



Gerald Saddle Club

2026 FUN SHOW RULES AND REGULATIONS

680 Bittersweet Drive, Gerald, MO 63037

2026 Fun Show Dates: April 25, May 30, June 27, July 25, August 29, September 26

Rain Date: October 17

Kids Only Fun Show: October 31

Point System: Points to be given in all classes. Points are awarded to horse/exhibitor pair. To be eligible for year end high point, the member must be a member in good standing.

1st place	5 points
2nd place	4 points
3rd place	3 points
4th place	2 points
5th place	1 point

In the event that there is only one entry for a class, the participant will be allowed to exhibit their horse. The participant will receive 1 point toward year end totals.

To be eligible for year end points, the rider's membership must be submitted before the first show of the season, riders must show in at least half (50%) of the shows, riders must have volunteered a minimum of 16 hours, and participate in 50% of the monthly member meetings. A family member can donate volunteer hours to another family member. Meeting participation counts per household. See Bylaws for information on membership obligations.

THE GERALD SADDLE CLUB OR MEMBERS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST OR STOLEN PROPERTY OR ANY ACCIDENTS TO ANIMALS OR PEOPLE.

We are here to expand your knowledge of horses and have fun doing so! We want all riders to participate in each class regardless of experience. The judge will not disqualify any rider for tack; however, the rider will be placed accordingly.

Gerald Saddle Club Fun Shows are open to everyone; all are welcome!

Divisions:

- The Novice Walk/Trot division is for riders **of any age** in their 1st or 2nd year of showing. Walk and trot only, even in speed classes. Riders may not cross enter in any lope class. Demonstrating a break of 2 strides of lope or more will call for excusal from class.
- The 15 & under division is a walk/trot/lope division. Based on rider's age as of January 1, 2026. Riders may not cross enter in any Novice class or other age division.
- The 16 & over division is a walk/trot/lope division. Based on rider's age as of January 1, 2026. Riders may not cross enter in any Novice class or other age division.
- Horse/rider combos may not cross enter/change divisions. Points are not transferable due to a change of division within the 2026 season.

Rules:

- **JUDGE'S DECISIONS ARE FINAL.**
- Negative coggins required for all equines on the grounds during any GSC event.
- All participants must sign a waiver prior to the start of each show, and those under 18 must have a parent/responsible party sign.
- Age of rider is as of January 1st of current year.

- All equines' age is as of January 1st of current year.
- Competitor must use GSC provided numbers only.
- Competitor must demonstrate good sportsman like conduct at all times.
- Any abuse or negligence of any animals will result in immediate disqualification and the person will be asked to leave.
- "Judged classes" are classes #1-9 on the 2026 showbill. "Speed classes" are classes #10-13 on the 2026 showbill.
- The following tack is NOT allowed in judged classes: roper/barrel/trick/running reins, splint boots, polo wraps, tie downs, running/gag bits, training devices. *
- GSC encourages the use of riding helmets for safety but are not required.
- Proper attire is required in all classes (no shorts or sneakers/tennis shoes). Long sleeve shirts are required for all judged classes, unless the judge waives the dress code due to heat or other reasons. Boots are required.
- HORSES ARE NOT ALLOWED AROUND PAVILION OR IN FRONT OF COOK SHACK. DO NOT RIDE HORSES BETWEEN COOK SHACK AND BLEACHERS.
- No cross entries in halter.
- Rider and mount must be ready and at the gate when the judge calls for the class to enter the ring. When the class is closed, you may not enter the ring.
- Hitting the horse in front of the saddle is an automatic disqualification.
- No stallion is to be handled/shown by youth exhibitors on grounds during the show. No stallions permitted over 1 year old.
- No entering the ring at a run for any class. Shooting the gate is an automatic disqualification.
- Exhibitors must request a tack change at least one class prior to class. Tack changes must be registered on the sign up sheet. Three minutes allowed on requested tack changes.
- For speed events, if the mechanical timer fails, the rider will be allowed to run at the end of class.
- Abusive behavior, in or out of the show ring, will not be tolerated and may result in expulsion from the show and/or show grounds.
- The breaking of these rules could result in a disqualification from the class or ejection from the show grounds.
- Disruptive behavior by horse, rider, or spectator, inside or outside the arena, may result in expulsion from the class, show, and/or show grounds.
- Severely lame/impaired horses will be excused from the ring/show.
- Dogs must always be on a leash.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Judged events

1. Halter:

Mare Halter: Open to mare stock type horses. Follow Judge and Ring Masters Instructions. Halter and lead only. No saddle or other tack.

Gelding Halter: Open to gelding stock type horses. Follow Judge and Ring Masters Instructions. Halter and lead only. No saddle or other tack.

Non-Stock (Model) Halter Open to all non-stock type horses: Gaited, Arabian, Saddle Type, Thoroughbred, Mule, etc. Follow Judge and Ring Masters Instructions. Halter and lead only. No saddle or other tack.

2. Showmanship: See posted **pattern**; to be posted one week before the show. This is an in-hand class, not riding. The exhibitor is to be judged; the horse is a prop to show the ability of the exhibitor. Points are on the appearance of the horse and exhibitor and showing in the arena. May be asked to lead at a walk, trot, execute a 360-, 270, 180-, or 90-degree turn, back, or pose your horse and set up for inspection.

3. Deadline: (Open to any youth 7 and under.) Open to all breeds of horses, mules and ponies. Judged on rider's ability. Leader to provide safety only, lead line to be loose. Show at a walk both ways of ring and may be asked to back. Rider not eligible for any other judged riding classes. Halter and Showmanship Classes allowed. Western or English tack/attire required.

