

ACADEMY SERIES Rules and Guidelines

Please note: In order to participate, an affidavit has to be signed by the trainer verifying the horse and the rider are eligible to take part in the Academy Series.

Rules for Eligibility:

1. Horse must be a school horse and be used in a regular lesson program.
2. Rider may lease said school horse.
3. Unless they are eligible under the MAIDEN RULE, riders who own their own horse or lease a horse other than a school horse, may not compete in Academy Series.
 - A. MAIDEN RULE – the rider and/or horse cannot have won a blue ribbon during the prior 2 show seasons at a SCHC, ECHO, or other GSDHJA or OCSHA recognized show.

Additional Rules:

1. Spouses and children of trainers and/or Instructors are ineligible to compete unless they are in their first year of showing.
2. Academy riders are allowed to compete in regular, non-academy classes without affecting their Academy Series eligibility.

Awards:

1. SCHC Vista, and affiliate ECHO Lakeside, will offer Academy Series Classes/Divisions. Points accrued at both of these show venues will be combined to determine the Year End Champion and Reserve for each Academy Series Divisions.
2. In order to qualify for a Year End Award RIDERS MUST:
 - A. Show in a minimum of 4 shows during the current show season.
 - B. Show in at least one (1) SCHC Vista and one (1) ECHO Lakeside show.
3. Riders will receive regular show ribbons in all Academy classes. 1st -8th or 1st -6th depending on series.
4. Day End Champion and Reserve will be awarded only for Academy Divisions with 4 or more riders.
5. Points are accrued by Academy Rider in all classes, so horse change does not affect standings.

Judging Criteria:

1. Simple lead changes are NOT to be penalized as a break in stride by the judge in all Academy classes.
2. In all Academy classes, judging emphasis to be placed on rider, not horse. School horses with slight soundness issues not to be counted against rider.

Apparel:

1. Current Approved Safety helmets must be worn by all riders while mounted.
2. Jackets are optional.
3. Tall boots optional. Paddock boots and half chaps may be worn as acceptable tall boot replacement. Standard paddock boots to be worn where appropriate. Boots without heel and/or streetwear shoes are not allowed.
4. Shirts for Hunters: White or light colored Riding/Show shirt with choker/tall collar for girls, shirt and tie for boys.
5. Shirts for Jumpers: Any color Riding/Show shirt or Polo shirt.
6. Traditional riding breeches required. Belt encouraged.
7. Gloves optional but encouraged.

Fees:

1. The cost of Academy Classes will be on average \$5 less than regular classes.
2. Unless otherwise stated, office fees, grounds fees, stall fees and/or haul in fees will be charged at the typical rate, if applicable.
3. Academy Series Riders will pay a \$10 SCHC per show fee in order to support Academy Year End Awards.
4. Academy Series Riders who compete in regular, non-academy classes at the same show shall pay regular class rates for those classes and the GSDHJA and OCSHA fee will apply. As long as Academy riders compete only in Academy Series classes, GSDHJA and OCSHA fees will not apply.