



March 23, 2021

Mr. David Mount, Executive Director
American Saddlebred Horse Association
4083 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511
Sent via email: d.mount@asha.net

Dear Mr. Mount:

Thank you for submitting your request for a Presidential Modification to the application of SB Chapter 1. A Presidential Modification is granted in cases of extraordinary, special circumstances. When measured against that criterion, it has been determined that your request does meet the standard for a Presidential Modification and therefore is approved.

As a result, a Youth Division will be added to the Saddlebred Rules as outlined in the following document for the 2021 competition year.

Please feel free to contact the Federation office if you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. X. O'Mara
President

cc: William J. Moroney, Chief Executive Officer
Emily McSweeney, National Breeds & Disciplines Program Coordinator
Terri Dolan, Director of National Breeds & Non-FEI Disciplines Sport

Attachment – USEF Rulebook, Subchapter SB-1 General Qualifications



SUBCHAPTER SB-1 GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

SB 108 Qualifying Classes and Specifications

1. OPEN, JUNIOR, THREE-YEAR-OLD, TWO-YEAR-OLD, MAIDEN, NOVICE AND LIMIT. The OPEN horse should be the ultimate representative of the breed. It should be as nearly perfect as possible; performing all gaits with animation, brilliance and extreme action at both ends. Performance is paramount in these classes. Classes are judged on performance, presence, quality, manners, and conformation.
2. LADIES, JUNIOR EXHIBITORS, AMATEURS, MASTERS, AND OWNERS, **AND YOUTH**. Manners are paramount in these classes but there is a difference in the way in which horses are judged in each.
 - a. LADIES. A Lady's horse should be outstanding in refinement and elegance with suitability of horse to rider taken into consideration. Expression is important and quality is a prime consideration. The execution of gaits should be performed with brilliance on command. The horse should walk and stand quietly. Classes are judged on manners, quality, presence, performance, and conformation.
 - b. JUNIOR EXHIBITORS. The Junior Exhibitor's horse should be mannerly, willing, and expressive with balanced action. The execution of gaits should be performed with brilliance on command. The horse should walk and stand quietly. Classes are judged on manners, performance, presence, quality, and conformation.
 - c. AMATEURS, MASTERS AND OWNERS. The Amateur's, Master's and Owner's horses can be a bit stronger and perform in a bolder manner. More action and animation are desired and less emphasis can be put on manners than in Ladies, or Junior Exhibitor or Youth classes. Classes are judged on manners, performance, presence, quality, and conformation.
 - d. **YOUTH**. *The youth classes are to be judged in accordance with Amateur class specifications, open to exhibitors 16- 21 years of age. Stallions are prohibited. If no youth championship is offered, horses shown by riders 17 and under will be qualified for the Junior Exhibitor Championship. Horses shown by riders 18 and over will be qualified for the Amateur Championship. At shows where the Junior Exhibitor and Amateur Championships are combined, and there is no Youth Championship, the youth will be included in the combined Championship.*
3. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-3 PERFORMANCE, FINE HARNESS

SB 125 Classes Offered and Specifications

Classes may be divided by sex. PROHIBITED: Stallions in Ladies and Junior Exhibitors classes.

1. OPEN, LIMIT, JUNIOR HORSE (Four Years Old & Under), THREE-YEAR-OLDS; TWO-YEAR-OLDS; MAIDEN; NOVICE. Exhibited at an animated walk; Park trot (speed to be penalized) and "show your horse", to stand quietly. Judged on performance, presence, quality, manners and conformation. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP: Judged 75% on performance, presence, quality and manners; 25% on total conformation.
2. LADIES OPEN, LADIES AMATEUR ONLY. Shown at a park trot and an animated walk, to stand quietly. Judged on manners, quality, presence, performance and conformation. LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Judged 75% on manners, quality, presence and performance; 25% on total conformation.
3. JUNIOR EXHIBITOR; AMATEUR (Ladies and/or Gentlemen); MASTERS; OWNERS; AMATEUR OWNERS; **YOUTH**. Shown at a park trot and an animated walk, to stand quietly. Judged on manners, performance, presence, quality and conformation. CHAMPIONSHIPS: Judged 75% on manners, performance, presence and quality; 25% on conformation.
4. To be eligible for the Junior Exhibitor; Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen); Masters; Owners; Amateur Owners Championships; **YOUTH**, horses must be entered, shown by a Junior Exhibitor; Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen); Masters; Owner; and Amateur Owner; **and Youth** respectively and judged in any other class in this section. Management may state in the prize list that only certain classes qualify for the Championships, i.e., Amateur Classes qualify for Amateur Championships, Ladies Classes qualify for Ladies Championship, etc.
5. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-4 PERFORMANCE, FIVE-GAITED

