



2019 JUDGES GUIDELINES.

REGULATIONS.

1. Judges are required to acquaint themselves with the MHCGB show rules.
2. Judges shall appear for their assignment suitably attired to appear before an audience.
3. Judges must not knowingly judge a horse that he or she has owned, trained or has had a financial gain or interest in.
4. A judge shall not attend an exhibitor's party or any other activity connected with the exhibitors on the day previous to the show at which he is officiating.
5. A judge shall not visit the stabling area, nor speak with owners, exhibitors nor their representatives nor discuss any horse entered in the show before the judging.
6. A judge may not exhibit at any competition in which he or she is adjudicating.
7. Each horse shall be given equal and careful consideration.
8. Judges are asked not to officiate at more than two MHCGB affiliated shows per year.
9. A judge may officiate at one only MHCGB National Championship Show qualifying Area show per year.
10. National Championship show judges are asked to not officiate at any MHCGB National Championship show Area shows in that same year.

PRELIMINARY JUDGING MHCGB STYLE.

Horses are to enter the ring, individually in catalogue order, at a walk clockwise on a loose lead to a designated point marked by a cone approximately 20 feet from the gate and then proceed at a trot past the judge/s. Judging will begin at the cone.

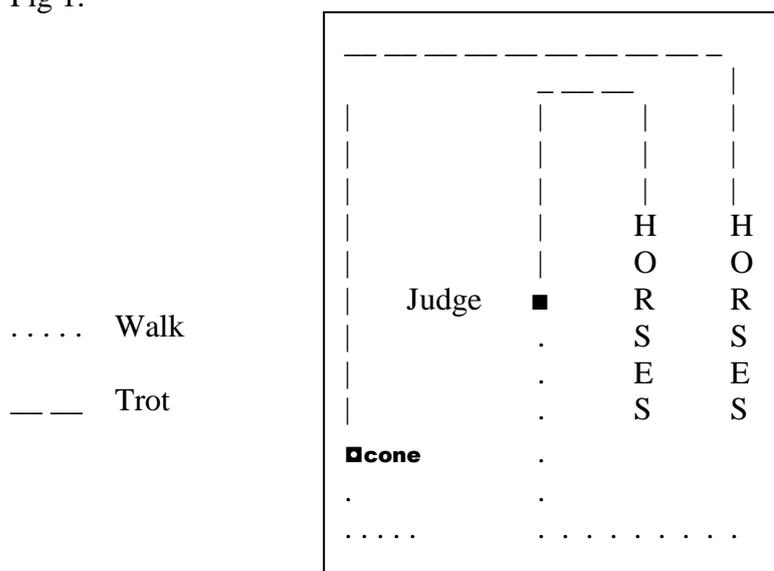
Line up horses head to tail along the ringside, teeth and testicles are checked for correctness.

The judge then re takes his/her position in the centre of the ring. From line-up, competitors walk to judge and trot past, back to the end of line, to assess straightness of movement.

Horse are then posed nose to tail approx. 15 feet from the edge of the ring and with sufficient distance between to allow judges to assess horses from all sides. Horses are assessed individually in the nose to tail line up - See Fig 1.

The final line up is then called in and Rosettes are awarded.

Fig 1.



For reasons of safety, Judges are asked to discourage exhibitors from sitting, kneeling or squatting down in front of horses (with the exception of showing weanlings where squatting may be necessary). If after a warning is given, exhibitors may be penalised

The horses are judged on:-

1. **TYPE**- the horse must possess horse like qualities in a smaller size and proportion. Pony-like traits are not desirable in the modern miniature horse.
2. **CONFORMATION** - consider the correctness of structure and conformation. Identify any faults and weaknesses.
3. **QUALITY** - which includes the harmony and balance of body parts, the refinement and density of bone in the legs and the smoothness of muscling.
4. **WAY OF GOING** - perhaps meriting a higher consideration. Not just the quality of movement but the technical correctness of the stride, articulation of the joints, elevation and impulsion.
5. **PRESENCE.**

CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The first and second places from the applicable classes are called to the championship. First placed horses form the front line, second placed horses stand behind the winner of their class. Horses are asked to walk/trot out at the discretion of the judge. The horses are posed for the judge to reassess. Champion and Reserve Champion are selected.

