

Western Versatility Classes

1. The NSBA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations will apply to the judging and scoring of each class, with the following adaptation:
 - a. there are no one (1) or three (3) point penalties on lead changes.
 - b. all five (5) point penalties will apply throughout the pattern.
 - c. a simple lead change is not a credit-earning maneuver.
 - d. the greatest achievable simple lead change maneuver score will be a zero (0); and
 - e. a completed, simultaneous, flying lead change is a credit earning maneuver score.
2. Up to fifteen (15) entries will be accepted by the official entry deadline of April 1 2024 . Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis according to postmark date. An "also eligible" list of entries will be maintained according to postmark date. In the case of entries with the same postmark date, a simple draw will be conducted to determine the successful entry(ies). Entry payments made for those horses offered the opportunity to compete, but do not compete, are nonrefundable. Entry payments will be refunded for those entries not offered the opportunity to compete.
3. Go order will be determined by draw 24 hours before the event. The same order will be used for the pattern, western pleasure presentation and conformation working order.
4. Pattern class will be numerically scored and then placed.
5. In the pattern class, Junior horses will be shown in either a hackamore or snaffle. Any NSBA-approved bit will be optional in the western pleasure class. Senior horses will be shown in NSBA-approved bit in both the pattern and the pleasure classes.
6. Pattern markers will be cones with no additional pattern enhancements, such as flower boxes, etc. The practice pattern will be the same as that used for the actual competition pattern (cones and pole colors). A practice time will be allocated the evening before the event on the exercise schedule.
7. Upon the approval to remount after the pattern-class segment of the event, contestants will be given a maximum of 5 minutes (unless extenuating circumstances) to warm-up for the western pleasure class.
8. Horses will jog in and go down the center of the show pen when entering for western pleasure.
9. Horses will be backed up in the western pleasure class in the center of the arena once the rail portion of the class is completed.
10. Pattern obstacles may be removed from obstructing the path for the western pleasure or conformation segments of the event.
11. Upon the completion and line up of the western pleasure class, tack will be removed (with the assistance of up to two grooms), and the horse will be haltered and prepared for the conformation segment of the event. A countdown clock, set to five (5) allowable minutes, will be utilized when preparing horses for the conformation segment of the event. Time begins when the first wheelbarrow enters the in-gate. Horses will not be jogged for soundness as this is a Conformation class and soundness would have been determined during the first two performance classes.
12. Any horse competing in this event is subject to NSBA drug-testing rules.
13. This event is open to Horses of any age.
14. Fifteen (15) horses will be placed in each class.