

Ranch Horse Rail Rules

1. The Ranch Horse Western Pleasure horse should reflect the versatility, attitude, and movements of a working horse.
2. The horse's performance should simulate a horse riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch horse. This class should show the horse's ability to work at a forward, working speed while under control by the rider. Light contact should be rewarded and horse does not have to be shown on a full drape of reins. The overall manners and responsiveness of the horse while performing the maneuver requirements, and the horse's quality of movement are the primary considerations.
3. Requirements:
 - a. No horse less than 2 years of age.
 - b. Horses will work collectively in the arena on the rail only.
 - c. The required maneuvers will include the walk, jog, and lope both directions: and the extended jog and lope at least one direction, at judge's discretion; as well as stop, reverse, and back. No more than 10 (ten) horses may extend lope on rail at once.
 - d. The overall cadence and performance of the gaits should be that of a western horse, with an emphasis on forward movements, free-flowing, and ground covering for all gaits. Transitions should be performed where designated with smoothness and responsiveness.
4. Apparel and Equipment:
 - a. Discourage hoof polish
 - b. Discourage braided or banded manes or tail extensions.
 - c. Trimming inside ears is discouraged.
 - d. Trimming bridle path is allowed, also trimming of fetlocks or excessive (long) facial hair, but is discouraged.
 - e. Western equipment with silver should not count over a good working outfit. Silver on bridles and saddles is discouraged.
 - f. Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are allowed.
 - g. Western attire is required.