

Aurora Horsemen Foundation

Official Rule Book

Effective January 1, 2026

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1. Rules of Conduct

The following rules apply at all Aurora Horsemen Foundation (AHF) sanctioned events.

1.1 Prohibited Conduct

- Profanity, obscene gestures, fighting, or abusive language
- Intoxication or consumption of alcohol or marijuana
- Defacing, destruction, or theft of arena or private property
- Abuse or mistreatment of any animal

1.2 Grounds and Facility Requirements

- Exhibitors and guests are responsible for cleaning up all trash and manure.
- Manure must be loaded into trailers or placed in designated receptacles.
- Dogs must remain on a leash at all times and possess current rabies vaccination tags.
- No open fires or fire pits are permitted.
- No stallions are allowed.
- Horses may not be washed or rinsed on-site.

1.3 Horse Control and Movement

- Horses must remain under control at all times.
- Outside the competition and warm-up arenas, horses must be kept at a walk.

1.4 Electronic Devices During Competition

The use of electronic devices by exhibitors while competing is prohibited unless approved by the Board for medical reasons. This includes:

- Cellular phones
- Bluetooth communication devices
- Media devices

1.5 Restricted Horse Areas

- Cone zones must remain clear except when actively entering the arena.
- Horses are prohibited in picnic, paved parking, concrete, and grass areas.
- No riding, warming up, or lunging on the polo field except during an active trail class.

1.6 Respect for Officials and Volunteers

Volunteers, judges, timers, announcers, office staff, and Board members shall be treated respectfully at all times.

1.7 Enforcement and Consequences

The AHF Board of Directors shall have final authority regarding all disputes.

- **First offense:** Warning
- **Second offense:** Removal from the event without refund
- **Additional offenses:** Suspension from remaining AHF events for the season, with possible reinstatement the following year upon Board approval

The Board may escalate consequences as circumstances warrant.

2. Membership Rules

It is the responsibility of every participant to read and understand all rules, forms, show bills, and class lists prior to participating in any AHF event.

Violation of any rule may result in:

- Removal from current and future events
- Scratching from all entered classes
- Loss of fees paid
- Membership termination without refund

2.1 Member in Good Standing

To remain in good standing:

- Membership fees must be current.
- Entry fees must be paid.
- No Rules of Conduct violations may have occurred during the current year.

2.2 Member Participation and Committees

Members:

- May provide comments and suggestions regarding rules.
- Do not possess voting privileges.
- May attend Board meetings with prior approval from the AHF President.
- May serve on standing committees, including:
 - Bylaws Review
 - Rules Review
 - Year-End Banquet
 - Sponsor and Fundraising

3. Financial Policies

3.1 Returned Checks and Outstanding Balances

- AHF assesses a \$40.00 fee for each returned check.
- Any collection costs, including attorney fees where allowed by law, shall be added to the outstanding balance.
- After two returned checks, all future payments for that season must be made by cash or Venmo.

3.2 Participants with Unresolved Balances

- May not participate in AHF activities.
- Are ineligible for points and awards.

3.3 Checks Issued by Members for Payment:

- Open checks are highly discouraged, but when left with the office may be completed by AHF staff based upon registration amounts.
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4. Photo and Media Policy

4.1 Official AHF Photography

Participation in or attendance at any AHF event constitutes consent for photography and publication by AHF without compensation.

AHF retains all rights and ownership of photographs taken by its representatives.

4.2 Amateur Photography

Photography by members and spectators is permitted provided it does not interfere with competition or judging. Submitted photographs may be used by AHF without compensation and may be edited or cropped.

4.3 Professional Photographers

Professional photographers may attend AHF events with approval. AHF guidelines for professional photographers:

- Does not compensate photographers.
 - Is not a party to image sales transactions.
 - May provide links to photographers' galleries.
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5. General Performance & Gymkhana Rules

Unless otherwise addressed herein, rules shall default to the current Colorado 4-H Rule Book. If a situation is not covered by either these rules or the Colorado 4-H Rule Book, the AHF Board of Directors shall make a final determination.

