

# HORSEMASTERSHIP

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The Horsemastership program is educational in nature and tests the participants' knowledge of the horse, their riding ability; and they must demonstrate safe grooming techniques.

The competition involves three tests: riding, written and grooming and handling. Participants begin at the Region level of competition through which they may qualify to compete for State Horsemastership Champion and Reserve Champion titles.

There are five categories offered: Combined (Western and English I); English I (jumping and flat work); English II (flat work only); Gymkhana; and Western. Each category is split into two age divisions, Junior and Adult.

Every Region should offer this program.

## **SEC. 1.0 General Rules and Information**

Whenever the masculine is used, it includes the feminine. Whenever horse is used, it includes all equines.

- 1.1** Any CSHA member in good standing may participate in the Horsemastership program.
- 1.2** Contestants must compete in the Region in which they are a member.
  - 1.2.1** Out of state members wishing to participate in this program should review Bylaws and Administrative Practices for appropriate procedure.
- 1.3** Junior contestants are defined as those under 18 years of age as of January 1 of the current competition year. Adults are 18 and over.
- 1.4** Contestants may be charged a fee determined by the State Horsemastership Committee.
- 1.5** A different horse may be used for each phase of competition.
- 1.6** Ownership of a horse is not required.
- 1.7** Junior contestants will not be allowed to handle or ride stallions in this competition. Adult contestants may handle or ride stallions.
  - 1.7.1** Competition management, judges and/or other authorized personnel reserve the right to excuse a stallion(s) behaving in an unsafe or inappropriate manner.
- 1.8** A contestant may compete in only one category each year and must declare this category at the time of registration.
  - 1.8.1** A contestant may compete in the same category each year until they become State Champion.

- 1.9** Any contestant who acts in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, inhumane, unsportsmanlike, intemperate or prejudicial to the best interest of the Horsemastership program will be disqualified by the Horsemastership committee and will be ineligible to compete in the Horsemastership Region and/or State competition for the current year. This includes violations of the drugging laws.
- 1.9.1** Such conduct by a family member, coach or trainer of a contestant may result in disqualification of that contestant from the Region and/or State Horsemastership competition.
- 1.10** Arena requirements for Equitation over Fences are 100 x 200 ft. Fences to contain brush/flower box, picket fence, gate, oxer, panel, post and rail.
- 1.11** Course measurements for Cloverleaf Barrels and Pole Bending are listed in the Gymkhana Courses section of the CSHA Gymkhana Courses rulebook.

## **SEC. 2.0 Compulsory Phases of Competition**

### **2.1 General**

- 2.1.1** During Region and State competitions, only authorized personnel and the contestants will be allowed in the examination areas. Observers will be allowed for riding and grooming sections, but may not provide any coaching or direction.
- 2.1.2** Contestants may not discuss any portion of the competition with contestants who have not completed a particular test.
- 2.1.3** In case of a tie in overall points, the contestant with the highest written score in the affected category and division will be declared the champion.
- 2.1.4** Except for the written examination, failure of a contestant to appear at the designated time(s) of competition may result in disqualification.
- 2.1.4.1** A contestant arriving late for the written test will be admitted and allowed to take the test provided no other contestant has completed the test and left the examination area.

### **2.2 Grooming & Handling**

**100 points**

- 2.2.1** The physical tying, untying, blanketing, un-blanketing, saddling, unsaddling, bridling, unbridling, leading and grooming the animal will be judged. Proper grooming attire is attire customarily worn in competitive riding events. Hats are optional. Clean, protective clothing such as a smock or apron may be worn over the attire.

**2.3 Horsemanship (ability of the rider to count) 600 points**

**2.3.1 English I**

Seat and Hands on the Rail – English 300 points  
Equitation over fences 300 points  
(max. height at Region 2'9", State 3')

**2.3.2 English II**

Seat and Hands on the Rail – English 300 points  
Equitation Flat - English 300 points

**2.3.3 Western**

Seat and Hands on the Rail – Western 300 points  
Equitation Stock Seat 300 points

**2.3.4 Combined**

Seat and Hands on the Rail – English 150 points  
Seat and Hands on the Rail – Western 150 points  
Equitation Stock Seat 150 points  
Equitation Over Fences 150 points  
(max. height at Region 2'9", State 3')

**2.3.5 Gymkhana**

Cloverleaf Barrels Table 1 150 points  
(max. time allowed 26.000 seconds)  
Pole Bending Table 1 150 points  
(max. time allowed 18.000 seconds)  
Seat and Hands on the Rail 300 points

A penalty of one point will be assessed for every second or fraction thereof over the maximum allowed time for Cloverleaf Barrels and Pole Bending.

**2.4 Written Test 350 points**

**2.4.1** Blue or black ink pen shall be used on all non-Scranton generated written tests. #2 lead pencil shall be used for all Scranton based tests.

**2.4.2** Test points will be equitably distributed among test questions constructed from each section of the current reference.

## **SEC. 3.0 Judging and Competition Criteria**

### **3.1 Grooming and Handling**

**3.1.1** Judges will be guided by the methods and procedures outlined in the Grooming section of the CSHA Horseman's Handbook.

