th Place	Reserve or Non-Placing
1	10					
2	10	8				
3	10	8	6			
4	10	8	6	4		
5	10	8	6	4	2	
6+	10	8	6	4	2	1

10.2. Showmanship points at OFEA or OFEA approved schooling shows are counted toward both English and Western age division categories. However, to qualify for year-end awards in each category, the exhibitor must also compete in at least one riding class in the designated category.

10.3. Leadline and Halter points DO NOT count towards year-end awards.

11. YEAR-END AWARDS POINT TABULATION – OPEN DIVISION

11.1. Points are earned based on the number of horses in a class and the placing of the horse within that class. OFEA will recognize up to five (5) placings per class. Horses placing 6th or below will only earn one participation point regardless of the number of horses shown in the class.

11.2. Points earned by placing in a class. A horse earns one point for participating and one point for every horse beaten in the class up to five (5) placings. Additional points are awarded based on the table below.

POINTS AWARDED						
Number of horses in class	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place	5 th Place	Reserve or Non-Placing
1	5					
2	5	4				
3	5	4	3			
4	5	4	3	2		
5	6	5	4	3	2	
6	7	6	5	4	3	1
7	8	7	6	5	4	1
8	9	8	7	6	5	1
9	10	9	8	7	6	1
10+	Continue pattern for the number of horses per class					

11.3. In the event show management chooses to award ribbons through sixth place, the exhibitor who is awarded sixth place shall receive one point only (the participation point).

11.4. The number of horses counted for tabulation shall be number of paid entries who enter the arena and begin as noted on the class sheets.

11.5. Double and/or triple points shall be awarded to any open show only if a corresponding number of judges are used in each class.

12. AWARD CATEGORY RULES

12.1. Exhibitors must declare their intent and pay the required fee to participate in the Year-End Awards Program

12.2. Age of rider shall be determined as of January 1st of that year.

12.3. Awards will be given to the following age groups:

- 10 & Under Walk/Trot*
- 13 & Under
- 14-17
- 18-38
- 39 & Over

12.4. **No cross entry into any canter classes in schooling, gaming, trail, and open shows or to the leadline class.*

12.5. Once a 10 & Under walk/trot competitor chooses to enter a canter class, their status will become a 13 & Under competitor, and all points that were accumulated and earned will be forfeited.

12.6. The 10 & Under walk/trot age division includes:

- Showmanship 10 & Under
- English Walk/Trot 10 & Under
- English Equitation 10 & Under Walk/Trot
- Western Walk/Trot 10 & Under
- Western Equitation 10 & Under Walk/Trot
- Any other Walk/Trot Classes

12.7. Walk/Trot open classes that are not age division will be posted to the participants' 10 & Under Walk/Trot Pleasure or Equitation points. This is for 10 & Under only.

13. YEAR-END POINT CATEGORY DIVISIONS AND POINT ACCUMULATION

13.1. Schooling Show Division year-end categories are as follows:

English	Western
Schooling 10 & Under Walk/Trot	Schooling 10 & Under Walk/Trot
Schooling 13 & Under	Schooling 13 & Under
Schooling 14-17	Schooling 14-17
Schooling 18-38	Schooling 18-38
Schooling 39 & Over	Schooling 39 & Over

13.2. Open Show Division year-end categories and point accumulation are as follows:

Point Category	Accumulation of Points
Showmanship – Age Division	All showmanship – both age division and open showmanship classes regardless of horse shown
English Equitation – Age Division	All English Equitation – both age division and open equitation classes regardless of horse shown

Western Equitation – Age Division	All Western Equitation – both age division and open equitation classes regardless of horse shown
English Pleasure – Age Division	English Pleasure age division only – same horse/rider combination
Western Pleasure – Age Division	Western Pleasure age division only – same horse/rider combination
English Pleasure – Junior/Senior Horse	Only English Junior/Senior Horse
Western Pleasure – Junior/Senior Horse	Only Western Junior/Senior Horse
All Around English Pleasure Horse	All Open English Pleasure classes include, but not limited to Age Division, Stock/Saddle Type, Colored/Solid Colored Horse, and Junior/Senior Horse
All Around Western Pleasure Horse	All Open Western Pleasure classes include, but not limited to Age Division, Stock/Saddle Type, Colored/Solid Colored Horse, and Junior/Senior Horse
Leadline	All Leadline 7 & Under Classes – no cross entry allowed in any other riding classes
Halter Stallions	All open halter classes regardless of handler
Halter Geldings	All open halter classes regardless of handler
Halter Mares	All open halter classes regardless of handler

