

**WESTERN NEVADA
HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
(WNHA)**



Western Nevada Horsemen's Association (WNHA)
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GLOSSARY of TERMS

GLOSSARY of TERMS EXPLAINED

1st & 2nd YEAR GREEN HORSE: 1st and 2nd Year Green Horse is a horse that has less than 2 years of showing anywhere in any particular event. There is no age limit on the horse or Exhibitor. No training devices will be allowed, unless the Exhibitor has designated schooling.

3-Gaited: Walk, jog/trot, lope/canter, and extensions on all gaits.

Age of a Horse: Shall be computed on the basis of January 1st of a calendar year.

Attendant: A person of at least 16 years of age or older. Leading a horse with one Lead Line attached to mount. Attendant is present for safety purposes and must maintain an arms length distance between them and the mount

Barrel Racing "Cloverleaf": An exciting race against the clock in which Competitors follow a course consisting of three barrels in triangular "cloverleaf" pattern. Competitors choose to circle either the right or left barrel first, race to the opposite barrel and complete the course after circling the third barrel and racing down the center of the three barrels to stop the timer. Knocking over a barrel carries a five second penalty.

Balk: To refuse or cease forward motion.

Breeches: English pants.

Bit: A mouthpiece which is secured to a headstall and a pair of reins which is used to guide the horse.

Bridle: Headgear consisting of a headstall, bit and reins by which a horse is guided and controlled.

Canter: In English classes, a three-beat gait; smooth, free moving, relaxed and straight on both leads.

Chaps: Leather leg wraps worn by Exhibitor and used during Western classes

Colt: An ungelded (uncastrated) male horse less than four (4) years old.

Conformation: Build of Horse.

Counter-canter: Deliberately asking the horse to canter on the lead opposite the direction of movement. For example, in a circle to the right, requesting a counter-canter would result in a canter left lead.

Course: A specified pattern Exhibitor/Competitors must follow in performing certain classes in WNHA approved shows or events.

Curb strap: The leather strap on the bit passing under the horse's jaw. Must be at least 1/2" wide and lay flat on the horse's jaw.

Curb chain: The chain attached to the bit passing under the horse's jaw. Must be at least 1/2" wide and lay flat on the horse's jaw.

Disqualification: A procedure used to remove an entry from a class in which an Exhibitor/Competitor and/or horse violated a WNHA rule.

Disunited: Canter or loping on different leads front and hind.

English: Referring to riding with English tack and attire.

Entry Fees: Fees paid by an exhibitor for entry into a class.

Equitation: The Exhibitor's ability to perform maneuvers or gait changes in harmony with the horse while maintaining correct body position. Posture and position of the Exhibitor's hands and feet while cueing the horse must be consistent. Communication should be through subtle use of cues and not be obvious. Judgment is on Exhibitor's performance.

Exhibitor:

Extension: Faster, longer strides in any gait while maintaining the original rhythm. The outline of the horse should appear to lengthen; with the head and neck stretching forward. The stride should have more impulsion.

Fault: Scoring unit to keep track of knockdowns, refusals, or other offenses.

Figure 8: The figure 8 race is a timed competition consisting of markers set on either side of a center line.

Filly: A female horse less than four (4) years old.

Forward Motion: It should have a balanced, flowing motion. It should be willing, yet confident and comfortable in its appearance, with little or no apparent resistance to its rider's requests.

Gait: A manner of moving the feet; walk, jog and lope in Western events; walk, trot and canter in English events.

Grade Horse: A horse that is not registered to a particular breed association.

Hackamore: Flexible braided rawhide or leather or rope bosal used in Western classes with reins for horses five (5) and under.

Halters: Equipment used on a horse's head that has a strap over the poll, cheek, nose and chin. Usually made with leather, nylon and metal.

Halter Class: Evaluates conformation of the Horse as a breed. Halter classes are divided by age and color. Horses are shown with a halter or a bridle appropriate to breed type, and are traveled before the Judges so that lameness and quality of movement can be evaluated. Horses are judged on balance, structural correctness, type, color, characteristics and degree of muscling. Of these, balance is the most important.

Helmets: ASTM & SEI safety standards must be met on helmets used for English, Western and Gymkhana event or classes.

Horsemanship: Exhibition of a Exhibitor's skill, usually referring to the Western style of riding.

Jackpot: Money paid by exhibitors in addition to entry fees and kept separate; that will then be dispersed among the top placing.

Jog: In Western classes, a smooth, ground-covering two-beat diagonal gait.

Jodhpurs: English riding pants.

Judge: Individual whose opinion decides placing at WNHA scheduled shows and/or gymkhana events.

Knockdown: In over fence classes, an obstacle is considered knocked down when a horse or rider lowers any part of an obstacle; In Gymkhana events, is when the above described knocks over poles, barrels, etc.

Lead: The inside front foot of a horse working in the arena must move out first, e.g. when riding in a circle to the right (clockwise) the right front foot "leads" the horse.

Lead Line: Class for any rider of any age with a person of 16 years or older leading horse.

Left Lead: The horse's left foreleg extends during a lope or canter.

Lope: In Western classes, an easy, rhythmical three-beat gait.

Loss of Forward Motion: Stopping or turning back at any time during the ride.

Mare: A female horse aged four (4) years or over.

Martingales: Training device to help keep horses head set.

Mechanical Hackamore: Bitless bridle with metal shanks; allowed in Gymkhana events only.

Member in Good Standing: WNHA due paid in full and no monies owed.

Novice Equitation: A Exhibitor in an equitation class who has not taken (won) three (3) – 1st place(s) in a specific type of class prior to January 1st of the current show year in any similar division, and/or class anywhere.

