



SA RIDING HORSE RULES

In conjunction with

SHOWING ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SA Riding have had it's origin at Goodwood Show Grounds in the Western Cape and was initiated by Late Mrs. Mary-Lou Kinross, Jakes Jacobs and Bobby Geiger

SA Riding Classes offer competitors an environment in which to gain experience in a show atmosphere before entering affiliated classes. It is an ideal stepping stone for novice and non-competitive horses and riders.. Horses do not need to be registered at any equestrian society or club to partake in any classes. If show holding bodies want to compete against each other then the rider and horse have to be register with Showing Association of South Africa. Judges used must have at least 2 or more knowledge of horse breeds.

JUDGING OF SA RIDING HORSE CLASSES

Class will be judged on manners, suitability, and performance of horse in the event of equality. The Conformation of the horse/pony may be considered. Generally competitors enter the arena on a trot {in the three gaited classes normally on the left rein / against the clock} they may be asked to extend the trot. They then walk and at the judges command canter. On command competitors come back to a walk, turn around against the rail and can be ordered to walk or trot on .Walk again and canter on.

Competitors come back to a walk then come in and line up while judges do a quick inspection of tack and condition of horse/pony. Conformations not judged as such.

Competitors are then placed by the judge and the announcer calls the winners in from the lineup.

ELIGIBILITY OF HORSE RIDER

SA Riding classes are not open to any combination of horse/pony and rider who have competed in any SASA open class, currently within their relevant age group. An open horse/pony may compete with a different rider and vice versa. Horses and ponies that want to compete at show and do not want to compete in there breed classes that is registered can enter on Open classes and not SA Riding classes.

GENERAL RULES

DEFINITION OF "HORSE" AND" PONY " "MULE" "DONKEY"

In the spirit of this "Horse" shall wherever applicable, include "Pony" "Mule" "Donkey"

SEX

Stallions, Mares and Geldings may compete in all SA Riding Horse classes excepting those from which they are excluded by specific rules of a competition. eg. Uncontrolled stallion or misbehaved horse/pony

AGE OF HORSE

In the judging of all SA Riding Horse competitions the age of the horse may be taken into consideration at the discretion of the judge,

SHOW ENTRIES

If there are more than 20 horses/ponies entered in a competition, the organizing committee may divide the competition into pools. There must also make sure of enough time for fare judging . Prizes may be awarded in all the pools or in the final round.

PRIZES

The joint placing of horses(ties)is not recommended in the SA Riding Horse competitions.

Place and prize money(if applicable)should be awarded for every 3 horses or part thereof in the competition.. It is the onus of the show holding body if they want to reward more places.

This is to allow two horses/ponies from each competition to qualify for the victor ludorum should there be one,

Points shall be awarded as follows;

3 points for 1st place

2 points for 2nd place

1 point for 3rd place

ELIMINATION

If in the opinion of the judge, a horse behavior in an unruly , uncontrolled or dangerous manner for other competitors or horses or displays continued disobedience, he/she is entitled to eliminate the horse/pony from the competition a Horse leaving the arena, mounted or not mounted, without the permission of the judge/s will be eliminated. And asked to leave the arena while the other horses will be instructed to relaxed until the animal have left the arena safely. A Fall off a horse and rider in any SA Riding classis an elimination. A Horse is said to have fallen when its shoulder and hindquarter touches the ground.. a Rider is said to have fallen when either voluntarily or involuntary , he/she is separated from his/her horse, which has not fallen , in such a way that he/she touches the ground or finds it necessary, in order to get back into the saddle. Horses deemed to be unfit for competition by the Judge, will be eliminated.

UNAUTHORISED PERSONS

Unauthorized persons are not allowed in the arena during the judging of SA Riding Horse competitions, eg. Trainers, person, grooms yard owners or involvement with an horse/pony taking part in the class. Should this occur , it may result in an elimination of the competitor involved. Only persons authorized by the Organizing

Committee and/or judge(s) or steward(s) enter the arena once the judging is in progress may enter.

YELLOW CARDS

In cases of offences involving abuse of horses/ponies in any form or incorrect behavior towards event official, judges etc. And which is of a less serious nature, the judge may award a Yellow card to any competitor, parent , instructor or any person affiliated to the rider. The Judge or Show director may deliver this to the responsible person by hand..Should the same Person Responsible receive one more yellow warning card at the same or any other Event within one year of the delivery of the first yellow card, the Person Responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) months immediately following the Event at which the Person responsible is competing.

PLAITING OF HORSES/PONIES

Plaiting of manes is preferable, however it is not a requirement if it is in conflict with the breed standard of the horse/pony. If the main is plaited it is also preferably that the tail is also plaited.

TACK:

No competitor or assistant is permitted to change any tack during the judging of a competition, except in the case of an emergency and provided the judge`s consent has been obtained. No horse/pony competing in a SA Riding Horse competition may wear a bit less bridle, martingale , Auxiliary reins (excluding double reins on an double bridle) If a double rein bit is used and only one (1) rein then they must make use of a rein connector ,bandages, boots, gags, hackamores , triangle-reins or any form of gadget or training aid .