13.3. Top 5 All Around Competitors

- Total points combined from the following Categories
 - Showmanship
 - English Equitation
 - Western Equitation
 - All Around English Horse
 - All Around Western Horse

13.4. Other Year-End Award categories are as follows:

Point Category	Accumulation of Points
Western Versatility <i>Forms must be turned in by Nov 1st, which can be found on the OFEA website</i>	Earn points in any <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Dressage • Western Riding • Reining • Pleasure Driving • Obstacle Driving • Reinsmanship • Mounted/In-Hand Show Trail • Mountain/Extreme Trail With the same rider/horse combination, shown in Western attire
English Versatility <i>Forms must be turned in by Nov 1st, which can be found on the OFEA website</i>	Earn points in any <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressage • Hunt Seat Over Fences • Hunter Hack • Cross Country

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show Jumping • Pleasure Driving • Obstacle Driving • Reinsmanship • Mounted/In-Hand Show Trail • Mountain/Extreme Trail <p>With the same/rider horse combination, shown in English attire</p>
<p>Gaming Versatility Forms must be turned in by Nov 1st, which can be found on the OFEA website</p>	<p>Earn points in any gaming show/playday that has at least three of the following events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrels • Flags (Individual/NSCA) • Pole Bending • Figure 8 • Key Hole/Key Race • Single Stake Race • Bi-Rangle <p>With the same/rider horse combination</p>
<p>Trail Hours Forms must be turned in by Jan 5th, which can be found on the OFEA website</p>	<p>All trail hours logged January 1st through December 31st. These are hours riding out on the trails, beach, etc.</p>
<p>Service Awards Forms must be turned in by Jan 5th, which can be found on the OFEA website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering or donating funds to any therapeutic riding center or horse rescue organization • Fostering an abused or neglected horse • Adopting an abused or neglected horse

14. DEFINITION OF YEAR-END AWARDS

14.1. **Showmanship Awards** are judged on the exhibitor's ability to show the horse at halter (conformation is not to be considered).

14.2. **Equitation Awards** are classes that are judged on the rider and the ability to show their ability to show their horse

14.3. **Pleasure Awards** are classes that are judged on the horse (to include performance and conformation).

14.4. **Halter Awards** are judged on the horse's conformation.

14.5. **Western Versatility Awards** will be awarded to the Top 5 exhibitors with the most earned points in Western Dressage, Western Riding, Pleasure/Obstacle Driving, Reining, Mounted and In-Hand Trail, and Mountain and Extreme Trail classes shown in Western attire. Competitor will need to submit a Western Versatility Horse form signed by the show management for any non-approved OFEA shows. For OFEA approved shows, points will be submitted by the show management. Western Versatility Horse points will be calculated in the same manner as open show point tabulation and will only count for the Western Versatility Horse award. All classes are to be email/postmarked to OFEA on or before **November 1st** of the current point year.

14.6. **English Versatility Awards** will be awarded to the Top 5 exhibitors with the most earned points in Hunt Seat Over Fences, Hunter Hack, Dressage, Cross Country, Show Jumping, Pleasure/Obstacle Driving, Trail or In-Hand Trail show classes in English attire. Competitor will need to submit an English Versatility Horse form signed by the show management for any non-approved OFEA shows. For OFEA approved shows, points will be submitted by the show management along with the show points. English Versatility Horse points will be calculated in the same manner as open show point tabulation and will only count for the English Versatility Horse award. All classes are to be email/postmarked to OFEA on or before **November 1st** of the current point year.

14.7. **Gaming Versatility Awards** will be awarded to the Top 5 exhibitors with the most points from any gaming show/playday that has at least three of the following events: Flags, Barrels, Pole Bending, Figure 8, Keyhole, Key Race, Single Stake Race, Bi-Rangle. Points will be submitted by the exhibitor on the Gaming Division Form and signed by show management. All points must be emailed/postmarked to OFEA on or before **November 1st** of the current point year.

14.8. **Trail Logged Hours Awards** will be awarded to the Top 5 exhibitors with the most logged trail riding/driving hours (informal basis). Riders/Drivers will log their trail riding time. Open to any participant in the Year-End Awards Program. Hours must be on the trail – ring or arena riding/driving does not count. Ponying another horse does not count towards trail logged hours. Trail logged hours must be on the open trail, not in an arena or clinic setting. All trail logged hours must be emailed/postmarked to OFEA on or before **January 5th** following the end of the prior point year.

14.9. **OFEA Service Award** is a volunteer award to promote OFEA members to volunteer their time and money to better our human and animal communities. Points will be turned in and tabulated at year end, with recognition to the top five volunteers at the year-end banquet. Year-End awards and a perpetual trophy will be awarded to the volunteer with the most points earned in that specific point year.

