AMERICAN MEMORANDUM

QUARTER TO: Show Industry Stakeholders

RSE FROM: Show Department DATE: May 28, 2020

ASSOCIATION SUBJECT: New AQHA Class Guidelines

I. Working Hunter Under Saddle

- II. Western Dressage
- III. Ranch Trail
- IV. Ranch Cutting
- V. RHC Open 7 & Up Working Ranch Horse
- VI. Timed Ranch Trail

## I. WORKING HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

SHW112.17 To offer working hunter under saddle in any division, a show must also offer at least one of the following over fence classes: hunter hack, equitation over fences, working hunter, and/or jumping. Working hunter under saddle is to be held immediately following the over fence classes. Management has the option to keep or remove jumps from the ring.

**SHW312.6** Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are prohibited in pleasure driving, hunter under saddle, working hunter under saddle and boots of any description except outdoors during inclement weather, in hunter hack, and working hunter. The use of slip on (easy care) horse boots or related footwear are not considered as protective boots and are permissible to be worn in all classes.

SHW605.WORKING HUNTER UNDER SADDLE. The purpose of this class is to exemplify a horse doing its job in the hunting field and to promote correct natural appearance and forward movement in all gaits. Horses should be shown with active, working, and energetic ground-covering gaits at the walk, trot, and canter. The gaits should be comparable to a horse performing a working hunter course. Excessive slowness at the walk, trot, and/or canter must be penalized. Working hunter under saddle horses should exhibit a natural self-carriage, correct uphill balance, and the fluid forward movement that is desirable for working hunters and which allows horses to build strength and coordination for performing correctly over fences.

SHW605.1 For the horse to be eligible to be shown in the working hunter under saddle class, it must be shown in a minimum of one over fence class (hunter hack, equitation over fences, working hunter, and/or jumping) in any division at that show.

SHW605.2 Horses may not be shown in hunter under saddle and working hunter under saddle at the same show.

SHW605.3 To offer working hunter under saddle in any division, a show must also offer at least one of the following over fence classes: hunter hack, equitation over fences, working hunter, and/or jumping. Working hunter under saddle is to be held immediately following the over fence classes.

Management has the option to keep or remove jumps from the ring.

#### SHW606.Horses to be:

SHW606.1 shown under saddle, not to jump in this class. Horses are required, however, to be entered in at least one over fence class in any division at the same show. Eligible over fence classes are hunter hack, equitation over fences, working hunter, or jumping.

SHW606.2 shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Horses should back easily and stand quietly.

SHW606.3 reversed to the inside away from the rail.

SHW606.4 At the judge's discretion, horses may be asked to change to canter from the flat-footed walk or trot. They may also be asked to lengthen their stride at the walk, trot or canter, one or both ways of the ring. An extension is an obvious lengthening of the stride with a slight increase of pace while exerting less effort and appears smooth to ride.

SHW606.5 At the option of the judge, all or just the top 12 horses may be required to hand gallop, one or both ways of the ring. Never more than 12 horses to hand gallop at one time. At the hand gallop, the judge may ask the group to halt and stand quietly on a free rein (loosened rein).

# SHW607. Faults scored according to severity:

Quick, short or vertical strides

Being on the wrong lead

Breaking gait

Excessive speed at any gait

Excessive slowness in any gait, loss of forward momentum

Failure to take the appropriate gait when called for

Head carried too high

Head carried too low (such that poll is below the withers)

Overflexing or straining neck in head carriage so the nose is carried behind the vertical

Excessive nosing out Failure to maintain light contact with horse's mouth

Stumbling If a horse appears sullen, dull, lethargic, emaciated, drawn or overly tired

Consistently showing too far off the rail

## SHW608. Faults which will be cause for disqualification:

Head carried too low and/or clearly behind the vertical excessively and consistently while the horse is in motion, or otherwise showing the appearance of intimidation.

**SHW803.7** Level 1, progressive working hunter, <u>working hunter under saddle</u> and boxing points do not count toward the all-around trophy.

#### SHW805 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS.

Working Hunter Under Saddle to be added to Category V

## II. WESTERN DRESSAGE

# SHW104. SHOW APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL FEES

based on total number of entries from the previous year's event, rookie entries excluded.