A Simple Snaffle or Double bridle may be used . When using a Pelham or curb bits are used they may not be (too long shank), only cavesson nosebands may be used. Pelham or curb bits may only have a moderate port or simple joint in the centre of the bit.

Rein connectors may be used.

With any other types of bits used, it is preferable to use a cavesson noseband.

All bits must have a smooth mouthpiece.

Snaffles or bridoons must only have one ring on each side and one mouthpiece which may not be square, serrated, or have wire or chain!

Happy mouths are permitted.

The sides of jointed mouthpieces must be of equal lengths.

NO tongue checks of any kind are permitted.

SADDLES:

A showing type saddle, Dressage or General Purpose type saddle may be used.

It is advisable to have rubber threads on the stirrup irons.

SHOEING:

Shoeing of horses is optional.

Studs are permissible.

RECOGNISED DRESS:

Hats- All competitors are required to wear a hat (HARD HAT) no Bowler.

Trilby for OPEN ADULT RIDERS ONLY!

3 Point HARD HAT is compulsory for all riders.

Hair- long hair should be either plaited or put up into hairnet.

Jackets- A suitable riding jacket or Blazer of a conservative colour should be worn (NO KENTUCKY SUITS!)

Shirts- Shirts with a collar and tie are preferable.

Gloves- These may be worn, again of a conservative colour.

Breeches / Jodhpurs – Cream, Beige, Fawn or Yellow may be worn.

Boots – Either short or long riding boots with a heel must be worn.

Black or Brown in colour.

Leather gaitors may be worn. No Chaps will be permitted.

Button holes, Tie pins and Ribbons should be conservative and inconspicuous.

Showing Canes and or riding crops with leather flaps on the end, not exceeding 75cm, may be used. NO DRESSAGE WHIPS are allowed.

Spurs- Only blunt spurs not exceeding 2cm are allowed. Spurs are only to be worn in

the traditionally correct manner with the curve of the neck directed downwards.
NO PLASTIC SPURS ARE ALLOWED

SA Riding Classes usually consist of the following

Classes:

BEST TURNED OUT:

The competitors enter the arena at a walk on the left rein and circle around the judges.

The Judge will call competitors into line and instead of an individual show, the competitors will be called forward individually to be inspected by the judge.

BEST WALK:

This class is judged on the horses ability to stride out and move freely from its shoulder, the horse must have a natural ground cover, walk that is regular, free and unconstrained.

BEST TROT:

The trot must be balanced, cadenced, free moving, show elegant carriage and with easy rhythm and impulsion from the hindquarters.

The trot should show equally of movement both from the front and rear end.

The trot should never look forced, laboured, or artificial.

BEST CANTER:

The horses are judged on their ability to engage, collect and stay flexed. The canter should be business-like, not too slow, and not a full-blown gallop.

The canter must be united, light, and have cadence and impulsion.

The canter should never look hurried, with each stride long and covering as much ground as possible.

PLEASURE HORSE OR PONY:

The horse/ Pony should appear to be a pleasure to ride, be well schooled, balanced and obedient, showing a calm temperament at the judges discretion, the competitors can be asked to ride with one hand or if time permits may be required to do a short test or show.

Conformation should only be taken into account in the event of equality.

TOWN HACK:

The town hack must be beautiful, have good conformation and paces.

Manners are particularly important in the judging of the hacks.

Town hacks must have quality, animation, presence and balance.

Objects may be placed in arena if requested by judges.

BEST THREE GAITED HORSE:

The horse is judged on quality and paces at walk, trot, and canter.

THREE GAITED PLEASURE HORSE:

In this class the horse should be a pleasure to ride.

AT the judges discretion, the competitors may be instructed to ride with one hand (One hand on reins, and other resting on the riders thigh)

The horse should appear to be a pleasure to ride and show a calm, quiet temperament with smooth collected gaits.

The ideal pleasure horse should be confident, responsive and perform all of the gaits correctly.

All gaits must be performed with willingness and obvious ease, cadence, balance and smoothness.

Showing riding with one hand from the beginning is recognized from the beginning.

FARM HORSE / HANDY HORSE:

In this class a set test will be given by the relevant judge, and must be performed. Horses will be required to negotiate a course of eight tests that should be of practical nature.

The course should be designed to demonstrate that the horse is obedient, well schooled, able to jump, extend their paces, stand still and show a steady temperament.

Each obstacle is marked individually and scores are tallied up afterwards.

BEST RIDER:

The focus of this class is to determine how well a rider sits and controls their mount. The judge will focus mainly on leg position, seat, upper body position and posture, hand position and overall horsemanship.

The correct trot diagonal and canter lead are essential.

Accuracy of movements will be taken into consideration.

Best rider classes may be required to do a short test and not a LONG BORING test! These classes may be split into best child rider, best lady rider and best gentleman rider.