14.10. **The Jean Sirotek Sportsmanship Award** was created to recognize an individual displaying outstanding sportsmanship through the show season. To be eligible for this award the individual must be an outstanding representative of OFEA. The nominee should have the following qualities: helping out your fellow competitor, being polite, respectful, courteous, and compassionate while in and out of the show ring, taking it upon yourself to help when and wherever needed.

14.11. **The Shawna Hoegh Spirit of OFEA Award** was created by the OFEA Board of Directors on December 19, 2010 and renamed in 2024, to recognize individuals or organizations who truly represent OFEA and all it stands for. They can be seen working and riding for OFEA. They are always lending a hand, praising others, and in general sending positive messages to others.

14.12. **OFEA Horsemanship Award** was created by OFEA Board of Directors on December 19, 2010, to recognize individuals or organizations who exemplify integrity, sportsmanship, helpfulness, cooperation, stewardship, and horsemanship. The individual or organization nominated has made a positive contribution to the equine industry as a whole.

14.13. Nominations can be made by sending a written explanation and sent to OFEA or emailed to oregonfamilyequestrian@gmail.com. Submissions open October 1st and nominations must be received by December 1st of the current year.

GENERAL RULES FOR OFEA OPEN HORSE SHOWS

15. ATTIRE

15.1 All exhibitors must wear clothing that is:

- Clean
- Neat
- Well-fitted
- Appropriate for the discipline

15.2. Competitors must wear their number on their backs or on BOTH sides of the horse on the saddle pad so that the number is always visible to the Judge.

15.3. Proper attire will be required for all classes

- Hats/Helmets
 - Helmets may be worn in any class without penalty
 - Helmets are required for our Leadline exhibitors
 - Helmets are required in all jumping classes regardless of age of the rider
- Long sleeves
- Long pants/breeches
- Boots

15.4 Discipline Specific Attire

Discipline	Required Attire	Optional Attire	Prohibited/Notes
In Hand	Attire appropriate to the horse's style: Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat, or Gaited. Footwear and headwear must match the discipline.	Gloves	Crops or bats except for a lunge whip in the lunge line class or a dressage whip in a Halter class for a saddle type horse.
Western	Long sleeve collared shirt; Long pants or jeans; Boots; Western hat or helmet	Gloves; Chaps; Spurs	Crops or bats
Hunt Seat	Coat; Long sleeved shirt; Breeches or Jodhpurs; English boots; Hunt cap or standard safety helmet.	Gloves, Spurs; Half Chaps; Crops/Bats	Roweled Spurs
Saddle Seat	Jacket; Long sleeve shirt with vest (no jacket); Jodhpurs; Derby or soft hat (or helmet); Jodhpur boots	Gloves; Spurs; Crops/Bats	Roweled Spurs
Gaited	Boots; Attire appropriate for Western, Hunt Seat,	Gloves; Spurs; Chaps or Half-Chaps; Crops/Bats	

	Saddle Seat or breed-specific native dress.		
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16. TACK

16.1. Tack plays a major role in safety, fairness, and disciplinary integrity. OFEA's tack rules ensure that exhibitors present their horses in equipment appropriate for the class, while also protecting the welfare of the horse.

16.2. Prohibited Equipment (All Classes)

- Caustic chemicals (mustard oil, ginger, kerosene, etc)
- Weighted shoes, boots, or wraps
- Any metal that touches the horse under the halter or bridle (tacks, pins, wire, barbed wire)

16.3. The following items are **allowed** in schooling shows only or if there are special schooling classes at open shows.

- Martingale
- Draw Reins
- Training Forks

16.4 Discipline Specific Tack Rules

Discipline	Tack/Equipment	Notes
In Hand Tack		
	Spurs	Not Allowed
	Whips	Not allowed except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halter Classes – dressage whip for saddle type horses • Lunge Line Classes – lunge whip permitted • Ground Driving Classes – driving whip permitted
	Halters	Leather (with or without silver); nylon, or rope
	Lead ropes with chains	Allowed under the chin or over the nose only
	Bridles	Permitted for hunter and saddle-type horses
	Lunge Line Length	Maximum 30 feet
Western Tack		
	Bridle	No cavesson or noseband
	Bits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any standard western bit allowed • Snaffle or bosals are permitted for horses five years old and younger
	Hands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hand with leverage (shanked) bits • Two hands with snaffles or bosals which are only permitted on horses five years or younger.
	Reins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Split Reins or romels • Single roping/barrel reins allowed in time events only
	Curbed Chains/Straps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required with leverage bits and snaffle bits • Must be ½" wide and lie flat • Snaffle bits must have leather chin straps only • No wire, rawhide and may not be rounded, rolled, or braided
	Saddles	• Western saddle (leather or synthetic) required