United States and Canada:

\$3,000 = 5,000 or more entries

\$2,000 = 2,500-4,999 entries

\$750 = 1,000-2,499 entries

\$500 = Events with 500-999 entries

\$100 = Events with 1-499 entries

\$100 = Introductory Shows, Level 1 Shows, Rookie Shows, Versatility Ranch

Horse Shows, New Special Events or New Shows

\$50 = Dressage, Western Dressage, or EWD

International:

\$3,000 = 5,000 or more entries

\$2,000 = 2,500-4,999 entries

\$750 = 1,000-2,499 entries

\$500 = Events with 500-999 entries

\$100 = Events with 1-499 entries

\$100 = Introductory Shows, Level 1 Shows, Rookie Shows, Versatility Ranch

Horse Shows, or New Shows

\$50 EWD, or Western Dressage

SHW108.9.2 WESTERN DRESSAGE is designed to develop a partnership between a happy equine athlete working in harmony with its rider and to demonstrate training based on the principles of classical dressage that produces a horse that is physically strong, balanced, supple, and flexible. Lightness and unity with its rider are the hallmark of a western dressage horse. Western dressage uses a progressive training scale demonstrated through western dressage patterns or "tests." USEF/WDAA rules will be used for conducting and judging western dressage. Competition occurs in a regulation size arena with specific apparel and equipment all regulated by USEF and/or AQHA. Open, amateur and youth eligibility, including horse ownership requirements for amateur and youth, will be based on AQHA criteria. Refer to SHW215, SHW220, SHW225, SHW235

**SHW682**. **WESTERN DRESSAGE**. AQHA will recognize these levels of western dressage competition starting with Basic Level, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Level 4. Western dressage may also be offered at an AQHA-approved show or special event and must be judged by a licensed USEF/WDAA judge. A list of qualified judges will be available on the AQHA website. Rules of the USEF/WDAA are available at <a href="https://www.usef.org">www.usef.org</a>.

**SHW682.1** Freestyle, Suitability, Hack and Dressage Seat Equitation are not recognized for AQHA competition.

**SHW685.2** Show approval as well as horse and exhibitor eligibility requirements must be met.

**SHW685.3 POINTS**. The percentage score will be converted into a point value. Points will be awarded in each division and recorded

on horse's records. AQHA points can be earned starting at Basic Level and going through Level 4.

SCORES				
Percentages	60-65	66-70	71-75	76+
POINT CONVERSION				
Basic Level	1	2	3	4
Level 1	1.5	3	4.5	6
Level 2	2	4	6	8
Level 3	2.5	5	7.5	10
Level 4	3	6	9	12

SHW805. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS. Western Dressage to be added to Category X

# III. RANCH TRAIL

**SHW305.7** Junior horses competing in western pleasure, western horsemanship, western riding, trail, reining, working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, <u>ranch trail,</u> trail, all versatility ranch horse and all ranching heritage challenge classes that are shown with a hackamore or snaffle bit may be ridden with one or two hands on the reins. The tails of the reins must be crossed on the opposite side of the neck when riding with two hands on split reins except in reining, working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, <u>ranch trail</u>, all VRH classes, and all RHC classes. Closed reins (example mecate) may not be used with a snaffle bit, except in working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, <u>ranch trail</u>, all VRH classes and, all RHC classes, where a mecate is permitted. When using a snaffle bit in working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, ranch trail, all VRH classes and all RHC classes, a leather or other woven material chin strap of any width is to be used and

should be attached to the bit below the reins. No iron, chain, or other material is allowed. The chin strap can include metal buckles and/or keepers.

**SHW306.4** Protective boots, leg wraps and bandages are allowed in reining, working cow horse, boxing, team penning, ranch sorting, barrel racing, pole bending, stake racing, jumping, tie-down roping, breakaway roping, dally team roping-heading, dally team roping-heeling, cutting, western horsemanship, ranch riding, **ranch trail**, versatility ranch horse classes and ranching heritage classes. The use of slip on (easycare) horse boots or related footwear are not considered as protective boots and are permissible to be worn in all classes.

**SHW334 GAITS - <u>RANCH CLASSES</u>.** In all gaits, movement of the ranch horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse.

**SHW400. PERFORMANCE CLASSES**. In open division competition, an exhibitor may enter one or more horses in a class, but each horse may have only one rider per class. In individual open division working events (ranch riding, **ranch trail**, reining, working cow horse, boxing, western riding, barrel racing, pole bending, jumping, working hunter, trail, tie-down roping, dally team roping - heading, dally team roping - heeling, team penning, ranch sorting and cutting) a rider may:

**SHW461.1** No horse may cross enter <u>Trail and Ranch Trail or</u> Trail and Versatility Ranch Horse Trail regardless of division.

SHW470.RANCH TRAIL This class should test the horse's ability to cope with situations encountered while being ridden through a pattern of obstacles generally found during the course of everyday ranch work. The horse/rider team is judged on the correctness, efficiency, and pattern accuracy with which the obstacles are negotiated, and the attitude and mannerisms exhibited by the horse. Judging emphasis is on identifying the well broke, responsive, and well-mannered horse which can correctly navigate and negotiate the course. The ideal ranch trail horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

SHW470.1 No horse may cross enter Trail and Ranch Trail or Trail and Versatility Ranch Horse Trail, regardless of division.