5.1 Eligibility Restrictions

- Lead-Line exhibitors may not compete in any other riding division.
- Walk-Trot horse/rider combinations may not compete in any other classes within that division.
- Horses may compete in either Open Youth or Open Adult within a division, but not both.

5.2 Entries, Additions, and Scratches

Class additions or scratches must be completed at least two classes prior. No refunds will be issued for scratched classes.

5.3 Required Attire

- Boots with heels
- Long pants
- Conservative shirt

5.4 Re-Rides

The following are not eligible reasons for a re-ride:

- Tack failure
- Cast or thrown shoes
- Unseated riders

5.5 Horse Substitution

Ill or lame horses may be substituted under the following conditions:

- A veterinary certificate or Board approval must be obtained within five (5) days of the event.
- If a veterinary certificate cannot be obtained, time-stamped photographs and/or videos may be submitted for Board review.
- If the same illness or injury affects participation in future events, the Board may require additional documentation.
- If a veterinary certificate was not submitted initially, one will be required for future substitutions related to the same condition.
- If a licensed veterinarian determines a horse cannot compete for the remainder of the season, one substitute horse may be designated for the balance of the year.
- Additional substitute horses require prior Board approval.

All substitution requests are subject to Board review and approval.

5.6 Judge and Show Management Communication

Only show management may communicate with judges or announcers during active competition.

Questions from exhibitors must be directed to the office after completion of the event.

5.7 Gate Calls

- **Standard gate call:** 2 minutes
- **Approved tack change:** 4 minutes
- Failure to enter within the allotted time may result in disqualification.

5.8 Weather Conditions

Events may proceed during adverse weather if conditions remain substantially equal for all exhibitors and are deemed acceptable by show management.

5.9 Excessive Aids

Excessive whipping, spurring in front of the girth, or excessive spurring may result in disqualification.

5.10 Non-Protestable Decisions

The following are final:

- Judge's decisions
- Show Manager's decisions
- Board decisions

6. Pleasure Division Rules

6.1 Judge Conflict Rule

Exhibitors may not show under a judge if they:

- Are related to the judge.
- Work for the judge.
- Have received lessons from the judge within the past year.
- Purchased a horse from the judge within the past year.
- Have a horse currently or recently in training with the judge.

6.2 Trail Class Timing and Location

- English Trail concludes with Class 29.
- Western Trail concludes with Class 61.
- Walk-Trot Ranch Riding will be conducted in the warm-up arena and judged by the Trail Judge.

6.3 Exhibitor Number Placement

Numbers must be clearly visible. Acceptable placements:

- Both sides of saddle pad
- Exhibitor's back

- Hip or back for in-hand classes

6.4 Simultaneous Classes

Classes may run simultaneously but will be judged separately. Scores may not be rolled between age groups or divisions.

6.5 Performance Show Divisions

- Walk-Trot Youth (18 & Under)
- Walk-Trot All Ages
- 13 & Under
- 14–18
- 19–39
- 40 & Over
- Open Youth
- Open Adult
- Lead-Line
- In-Hand Youth
- In-Hand Adult

6.6 English Classes

- Pleasure
- Equitation Pattern
- Equitation Rail
- English Discipline
- English Trail

6.7 Western Classes

- Ranch Pleasure
- Horsemanship Pattern
- Horsemanship Rail
- Ranch Riding
- Western Trail

6.8 In-Hand Classes

- Showmanship
- In-Hand Trail

6.9 Tack and Attire Exceptions

- Riding bats and dressage whips permitted when appropriate.
- Hunt coats optional.
- Short or long sleeve hunt shirts permitted.
- Dressage, saddle seat, hunt seat, and side saddle tack allowed.
- Western horses of any age may be ridden in a snaffle or bosal.

7. Gymkhana Division Rules

7.1 Arena Procedures

- Exhibitors must cross the start line within 60 seconds of entering the arena.
- Entry and exit gates must be used at a walk.
- Keyhole and Pole Bending may be completed in either order.

- The second event must begin within 90 seconds of completing the first.