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western side saddles permitted
	Horse Boots (bell, fetlock, knee, and/or sports boots)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed only in reining, ranch, and time events
	Equipment NOT allowed in judged classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gag Bits • Mechanical Hackamores • Twisted Wire Snaffle • Tie Downs
	Equipment allowed in timed events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gag bits • Mechanical Hackamores • Tie Downs
Hunt Seat Tack		
	Bridle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Browband & Cavesson required
	Bits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An standard English bit allowed • Pelham or double bridle permitted
	Saddle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward seat, all-purpose, close contact, or jumping saddle • Side saddles are permitted • Dressage saddles allowed in flat classes
	Saddle Pads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any color or shape
	Crops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed • Must be used only behind the shoulder
Saddle Seat Tack		
	Bridle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full bridle, pelham or snaffle
	Saddle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat cutback saddle required • Dressage or hunt seat saddles not allowed
	Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barefoot, shod, or padded allowed • Weighted pads NOT allowed
Gaited Tack		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow tack rules for the riding style (Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat) • Breed-specific native tack allowed • Two hands allowed on any permitted bit
Prohibited Equipment		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boots or wraps in conformation, showmanship, pleasure, or flat equitation classes • Bandages are permitted for minor injuries that do not render a horse unsound • Whips, crops are only allowed in lunge line, hunt seat, saddle seat, and gaited classes. Exceptions are listed under the In Hand Note section

17. SCHOOLING IN OPEN SHOWS – REGULAR CLASSES

17.1. Schooling in regular classes in OFEA hosted or OFEA approved open shows MAY be allowed at Judge's discretion. However, any schooling must be conducted in a manner that does not disrupt the class in any way.

17.2. An individual who wishes to school their horse

- Must be a paid entrant in that class
- Must wear number upside down
- Must be in attire and tack that is required for that class

17.3. An individual who schools his or her horse in a regular class in an open show shall not be placed and shall not receive points toward any year-end award.

17.4. The judge shall have final authority relative to a determination that the schooling activity is disruptive in any way.

18. JUDGING AND CLASS PROCEDURES

18.1. Judging at OFEA events is designed to be fair, consistent, and educational. Whether a class is rail-based, pattern-based, or scored maneuver-by-maneuver, judges follow OFEA rules first and may reference AQHA or USEF guidelines when needed. Exhibitors should understand how classes are run and how judges evaluate performances so they can prepare confidently.

18.2. General Class Procedures

18.2A. Class Calls and Order of Go

- Exhibitors must be prepared to enter the ring or begin their pattern when called.
- Failure to follow the correct pattern or class instructions may result in penalties in disqualification.

18.2B. Rail Classes (Flat Classes)

- Rail classes are judged as a group. Exhibitors perform gaits or maneuvers as instructed by the announcer or judge.

18.2C. Pattern Classes

- Pattern classes require exhibitors to complete a predetermined sequence of maneuvers. Accuracy and execution are key.

18.2D. Class Placings

- All classes are place through **fifth** place with a reserve.
- In the event of a disqualification, reserve will move up to 5th place and all others accordingly
- Exhibitors will be dismissed from the arena before the placings are called to keep the flow of the show going.
- Announcer will announce placings as the next class starts in the arena.
- Ribbons are self-serve. All prior classes with their placings listed are posted on top of the ribbon boxes.

19. HALTER

19.1. Halter evaluates the horse's conformation which includes **balance, structural correctness, muscling, quality, type, and travel**. Exhibitors present their horses in hand, allowing judges to assess the horse's physical qualities without the influence of riding.

19.2. This class is about the **horse**, not the handler

19.3. General Rules

- Horses must be shown in a halter or bridle appropriate for their type (Western, Hunt Seat, Saddle Seat, or breed-specific).
- Horses should be clean, well-groomed, and neatly presented
- Exhibitors should stand their horse squarely and maintain control at all times
- Some breed standards allow a whip, should not exceed 6 feet and have no attachments)
- Lip chains are only allowed on Stallions 2 years and older

19.4. Class Procedure

- The handler should begin by walking the horse **directly toward the judge**, allowing the judge to evaluate the horse's movement at the walk. As the handler passes the judge, the judge will ask handler to **jog or trot**, handler should transition smoothly into a **jog or trot**, continuing straight ahead for a few strides
- After the straight line, the judge will ask the handler to **turn left** and continue trotting into line. This allows the judge to view the horse's movement from **behind** and from the **side**, ensuring a complete assessment of the horse's travel.
- Once the movement portion is complete, the handler should position the horse for a conformation inspection. The judge will walk around all sides of the horse and view each side for a few seconds. This ensures the judge has adequate time to evaluate the horse's structure, balance, and overall presentation.