SHW471. At show management option the competition trail course may be made available to exhibitors or posted prior to the day of competition. It must be posted at least one hour prior to competition.

SHW472.SCORING. All runs begin upon entering the area of competition and any infractions are subject to penalty at that time (such as two hands on the reins, using either hand to instill fear or praise, etc.). The rider has the option of

eliminating any obstacle, however this will result in being "off pattern" (OP) and the horse/rider team may not place above others who have completed the pattern correctly. A judge may ask a horse to pass on an obstacle after three refusals or at any time for safety concerns.

SHW473. Credit is given to horse/rider teams who negotiate the obstacles correctly and efficiently. Horses should receive credit for showing attentiveness to obstacles and ability to negotiate through the course when the obstacles warrant it while willingly responding to rider's cues on more difficult obstacles. Quality of movement and cadence should be considered part of the maneuver score for the obstacle. Penalties are assessed as follows:

# **SHW473.1 One (1) point**

over-bridled (per maneuver)

out of frame (per maneuver)

each hit, bite or stepping on a log, cone plant or any component of the obstacle incorrect or break of gait at walk or trot for two (2) strides or less

both front or hind feet in a single-stride slot or space at a walk or trot

skipping over or failing to step into required space

split pole in lope-over

incorrect number of strides, if specified

one to two steps on mount/dismount or ground tie except shifting to balance

# SHW473.2 Three (3) points

wrong lead or out of lead

draped reins

break of gait at lope, except when correcting an incorrect lead

break of gait at walk or trot for more than two (2) strides

three to four steps on mount/dismount on ground tie

# SHW473.3 Five (5) points

spurring in front of cinch

blatant disobedience

use of either hand to instill fear/praise

knocking over, stepping out of, or falling off an obstacle

dropping an object required to be carried

1st or 2nd cumulative refusal

letting go of gate

five or more steps on mount/ dismount or ground tie

## **SHW473.4 Ten (10) points**

Unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)

# SHW473.5 Off-Pattern (OP) - exhibitors cannot place above others who complete pattern correctly

Incomplete maneuver eliminating or adding a maneuver 3rd refusal

repeated blatant disobedience, and failure to dally and remain dallied use of two hands (except junior shown in a snaffle bit/hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein) failure to open and shut gate, or failure to complete gate

# SHW473.6 Disqualified 0 - Score

lameness
abuse
leaving working area before pattern is complete
illegal equipment
disrespect or misconduct
improper western attire
fall of horse/rider

SHW474.RANCH TRAIL COURSE. When setting courses, management will be mindful that the idea is not to trap a horse/rider team or eliminate it by making an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind to reduce the risk for accidents. Show committee shall have the option of setting up the trail course to best fit the arena conditions. An outdoor course is recommended if appropriate terrain is available. Each single-performance event can be time consuming, especially with large classes, so it is imperative that time restrictions are placed on this class. The show committee, either through a pilot run or estimation, shall select a course that has a continuous and positive flow that can be negotiated in four minutes or less.

SHW474.1 Judges must walk the course and have the right and duty to alter the course if it is not in keeping with the intent of the class. The judge may remove or change any obstacles they deem unsafe, non-negotiable or unnecessarily difficult. Any time a trail obstacle becomes unsafe during a class, it shall be repaired or removed from the course. If the course cannot be repaired and some horses have completed the course, the score for that obstacle shall be deducted from all previous draws in that class.

SHW474.2 The ranch trail course will include no less than six and no more than nine obstacles. It is mandatory that the horse be asked to walk, trot and lope during the course. Walk can be part of obstacle score or be scored with the approaching obstacle. Trot must be at least 35 feet and score with approaching obstacle. Lope must be lead-specific, at least 50 feet and score with approaching obstacle. Care must be exercised to avoid setting up any obstacles that may be hazardous to the horse or rider.

SHW474.3 The course must be designed using the mandatory obstacles and maneuvers plus optional obstacles. Combining two or more of the obstacles is acceptable.

SHW475. Mandatory Ranch Trail obstacles include:

SHW475.1 Ride over obstacles on the ground (usually logs). Walk, trot or lope may be used but only one gait is required. - Walk-overs: Walk over no more than

five logs no more than 10 inches high and spacing between 26 – 30 inches. The formation may be straight, curved, zig-zagged or raised.

Trot-overs: Trot over no more than five logs no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs or poles should be 36-42 inches. The formation can also be straight, curved, zigzagged or raised. - Lope-overs: Lope over no more than five logs no more than 10 inches high. The space between logs should be 6 to 7 feet. The formation can also be straight, curved, zig-zagged or raised.

SHW475.2 Opening, passing through and closing a hinged swinging gate (not a rope gate): Use gate that will not endanger horse or rider and requires minimum side-passing.

