

**Benefit Buckle Series Open Show
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

Q – What are the rules regarding helmets?

A – All exhibitors are encouraged to wear a helmet but please note: **ALL RIDERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE MUST WEAR A HELMET.**

Q – I would like to sponsor a class. How do I do that?

A – Thank you so much! The Yucaipa Equestrian Arena Committee and The Pass Pioneers 4H Club are both non-profit organizations and would greatly appreciate your support! Please contact me at lynnwarren4h@gmail.com

Q – Will there be food at the show?

A – Yes, we have a snack bar available. The snack bar will be run by the Pass Pioneers 4H Club as another fundraiser for educational materials, competitions, equipment, etc. So be sure and enjoy their breakfast, lunch, snacks, and drinks and know you are supporting the Pass Pioneers 4H Club!

Q – May I ride my horse in both Western and Ranch divisions?

A – Yes at this show you may, however, realize that usually you cannot.....both AQHA and APHA rules prohibit cross-entering traditional Western pleasure and Ranch Horse pleasure on the same horse. Yucaipa Horse Show wants everyone to be able to try the ranch classes, so not only will we allow cross-entering these two divisions, we will also lift some of the strict rules regarding Ranch Horse classes (specifically those regarding tail extensions, braided/banded mane, and hoof black). You should be able to ride your Western classes and then go into your Ranch classes with very little (if any) equipment change. The two disciplines really are very different, though, and it is important for exhibitors to understand the difference for future events.

Q – What is proper Ranch Horse tack and attire at this show?

A – Western boots, cowboy hat (or protective head gear/helmet), jeans, and a long sleeve shirt. Chaps or Chinks are suggested but not mandatory. Basically “Ranch” style is Western without the “bling”. Think of what would serve a purpose on the ranch. Regarding your saddle and equipment, again, think of what would serve a purpose on the ranch. A properly fitted flank cinch and breast collar are not required (but they sure would be useful if you need to rope a calf or trot up to the top of that mountain). Protective boots, leg wraps, and bandages are allowed in all classes except conformation. Optional equipment also includes rope or riata (coiled and attached to the saddle) and hobbles (attached to saddle). Tie downs, nosebands, or any kind of training equipment is absolutely NOT allowed (unless you are schooling and at the discretion of the judge). With a curb type bit, split reins or romel reins are equally acceptable. It’s important to note here also that your horse may be ridden in a bosal hackamore or snaffle bit regardless of age, and split reins or mecate reins are acceptable with a snaffle. Of course, with curb type bit, you must ride with one hand whereas with snaffle or bosal, you must ride with two hands (unless you need a free hand to open the gate or rope a calf). Tail extensions, braided/banded mane, and hoof black, while prohibited at most Ranch Horse events, will be allowed at this show (however still discouraged). Free flowing mane and “natural” is desirable! Trimming of fetlocks, excessive facial hair, and a bridle path are allowed, but trimming inside the ears is discouraged. Excessive silver is also discouraged.

Q – What’s the difference between Western Pleasure and Ranch Rail Pleasure?

A – Fielding ‘Bozo’ Rogers answers this question beautifully in his article Ranch Pleasure Primer “The first thing you need to know about Ranch Rail Pleasure is that it’s NOT Western Pleasure. Whereas a Western pleasure horse is rewarded for calm, collected gaits performed on a loose rein, a ranch pleasure horse is presented in a natural, forward-moving style that looks as if he has somewhere to go. If you were in a 10,000 acre pasture, you wouldn’t want your horse taking one slow step after another. You’d want to get somewhere, on a horse that could move out and cover a lot of ground, and if you were in rough country, you’d want that horse to be able to navigate it safely....When a horse enters the arena, he should be bright and attentive. I love to see a horse that comes in working his ears, paying attention to the rider and his environment, and that’s curious but not spooky or dull looking. On a ranch, you don’t see a horse going across the pasture with ears tipped back the entire time, totally focused on his rider. A horse with his ears up and a lot of expression looks more like a horse that’s out for a ride.....I want to see a horse with natural carriage, moving freely but still responsive to his rider.....A ranch pleasure horse should be on a rein length that allows the rider to guide him in an unforceful way. A super-loose rein as you see in Western pleasure should never be used in ranch pleasure. The reins can have a little bit of drape, but they also should be short enough for the rider to have ready contact with the horse’s mouth. It should look as though the rider would be able to use the reins to prevent his horse from falling if he stumbled in the pasture. When reins are draped long, this isn’t possible.”