20. SHOWMANSHIP

20.1. Showmanship evaluates the **handler's ability** to present the horse. Unlike Halter, this class is judged primarily on the **exhibitor's skill**, not the horse's conformation.

20.2. This is a precision class focused on:

- Pattern accuracy
- Handler's body position
- Grooming and turnout
- Smoothness and confidence

20.3. General Rules

- Horses may be shown in halter or bridle appropriate for their type
- Exhibitors must follow the posted pattern exactly
- The horse should be clean, well-groomed, and neatly presented
- The handler should demonstrate control, awareness, and ring etiquette

20.4. Class Procedure

- Handlers must perform the **posted pattern**, which will be posted at least 24 hours before the show. Patterns may include any combination of the following maneuvers:
 - Walk
 - Trot or Jog
 - Turns of various degrees
 - Stops
 - Back ups
 - Setting up
 - Visual Inspection

- During the inspection, handlers must use the standard quarter method. The exhibitor must maintain a position that is safe for both themselves and the judge at all times. The handler's position should never obstruct the judge's view of the horse and must allow the handler to remain aware of the judge's location throughout the inspection.
- When moving around the horse, the handler should change sides in front of the horse, then assume the same position on the right side that they previously held on the left side.

21. LEADLINE

- 21.1. Classes are for exhibitors that are 7 years old or younger.
- 21.2. No cross entry is allowed in other riding classes in schooling or open shows.
- 21.3. The leadline exhibitor **MUST** be wearing an appropriately fitted helmet. **NO HATS!**
- 21.4. Any individual walking a leadline exhibitor must be at least 16 years of age.
- 21.5. A halter must be underneath the bridle, and the lead cannot be attached to the bit.
- 21.6. Leadline is walk-trot only.

22. HUNT SEAT PLEASURE – SHOWN UNDER ENGLISH PLEASURE (2 AND 3 GAIT)

- 22.1. Hunt Seat Pleasure evaluates the horse's **manners, movement, consistency, and suitability as a pleasant and enjoyable English mount**. Horses should demonstrate a forward, ground-covering stride, a soft and willing attitude, and steady rhythm appropriate for Hunt Seat disciplines.
- 22.2. The ideal Hunt Seat Pleasure horse moves freely and naturally, showing the qualities of a comfortable, reliable riding horse.
- 22.3. General Rules
- Horses are shown on the rail at the walk, trot, and canter in both directions.
 - Horses should maintain a consistent, forward rhythm with a relaxed and a natural frame.
 - Transitions must be smooth, prompt, and without resistance.
 - Horses should carry their heads and necks in a natural, hunter-type position, avoiding exaggerated flexion or artificial headset.
 - Riders may be asked to extend the trot, halt, and back up.
 - Tack and attire must follow Hunt Seat rules

23. SADDLE SEAT PLEASURE – SHOWN UNDER ENGLISH PLEASURE (2 OR 3 GAIT)

- 23.1. Saddle Seat Pleasure evaluates the **horse's manners, performance, and suitability as a pleasurable, stylish English mount**. Horses should exhibit brilliance, animation, and presence while remaining calm, responsive, and easy to ride. The ideal Saddle Seat Pleasure horse moves with elevated front action, a bright expression, and consistent, forward rhythm.
- 23.2. General Rules
- Horses are shown on the rail at the walk, trot, and canter in both directions.
 - Horses should maintain a steady, forward pace with animation appropriate to Saddle Seat style.

- Transitions must be smooth, prompt, and without resistance.
- Horses should carry their heads and necks in a high, natural, and stylish position, without over flexion or behind-the-vertical carriage.
- Riders may be asked to extend the trot, halt, back up
- Tack and attire must follow Saddle Seats rules, including appropriate bridle, saddle, and rider attire.

24. WESTERN PLEASURE (2 AND 3 GAIT)

24.1 Western Pleasure evaluates the horse's **manners, movement, consistency, and overall suitability as a pleasurable Western riding horse**. Horses should appear relaxed, responsive, and willing, maintaining a steady cadence and correct gaits appropriate to Western style.

24.2 This class rewards a horse that is **soft, quiet, and pleasant to ride**, not one that is overly slow, artificial, or forced into frame.

