

# **WISCONSIN STATE 4-H HORSE EXPO**

## **MODEL HORSE SHOW RULES AND CLASS LIST**

### **WISCONSIN PRODUCTS BUILDING - WISCONSIN STATE FAIR PARK- MILWAUKEE/WEST ALLIS**

#### **Eligibility:**

1. Entrant must be a 4-H horse/pony or horseless horse or model horse project member for the current year.
2. The eligibility of entrant is confirmed by the four (4) signatures on the entry form.
3. Do not have to qualify at County Fair to enter Model Horse show.

#### **Entry Requirements:**

1. Entries must be postmarked within seven (7) days of the qualifying show. LATE ENTRIES WILL BE REJECTED AND RETURNED.
2. Entries must be sent in by the UWEX Agent in ONE envelope per county. Correct fees must be attached to each entry (a county check must be itemized). Entries received any other way will be returned.
3. All four (4) signatures are required, otherwise entries will be returned.
4. Entry fees are \$3.00 per model per class plus a \$5.00 stable fee. Make checks payable to WI State 4-H Horse Association, Inc. No refunds on fees will be made.
5. An exhibitor may enter a maximum of one (1) model per class.
6. Model horse displays may not be larger than 24 x 18 (except for draft harness).
7. Each model must have an entry tag fastened to a hind leg that cannot be easily removed. A string tag should be at least 4 inches long.
8. Required information on entry tag:  
Class, breed of model, name of horse (on front)  
Entrant's name, county and age (on back).
9. It is expected that the exhibitor be available to take the model to the judging table. If you experience a time conflict with other Expo events, please notify the Model Horse Secretary or the Model Horse Ring Steward and a representative for the exhibitor may show the exhibit.
10. A single model may show in more than one class. If you anticipate a tack change, please inform the Model Horse Ring Steward.
11. No entry changes made at show.

4/10

## Class List

1. Open Costume by Exhibitor - Native/Historical
2. Open Costume by Exhibitor - Fantasy
3. Harness/Driving - Draft
4. Harness/Driving - Fine or Pleasure
5. Western pleasure grade 3-8
6. Western Pleasure grade 9-13
7. Saddle seat/Park Pleasure
8. Gymkhana/speed events
9. Hunter/Jumper Over Fences
10. Trail - English/Western - Arena
11. Trail - English/Western - Natural
12. Hunter Under Saddle
13. Open other Performance
14. OF Halter - English Breeds Grade 3-8
15. OF Halter - English Breeds Grade 9-13
16. OF Halter - Western Breeds Grade 3-8
17. OF Halter - Western Breeds Grade 9-13
18. OF Halter - Pony Grade 3-8
19. OF Halter - Pony Grade 9-13
20. OF Halter - Draft Grade 3-8
21. OF Halter - Draft Grade 9-13
22. Customize by exhibitor (NO TACK)
23. Showmanship Grade 3-8 (doll required)
24. Showmanship Grade 9-13 (doll required)

## CLASS RULES

- Class 1 & 2 Any costume made by exhibitor is permitted.  
Models may NOT cross enter classes 1 & 2.
- Class 3 & 4 Functionally correct harness required. Bridle with reins of sufficient length to reach "vehicle", saddle pad with tugs (if single horse/pony) and terrets, breast collar or collar/hame with traces of sufficient length to reach "vehicle". Vehicle, blinders, crupper, breeching or thimbles and overchecks are optional.
- Class 7 Flat saddle and double bridle are required (or Walker bridle for TWH).
- Class 5 & 6 Western stock saddle, blanket and western bridle with standard western bits common to class model competes in are required. Nose bands are not allowed in Classes 5 or 6.
- Class 8 Any game, explanation is required.
- Class 10 & 11 Obstacle required.
- Class 12 Hunt Seat (forward seat) saddle and bridle required. A saddle pad is optional.
- Class 9 Obstacle required, should be those typically found in the hunt field or encountered by a show-ring hunter/jumper.
- Class 13 Any other event not listed: tack, props, obstacles and/or dolls must be compatible with event depicted.
- Class 14-21 **Appropriate halters or bridles for breed and type of class must be used. (NO DOLLS)**
- Class 22 No tack allowed.
- Class 23 & 24 Halters/bridles and appropriate dolls should be used.