Novice Pleasure: A horse in a pleasure class who has not taken (won) three (3) – 1st place(s) in a specific type of class prior to January 1st of the current show year in any similar division, and/or class anywhere.

Novice Gymkhana: Neither the horse and rider combination to have won three (3) 1st place(s) prior to January 1st of the current gymkhana season in any similar division, and/or event anywhere.

Open Class: A class in which eligibility of the exhibitors is not restricted to an age group, skill level or gender, type, breed of horse.

Pattern Class: A class in which exhibitors must complete a pattern of maneuvers.

Pleasure Class: Classes are judged on the quality of the horse's manners, smoothness of gaits, attitude, conformation and responsiveness to the Exhibitor's cue. Judges should look for a balanced, flowing stride and a horse that is fit and willing. The overall impression should be of a horse that is a pleasure to ride. Judged on the horses' performance.

Pole Bending: A timed event in which the speed and agility of the horse are tested as horse and rider weave through a course of six poles spaced 21 feet apart, twice circling end poles before turning and racing to the finish line. The pattern must be followed exactly. A five-second penalty is added for each pole knocked down.

Post: To rise from the saddle at the trot.

Quality: Overall looks of horse.

Rail Class: The fence-line, as in a "rail" class.

Reining: Judges the horse on movements, mastery of prescribed maneuver and attitude as he/she is guided through patterns. The horse is required to perform a number of stops, spins, rollbacks, lead changes and circles at a lope. The horse should be willing to be guided with little or no resistance.

Right Lead: During a lope or canter, the horse's right leg extends before the left leg.

Ring Etiquette: The ability of the Exhibitor to move his horse in a class while maintaining a safe, balanced environment in the show ring while affording the Judge a clear view of their mount. Exhibitors should use appropriate spacing and not interfere with the Judge's ability to observe the entire Exhibitors in the class. Also, to realize when their horse needs to be brought out of the class & to stand quietly in the center of the arena when poor behavior and/or a loss of control of the horse is obvious and jeopardizes the safety of other Exhibitors.

Romal: An extension of braided material attached to closed reins. The romal shall not be used forward of the cinch or to signal or cue the horse in any way.

Saddle: English and Western, with a great deal of variety in each style. The purpose is essentially the same: to make the horse and rider comfortable by helping rider maintain proper position by distributing the rider's weight evenly across the horse's back.

Serviceably Sound: Able to perform without limping or showing signs of stress or discomfort.

Schooling: A horse/Exhibitor combination in designated classes to school a horse. Exhibitor will wear number upside down. No points or awards. Judge will not place Exhibitors in class; however, will tell Exhibitor/exhibitor where he/she would have placed.

Show Manager: This person is in charge of the WNHA event (show or gymkhana) and has authority to enforce all rules referring to the show or gymkhana.

Show Officials: Any person performing the duties of a show manager, ring steward, show secretary or any person having direction over a show.

Showmanship Class: A class, in which the exhibitor leads his horse into the ring, performs a pattern and presents the horse to the Judge for inspection. The class is judged on the exhibitor's ability to prepare and show a horse. Judges will look for poise and confidence in the exhibitor, responsiveness to command in the horse and perfect grooming of both.

Skid boots: Protects the rear fetlock/ergot area from getting kicked or rubbed raw in the dirt when a horse stops hard and suddenly, as when reining, cutting, or roping.

Speed Event: A class judged solely by a timer.

Sponsorship: The fee paid by participants who wish to receive year-end awards.

Splint boots: Utilize a reinforced plate to protect the splint bones on the inside of the legs.

Spurs: Small metal devices worn on the rider's boot to help enforce the leg aids. Come in a range of severity, from very mild blunt spurs to severe rowel models.

Stake Race: The stake race is a timed competition consisting of markers set on either side of a center line. They must cross the center line between upright markers, head to either the right or left of the pole, then down the center line to stop the clock.

Stallion: An ungelded male horse aged four years or over.

Steward: A person who assists the Judges and show staff to keep the show moving at a good pace. Duties may include relaying instructions, class placing from the Judge to the announcer and resetting markers or obstacles for a pattern class.

Stock Saddle: A large, heavy, often ornamented saddle with a raised curved pommel originally used on cattle ranches in the West and Southwest. Also called *western saddle*.

Tie Down: A strap that connects to the noseband and the cinch or breast collar; a control device to limit the height of the horse's head. Western version of the standing martingale. A strap from the girth to the noseband or bosal to keep the horse from tossing his head.

Trail: The trail class tests the maneuverability of a Horse through an obstacle course. Scoring is based on the horse's willingness, ease and grace in negotiating the course.

Trot: In English classes, a two-beat gait, compromising of long, low, ground covering, cadenced and balanced strides.

Type: A particular style of horse with certain characteristics that contribute to its value and efficiency for a particular use.

Walk: In English and Western Classes, a natural, flat-footed, four-beat gait.

Walk-Trot: A class for Exhibitors that walk & trot/jog in arena. Both English and Western classes available. No cross entries allowed with any classes that includes a canter/lope.

Western Horsemanship: Designed to test the horsemanship abilities of Exhibitors using western tack. Exhibitors follow a prescribed pattern of maneuvers at a walk, trot or lope. Judging focuses on the Exhibitor's body position, seat in the saddle and ability to control the horse.

Western Pleasure: One of the most popular show events is western pleasure. Contestants compete simultaneously, traveling the perimeter of the arena, and at the discretion of the Judge; are asked to walk, jog, lope and reverse the direction of the horse. Horses are evaluated on quality of movement while staying quiet and calm, traveling on a loose rein.