

Addendum I

PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide Changes in Rules for Washington 4-H Horse Program

Effective July 1st to September 30, 2023

Brief background for Addendum I

The three states (Oregon, Idaho, and Washington) met in June of 2018 to review and agree to changes from the three states in the PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide. The intended plan was for an updated 4-H Horse Contest guide to be effective October 1, 2022.

In October 2022, the draft of updated contest guide was shared at the PNW 4-H horse judges' school but not in a final readable format. Oregon is the lead state to publish this contest guide. Washington has decided to move forward, as of July 1, 2023 to develop an *addendum* while waiting for the final date of publishing of the 2022 contest guide.

The purpose of this Addendum I is to inform Washington 4-H horse families (leaders, parents, and youth) and 4-H horse judges of the rule and/or language changes.

A sub-committee of the Washington State 4-H Equine committee met to **compare** the 2015 PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide to the draft October 2022 version. The draft 2022 version was provided to the attendees at the October 2022 PNW 4-H Horse judge's school. See the list of sub-committee members at the end of this addendum.

Listed below are the rule changes and/or language changes that are identified in comparing the 2015 PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide to the October 2022 version. The rule changes are indicated in Bold. In addition, some the rule changes in this Addendum I, are identified as clarifications to identify the intent of the rule.

There is also an Addendum II, which is intended to be *clarifications* only and are not rule changes.

Each change is identified by the **page number** of the **2015** version of the PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide which is currently on the WSU 4-H website under projects-horse.

Please be sure to be familiar with PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide, 2015 edition before using this as a reference.

For any questions about this process and/or the rule changes that occurred, contact Jennifer Leach, State 4-H Horse Contact at LeachJ@cowlitzwa.us or jleach@wsu.edu

Rule and/or Language changes

Page 2-Contact for Washington

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Page 3 New Resources

PNW New Resources

Western Dressage: <https://www.westerndressageassociation.org/> for Western Dressage

Washington Resources

- Additional horse project resources and projects/rules specific to the Washington 4-H horse program can be found at <https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/animal-science>

General Rules-page 5

#12 Existing Rule states: County committees may make accommodations for special circumstances at county 4-H events. State committees may decide if county accommodations are eligible for state 4-H events.

#12. Updated language should read: County committees may make accommodations for special circumstances at county 4-H events. **In Washington, an accommodation request related to a disability should be made through your local Extension/4-H staff two weeks prior to the event if possible. In Washington the decision of state participation is made at the county level in consultation with county 4-H staff.**

#13 Existing Rule states: Silver will not be given preference by the judge

For 2022: This rule was **DELETED**

For 2022: #14 is now #13 with no change in rule or language

Show Protocol –page 6

#5 Existing Rule States: Attitude is scored. Exhibitors should show confidence and pride in themselves and their animals. They should be good sports. Contestants are judged at all times in the ring

For 2022: This rule was **DELETED**

6 in **2022 Version** is **new** and states: **Contestants are judged at all times when in the ring**

#6 in 2015 version is now #7: Equipment or class rules may be modified or exceptions may be made by show management at their discretion, as needed for the safety of special needs youth or youth needing extra assistance. **[This is not a new rule]**

7: Existing Rule in 2015: Equitation classes are judged on the skill of the rider. The horse is not judged on conformation

DELETED in 2022 version

9 Existing Rule in 2015: Exhibitors should not pat their horse while being judged in the ring, except during a colt or ground training class.

DELETED in 2022 version

*Clarification #1: This means that the 4-H member **can pat/pet/stroke** their horse after completion of their performance class/course/pattern including Western Games runs after the judging has been completed. Exception would be for in the Showmanship as per Showmanship Judging Requirements (p. 16).*

Clarification #2: Washington does not have a colt or ground training rules.

New #9: Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made through your local Extension/4-H staff two weeks prior to the event if possible

Clarification: This is not a new rule—just clarified that accommodations as per 4-H and WSU university policy must be two weeks prior to the event and this policy placed here under show protocol. And a repeat of rule #12 [2015 version] on page 5 under General Rules.

Competition Divisions-page 6

Washington Age Requirements

Existing Rule: In the 2015 PNW Horse contest guide age groups were distinguished by grade, which conflicted with the current age policies outlined in the Washington State 4-H Policies Publication (EM0758E) that was changed in 2018-19.

Updated Rule:

In Washington, 4-H age divisions are based on the youth member's age as of October 1 of the current program year.

Juniors ages: 8-10

Intermediates ages: 11-13

and Seniors ages: 14-18.

Youth who have reached their 19th birthday before October 1 of the current 4-H year are no longer eligible for membership. For further clarification on

age and grade requirements for competition, refer to the Washington State 4-H Program Policy publication (EM0758E).