SB 129 Classes Offered and Specifications

Classes may be divided by sex. PROHIBITED: Stallions in Ladies and Junior Exhibitor classes. To be shown at an animated walk, trot, slow gait, rack and canter.

1. OPEN, LIMIT, JUNIOR HORSE (Four-Year-Olds & Under), THREE-YEAR-OLDS; TWO-YEAR-OLDS; MAIDEN; NOVICE. Judged on performance, presence, quality, manners and conformation. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP: Judged 75% on performance, presence, quality and manners; 25% on total conformation.
2. LADIES OPEN, LADIES AMATEUR ONLY. Judged on manners, quality, presence, performance and conformation. LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Judged 75% on manners, quality, presence and performance; 25% on total conformation.
3. JUNIOR EXHIBITORS; AMATEURS (Ladies and/or Gentlemen); MASTERS; OWNERS; AMATEUR OWNERS; **YOUTH**. Judged on manners, performance, presence, quality and conformation. CHAMPIONSHIPS: Judged 75% on manners, performance, presence and quality; 25% on total conformation.
4. To be eligible for the Junior Exhibitor; Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen); Masters; Owners; Amateur Owners; **Youth** Championships, horses must be entered, shown by a Junior Exhibitor; Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen); Masters; Owners; **and**

Amateur Owners **and Youth** respectively and judged in any other class in this section. Management may state in the prize list that only certain classes qualify for the Championships, i.e., Amateur Classes qualify for Amateur Championships, Ladies Classes qualify for Ladies Championship, etc.

5. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-5 PERFORMANCE, THREE-GAITED

SB 133 Classes Offered and Specifications

PROHIBITED: Stallions in Ladies and Junior Exhibitor classes. Quality, animation and expression are important. Classes may be divided according to:

- a. Sex—Mares, Stallions/Geldings.
- b. Height—Over 14.2 hands and not exceeding 15 hands.
- c. 15.2 hands and under.
- d. Over 15.2 hands.

1. OPEN; LIMIT; JUNIOR HORSE (Four-Year-Olds & Under); THREE-YEAR-OLDS; TWO-YEAR-OLDS; MAIDEN; NOVICE. Judged on performance, presence, quality, manners and conformation. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP: Judged 75% on performance, presence, quality and manners; 25% on total conformation.
2. LADIES OPEN, LADIES AMATEUR ONLY. Judged on manners, quality, presence, performance and conformation. LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Judged 75% on manners, quality, presence and performance; 25% on total conformation.
3. JUNIOR EXHIBITORS, AMATEURS (Ladies and/or Gentlemen); MASTERS; OWNERS; AMATEUR OWNERS; **YOUTH**. Judged on manners, performance, presence, quality and conformation. CHAMPIONSHIPS: Judged 75% on manners, performance, presence and quality; 25% on total conformation.
4. To be eligible for the Junior Exhibitor; Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen); Masters; Owners; Amateur Owners; **Youth** Championships, horses must be entered, shown by a Junior Exhibitor; Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen); Masters; Owners; ~~and~~ Amateur Owners **and Youth** respectively and judged in any other class in this section. Management may state in the prize list that only certain classes qualify for the Championships, i.e., Amateur Classes qualify for Amateur Championships, Ladies Classes qualify for Ladies Championship, etc. For specifications regarding stripping Championships refer to Rules SB105 and SB109.
5. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-6 PARK

SB 137 Classes Offered and Specifications

1. THREE GAITED PARK. OPEN; JUNIOR, MAIDEN, NOVICE AND LIMIT CHAMPIONSHIPS. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter. To be judged on performance, manners, presence, quality and conformation.
2. THREE-GAITED PARK. Ladies, Junior Exhibitor, Amateur (ladies and/or Gentlemen), Owners, Amateur Owners, Masters and **Youth** Championships. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter. Horses to stand quietly in the lineup. To be judged on manners, performance, presence, quality and conformation.
3. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-7 PLEASURE - GENERAL