Q – I have never heard of Walk/Jog Ranch Reining....what is that?

A – It is a Ranch Reining pattern which measures the ability of the ranch horse to perform basic handling maneuvers while maintaining a good attitude..... at the walk, jog, and extended trot/jog. You will still be required to show your stop, “spin”, rollbacks, circles, backups, hesitate, “run” downs, and lead changes (and maybe two tracking)....except your “run” down will be an extended posting trot and your “lead change” will be a posting trot diagonal change. Yes, you CAN do a reining pattern at the Walk/Jog! You can do ALL of the Ranch Horse classes at the Walk/Jog! It will be fun!

Q – Is there a high point series?

A – Yes! The show in June is a fundraiser for the Yucaipa Equestrian Arena Committee and the show in November is a fundraiser for the Pass Pioneers 4H Club. Each Show has their own DAILY high point program and then there will be a Buckle for the SERIES high point awards. The buckles will be awarded at the November show and will be a combined high point for both shows.

Q – May I ride in more than one division for the daily high point?

A – YES. We have already explained that riders may enter both Western and Ranch Horse divisions at this show and many riders routinely compete for “all around” status by riding in the English and Western division classes in their age group division (for example one horse/rider combination may win high point in the English open division and win high point in the Western open division). However, you may not enter both walk/jog and loping division classes in the same discipline with the same horse/rider combination for points/awards. Riders may enter more than one division with a different horse.

Examples:

- Rider may enter Walk/Trot English and Walk/Jog Western on the same (or different) horse.
- Rider may enter Walk/Trot English on one horse and Western (loping) on a different horse.

Q – What does “non-pro” mean?

A – A non-pro is another name for an amateur. Basically, an amateur/non-pro is an individual who, for at least the past 5 years, has not received remuneration, either directly or indirectly, for showing, riding, judging, training, or assisting in training a horse; nor received remuneration for instructing another person in showing, riding, driving, or training a horse; nor solicited for any of the above. If you earn points in “non-pro” classes and then it is determined that you have been paid for showing, riding, judging, or training horses, or instructing another person in showing, riding, driving, or training horses, your points will be eliminated.

Q – Can trainers ride in the walk/trot/jog classes if they have a young horse?

A – Trainers can school in the walk/trot/jog classes, but cannot compete for points/awards.

Q – How does the high point system work?

A – Please refer to the High Point Program Rules posted on our website.

Q – Can professional trainers ride at our shows?

A – Yes, in the Open classes to compete for points and awards. They also may school in all classes by entering the class (same class fees apply) and displaying their exhibitor number upside down.

Q – What payment methods do you accept?

A – Cash, personal checks only. No debit/credit cards accepted. Returned checks will be assessed a \$50 fee which must be paid prior to showing again.

Q – Will the patterns be available before the show?

A – Yes, we will post them here on the website and also on Ring Radar at least a week before the show.

Q – Is this show PAC approved by the American Paint Horse Association and OCAP approved by the Pinto Horse Association?

A – Yes. Actually PAC (Paint Alternative Competition) no longer requires approval by APHA. And OCAP (Open Competitions Activities Program) now called SOAR (Select Opportunities and Rewards Program) no longer requires approval by PtHA. However, you must still fill out your exhibitor forms to receive credits with those associations.

Q – Will you have PAC and SOAR exhibitor forms available at the show office?

A – No. It is your responsibility to bring your own exhibitor forms and to fill them out before asking our show secretary/manager to verify and sign. The form is relatively easy to fill out...you simply list your class numbers and names, number of exhibitors in each of your classes, and how you placed. If you missed recording some of the information, we will gladly help you at our convenience so as not to distract from the running of the show. Make sure and pick up a premium with full class list to send in with your exhibitor form.

Q – Do you allow tack changes?

A – Yes, but only 5 minutes is allowed. You will not have time to go back to your trailer, so you should bring your equipment to the arena area. As we have several classes, we cannot hold up the show for frequent tack changes, so please be prepared and plan ahead.