4. English Pleasure: Open to any horse, mule, or pony. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot. 15& under and 16& over: shown at a walk, trot, and canter. May be asked to back. Hunt seat, saddle seat, or dressage attire and tack required.

5. English Disciplined Rail: Open to any horse, mule, or pony. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot. 15& under and 16& over: shown at a walk, trot, and canter. Additional maneuvers can and will be asked for including but not limited to: back, extended gaits, collected gaits, sitting trot, work without stirrups, turn on haunches/forehand, lateral movements (side pass, shoulder in). Counter canter and/or hand gallop can be called in canter division. Hunt seat, saddle seat, or dressage attire and tack required.

6. Western Pleasure: Open to any breed of horse, mule, pony. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot. 15& under and 16& over: shown at a walk, trot, and canter. May be asked to back. No whips allowed. Western attire and tack required, see tack requirements for judged classes on page 1(*)).

7. Ranch Rail Pleasure: Open to all equine that can perform the required gaits. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot. 15& under and 16& over: shown at a walk, trot, and canter. These classes show the horse's ability to move at a working speed with a rider. Horses will be asked to go in each direction of the arena and will also be asked to reverse away from the rail, to stop, and back. The judge may ask for an extended trot and/ or extended canter in at least one direction of the ring (when required). A horse will be given credit for traveling with his head held in a normal position, ears alert and moving at a natural speed for the gait requested. Credit will be given for making a smooth transition between the gaits, for keeping the correct lead (when a canter is required), and for maintaining the gait requested until the judge requests a change. A rider must show his/her horse with only one hand on the reins, unless the horse is 5 years or younger and is being shown in a snaffle bit or bosal. Bits should follow breed standards. Western attire and tack required, see tack requirements for judged classes on page 1(*)).

Gait descriptions for all horses in Ranch Rail:

Walk – a natural, rhythmic, forward moving four- beat gait

Trot – a natural two-beat collected diagonal gait which is more forward moving than a jog trot.

Extended Trot – a two-beat diagonal gait with an obvious lengthening of the stride and a definite increase in pace

Canter (if in a canter division) – a three-beat relaxed and smooth gait with a natural, forward moving stride.

Extended Canter (if in a canter division) – The extended canter is not a run or a race but an obvious lengthening of the three-beat gait. It should demonstrate a forward, working speed.

8. Horsemanship: Open to any breed of horse, mule, pony. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot. 15& under and 16& over: shown at a walk, trot, and canter. See posted **pattern**; to be posted one week before the show. Elements can include walk, trot, canter (if in a canter division), halt, back, transitions, pivots/turns in either direction, extension of gait, collection of gait, etc. See tack requirements for judged classes on page 1(*)).

9. Trail: Open to any breed of horse, mule, pony. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot. 15& under and 16& over: shown at a walk, trot, and canter. See posted **pattern**; to be posted one week before the show. If a rider feels unsafe completing an obstacle, the rider is allowed to move on to the next obstacle. A maximum of 3 minutes will be allowed per obstacle. Judge is allowed to make a decision to have the rider move on if deemed unsafe. English or western tack permitted. See tack requirements for judged classes on page 1(*)).

Speed Events

10. Pole Bending: Timed event. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot ONLY. 15& under and 16& over: shown at whichever gait preferred. To run pattern around 6 poles, each pole 21' apart and the first pole 21' from the starting line. The horse may use the right or left pattern. A 5 second penalty for knocking down the pole. Touching the pole is allowed. English or western tack permitted.

No time: breaking the pattern or hitting the horse in front of the saddle.

11. Barrels: Timed event. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot ONLY. 15& under and 16& over: shown at whichever gait preferred. Three barrels to be placed in a triangle with the 1st and 2nd barrels opposite from each other and 20' from the fence, 30' from the starting line and the 3rd barrel should be 30' from the end of the fence. The horse may use the right or left pattern. A 5 second penalty for each barrel knocked down. Rider may palm the barrel. English or western tack permitted.

No time: breaking the pattern or hitting the horse in front of the saddle.

12. Plug: Timed event. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot ONLY. 15& under and 16& over: shown at whichever gait preferred. There is to be a single barrel at the far end of the arena. Run down, outside of/around the barrel, and back. The horse may use the right or left pattern. A 5 second penalty for knocking the barrel. English or western tack permitted.

No time: breaking the pattern or hitting the horse in front of the saddle.

13. Flag Race: Timed event. Novice W/T: shown at a walk and trot ONLY. 15& under and 16& over: shown at whichever gait preferred. Two 5 gallon buckets with sand resting on top of two barrels (barrels are to be placed next to the arena fence directly across from each other, while a third barrel is near the end of the arena). Rider may go either direction but must pick up the flag from the first bucket, ride around the barrel at the end of the arena, and attempt to deposit the flag in the other bucket. English or western tack permitted.

No time: missing the bucket with the flag, dropping the flag during the race, striking the horse with the flag, knocking over a barrel(s), knocking the bucket(s) off the barrel. In the event of a timer malfunction, a re-ride will be given; the rider must again successfully deposit the flag in the bucket.

A handler cannot hold or lead the horse to assist the rider while approaching the bucket to pick it up or stick it. If a handler assists the horse or rider, then the rider will not receive a time.

Contestants may not enter the ring at a run for any of the classes. All horses will be assigned a number by the club. Riders will not crowd their horses around the gates or the announcer's booth. Riders must be ready to enter the ring when their class is announced (unless a 3-minute tack change is needed, tack changes must be registered on sign up sheet prior to class). The judge or club officer will view the timer during timed events and call out the time.

Please reach out to an officer with any questions.

The most important goal is to have some good, safe, wholesome fun with our horses!