SB 145 Division of Classes

1. Classes may be divided according to:
 - a. Sex or age of horse.
 - b. Height—over 15.2 hands; 15.2 hands and under; 14.2 hands and under. Entries 14.2 hands and under must possess a valid measurement card or form, the measurement to be done as per SB204.3.
 - c. Sex or age of rider.
 - d. With or without Championships.
2. Recommended are Maiden, Novice, Limit, Junior (Four-Year-Olds & Under), Masters, Owners **and Youth** classes in all classifications and Amateur-Owner-Trainer.
3. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-10 WESTERN

SB 161 Classes Offered and Specifications

1. WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE. (Open, Amateur, Masters, Maiden, Novice, Limit, Mares, Geldings, Junior Horse, OTR,

Ladies, Gentlemen, Junior Exhibitor, **Youth**.) To be shown at a flat walk, jog- trot, lope. To stand quietly and back readily. Only one hand may be used on reins and hands must not be changed except to negotiate an obstacle in a Trail Horse Class. The rider's hand is to be around reins. When end of split reins fall on side of reining hand, one finger between reins is permitted. When using romal or when ends of split reins are held in hand not used for reining, no finger between reins is allowed. Rider may hold romal or end of spilt reins to keep them from swinging and to adjust the position of the reins provided it is held with at least 16" of rein between the hands. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and conformation.

2. [...]

3. [...]

4. WESTERN COUNTRY PLEASURE CHAMPIONSHIP (Open, Amateur, Masters, Junior Exhibitor, **Youth**). To be eligible, horse must have been entered, shown and judged in a designated qualifying class. To be shown at a flat walk, jog- trot and lope on a reasonably loose rein without undue restraint (ridden with one hand on reins, refer to SB161.1 and SB159). To stand quietly and back readily. To be judged on manners, performance, quality and conformation.

5. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-11 HUNTER COUNTRY PLEASURE

SB 166 Classes Offered and Specifications

1. HUNTER COUNTRY PLEASURE. (Open, All Ages, Ladies, Gentlemen, Adult Amateur, Master, Juvenile, Maiden, Novice, **Youth**, Limit, Junior, Championship, or Stake.) To be shown at a walk, trot, extended trot, canter and extended canter both ways of the ring. For safety reasons the judge may limit the number of horses to extended canter at one time. Entries must be asked both ways of the ring to halt and stand quietly on the rail. To be judged on manners, performance, suitability as a Hunter, quality and conformation. In the line, horses must stand quietly with all four legs perpendicular to the ground. Horse shall be required to back readily in the line.

2. [...]

SUBCHAPTER SB-17 PARADE

SB 188 Classes Offered

Open, Ladies, Junior Exhibitor, Amateur (Ladies and/or Gentlemen), **Youth**, Owners, Amateur Owners, Pinto, Palomino/Golden, Solid Color other than Palomino/Golden and Championships.

SUBCHAPTER SB-18 ROADSTER

SB 194 Classes Offered

Classes are offered for Amateurs, Junior Exhibitors, **Youth**, Open, Under Saddle and Championships. Under Saddle classes do not qualify for Bike/Wagon Championships. Classes may be offered for horses shown to a wagon.

SUBCHAPTER SB-20 DRESSAGE SUITABILITY

SB 202 Classes Offered and Specifications

1. Open, Amateur, Junior Exhibitor, **Youth**, Junior Horse, Stallions, Geldings, and Mares. To be shown at the walk, trot, and canter both directions of the ring. Horses may be asked to lengthen stride at any gait. Transitions into and out of the canter will be called for through the trot. Horses will be asked to reverse direction at the trot. Free walk on long rein with horse stretching forward and down to be performed in at least one direction. Horse to stand quietly in line up and may be asked to back at the judge's discretion. To be judged 70% on performance of gaits and transitions, with attention to impulsion and submission, and using the objectives above as reference; and 30% on the rider's position, seat, and effective use of aids.