Q – Do you have breaks during the show?

A – Yes, but they are not pre-planned and will occur as needed to benefit the show's efficiency. Breaks will be announced beforehand several times.

Q – Do you ever change the order of classes?

A – Yes, on occasion, especially during the time when Equitation or Horsemanship classes are run at the same time the trail course is open. We may push a class back while waiting for someone to finish a trail class. Rarely do we change the order of classes, but it might be done for specific circumstances. We also sometimes move the leadline class to accommodate the needs of the children or parents.

Q – How does the open trail class system work?

A – The trail obstacles are set up from approximately 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each Division except English and Halter has a trail class plus there is In Hand Trail and Leadline Trail. In total, there are 10 trail classes for the day, eight in the main arena #1 and two mini horse trail classes in arena #2. You will not be called for your trail class in arena #1, and there is no specific order of go. You may ride your warm up trail and/or trail class for any division. However, it's important to plan ahead and ride your class as soon as you are free to do so inbetween your other classes – don't wait until all of your other classes are done. This system will work smoothly if you plan ahead. For example, if you are riding English, you will have time to do your trail class during the Halter and Western classes. If you are riding English and Western, you will have time to ride your trail class during the Equitation or Horsemanship classes of a different division or during the Ranch Horse classes. If you are called for your main arena class while you are riding your trail class, please have someone notify the show office that you need your arena class held. We understand this can be confusing and stressful so know that we do our best to accommodate everyone.

Q – What is the trail warm up “class”?

A – This is an opportunity to practice on the trail course...a time to familiarize you and your horse to the trail obstacles before you show. All entries that include at least one trail class will be charged a \$4.99 trail warm up fee and your warm up time is unlimited as long as the warm up course is open. Please be considerate of other riders wanting to warm up on the obstacles. The warm up trail course will be open from 8am to approximately 12noon for riders to use at will. Once this warm up time is over, it is over and there will not be any chance to practice on the trail course before you ride your class. The trail course on the western day will be set up in the east end of the main arena. On the ranch day the trail course will be set up in the top arena.

Q – What is IN HAND trail?

A – It's a fun trail class where you lead your horse through the obstacles. At many of the larger shows, this class is designed to showcase the young horses that are not being ridden yet and is usually limited to

yearlings. It is quite a popular class and trainers spend many hours teaching their youngsters to maneuver the obstacles from the ground. At this show this class is open to horses of all ages. It's a fun class no matter what age your horse is!

Q – Where will you hold the mini horse and driving classes?

A – This will be our first time using two arenas on the same day. Please be patient as we try this new format. If it works well we will be using this format in the future. We will start with the miniature horse classes in the top arena during the halter and English classes that are held in the main, covered arena. All mini horse classes will be held in the top arena.

Q – What is proper attire for English and Western classes at the Benefit Buckle Series Open Horse Show?

A – First let me remind you that helmets are required for all riders under 18 years old and that rule trumps all other rules. Now, since we are PAC and SOAR approved, we will follow the APHA and PtHA rule books with regards to proper attire. Here is what the APHA rule book says: English Attire: Hunt coats of traditional colors. Breeches or hung jodphurs of traditional shades. High English boots or jodphur boots of black or brown. Hard hat (navy blue, black or brown). Tie or choker. Safety Helmet – Helmet with harness properly attached under the chin is required for all exhibitors participating in any warmup/schooling area or class involving jumps (English division classes only). Optional: Unrowelled spurs that are blunt, round, or include a smooth rolling rubber ball and are not longer than one inch. Crops or bats. Banding and/or braiding of mane and tail. Roached mane allowed. Artificial tail braid. Safety helmets (for riders over 18 years old) in classes not involving jumps. Prohibited: Rowelled spurs.

Western Attire: Shirt, blouse, jacket or vest with long-sleeves and collar (band, tuxedo, stand-up, etc). Pants (Western type) ankle length or longer. Western hats. Western boots. Optional: Spurs. Chaps. Hard hats or safety helmets (for riders over 18 years old). Banding and/or braiding of mane or tail. Exception – banding and/or braiding is prohibited in Ranch Horse classes

If you have any questions not answered here, please email lynnwarren4h@gmail.com

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