SPECIALITY HALTER CLASS – COLOUR CLASSES.

These classes are judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

Horses are walked into the arena, then asked to turn and walk in the opposite direction. Horses are then lined nose to tail in rows allowing space for the judge to pass between each horse to assess. The horses are trotted at the discretion of the judge.

The following classes are available:-

Spotted i.e. appaloosa, pintaloosa

Broken colour i.e. pinto, piebald, skewbald

Solid i.e. bay, chestnut, grey, black, brown.

Any other colour i.e. silvers, palaminos, buckskin, gruella, roan etc.

DRIVING CLASSES.

Horses are to be serviceably sound and must be three years old or older.

Drivers should strive to present an appropriate turnout that conforms to the class entered.

Suggested attire:- Gentlemen, hat, jacket, tie, trousers, gloves & ladies tailored suite, skirt and blouse or evening dress (where appropriate) hat and gloves.

Whips must be carried at all times, failure will result in disqualification.

Headers are acceptable.

SINGLE PLEASURE DRIVING.

The horse should give the appearance of a pleasurable drive.

It should also show animation and brilliance of movement.

Horses are to enter the ring counter clockwise at a collected trot.

Gait requirements - Walk, Collected Trot and working trot on both reins.

The horses are required to stand quietly and to rein back.

This class is judged on Performance, Manners, Way of Going, Conformation, Appropriateness, Condition and Fit of vehicle and harness, Neatness of attire.

IN THAT ORDER

COUNTRY PLEASURE DRIVING.

Country pleasure is judged on Attitude, Manners, Performance, Quality and Conformation **IN THAT ORDER.**

Horses must be on the bridle, with a relaxed neck carriage, high action must be penalised, it is imperative that a horse give the distinct appearance of being a pleasure to drive.

Gait requirements – walk, pleasure trot and working trot on both reins.

Stand quietly and rein back readily.

*HORSES MAY ENTER **EITHER** COUNTRY PLEASURE OR SINGLE PLEASURE.*

SCURRY DRIVING.

Horses complete a timed coned course incurring time penalties of 2 seconds when losing balls from the cones.

A judge may dismiss from the ring any unsafe horse, vehicle or equipment.

JUMPING CLASS.

Horses must be aged 3 years or over.

Classes will be judged with 4 faults for a knockdown and 3 faults for a refusal. Jump offs occur for ties of first place only, each horse shall re jump a raised course until the horse with the lesser faults is declared the winner.

OBSTACLE CLASS.

Horses must be aged 2 years or over.

An obstacle course will be constructed and can be viewed by competitors and judges.

The class is judged on performance and way of going with the emphasis on manners throughout the course. Entries will be evaluated on responsiveness and willingness, plus general attitude.

Maximum time per obstacle 60 seconds, horses are then asked to advance to the next obstacle

A score sheet system is advised to give a possible mark out of 10 for each obstacle.

LIBERTY.

Liberty is demonstrating the natural beauty of the horse. Horse are to be judged on Style, Grace, Animation, Gaits, Presence, Music and Suitability, Ease of Catching.

Judging begins when the halter is removed. Time of liberty is 1 ½ minutes, time to catch, 1 ½ minutes. (If not caught until after the 1½ minutes the horse is disqualified) One exhibitor (wearing the number) and one handler allowed in the ring. Horses to be caught by the exhibitor only. Touching of the horse during 1 ½ minutes at liberty will count for disqualification.

The following assessment can be made. Style and Grace 30 points, Animation and Presence 30 points, Gaits 30 points, Music and Suitability 10 points, Catch 10 points

PROGENY / BREEDING CLASSES

Produce of dam.

To be judged with emphasis on the reproductive likeness, uniformity, quality of breed characteristics and confirmation. The minimum of two offspring and a maximum of 4 per entry. Any sex of offspring may be shown. One number is issued per group of horses.

Get of sire.

This class will be judged with emphasis on the reproductive likeness, uniformity, quality of breed characteristics and confirmation. The minimum of two progeny and a maximum of 4 per entry. Any sex may be shown. One number is issued per group of horses.

SHOWMANSHIP.