1/07

The collecting and showing of model horses is a serious pursuit of perfection, duplication and artistry. Showing model horses is beyond the toy aspect, since it takes great skill and knowledge to achieve the detail and realism needed to depict the likeness of a real horse. Anyone who has an interest in horses can find a niche in the world of model horses. The world of model horses is both entertaining and educational. It is for equine lovers of all ages. They are especially adaptable for people who do not have horses and ones who may be allergic to real horses.

Showing model horses can be a total learning experience. A good working knowledge of correct conformation, anatomy, proper tack and attire, horse movement, breeds and colors may be needed. It can involve many different skills; such as, collecting, sculpturing, painting and tack making. The only limitations are your knowledge, skill and imagination. The ultimate goal is taking a real horse, doing a specified action, freeze it in time and shrink it to model size. Realism and correctness are your goals.

The showing of model horses started in the mid-1960's, first with the photo show and later the "live" show. For a photo show, a picture is taken of your model at halter or performance and the photo is sent in to be judged. This permits people from all over the country to do their showing through the mail without leaving their home. A "live" show or model horse exhibition is where the actual model is on display and judged.

TO GET STARTED IN THE SHOWING OF MODEL horses, the following is suggested:

- Learn your craft
- Study live horses, what they do and how they do it.
- Study live horse show rules and information.
- Subscribe to horse/breed magazines.
- Establish a notebook of photos, clippings and information as a reference for color and markings, and breed types and performance action.
- Attend real horse shows.

As you get into the hobby, you may want to subscribe to a model horse magazine. The information contained in these magazines will help you keep up with the world of model horses. They usually have a listing of various model horse clubs that are available. As you progress, you may want to join a club that best fits your needs, interests and expectations. The following is a sample of model horse magazines and information sources that are available. (This list is by no means complete).

## **HOBBY PUBLICATIONS**

Hart, Edward, 1986, The Book of the Heavy Horse, Patrick Stephen's, limited, England. (excellent history and photos of breeds)

Hartley-Edwards, Elwyn, 1991, The Ultimate Horse, Doling-Kindersley.

Hartlty-Edwards, Elwyn, 1991, The Encyclopedia of the Horse, Doling-Kindersley

Hendricks, Bonnie L., 1995, International Encyclopedia of Horse Breeds, University of Oklahoma.

Howlett, Lorna, 1984, Complete Book of Ponies, Howell Book House. (excellent book on ponies/photos)

Illustrated Veterinary Encyclopedia for Horsemen, 1975, Equine Research Inc. (gives you visual concepts of good and bad conformation section by section, as well as specific ailments)

Norris, Anne and Nancy Pethick, 1979, Harnessing Up, J.A. Allen Co. (excellent step-by step picture reference on harnessing light/pony/donkey)

Smythe, R.H., 1965, The Mind of the Horse, Stephen Greene Press. (explains how a horse thinks, how a horse's eyesight functions, how a horse learns)

Steinkraus and Stoneridge, 1987, The Horse in Sport, Stewart, Tabori and Chang, U.S. (perfect companion book to the famous Horse in Sport video tapes, excellent photos help explain)

Strickland, Charlene, 1986, Show Grooming - The Look of a Winner, Breakthrough Publications. (excellent book on the subject, covers most breeds currently shown in the US, plus tack and attire - good reference if you use dolls)

Walrond, Sally, 1971, A Guide to Driving Horses, Melvin Powers, Wilshire Book Co. (great for the light horse/pony driving)

## **HOBBY MAGAZINES/PUBLICATIONS**

COLOR FORMULAS & TECHNIQUES FOR THE MODEL HORSE ARTIST, Rio Rondo Enterprises, Carol Williams, P. O. Box 111, Copeland, KS 67837 (gives information on how to paint models)

HOBBY HORSE NEWS, Paula Hecker, Editor, 815 W. Pensacola Street - Unit 3, Tallahassee, FL 32304.