24.3 General Rules

- Horses are shown on the rail at the walk, jog, and lope in both directions.
- Horses must maintain a consistent cadence and correct gait at all times.
- Transitions should be smooth, prompt, and without resistance.
- Excessively slow, "peanut-rolling", or four-beat lope movement may be penalized.
- Horses should carry their heads and necks in a natural, relaxed position appropriate for Western disciplines.
- Riders may be asked to extend the job, halt, or back up
- Tack and attire must follow Western rules.

25. HORSEMANSHIP AND EQUITATION ON THE RAIL – ALL SEATS (2 OR 3 GAITS)

25.1. Horsemanship/Equitation on the Rail evaluates the **rider's position, control, and effectiveness of aids** while working as a group on the rail. Unlike Pleasure classes, which focus on the horse's movement and way of going, Rail Horsemanship/Equitation is judged primarily on the **rider**, with the horse's performance reflecting the rider's skill.

25.2. Riders should demonstrate:

- Correct and functional riding position
- Quiet, effective communication
- Balance, control, and confidence
- Smooth transitions and consistent form at all gaits

25.3. General Rules

- Riders enter the arena as a group and work on the rail at the walk, jog/trot, and lope/canter as directed by the judge.
- Riders may be asked to extend the gait, halt, or back up.
- Riders should maintain a correct seat appropriate to their discipline (Western or English)
- Hands, legs, and upper body should remain quiet, steady, and effective.
- Horses should respond willingly and maintain correct gaits, but the **rider's form and effectiveness** are the primary judging factors.
- Tack and attire must follow the rules for discipline being shown.

26. HUNT SEAT/SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION PATTERN – SHOWN UNDER ENGLISH EQUITATION (2 OR 3 GAIT)

26.1. The hunt seat/saddle seat equitation class is to judge the **rider's skill, posture, and subtle communication with the horse**, not just the horse's performance, establishing a foundation for jumping and creating an illusion of the effortless ride.

26.2 Judging Criteria

- Hunt Seat/Saddle Seat is judged on the **rider's ability to perform maneuvers in harmony with their horse**, using subtle, effective, and nearly invisible aids. The rider should demonstrate a calm, functional seat, moving with the horse while maintaining correct alignment from heel to hip to shoulder.
- Overall appearance and polish
- Rider's position and balance
- Quiet, effective use of aids
- Ability to guide the horse smoothly and accurately through the pattern.

26.3. Communication should be soft and unobtrusive, reflecting a rider who is confident, balanced and in control.

26.4. Class Procedure

- Riders will perform the posted pattern. Patterns may include:
 - Walk/Posting Trot/Sitting Trot
 - Canter (for 3 gait riders)
 - Lead changes
 - Back ups
 - Pivots or turns

26.5. Penalties

- Break of gaits
- Not performing required gait
- Touching the horse with your hand
- Loss of rein
- Disqualifications
 - Willful abuse

27. WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP PATTERN (2 AND 3 GAIT)

27.1. Western Horsemanship evaluates the **rider's position, effectiveness, and ability to communicate with the horse**, both on the rail and through a posted pattern. Unlike Western Pleasure, which focuses on the horse's movement.

27.2. Horsemanship is judged primarily on the rider, with the horse's performance serving as a reflection of the rider's skill.

27.3. The ideal Horsemanship rider demonstrates:

- Correct and functional Western position
- Quiet, effective cues
- Balance, control, and confidence

- Smooth, precise execution of the pattern

27.4. General Rules

- Riders must perform the posted pattern, which may include walk, jog, lope, stops, back-ups, turns, pivots, circles, and transitions.
- After the pattern, riders may be asked to work on the rail at a walk, jog, and lope.
- Riders should maintain a correct Western seat with:
 - Straight line from ear-shoulder-hip-heel
 - Quiet hands
 - Balanced posture
 - Subtle, effective cues
- Horses should respond willingly and maintain correct gaits, but the rider's form and effectiveness are the primary judging factors.
- Tack and attire must follow Western rules.

28. CLASS DEFINITIONS

28.1. **Novice Horse/Rider** – classified as exhibitor or horse who hasn't won three or more 1st place ribbons in English or Western. If horse or exhibitor enter Novice classes and win three or more 1st place ribbons, horse or exhibitor can stay in Novice throughout the show series.

- Classes do NOT count for year-end awards

28.2. **Green Horse/Rider** – classified as exhibitor or horse's first year of showing.

- Classes do NOT count for year-end awards

28.3. **Colored Horse** – classified as a horse must have color visible to the judge under the lip, bald face, on the body, and/or above the knee, including Dun or Buckskin; Paint or Pinto; Palomino, Appaloosa (must have visible color); Cremello; Roan (regardless of breed)

28.4. **Solid Color Horse** – classified as a horse not in the colored horse category: Black or bay; Brown; Chestnut; Grey or White; Sorrel

28.5. **Junior Horse** – classified as a horse that is five (5) years old or less. The birthday of the horse is deemed to be January 1st regardless of actual birth date.

