

## **MINIATURE HORSE HALTER**

(adopted from the ISHSA of Treasure Valley Rulebook)

1. Horses enter the gate one at a time, at a walk, walking straight to the judges so the judge can observe the way the horse travels.
2. The judge will step to the side, then the horse will be trotted away in a straight line. The horse will continue to be trotted in an arc off to the right or left into a lineup.
3. Horses are lined up head to tail in one line unless the size of the class makes it necessary to form multiple lines.
4. The judge will inspect each horse by walking around the animal, viewing it from all sides.
5. The miniature horse is to be shown to its best advantage. It is preferred that the horse stand square. The judge at his or her discretion may ask to have the horse stand square, which means all four feet are flat on the ground and at least one front and rear cannon bone perpendicular to the ground.
6. Horses may be clipped or shown in full coat.
7. Horses may be shown with or without polished hooves.
8. Horses must be serviceably sound, in good condition, and well groomed. Transmissible weakness and unsoundness to be penalized.

## **MINIATURE HORSE SHOWMANSHIP**

Showmanship rules should be reviewed in the [American Miniature Horse Association](#) on pages 138 - 140.

## **MINIATURE HORSE IN-HAND TRAIL**

In-hand trail rules should be reviewed in the ISHSA rulebook.

## **SMALL CART PLEASURE DRIVING**

(adopted from the ISHSA of Treasure Valley Rulebook)

### **General**

1. It is permissible for a driver to talk to a horse in a subdued tone of voice, although a driver should strive to control the horse's movement with a minimum of vocal aids. Talking loud, whistling or shouting at a horse is not acceptable.
2. No entry may leave the ring after judging has begun without permission of the judge or ring steward.
3. During the class, minor adjustments to harness may be made upon permission from the judge. A groom may assist with the adjustment without penalty. The time out shall be clocked and the adjustment or repair is not to exceed 5 minutes.
4. Boots, wraps, etc. of any description are prohibited.
5. Driving whips, if used, must be of suitable style, and the tip of the lash must not reach past the shoulder of the horse.
6. All pleasure driving vehicles must be of the two-wheel type and have a basket. Undue noise created by a vehicle will be a reason to excuse the entry from the ring.
7. Harness in the pleasure division must be of the light type (no collars). Round or square blinders are permissible in pleasure driving classes. Side of over-check may be used. When shown, the horse must have blinders and the check must be hooked. No other appliances may be used on a driving horse other than the harness.
8. Bits in the pleasure driving division shall be of the snaffle type. No Liverpool bits, curb chains or curb straps are allowed.
9. Martingales may or may not be used.
10. Check bits may be used but are not required.

### **Ring Procedure**

Pleasure driving horses are to enter the ring counter-clockwise at a collected trot. They are to be shown both ways of the arena at a walk, collected trot, and working trot. They are to stand quietly and to rein back.

### **Clarification of Gaits**

The following descriptions constitute the approved standard for performance of each of the required gaits in a small cart pleasure driving competition.

1. Walk: A free, regular and forward moving 4-beat gait. The horse should walk energetically, but calmly, with even and determined pace.
2. Collected trot: The horse should maintain forward impulsion while showing submission to the bit. The trot is slower and more collected, but the horse should indicate willingness to be driven on the bit while maintaining a steady cadence.

3. Working trot: This is a clear, but not excessive, increase in pace and length of stride. The horse goes forward freely, engaging the hind legs with good hock action, on a taut, but light rein, the position balanced and unconstrained.
4. Halt: Horses and vehicle should be brought to a complete square stop without abruptness or veering. At the halt, horses should stand attentive, motionless and straight with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs and be ready to move off at the slightest indication from the driver.
5. Rein back: Rein back is defined as a backward movement in which the legs are raised and set down simultaneously in diagonal pairs with the hind legs remaining well in line. To be performed in two parts:
  - a. The horse must move backward at least four steps in an unhurried manner with head flexed and straight, pushing the carriage back evenly in a straight line. The driver should use quiet aids and light contact.
  - b. Move forward willingly to former position using the same quiet aids.

All other rules should be reviewed in the [American Miniature Horse Association](#) on pages 113 - 115.