JUST ABOUT HORSES, 34 Owens Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470 (geared toward very young collectors)

MODEL HORSE EXHIBITOR'S INFORMATION PACKET, Rio Rondo Enterprises, Carol Williams, P.O. Box 111, Copeland, KS 67837

The following information should be kept on each model, especially if you show in a club:

- Name (pick a name just as is done in the breed organizations)
- Breed
- Color
- Sex
- Markings
- Make and Mold
- Finish
- Artist, if known (many RRH are signed on the belly)
- Pose

If you correspond with people in the hobby, always include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want a response.

Various abbreviations are used in the world of model horses. The following abbreviations are commonly used:

Act -	Action	Enes -	Enesco
		E -	English
B - Bay		Ents -	Entries or entrants
Bar -	Barrels	EP -	English Pleasure
BC -	Breast collar	Esp -	Especially
Bes -	Beswick	Ex -	Excellent
Blk -	Black		
Boots -	Any protective boot	F -	Fair
Brn -	Brown	FAF -	Family Arab Foal
Brey -	Breyer/Reeves	FAM -	Family Arab Mare
Buck -	Buckskin	FAS -	Family Arab Stallion
		Flag -	Flag race
C or cl -	Classic size	FS -	Foundation Stallion
Cer -	Ceramic	F/Y -	Foals and yearlings
CH -	Chestnut		
Cond -	Condition	G -	Good
Conf -	Conformation	Gr -	Grey
Cost -	Costume	Gru -	Grulla
Custom -	Work done to order	Gym -	Gymkhana/games
Cut -	Cutting		
		Hal -	Halter
Dap -	Dappled	Harn -	harness
DK -	Dark	Hart -	Hartland collectibles
Dres -	Dressage	HK HM -	Honorable Mention

WISCONSIN 4-H MODEL HORSE RULES AND CLASS LIST

HK p-	Hong Kong/undefined plastic	RF -	Running Foal
HM -	Honorable mention	RH -	Repainted and haired
HP -	Huntseat Pleasure	RM -	Running Mare
H-R -	Hagen-renaker	Roan -	Roan/blue, red, etc
Hr -	Haried	Rop -	Roping
		RR -	Remade, repainted
Ins -	Insurance	RRH -	Remade, repainted and haired
IP -	Indian pony	RSHF -	Running stock horse foal
L Clas -	Large Classic	S Clas -	Small Classic
L Trad -	larger traditional	Sad -	Saddle
LB -	Little Bits	SASE -	Self addressed, stamped envelope
Lef -	Lefton		
Leop -	Leopard	Semi-leop -	Semi leopard
LP -	Lady phase	Shf -	Stock horse foal/standing
Lt -	Light	SHM -	Stock horse mare
		SHS -	Stock horse stallion
Med -	Medium	SJ -	Stadium jumping
M/T -	Mane and tail	SM -	Stablemate size
Mint -	Mint condition/new	Sor -	Sorrel
MS -	Midnight Sun	SSP -	Saddle seat Pleasure
		St -	Standing
Nov -	Novice	SR -	Special run
		SS -	Stud Spider
Obs -	Obstacle/prop		
OD -	Obstacle driving	TDE or -	three day event
OF -	Original factory finish	3DE	
Ov -	Overo	Tob -	Tobiano
		Trad -	traditional size
P -	Poor/good for RH	TU -	Touch up (eyes, hooves etc)
PAF -	Proud Arab Foal		
Palo -	Palomino	VG -	Very good
PAM -	Proud Arab mare		
Par -	Parade	W -	Western
PAS -	Proud Arab Stallion	WCH -	Working cow horse
PD -	Pleasure Driving	Wh -	White
P&H -	Postage and handling	Wn or-	Weanling/foals
Perf -	Performance	wnlg	
Pic/pix-	Photographs	WP -	Western pleasure
Plas -	Plastic	WR -	Western riding
PO -	Paint over	WSH -	Working stock horse
Pol -	Pole bending	WT -	Western trail
PPD -	Postage Paid		
Pt -	Point	XC -	Cross country
RC -	Reined cow horse	YM -	Yellow mount
Rein -	Reining	YR or-	Yearling
Rem -	Remade	yrlg	
Rep -	Repainted only		