28.6. **Senior Horse** – classified as a horse that is six (6) years old or more. The birthday of the horse is deemed to be January 1st regardless of actual birth date.

28.7. **Stock Type** – classified as a horse that is Quarter Horse, POA, Paint, Appaloosa, etc.

28.8. **Saddle Type** - classified as a horse breed that is Arabian, Morgan, Saddle Bred, Gaited Horses, etc.

SHOW MANAGEMENT FOR OFEA APPROVED SHOWS

29. SHOW APPROVAL PROCESS

29.1. Show applications (including judge selection), application fee, and final show flyer must be submitted to the OFEA Show Manager at least 45 days prior to the desired date of the show. Preliminary

approval may be obtained by telephone or email – to be confirmed with a written or online application form with the appropriate fee and show flyer to be received within two weeks.

- Checks payable to OFEA
- If submitting by mail, mail to the OFEA Show Manager at OFEA, c/o Carol Smith, 2305 N Locust St, Canby, OR 97013

29.2. Show management is restricted to no more than six (6) Open Division or Schooling Division **show dates** each show season, February 1st through November 1st. A maximum of three of the dates may be multiple judged, each judge's placing must be announced, and suitable awards should be given for each judge's placing. Combined Open and Schooling Division shows are not permitted. Points earned by exhibitors in walk/trot classes in Open Division shows will count toward year-end points in the appropriate Open Division category.

29.3. Judges for OFEA approved open shows will be only those on OFEA approved judges list unless prior approval is obtained from the OFEA Judges Committee. Show Management shall not be eligible to judge a show that is hosted by said judge. The Judges Committee may approve one or more weekly (back-to-back) shows judging by an individual, if the distance between the show locations is at least 50 miles.

29.4. A guest card may be issued to any person who carries another horse judge's license (i.e. OHA, USEF, 4-H, or bredred card judge) upon approval of the OFEA Judge's Coordinator. A guest carded judge may only judge one OFEA approved show per calendar year.

- The OFEA Judges Coordinator may also issue a guest card to any person who does not qualify to act as an OFEA licensed judge provided the person presents adequate information relative to experience and qualifications that satisfy the committee that OFEA standards will be maintained, and that the person has adequate experience as a horse show judge.
- Each person applying for a guest card judge will be reviewed by the OFEA Judges Coordinator according to background and qualifications.
- There will be a \$10 fee per show for guest judges.
- Each guest carded judge must obtain a copy of the OFEA rulebook prior to the show.

29.5. OFEA code of conduct prevails for all judges, exhibitors, and show personnel.

29.6. OFEA will not approve any shows that conflict with an OFEA show or event. In special circumstances, the Board may make an exception to this policy, if it deems the conflicting show to be inconsequential to the OFEA event.

29.7. There is no limit to the number of approved shows held on the same date. Every effort will be made by OFEA to inform all shows affected when other shows request the same date.

29.8. On the show flyer, it must state that OFEA Rules prevail.

29.9. This liability disclaimer paragraph must be used on show entry forms like the following:

Participation Agreement, Notice Release, and Acknowledgement of Risk: *I accept and clearly understand that riding a horse can be hazardous, especially at a equestrian event; that there are inherent and other risks involved in riding a horse; and that injuries are a common and ordinary occurrence. I freely accept and assume those risks. I, therefore, release Oregon Family Equestrian Association (OFEA), its members and show grounds' owners and all of their agents and employees, from any and all liability for damage and injury to myself, my horse, or to any*

person or property resulting from my riding a horse in this equestrian event, accepting myself the full responsibility for any and all such damage or injury of any kind which may result. I agree to fully indemnify, defend, and hold OFEA, show grounds' owners and all their agents and employees, harmless from any and all claims, actions, liability, or costs including attorney fees and other costs of defense, arising out of or in a way related to my riding a horse in this equestrian event. The limitations on liability provided in ORS 30.691 shall apply to an adult participant in the circumstances listed in subsection (1)(b) of this section if the participant prior to riding, training, driving, grooming or riding as a passenger upon an equine, knowingly executes a release stating that as a condition of participation, the participant waives the right to bring an action against the equine professional or equine activity sponsor for an injury or death arising out of riding, training, driving, grooming, or riding as a passenger upon the equine. A release so executed shall be binding upon the adult participant.

30. SHOW STEWARDS

30.1. OFEA does not have an official steward program. However, whenever possible, and OFEA appointee, may be present at an approved show to act in the capacity of Show Steward. The appointee is entitled to a \$25.00 payment or mileage reimbursement, if requested.