### **3.2 Riding**

**3.2.1** All judges will conduct themselves in accordance with the rules set forth in the appropriate section of the WCHS rulebook or the CSHA Gymkhana rulebook.

**3.2.1.1** Exception: For the Horsemastership riding events at both Region and State level, regardless of discipline, all riders under the age of 18 will be required to wear ASTM/SEI certified equestrian helmets while mounted on a horse at the event. In the case of an event, such as Show of Champions where multiple events are taking place, this rule will apply while riding in the area of competition used by Horsemastership. Judges will not deduct points for any dress rules affected by the wearing of helmets.

**3.2.2** Contestants will compete and be judged individually.

**3.2.3** At the discretion of the judge, a clerk/scribe may be used to assist the judge.

**3.2.4** Competitors will receive scores only for those portions of the riding pattern for which they are on course.

#### **3.2.5 Combined, English and Western**

**3.2.5.1** Combined, English and Western will be judged in accordance with WCHS equitation rules. See rule 3.1 for the required use of riding helmets by all riders under the age of 18.

**3.2.5.2** In Equitation over Fences, three refusals at one fence will be considered a zero score for that fence. This will not be grounds for elimination.

**3.2.5.3** In the event of a fall in any phase of the riding pattern, a zero score will be given for that specific riding section. Riders may remount and continue the pattern. This will not be grounds for elimination.

#### **3.2.6 Gymkhana**

**3.2.6.1** Gymkhana competition shall be conducted in a manner to conform to Gymkhana Hands and Seat rules to be found in the Horseman's Handbook. Until the Horseman's Handbook revisions are complete, these rules will be posted on the CSHA website, Horsemastership page.

- 3.2.6.2** The Gymkhana judge will not be a timer. If possible, electronic timers should be used.
- 3.2.6.3** In the event of a fall in either Barrels or Poles, a zero score will be given for that specific event. In the event of a fall in Gymkhana Seat and Hands, a zero score will be given for that specific riding section. Riders may remount and continue the pattern. These will not be grounds for elimination.
- 3.2.6.4** The following will apply to Gymkhana Hands and Seat.
- a) An Over and Under will not be allowed
  - b) Contestants must enter the arena unassisted.
- 3.2.6.5** Penalties for Barrels or Poles patterns: To be considered penalties by the judge, but not to be considered in computing the maximum permissible time allowed.
- Ten (10) points will be taken off riding score for each the following:
- a) Knocking down any obstacle, whether or not the downed obstacle interferes with completion of the prescribed course.
  - b) Touching any obstacle with the rider's hands.
  - c) Improper or missing tack
  - d) Improper or missing clothing.
  - e) Unnecessary roughness with legs, spurs, romal or other aids.
  - f) Poor manners of horse (mouth open, head tossing or refusal to do event).
  - g) Use of excessive hand movement.
- 3.2.6.6** The breakage of equipment during a riding pattern will result in the rider receiving a zero score for that entire pattern.
- 3.2.6.7** In addition to assisting the judge, the duties of the Gymkhana clerk may include checking the correctness of the course and checking the appointments and tack of the contestants.

## **SEC. 4.0     Region Responsibility**

- 4.1** Each Region Horsemastership Committee is responsible for funding and planning of the Region's competitions.
- 4.2** Each Region should have a Horsemastership Chairman, appointed by the Region President. If a chair is not available, and the Region has prospective participants, the State Chairman or a member of the committee will be available to consult with or assist the Region President in organizing the Region competition.





- 4.9 A Region Reserve Champion may take the State written examination. The State Chairman will be informed two weeks in advance of the State Championship competition. The test results will not be eligible for awards.
- 4.10 Proposed changes to riding patterns and grooming/handling judges' sheets may be presented to the State Horsemastership Committee no later than the second Quarterly meeting. Committee-adopted changes become effective January 1 of the following year
- 4.11 At the Region riding test, English, Western and Combined should be, but are not required to be judged by a CSHA licensed judge, and Gymkhana by a CSHA licensed Gymkhana judge.

## **SEC. 5.0 State Responsibility**

- 5.1 The State Horsemastership Committee is responsible for the budget, funding and activities of the State program.
- 5.2 The place and time of the State Championship competition will be set by the State Horsemastership Committee with approval of the Board of Directors or Council of Members.
- 5.3 The State Chairman will be responsible for the following tasks for the State Championship competition.
  - 5.3.1 Preparation of the written test
  - 5.3.2 Distribution of instructions for conducting the competition to the Region chairmen in a timely manner to allow for adequate preparation.
  - 5.3.3 Hiring all judges and clerks/scribes for the state competition
  - 5.3.4 Ordering all awards
- 5.4 The State Chairman is responsible for providing the Region Chairman with the official Horsemastership registration form no later than January 10 of the current year. The registration to include an appropriate return deadline.
  - 5.4.1 The registration form must contain the contestant's complete name, mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number with area code. For junior contestants the form must also include their date of birth.
- 5.5 **Written Test**
  - 5.5.1 Each test will be corrected by three people. If a Scantron correction is used for the written test, these results shall be considered accurate and are exempt from the 3 person correction requirement.
    - 5.5.1.1 After the written examination has been completed, the test papers will remain in the custody of the State Horsemastership Chairman and/or vice chairman until all competition results are finalized and test papers are returned to contestants.