The models are generally made of Tenite acetate (not plastic) and can be heated, melted and remolded to desired proportion and form. Then, through the use of special fillers and sculpting techniques, the ordinary can be transformed into the extraordinary. An elaborate RRH model will have repositioned legs, neck and carved ears and frogs, added on veins, chestnuts and shoes. It will then be painted in oils or acrylics and be finished with a fine mohair mane and tail. Real horse hair is rarely used, since it is too coarse.

Fees for an elaborate ready-made model (RRH) may go into the hundreds of dollars. The majority will cost less than \$100. All of the tack is handmade, not mass-produced. Thus, expect to pay for quality work.

In choosing a model (factory or RRH) consider the following quality factors:

- Is the model suitable for the breed and type of class in which you intend to show?
- Does the model have good conformation? If remade, does it have smooth seams and finish and free of irregularities?
- Is the color and finish even, realistic, natural color, good coverage, good clarity/resolution of markings?
- Look at the detail of the eyes, hooves and markings.
- Does it have a realistic look, anatomy, position and poise that presents a pretty picture?
- The actual condition of the model should be free of nicks, chips, obvious breaks, rubs and scratches.
- If tack and/or props are included, they should be in exacting proportions to be ideal. Again, realism is the key - looks like a "shrunk down" version of the real item. It should be made from quality material, sized to fit the model and neatness in appearance.
- If you have not seen the model, ask to see a photo and closely inspect the photo. Ideally, photos from more than one angle are the best.
- If the model is not currently in production, how rare is it? This factor is of more consideration for collectable items.
- The actual market value should also be considered.

The following general criteria are used in judging a model horse exhibition:

- A judge can be a person with a basic knowledge of horses and horsemanship that can place models based on "correctness appearance and appropriateness" for each class.
- Model horses are judged using the same criteria as real ones, with a few added features taking into account that a model is frozen in suspension. Much attention is paid to detail and realism.
- Halter Classes are judged on:
  - Basic good conformation.
  - Overall suitability (correct conformational type color) of the model to the breed.
  - Realism, so it looks more real than the other models.
  - Workmanship, as in any other type of art or sculpture.
  - Detail, the more the better
  - Color being realistic and attractive.

- For Performance classes you should depict a major action of the class. The position of the model is analyzed as to the appropriateness for the class. For example, a standing model should not be shown in front of a jump. It would be considered a refusal. It is best to depict the principal part/action of the Performance Class.
- The tack is part of the judging also for Performance classes. It should be the proper tack for the class and fit correctly.
- Props/obstacles add realism to the picture. They are required in many events, such as trail, speed, jumper, working cow horse, etc. The ones displayed with your model should be correct for the class and be in the proper proportion.
- The more the model appears to be doing the required activity, the better it will place. Dolls are not required, but they may be used to enhance the overall picture.
- The model horse judges are not to handle the models. Only the model owners or designated show person may handle the models.
- A model will not be disqualified for some bad feature, but placed at the bottom of the class and reasons given as to why placed there.
- Any make or model composition is permissible. Keep in mind that no one model is perfect for all events. It is not how many classes you enter, but is the model suitable for that class?
- Remember, it is only an opinion of one person, just as in horse shows. But, you must respect that opinion.