

Some pointers to help your show ring experience a pleasure not just for you but for all around you.

In halter events remember if you win or get second place you will be required for the selection of the Champion and Reserve Champion award. Please do not leave the marshalling area, ensure you stay around waiting to be called back in.

BE ON TIME. Make sure you are in time for your class. Please don't make other competitors, the ring steward, the gate marshall and the judge wait for you! Keep your ears open listening for what events are being called up and keep an ear open for your name. If you are changing exhibits/numbers, please inform the gate marshall or ring steward. You will only get 2-3 call outs and then the gate will be closed, you will not be allowed to enter under no circumstances.

Do not forget your number on your clothing, no number means you will be disqualified.

Remember your show number and the name of the exhibit you are showing. This makes it easier for the gate marshall, the ring steward and the judge.

Know the pattern. If you can, watch the classes before you enter the ring, this will show you the preferred workout the judge is using, however remember go with your instinct of the pattern you have read as you may be watching someone who is doing the pattern wrong.

Watch to see the entry and exit points of the show ring. This makes a show run smoother if competitors can enter and exit in the required directions, no pile ups!

Overtaking is always done to the inside of the arena, do not cut across the arena or do a small circle to make space, just pass on the inside leaving plenty of room around the horse you are passing.

In the warm up arena if changing direction or stopping, always look behind or in that direction first, giving way to other riders.

If you find you are bunched up after entering the ring it is OK to cut across (without hitting the judge) to a clear area. Tho the gate marshall should not allow this to happen.

When the judge says reverse and walk on it means do a tear shape turn to the inside and go the other way and not reverse or backup.

When the judge asks you to change direction, always look behind and do not make your move until the person behind you has. However if they are taking too long, maybe they didn't hear make your move and they should follow.

When the judge asks to move up a gait, wait until the horse in front of you has moved up to the gait, otherwise you could collide or have to immediately overtake. However if they are taking too long move immediately up to the required gait and overtake.

If you have any queries, see the Show Officials, eg: show secretary, gate marshalls. Under no circumstances approach the Judge. Once the show is closed then you may ask an official if you may approach the Judge, the official will ask the judge if they wish to speak with you – only if the Judge is agreeable. Tho remember most judges do not want to appear rude, so if judge does engage in a

conversation with you, do not put the judge in a bad position by talking to him/her about your horse or your performance.

Remember what classes you have entered in, this is your responsibility to know, not the show organizers or gate marshalls etc.

Do not block the entry or exit routes to the marshalling areas or the arena. At all times keep these areas clear.

If your exhibit is unruly, please make sure you stay clear of other competitors and spectators. For example, stallion playing up, horse rearing/bucking, uncontrollable, failure of gear, etc

BE POLITE – all workers at shows are volunteers. Without volunteers there is no show. Please show patience and understanding. Any issues do take them up with the office in a quiet and professional manner.

SPORTSMANSHIP – if you do not agree with a Judge's decision, please remember that others may not feel the same. By belittling the Judge in public you are showing no respect for the judge, other competitors or the show association. There could be disciplinary action if your behavior is deemed unacceptable. Any disputes must be taken up with the show office within half hour of the incident and there is a \$50 fee to lodge a dispute.

SAFETY – Please make sure at all times you adhere to any safety regulations or risk management procedures required by the show association. These rules will be in place to ensure the safety of all at the show, human and equine. Do not leave the ring unless requested by Judge or Ring Steward, or a personal emergency only then after you have advised your actions.

While ribbons are being awarded please do not show disrespect by leaving the class. Unless advised to do so by a ring steward.

If you do not wish to keep the ribbon you have just won, we ask, out of courtesy to fellow competitors that you **DO NOT** give it to the ring steward or ribbon runner. If you do not want your ribbon please hand it into the office or put in the "ribbon return box" once you have left the arena. Damaged, dirty, slobbered on ribbons we do not want these ones back please.

Most importantly....HAVE FUN!