Drugging-page 7

Heading changed to: **Medication and Equine Special Needs**

2015 second paragraph language states:

Horses that require any medication should be identified upon arrival at the 4-H Horse Show Office or registration area. Exhibitors should be prepared to present a valid prescription or written explanation (or both) that is signed by the animal's licensed veterinarian. If a horse requires medication or treatment to protect its health and welfare after the arrival at the show, the medication must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian. All medication, at all times, must be administered in accordance with the prescription specifications (or both). The exhibitor's parent or legal guardian is responsible and liable for the correct administration of the prescribed drug.

For 2022: Horses that require any medications **or special equipment** must have a **letter from a licensed veterinarian prior to the 4-H horse event**. If a horse requires medication or treatment to protect its health and welfare after the arrival at the show, the medication must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian. All medication, at all times, must be administered in accordance with the prescription specifications or instructions (or both). The exhibitor's parent or legal guardian is responsible and liable for the correct administration of the prescribed drug.

Project Animal-page 8

5th paragraph

- Existing Rule States: Horses should be clean and well-groomed, with the feet trimmed or shod. Fetlocks, muzzle, and bridle path should be trimmed according to breed type. Changed to: Horses should be well-groomed, clean, and clipped according to breed. **In Washington horses may be left natural. Horses may be left unclipped as a personal choice with no penalty.**

Horseless Horse Project-Page 9

Existing Rule States: A youth may choose to enroll in the Horseless Horse Project. Primary members (K-2 in Washington) or Cloverbuds in Oregon ages 5 to 8) may also enroll in the Horseless Horse Project, but they may have NO contact with horses. Changed to: A youth may choose to enroll in the Horseless Horse Project. **Cloverbuds** may also enroll into the Horseless Horse project, but they may have NO contact with horses.

Clarification for Washington: Cloverbuds are youth who have reached their 5th birthday as of October 1 of the current 4-H year through to their 7th birthday. Once they reach 8 years old on October 1st, they become a junior.

Western Section-top of page 10

Added at end of first paragraph: “See WDAA for Western Dressage for equipment with website of <https://www.westerndressageassociation.org>

Clothing and Equipment Section-Western

Western Attire-page 10

Optional instead of Required. Not a change—just better formatting to identify the *Optional* as compared to *Required*.

- Vest, jacket, coat, sweater, jacket with collar
- Gloves
- Ties, pins
- Chaps are allowed only in pleasure and trail in Oregon and Washington. In Idaho, chaps are optional in all classes except Showmanship

Bridle and Bit Section

Required Tack-page 11

Bullet #3

- Existing rule: A snaffle bit must have a curb strap, curb chain, or bit guards.
Changed to: A snaffle bit must have a curb strap, curb chain, or bit guards. **Curb strap or chain should be attached BELOW the reins on a snaffle bit.**

Not Allowed-page 11

Rules listed below in this section are either new (**Bold**) or *clarified*. All other rules in this bit section on page 11 under “*not allowed*” are the same.

- **Full check, half cheek, double wire snaffle or Baucher snaffle bits** (*these bits are allowed in Western Games*)
- **Curb bits with overall bit length longer than 8.5 inches** (*not new, just emphasized*)
- Rolled leather **chin** straps.

Hunt Seat and Dressage Section

Dressage and Dressage Seat Equitation

Specific to Dressage-page 13

Required Tack-4th bullet

- Existing rule: Whips or crops may be no longer than 48 inches.
Changed to: Whips or crops may be no longer than **47.2 inches (120 cm) including lash.**

Saddle Seat Section

Optional Tack-page 14

- New Bullet #2: Pad (*this means that a pad for Saddle Seat is now optional*)

Performance Guidelines for Showmanship-Judging Requirements-page 16

First Paragraph- Existing language: Horse should be well-groomed, clean, and clipped according to breed.

Changed to: Horse should be well-groomed, clean, and clipped according to breed. **In Washington, horses may be left natural. Horse may be left unclipped as a personal choice with no penalties.**

Hunt Seat Equitation over Fences

Performance-top of page 19

Existing Rule: Maximum Recommended Jump Height

2 feet 3 inches for junior
2 feet 6 inches for intermediates
2 feet 9 inches for seniors

New Language

**2' to 2 feet 3 inches for junior
2' 3" to 2 feet 6 inches for intermediates
2' 6" to 2 feet 9 inches for seniors**

- Existing Rule: Jump height is not to exceed 3 feet, and the spread is not to exceed the height.
Changed to: Jump height is not to exceed **2'9" feet**, and the spread is not to exceed the height. **Intermediates and Seniors should expect the majority of fences to be set at top height in the range at the state horse show. Fences must meet height recommendations to qualify for state fair contest, if offered. All jumping equipment shall be in good working condition and of contrasting color to the ground. No brown or unpainted jump poles, standards, ground poles, or other equipment should be used.**

- **New:** For beginning stages of equitation over fences, counties may choose to add additional over fences classes. Including:
 - **Hunter Hack Equitation**
This class is ridden individually but may include class rail work. This is a class utilizing two small fences and may include a hand-gallop and a demonstration of other gaits. Can be performed at the trot or canter. Maximum height and width of fences is 18 inches.
 - **Trot a Course**
This class is ridden just as a full equitation over fences class would be except, all fences are 18" or less and it is ridden at a trot.