30.2. If the appointee is not present at an approved show, OFEA requires that a member of show management be familiar with OFEA rules and serve as a Show Steward at the show.

30.3. Show management shall research questions that arise that the judge cannot answer.

30.4. The rulings of the Judge shall prevail, however, show management, or any participant, may request clarification by a letter to the OFEA Secretary.

31. SHOW RESULTS

31.1. Show Results must be submitted to the OFEA Points Coordinator, Kathy Mickenham, by mail or email to katymick@yahoo.com within 10 days of completion of the show.

31.2. If show results are not submitted within 10 days, a penalty of **\$5 per day** will accrue until results are received, and future show approval(s) may not be granted.

31.3. Results for each class **MUST** include: judge's cards, class name, number of entries in each class, exhibitor name, horse name, and a copy of the class/gate sheets.

32. PLACINGS IN CLASS

32.1. Judges must place everyone in a class up to six paid participants. In other words, if there are enough paid entries, the Judge must give placings of First through Fifth plus Reserve (or Sixth place, if Show Management chooses to give ribbons through sixth place).

32.2. Anyone who is awarded a sixth-place ribbon will receive one participation point toward the year-end awards.

32.3. Paid entry individuals that are schooling with their number upside down, shall not be placed.

33. SPECIAL CLASSES

33.1. Show Management may conduct special classes, as they desire. The OFEA Board shall determine whether such special classes shall count for year-end awards.

33.2. For OFEA point tabulation, it is the Show Management's responsibility to specify on class sheet's riders' attire as "E" for English or "W" for Western in all classes where either English or Western appointments and tack may be used (i.e. Trail or Driving classes).

34. SPECIAL CLASSIFICATIONS

34.1. Show Management may, at their option, hold classes in special or restricted classifications (such as: Amateur, Maiden, Novice, Limit and Green Horse or Rider) using whatever criteria they choose for eligibility in these classifications. **CLASSES SHALL NOT COUNT FOR YEAR-END AWARDS** but may be counted at Show Management discretion for any award at their show.

ROYAL COURT

OFEA has established a Royal Court consisting of one Queen and two Princesses. Their reign shall begin at the Annual Year-End Awards Banquet, where they will be announced as the upcoming season's Court, and will end at the following Annual Year-End Awards Banquet, at the end of that show season.

35. ELIGIBILITY

35.1. To be eligible for Queen, applicants must be members in good standing of the Year-End Awards Program and showing in the 14-17 age division, as of January 1st of the year they will be participating on the Court. Queens shall reign for one year only and not be eligible to run again. If unsuccessful in their try out for Queen, applicants may try out as many times as they are eligible.

35.2. To be eligible for Princess, applicants must be members in good standing of the Year-End Awards Program and showing in the 13 & Under age division, as of January 1st of the year they will participate on the Court. Princesses shall reign for one year only and are not eligible to run for Princess again. If they are unsuccessful in their try out for Princess, applicants may try out as many times as they are eligible.

35.3. Princesses may try out for Queen position when they are in the 14-17 age division.

36. DUTIES

36.1. Present the American Flag at the beginning of each afternoon performance at all OFEA Silver Buckle Open Shows.

36.2. Hand out awards at the Annual Year-End Awards Banquet

36.3. May represent OFEA at other events chosen by the Court Members, with the foreknowledge and consent of the Royal Court Committee.

37. ROYAL COURT COMMITTEE

37.1. A three-member Committee consisting of OFEA Board Members shall oversee and give direction to the Royal Court.

38. TRYOUTS

38.1. Tryouts will be held at each of the OFEA Silver Buckle Open Show Series and will be judged by the show judges.

38.2. Each show will focus on a different aspect, including:

- Horsemanship
- Content and delivery of a speech written by each contestant
- Freestyle pattern with design and music selected by each contestant

38.3. Points will be awarded based on the performance of each contestant.

39. ACCOMMODATIONS

39.1. The Association shall provide each Court Member with the following:

- One Custom Belt Buckle
- One tiara/crown for their hat
- One sash

OFEA BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

President - Krista Grenz

Vice President – Megan Jongsma

Show Manager – Carol Smith

Corresponding Secretary – Summer Oja

Treasurer – Shannon Deters

ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS:

Judge Coordinator – Mark Grenz

Year End Points Coordinator – Kathy Mickenham

40. OFEA CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address:

OFEA c/o Carol Smith
2305 N Locust St
Canby, OR 97013

Email: oregonfamilyequestrian@gmail.com

Website: www.oregonfamilyequestrian.org