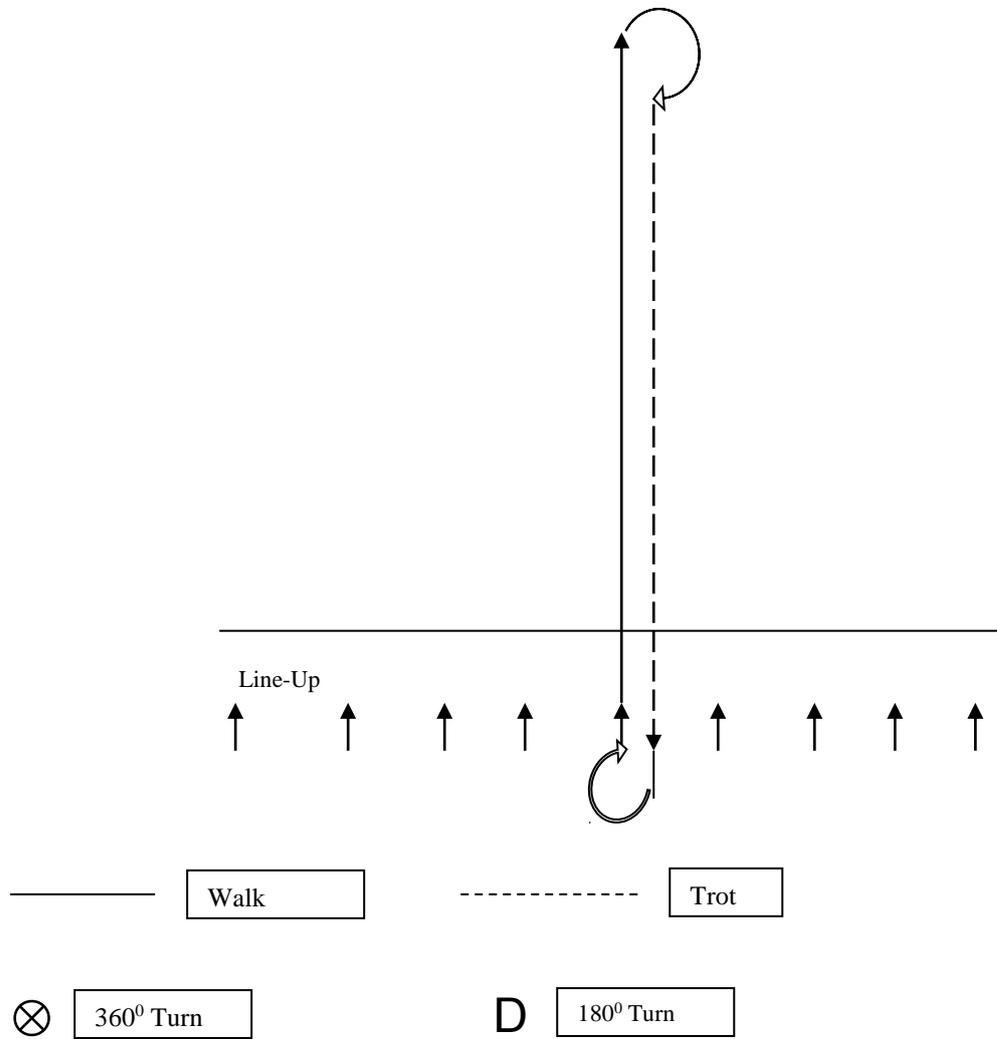
The showmanship class is an assessment of the handler's ability to show and turn out his/her horse.

This system of presenting the horse (see Fig 2) results in the exhibitor always being in a safe position, the exhibitor always being able to see the judge and the horses position, the exhibitor always being in a position to keep the horses hindquarter from swinging toward the judge should the horse become fractious and unsafe for the judge and the judge being in a safe position at all times to evaluate the exhibitors ability to show the horse as desired.

Fig 2.

Showmanship
Pattern 1

Judge
X
Stop



Points can be awarded for the following:-

Appearance of handler 10 points, suitability and cleanliness. Gloves, hat, boots and jackets are required

Appearance of horse 40 points, (conformation is not a factor.) Cleanliness, conditioning and tack.

Showing of horse 50 points