

First Year Under Saddle Rules Linn County

HORSES - Any age (usually a 3 or 4 year old). Age determined using January 1, not the actual birth date.) Horse being ridden for the first time during the current 4-H year. This horse is not eligible for regular equitation classes if ridden in First Year Under Saddle class.

TRAINING - Owner Trained – Parents, leaders, and others may suggest training tips, but member shall have done all actual mounted training of the animal. Record training time on score sheet for the judge.

PERFORMANCE TIME - A maximum of ten (10) minutes will be allowed to perform the trained moves for the judge. A first Year Under Saddle score sheet shall be given to the judge before starting. No group rail work will be required and scoring shall be based on accomplishment achieved in regard to length of training time. Use of header and leg up when needed, will not count down on score.

- EQUIPMENT -**
1. First Year Under Saddle horses must never have been shown in any class in a stiff bit. Horse may be ridden English or Western but shall be ridden in a smooth snaffle bit with broken mouthpiece (minimum 3/8 inch diameter). Leather or Rubber mouthpieces are allowed. Snaffle bit must be such that when reins are pulled, there will be no **LEVERAGE APPLIED**. A hackamore (not mechanical) may be used. **REFER TO PROJECT MANUAL.**
 2. Entries will be shown in a standard headstall (browband, shaped ear, or split ear)
 3. Leather or woven material curb straps only to be used (no iron, chain, or other material will be allowed).
 4. Split or tied reins may be used. Entries must be shown with both Hands on the reins in all phases.
 5. Training aids such as running martingales and draw reins are allowed, but must be used properly.
 6. Spurs are allowed, but must be used properly.
 7. Helmets, ASTM – SEI Certified must be worn. Helmets are recommended for use during all training.
 8. The judge may ask to remove any training aids to see if desirable results are being obtained and may question the member regarding the reason for using aids.
 9. After each work, headstall must be dropped and viewed by the judge if a snaffle bit is being used.

REFERENCES – 1. 4-H Horse Project Manual, 4-H 130, Oregon State University Extension Service, January 1998 (pages 19 - 29)

2. 4-H Colt and Horse Training Manual, 4-H 1303, Oregon State University Extension Service, July 1999 (pages 11 to 18, Training to Ride section)