- 5.5.2** Test questions shall be based on information found in the reference manual reviewed and chosen by the Horsemastership Committee and the current CSHA Rulebook, Horsemastership Section.
- 5.5.3** The CSHA Horseman's Handbook shall be the study guide. Additional information, if necessary, shall be provided by the State Horsemastership Chairman.
- 5.5.4** The State Chairperson shall publish the title of the reference manual on the CSHA website Horsemastership page no later than January 15 and at the First Quarterly Meeting shall notify Region chairpersons of the books to be used.
  - 5.5.4.1** The reference manual choice is to be reviewed every three years and, if needed, be replaced by a more current reference manual.

## **5.6 Riding Test**

- 5.6.1** At the State Championship competition licensed judges are required.
    - 5.6.1.1** For Gymkhana barrels and poles, the judge must be CSHA licensed Gymkhana judge.
    - 5.6.1.2** For Combined, English and Western categories, the judge must be licensed in Equitation for that category. Said license must be from CSHA or another nationally recognized equestrian association.
  - 5.6.2** The State Horsemastership chairman will assign a person to check all judges' score sheets for completeness prior to judges leaving the area.
- 5.7** No portion of the Horsemastership scoring will be released until after awards have been announced. At that time each competitor's scores will be displayed in a conspicuous place and all examination papers will be returned to the competitors.

## **SEC. 6.0 State Championship Competition Awards**

- 6.1** A State Champion or Reserve Champion is a contestant who scored at least 600 points in the Horsemastership State Championship competition.
  - 6.1.1** All other awards will be presented to the contestant who has the highest score in the category regardless of score.
- 6.2** State Awards
  - 6.2.1** Mandatory awards
    - a) Champion: silver buckle and scholarship issued by the Charitable Trust subject to their rules (based on financial availability)
    - b) Reserve Champion award
    - c) Silver medal to all Region finalists attending the State Championship competition. (refer to Administrative Practices Sec 2.0, sub 2.3.1).

**6.2.2** Awards may also be presented to the following:

- a) Highest written score obtained by a Junior
- b) Highest riding score obtained by a Junior
- c) Highest written score obtained by an Adult
- d) Highest riding score obtained by an Adult

**6.2.3** The State Champion Horsemastership buckle will be oval in shape, silver plated, 4" long by 3 1/4" high. The CSHA color medallion logo will be placed in the center on the right side. The year numeral will be individual cut and placed in the center. There will be three ribbons containing the following inscriptions:

Top ribbon: Horsemastership

Middle ribbon: CSHA (center left side)

Bottom ribbon: State Champion

**6.3** The champion and reserve champion in each category will receive a certificate of achievement. This certificate will include the year, category, contestant's name, State Chairman's signature and State President's signature.

**6.3.1** State participation certificates may be presented at the State Chairman's discretion.

## **SEC. 7.0 Scholarships**

For information on the scholarships offered by this Program and/or the criteria for award, please contact the State Horsemastership Chair. For redemption information refer to the Scholarship Procedures section at the beginning of this book.

## **SEC. 8.0 Protests**

**8.1** Protests at State Championship Competition

**8.1.1** The Horsemastership appeals committee will be the same as the committee conducting the competition. No person who is related to or is an instructor, coach or trainer of any contestant may serve on the committee.

**8.1.2** All protests regarding conduct, grading or scoring must be submitted in writing accompanied by a \$25.00 protest fee to the State Horsemastership Chairman via certified mail and postmarked within 48 hours of announcement of the awards.

**8.1.3** A hearing will be conducted as soon as possible resulting in a final decision at that hearing. The contestant(s) involved may be present. If the decision validates the protest, the \$25.00 fee will be returned.

## **8.2** Protests at a Region Competition

**8.2.1** In the event of a protest at the Region level, the Region Chairman will advise the State Chairman of the protest and date of the hearing. The Region Chairman will appoint a committee to rule on the protest.

**8.2.2** In the event of an infraction by a Region committee member or a Region committee, the irregularity must be reported to the President of the respective Region, the State Horsemastership Chairman and the State President.

## **SEC. 9.0 State Champions**

**9.1** In order to be declared a State Champion or State Reserve Champion, a contestant in the State Horsemastership Championship competition must achieve a total score of 600 points or more. In addition, a contestant must compete in every phase of testing and riding patterns.

**9.1.1** Contestants who do not receive 600 points are eligible to compete in future years in the same category until they become Champion in that category.

**9.2** At the 2002 Annual Convention gender designations were removed from all categories. In 2003 the championship listings were amended to reflect the change. For a list of recipients refer to the State Awards and Recognition section of this book.

**9.1.1** The current champions are known as:

Combined Junior  
Combined Adult  
English I Junior  
English I Adult  
English II Junior  
English II Adult  
Gymkhana Junior  
Gymkhana Adult  
Western Junior  
Western Adult.