7.2 Pattern Adjustments

Pattern measurements may be adjusted by management based on arena size or conditions.

7.3 Pattern Challenges

Challenges must be presented before the run begins.

7.4 Re-Rides

Re-rides are granted solely at the discretion of event management.

7.5 Equipment

Over-under whips and quirts are permitted when not used excessively.

7.6 Rolling Times

Rolling times between Open and age divisions is encouraged but must be declared at registration.

7.7 Walk-Trot Division

Breaking gait into a lope results in a five-second penalty.

7.8 Gymkhana Divisions

- Walk-Trot Youth
- Walk-Trot Adult
- 10 & Under
- 11–13
- 14–18
- 19–39
- 40 & Over
- Open Youth
- Open Adult
- Lead-Line

7.9 Gymkhana Classes

- Pole Bending
- Keyhole
- Barrels
- Flags
- In-Line Barrels
- Wild Card

7.10 Lead-Line Gymkhana Classes

- Pole Bending
- Keyhole
- Barrels

7.11 Allowed Gymkhana Tack

- Standard saddle and bridle
- Tie-downs routed through breast collar ring

7.12 Prohibited Gymkhana Tack

- Side saddles
- Wire or rawhide curb bits

8. Volunteer Hour Requirements

Volunteer hours are required for year-end award eligibility.

8.1 Required Volunteer Hours

- **First Award:** 8 hours required
- **Each Additional Award:** 4 hours required
- **Maximum Required:** 20 hours required
- **In-Hand Division:** 4 hours required

8.2 Ways to Earn Volunteer Hours

- Volunteering at AHF events
- Donated volunteer hours
- Community service hours approved by AHF
- Purchased hours at \$20 per hour

8.3 Volunteer Hour Rules and Exceptions

- Donated hours must be designated on the day earned.
- Purchased hours must be finalized by the last event.
- Board members receive 20 volunteer hours.
- Incentive hours may not be donated.
- Lead-Line riders have no volunteer requirement.
- Certain positions may have age or physical capability requirements.

9. Awards Program

9.1 Daily Awards

Membership is not required to receive daily awards.

9.2 Class Placings

Ribbons awarded:

- 1st through 6th Place

No daily awards are offered for the In-Hand Division.

9.3 Daily High Point Requirements

- **English:** 4 of 5 required classes
- **Western:** 4 of 5 required classes
- **Gymkhana:** 5 of 6 required classes

9.4 Daily Tie Breakers

- **English:** Equitation Pattern
- **Western:** Horsemanship Pattern
- **Gymkhana:** Barrels

9.5 Point Schedule

- **1st:** 6 points
- **2nd:** 5 points
- **3rd:** 4 points

- **4th:** 3 points
- **5th:** 2 points
- **6th:** 1 point

****Daily points accumulate toward year-end awards for members in good standing.****

10. Year-End Awards Qualification

10.1 Qualification for Year-End Awards:

- Be an AHF member in good standing.
- Complete required volunteer hours.
- Earn points through actual show participation.
- Meet minimum class participation requirements.

10.2 Required Participation Per Show

- **English:** 4 of 5 classes
- **Western:** 4 of 5 classes
- **In-Hand:** Both classes
- **Gymkhana:** 5 of 6 classes
- **Lead-Line:** 2 classes

10.3 Show Attendance Requirement

Exhibitors must:

- Compete in a minimum of four qualifying events, or a majority of qualifying events.
- Earn points at each qualifying event.
- Use their best five (5) shows/gymkhanas toward year-end point totals.

11. Aurora Horsemen Foundation Year-End Awards

Awards are based on the highest cumulative points earned by the same horse-and-rider combination within each division. All Aurora Horsemen Foundation (AHF) year-end awards shall be determined annually based upon available funds and resources. For the 2026 season, year-end awards will be presented through **6th Place** in all eligible divisions.

- English
- Western
- In-Hand
- Gymkhana

**** No cash awards or gift cards shall be awarded as year-end prizes.****

11.1 Open Saddle Awards Program

The Open Saddle Awards recognize outstanding Youth and Adult exhibitors competing in Open divisions. Awards are based upon cumulative year-end points earned throughout the competition season and are intended to reward consistency, horsemanship, sportsmanship, and overall achievement.

