TOTTENHAM EQUESTRIANS (TE) SHOW CLUB
Rules for Western Riders – Up-dated – April 15, 2011

Other available documents - Division Definitions, Western Trail Pattern Guidelines and Speed Events Rules
These can be printed from www.TottenhamEquestrians.ca

Western Class Rules

1. **To determine the appropriate showing division refer to the Division Definitions.**
2. **Youth – 17 Years and under, as of January 1st of the current year.**
3. **Open - Open to all Youth Division and Adult riders.**
4. **Speed Events - Riders age 15 years and under, as of Jan 1st of the current year, may enter the Junior Speed Events classes. Riders age 16 years and over, as of Jan 1st of the current year, may enter the Senior Speed Events classes. If the number of entries is low, then the Junior and Senior classes will be combined.**
5. **Junior Western Pleasure Horse - Open to horses 5 years of age and under as of January 1st of that year. Leadline, Starter, Beginner, and Novice riders cannot enter this class.**
6. **Riders must be at least at the Novice level to compete in any Speed Events.**
7. **Speed Events riders must enter & exit the ring at a walk. The gates will remain closed during Speed Events classes.**
8. **Speed Events riders must wait for the judge's or ring steward's signal to start before beginning their run. Anyone starting before the signal or failing to start within 60 seconds of the signal will be eliminated.**
9. **Speed Events riders will be eliminated if they fail to complete the course before crossing the finish line.**
10. **Arena Race, penalties include running through the box or exiting it by stepping or backing out before the judge calls the time.**
11. **Each entrant is responsible for being "on deck" when called. After the final call and when the gate is closed no rider may enter the ring and will be deemed to have missed their class (no refund).**
12. **Trail practice is permitted between trail classes so long as equipment is shared with others and not monopolized.**

Western Attire

13. **All riders are required to wear an approved ASTM/SEI or BSI helmet, which is properly fitted, with the harness correctly secured at all times while mounted.**
14. **If the harness becomes undone or the helmet falls off, the rider must do up the harness and/or retrieve the helmet, with assistance if necessary, before continuing. There will be no penalty other than loss of time. Failure to do so results in elimination.**
15. **All riders must wear hard soled footwear with a heel of no less than 1.5 centimeters at all times while mounted.**
16. **In Performance classes, chaps, spurs and gloves are optional. No neck adornment is specified.**
17. **In Showmanship and Halter classes, proper Western attire includes a long-sleeved shirt, helmet or hat, long pants and boots. Blue jeans not acceptable in Showmanship.**
18. **Optional attire for Speed Events riders only, are long or short sleeved plain collared shirts (such as polo shirts).**
19. **Spurs are not allowed in Beginner and Leadline classes.**
20. **Safety helmets as above are mandatory, and protective vests are encouraged for all Speed Events riders and neither will be discriminated against in any class.**

Western Equipment

21. **In Performance classes, mechanical hackamores, tie downs, running martingales, nosebands, draw reins and crops or bats are prohibited.**
22. **In Leadline, Beginner and Novice Performance classes, riders may show one handed where a curb bit is used or two handed where an approved broken mouth ring snaffle bit (no shanks) or Western bosal is used whichever is best suited to the horse/rider combination. Safety is the deciding factor with no consideration to the horse's age.**
23. **In Youth and Open Performance classes, horses age 5 and younger can be ridden two handed in either an approved broken mouth ring snaffle bit (no shanks) or bosal.**
24. **In Speed Events classes only, spurs, bats or an over/under type of whip are allowed but abuse of these will result in elimination. Boots or bandages, tie-downs or mechanical hackamores are permissible.**

Leadline – English and Western

25. **Riders may not show in any other English or Western division.**
26. **Halters must be worn over the bridle, except when a Western bosal is used, then the halter is worn under the bosal,**
27. **All riders are required to be dressed as the English or Western Attire rules respectively.**
28. **Western Leadline riders may show one handed where a curb bit is used or two handed where an approved broken mouth ring snaffle bit (no shanks) or Western bosal is used combination. Safety is the deciding factor with no consideration to the horse's age.**
29. **This is the only division in which a rider may ride more than one horse throughout the year, by using the same competitor number. Points from all rides will count towards year end awards.**