Western Dressage Section—page 20

- **Existing Rule:** Counties that offer Western Dressage should use the North American Western (NAW) Dressage tests. The walk/trot test and Intro C are suggested.
- **Changed To:** Counties that offer Western Dressage should use the **Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) tests**. You can find guiding equipment rules and tests at: <https://www.westerndressageassociation.org/>
- **Clarification Addition:** *WDAA rules should be followed for allowable bits, bridles, and tack including allowing the Dr. Cook Bitless Bridle as per WDAA.*

Driving

Attire-page 23

- **Existing Rule: Header**—Hard-soled shoes or boots, a long-sleeved shirt, and jeans or slacks. If the header is a 4-H member, an ASTM/SEI helmet is required.

Changed to: Header—Hard-soled shoes or boots, a long-sleeved shirt, and jeans or slacks. If the header is a 4-H member, an ASTM/SEI helmet is required. **Spurs are not allowed.**

Harness-page 24

Required

- **Second Bullet-Existing Rule:** Thimbles or breeching (unless the vehicle is equipped with a braking system).

Changed to: For Washington only: Thimbles or breeching **are NOT required except when hitched to a four-wheeled vehicle (e.g., wagon or buggy).**

Driving Patterns

Page 33 and 34—incomplete diagram for Precision Driving sample course #1 and Sample Course #2. Refer to page 27 of 2015 Contest guide for accurate and complete diagram

Western Games

Recommended Awards

2015 version-page 34: The Danish System of awarding ribbons is recommended for Western Games. Counties may also use the American placing of ribbons (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc) in addition of to the Danish System. The awarding of ribbons is based on each rider's time in each event

2022 version-page 44 top of page-first paragraph. Second sentence was deleted “Counties may also use the American placing of ribbons in addition of to the Danish System”.

Lane Lines

2015 version-page 36 states: When more than one course is in use, lane lines are required for safety. Courses are to be centered within each lane. At times, lane lines may not be used because of time constraints; however, the right to re-implement the lane lines requirements is reserved.

2022 version-page 46 at top of page states: When more than one course is in use, lane lines are required for safety. Course are to be centered within each lane. At times, lane lines may not be used because of time constraints or **arena size** is not conducive for safety.

Deleted: “However, the right to re-implement the lane line requirements is reserved”.

Lane Line Diagram

- refer to page 36 of 2015 version for complete and accurate diagram

Run-Out Box-Diagram

- Refer to page 36 of 2015 contest guide for complete and accurate diagram

Penalties and general disqualifications

2015 version-page 37 and 2022 version-page 47

- 8th bullet: Leaving the course.

Added Language:

8th bullet: Leaving the course. **Determined at judge's discretion**

- 14th bullet: Failure to keep all four feet of the horse inside the run-out box.

Added language:

14th bullet: Failure to keep all four feet of the horse inside in the run-out box **until the judge's final acknowledgement**

Judge's Hand Signals

Refer to pages 38 and 39 of 2015 contest guide for correct and complete diagrams

Diagrams for Western Games Events

- Idaho Figure 8 stake race and pole bending—refer to page 40 of 2015 contest guide for accurate and more complete diagrams
- Key Race—refer to page 41 of 2015 contest guide for accurate and more complete diagram
- Barrels and Keyhole Race—refer to page 42 of 2015 contest guide for accurate and more complete diagrams
- Two Barrel Flag Race—refer to page 43 of 2015 contest guide for accurate and more complete diagram

Two Barrel Flag Race-Directions

Page 43 of 2015: First bullet: Riders must designate the flag positions before starting the course

Page 57 of 2022 contest guide: Riders must designate the flag positions. **Deleted: Before starting the course**

Page 43 of 2015 contest guide: 2nd bullet: Riders may circle either barrel, if necessary.

Page 59 of 2022 contest guide: **This entire rule was deleted**

New in 2022 contest guide—page 59—last bullet

- **Riders must break the plane (go around the far side) of the 2nd barrel when picking up the flag**

NSCA-International Flag Race

Existing Rule: A 3-pound coffee can filled $\frac{3}{4}$ full and centered on top of a 55-gallon barrel.

Changed to: A 3-pound coffee can (**or similar container approximately 6 $\frac{3}{16}$ inches in diameter and 7 inches high**) filled $\frac{3}{4}$ full and centered on top of 55-gallon barrel.

Authors: Washington State 4-H Judges Committee, a subcommittee of the WSU 4-H Equine Committee, June 2023

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