Each Open division may award:

- Open High Point Saddle
- Open Reserve Saddle

****Saddles awarded for both Youth and Adult Open divisions, subject to available funding.****

11.2 Saddle Eligibility Rules

No Consecutive Saddle Awards

A rider-and-horse combination may not win the same Open division saddle award in two (2) consecutive years. This restriction applies to:

- High Point Saddle Awards
- Reserve Saddle Awards

****Applies only within the same discipline and Open divisions.****

Examples:

- An Open Adult Western High Point Saddle winner may not win the Open Adult Western High Point Saddle the following year with the same horse.
- An Open Youth Gymkhana Reserve Saddle winner may not win the Open Youth Gymkhana Reserve Saddle the following year with the same horse.

Reserve Saddle Winners

A rider-and-horse combination that previously earned a Reserve Saddle:

- May earn the High Point Saddle the following year.
- May not earn the Reserve Saddle in consecutive years within the same Open division and discipline using the same rider-and-horse combination.

Saddle Awarding Example

If the previous year's Open Saddle winner again earns first place in year-end points:

- First Place: Open Elite Champion (No Saddle Awarded)
- Second Place: Open High Point Saddle
- Third Place: Open Reserve Saddle
- Fourth through Sixth Place: Standard Year-End Placings

11.3 Open Elite Champion Rules

An Open Elite Champion is defined as a rider-and-horse combination that earned an Open Saddle Award (High Point Saddle) in the same discipline and Open division during the previous competition year. As participation in Open divisions continues to grow, the Open Elite Champion designation has been established to maintain competitive balance while creating additional opportunities for exhibitors to earn saddle awards. Previous Open saddle winners may voluntarily declare their intent to compete for Open Elite Champion status prior to the beginning of the competition season. Riders electing Open Elite Champion status shall remain eligible for year-end placings and recognition but shall be ineligible for saddle awards for that season.

Open Elite Champions:

- May continue competing in Open divisions.
- May continue earning points and placings in Open classes.
- May not earn the same Open Saddle Award in consecutive competition years with the same rider-and-horse combination.

Elite Champion Placement and Saddle Pass-Down

If a previous year's Open Saddle winner places first again in the same Open division:

1. The exhibitor shall be recognized as the **Open Elite Champion**.
2. The exhibitor shall retain first-place year-end points and recognition.
3. The saddle award shall pass to the next highest eligible exhibitor.

Open Elite Champion Recognition

Open Elite Champions shall receive recognition commensurate with their advanced level of competition.

Recognition may include:

- Open Elite Champion designation in official records.
- Recognition at the Year-End Awards Banquet.
- Enhanced year-end point recognition.
- Non-saddle prizes as determined annually by the AHF Board of Directors.

11.4 Intent of the Open Saddle and Elite Program

The purpose of these rules is to:

- Encourage continued participation in Open divisions.
 - Expand opportunities for additional exhibitors to earn saddle awards.
 - Promote fairness and competitive balance.
 - Recognize excellence and long-term commitment.
 - Foster a positive and supportive competitive environment for Youth and Adult riders.
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12. Special Awards

12.1 Spur Awards

The Spur Awards recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond through volunteer service to Aurora Horsemen Foundation. These awards are based on actual hours worked and are awarded to the individuals performing the volunteer service. Board Members are not eligible for Spur Awards.

Spur Award Levels

Diamond Spur

- Awarded to the leading volunteer of the year.

Golden Spur

- Minimum of 40 volunteer hours.

Silver Spur

- Minimum of 30 volunteer hours.

Bronze Spur

- Minimum of 20 volunteer hours.

**** Volunteer hours used for these awards must be personally worked and may not include donated hours received from another individual.****

12.2 Horseshoe Award

The Horseshoe Award shall be selected by vote of the Aurora Horsemen Foundation Board of Directors. This award recognizes an individual who has gone above and beyond normal expectations to support and improve AHF while demonstrating the values and mission of the organization.

- Does not require current membership.
- Does not require participation in AHF competitions.
- Has no volunteer-hour requirement.

12.3 Stirrup Award

The Stirrup Award shall be selected by vote of the Aurora Horsemen Foundation Board of Directors. This award recognizes an exhibitor who has demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship, encouragement, positivity, and support of fellow exhibitors throughout the competition season.

- Must be an AHF member in good standing.
 - No volunteer-hour requirement applies.
 - The recipient should exemplify the spirit of camaraderie, sportsmanship, and encouragement that Aurora Horsemen Foundation strives to promote.
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13. Performance Class Descriptions

13.1 General Class Description Statement

These class descriptions are intended to supplement information contained in the AHF Show Bill, Registration Forms, and current Colorado 4-H Rule Book. Judges retain the authority to evaluate exhibitors according to the standards established within each class while considering the safety, welfare, and suitability of horse and rider.

13.2 Showmanship

(English or Western tack and attire permitted)

In Showmanship, the horse serves as a prop to demonstrate the exhibitor's ability to present, control, and show a horse from the ground. The horse itself is not judged.

Areas of Judging

Appearance of the Horse

The horse should demonstrate:

- Good condition and apparent soundness
- Clean, well-brushed hair coat
- Clean and untangled mane, tail, forelock, and wither tuft
- Properly trimmed hooves
- Properly fitted shoes if shod
- Neat tack in good repair

Braids are permitted. Manes may be roached provided the forelock remains visible. Clipping of ears, jaws, legs, and pasterns is permitted.

Showing the Horse

- Enter at an alert walk.
- Lead from the horse's left side.
- Hold the lead appropriately near the halter or bit.
- Present the horse clearly to the judge at all times.

Posing the Horse

- Stand near the horse's shoulder while maintaining visual contact with both horse and judge.
- Never kick a horse's feet into position.
- Avoid crowding neighboring exhibitors.
- Excessive or exaggerated maneuvering shall be penalized.

Poise, Alertness, and Merit

Exhibitors should:

- Remain attentive throughout the class.
- Promptly correct faults.
- Continue showing until excused.
- Refrain from receiving assistance from spectators, trainers, or family members.

**** The judge may request turns, inspections, or handling demonstrations. ****

13.3 English Pleasure

(English tack and attire required)

The emphasis of this class is the horse. Exhibitors shall demonstrate their horse at the:

- Walk
- Posting Trot
- Canter

The horse should:

- Move in a balanced, cadenced manner.
- Display pleasant manners.
- Be responsive to rider aids.
- Give the appearance of being enjoyable to ride.

Horses may be asked to back and may be required to extend the canter in advanced divisions. Penalties include:

- Wrong leads
- Excessive speed
- Excessively slow movement
- Poor manners

13.4 English Equitation

(English tack and attire required)

The emphasis of this class is the rider. The rider should appear balanced, relaxed, and in harmony with the horse. Wrong diagonals, poor position, loss of control, and ineffective aids shall be penalized.

The horse's performance is secondary to the rider's execution. Judging shall include:

- Position
- Seat
- Hands
- Control
- Effectiveness of aids

13.5 English Pattern

(English tack and attire required)

Exhibitors shall perform an individual pattern. Judging shall emphasize:

- Accuracy
- Responsiveness
- Correct execution
- Rider effectiveness

A pattern shall be considered broken if the exhibitor:

- Fails to complete the pattern
- Performs maneuvers out of sequence
- Knocks over markers
- Passes markers incorrectly

**** Pattern difficulty may vary by division.****

13.6 English Discipline

(English tack and attire required)

English Discipline is a rail class designed to evaluate the training and responsiveness of the horse as well as the communication between horse and rider. Possible maneuvers include:

Walk/Trot Divisions

- Sitting Trot
- Extended Trot
- Diagonal Changes
- Halt
- Back

13 & Under Divisions

All Walk/Trot maneuvers plus:

- Hand Gallop
- Simple Lead Change
- Turn on Forehand
- Turn on Hindquarters

14 & Over Divisions

All previous maneuvers plus:

- Counter Canter
- Side Pass
- Two-Point Position

Open Divisions

All previous maneuvers plus:

- Flying Lead Change
- Drop and Recover Stirrups

13.7 Western Ranch Pleasure

(Western tack and attire required)

This class measures the horse's ability to be a pleasant and functional ranch horse. The horse should demonstrate:

- Cadenced movement
- Relaxation
- Responsiveness
- Ground-covering strides
- Correct transitions

**** The horse should travel on a relatively loose rein while remaining attentive to rider aids. ****

Reins

- Split reins may be held in one hand.
- Romal reins shall be held according to accepted western standards.
- Two hands are permitted on horses shown in a snaffle bit or bosal.

Penalties

Judges shall penalize:

- Wrong leads
- Excessive or insufficient speed
- Breaking gait
- Failure to perform requested gait
- Excessive head carriage
- Loss of stirrups
- Improper use of free hand
- Improper use of spurs or romal

**** Silver and decorative tack are permitted. ****

13.8 Western Horsemanship

(Western tack and attire required)

This class emphasizes rider effectiveness and position. Judging shall include:

- Seat
- Hands
- Position
- Control
- Correct use of aids

The rider should demonstrate:

- Balanced alignment
- Quiet hands
- Effective communication
- Proper rein management

Notable:

- The horse's performance shall not outweigh rider effectiveness.
- Two hands are permitted when using a snaffle bit or bosa.

13.9 Western Horsemanship Pattern

(Western tack and attire required)

Exhibitors shall perform an individual pattern. Pattern breaks include:

- Failure to complete the pattern
- Maneuvers performed out of order
- Knocked markers
- Incorrect path around markers

**** Pattern difficulty may vary by division.****

13.10 Ranch Riding

(Western tack and attire required)

Ranch Riding is intended to simulate a horse working outside the confines of an arena. The horse should demonstrate:

- Forward movement
- Responsiveness
- Correct transitions
- Practical working-horse qualities

Judging:

- Emphasizes the horse's ability to complete maneuvers at a working speed while maintaining manners and responsiveness.
- Silver tack is permitted.
- Posting at the extended jog is permitted.

13.11 Trail

(English or Western tack and attire permitted; appropriate tack required)

Trail emphasizes the performance of horse and rider while negotiating obstacles. Judging focuses on:

- Manners
- Responsiveness
- Attitude
- Accuracy
- Willingness

**** Third-party assistance is prohibited.****

Exhibitors shall be penalized for:

- Excessive delays
- Poor obstacle negotiation
- Unsafe riding
- Failure to follow course directions
- Riders dismounting to assist their horse shall be disqualified

General Trail Rules

- Up to six obstacles may be used.
- A maximum of four minutes is allowed to complete the course.
- Three attempts are permitted per obstacle.
- Failure to complete an obstacle shall result in scoring penalties.

Approved Obstacles

Obstacles may include:

- Gates
- Walk-over poles
- Jog-over poles
- Lope-over poles
- Back-through obstacles
- Bridges
- Side passes
- Turns on forehand
- Turns on hindquarters

Notable:

- Additional obstacles may be introduced by AHF at any event.

- Trail classes shall be scored using the AQHA scoring system, excluding AQHA disqualification provisions unless specifically adopted by AHF.

14. Gymkhana Class Descriptions

14.1 General Gymkhana Class Statement

Gymkhana classes are timed events designed to evaluate the speed, accuracy, and horsemanship of horse and rider while completing prescribed patterns. In all Gymkhana classes, exhibitors must correctly start and stop the timer and complete the pattern as described. The fastest qualifying time shall determine placing.

Unless otherwise stated, any disqualification results in no time being recorded.

14.2 In-Line Barrels

In this event, exhibitors must successfully complete a pattern while correctly engaging and terminating a timer. The fastest qualifying time wins.

Pattern Layout

- Barrel #1 shall be placed 35 feet from the start line.
- Barrel #2 shall be placed 35 feet from Barrel #1.
- Barrel #3 shall be placed 35 feet from Barrel #2.

Pattern Description

The exhibitor shall:

1. Cross the start line.
2. Weave the barrels, beginning on either side.
3. Completely turn around Barrel #3.
4. Weave back through the barrels.
5. Cross the finish line.

Penalties

- Five (5) second penalty for each barrel knocked over.

Disqualifications

The rider shall be disqualified for:

- Breaking the pattern.
- Crossing the timer before completing the pattern.

14.3 Flags

In this event, exhibitors must successfully complete a pattern while correctly engaging and terminating a timer. The fastest qualifying time wins.

Pattern Layout

- Two barrels shall be placed 100 feet from the start line.
- Barrels shall be positioned 100 feet apart directly across from one another.
- A bucket shall be placed on top of each barrel.
- One bucket shall contain a flag.

Pattern Description

The exhibitor may begin with either barrel.

The rider shall:

1. Approach the first barrel from the outside.
2. Place the flag into the bucket on the first barrel.
3. Proceed to the second barrel.
4. Remove the flag from the second barrel.
5. Cross the finish line carrying the second flag.

The first flag must remain in the bucket until the rider has crossed the finish line.

Missed Flags

If a rider misses placing or retrieving a flag, they may return and correct the error provided:

- They have not crossed the finish line.
- They do not circle the barrel.

Disqualifications

The rider shall be disqualified for:

- Failing to place the flag in the first bucket.
- Failing to remove the flag from the second bucket and carry it across the finish line.
- Knocking over a barrel or bucket.
- Striking the horse with the flag.
- Circling a barrel.

14.4 Pole Bending

In this event, exhibitors must successfully complete a pattern while correctly engaging and terminating a timer. The fastest qualifying time wins. Lead-Line exhibitors shall weave only three (3) poles and may receive ground assistance.

Pattern Layout

- Six (6) poles shall be placed 21 feet apart.
- The first pole shall be located 21 feet from the start line.

Pattern Description

The exhibitor shall:

1. Begin on either side of the poles.
2. Proceed in a straight line to Pole #6.
3. Reverse direction around Pole #6.
4. Weave around Poles #5 through #2.
5. Reverse direction around Pole #1.
6. Weave around Poles #2 through #5.
7. Reverse direction around Pole #6.
8. Return in a straight line and cross the finish line.

Penalties

- Five (5) second penalty for each pole knocked down.

Disqualifications

The rider shall be disqualified for:

- Crossing the finish line before completing the pattern.
- Breaking the pattern.
- Failing to bend around the original location of a fallen pole.
- A fallen pole's original position shall remain part of the pattern and must be honored.

14.5 Keyhole

In this event, exhibitors must successfully complete a pattern while correctly engaging and terminating a timer. The fastest qualifying time wins. Lead-Line exhibitors shall complete the same pattern with ground assistance.

Pattern Layout

- Four poles shall form a rectangular entry to the keyhole beyond the poles.
- Width: Five (5) feet.
- Length: Six (6) feet.
- The first set of poles shall be located 75 feet from the start line.

Pattern Description

The exhibitor shall:

1. Cross the start line.
2. Enter the keyhole.
3. Reverse direction within the keyhole.
4. Exit the keyhole.
5. Cross the finish line.

Disqualifications

The rider shall be disqualified for:

- Knocking over any pole.
- Crossing the finish line before completing the pattern.
- Turning before completely entering the keyhole.
- Breaking the pattern.

14.6 Wild Card

In this event, exhibitors must successfully complete a pattern while correctly engaging and terminating a timer.

The fastest qualifying time wins.

Pattern Description

The Wild Card pattern shall:

- Be selected by the AHF Gymkhana Chair.
- Change for each Gymkhana event.
- Be posted prior to the start of competition.

The pattern may incorporate elements from traditional Gymkhana events or may introduce new obstacles, challenges, or combinations of maneuvers deemed appropriate by event management.

Disqualifications

Disqualifications shall be based upon the posted pattern instructions and any additional rules announced before the class begins.