SHW475.3 Ride over wooden bridge: Bridge should be sturdy, safe and negotiated at a walk only. Heavy plywood lying flat on the ground is an acceptable simulation of a bridge. Suggested minimum width shall be 36 inches wide and at least 6 feet long.

SHW475.4 Backing obstacles: Backing obstacles are to be spaced at a minimum of 28 inches. If elevated, 30 inch spacing is required. Back through and around at least three makers. Back through L, V, U or straight or similarly shaped course which may be elevated no more than 24 inches.

SHW475.5 Side-pass obstacle: Any object which is safe and of any length may be used to demonstrate responsiveness of the horse to leg signals.

Raised side pass obstacles should not exceed 12 inches.

SHW475.6 Drag an object: For open and amateur classes ONLY. The drag is not to be used in youth classes. Drag may be a complete figure eight and may begin in either direction. The exhibitor must have the rope dallied on the saddle horn (half or full dally) for the duration of the drag.

SHW476.Optional Ranch Trail obstacles may be used provided the obstacles can be found in everyday ranch work. Optional obstacles from which selections can be made include, but not limited to:

SHW476.1 A jump obstacle whose center height is not less than 14 inches high or more that 25 inches high. Holding the saddle horn is permissible for this obstacle.

SHW476.2 Only live or stuffed animals which would normally be encountered in an outdoor setting may be used but not to be used in an attempt to spook a horse.

SHW476.3 Carry object from one part of the arena to another.

SHW476.4 Remove and replace materials from a mailbox.

SHW476.5 Trot through cones spaced a minimum of 6 feet apart.

SHW476.6 Cross natural ditches or ride up embankments.

SHW476.7 Swing rope or throw rope at a dummy steer head.

SHW476.8 Step in and out of obstacle.

SHW476.9 Put on a slicker or coat.

SHW476.10 Stand to mount with mounting block.

SHW476.11 Walk through water obstacle.

SHW476.12 Open gate on foot.

SHW476.13 Pick up feet.

SHW476.14 Walk through brush.

SHW476.15 Ground tie. (Hobbles are allowed)

SWH476.16 Lead at the trot.

# SHW477 Unacceptable Ranch Trail course obstacles include:

tarps

water obstacles with slick bottoms

PVC pipe used as a jump por walk over

<u>tires</u>

rocking or moving bridges

logs elevated in a manner that permits such to roll in a dangerous manner

SHW509.1.6 The use of 'two rein equipment' is allowed as recognized by our NRCHA alliance in AQHA working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, <u>ranch trail</u>, all VRH classes, and all RHC classes. The purpose of the two rein option is the transition between the hackamore and bridle and can be used on any aged horse in the youth, amateur, junior, senior or all age working cow horse class, amateur or youth boxing, or ranch riding, <u>ranch trail</u>, all VRH classes and all RHC classes for one year only. The bit and bosal combination must be approved in accordance with NRCHA rules, below. Only one hand may be used on the reins and hands must not be changed. Any number of fingers between reins will be permitted. Both mecate and bridle reins are to be held in the rein hand.

SHW556.11 The use of two-rein equipment is allowed in working cow horse, boxing, ranch riding, <u>ranch trail</u>, all VRH classes and all RHC classes for one year only.

SHW561.1 No horse may cross enter <u>Trail and Ranch Trail</u> or Trail and Versatility Ranch Horse Trail regardless of division.

# SHW805. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS. Ranch Trail to be added to Category II

**SHW808.2** At least 20 of those points must have been won in performance events at AQHA-approved shows or in races with at least eight of the 20 performance points earned in one or more of the following events:

Reining Ranch Riding

Ranch Trail Western Pleasure

Western Riding Trail

Jumping Working Hunter Hunter Under Saddle Hunter Hack

**SHW912.2** judge two consecutive years at the same show, set of shows or circuit except when judging cutting, working cow horse, roping, team penning, ranch sorting, speed events, ranch riding, <u>ranch trail</u>, or versatility ranch horse where they may judge up to two consecutive years.

#### IV. RANCH CUTTING

**SHW334 GAITS - RANCH CLASSES**. In all gaits, movement of the ranch riding horse should simulate a horse needing to cover long distances, softly and quietly, like that of a working ranch horse. The following terminology shall apply:

**SHW559. RANCHING HERITAGE CHALLENGES**. Challenges are open to any horse bred by an AQHA Ranching Heritage Breeder. Anyone can own and show these eligible and fully enrolled horses in the Challenges. The Challenges offer multiple divisions for various ages and skill levels for both horse and rider. Classes include working ranch horse, **ranch cutting**, ranch riding, team roping and barrel racing.

**SHW559.2. APPROVAL.** Ranching Heritage Challenges may be held as stand-alone events or in conjunction with a Versatility Ranch show. There will be an approval fee of \$100 per event. The shows may consist of six different classes: Working Ranch Horse, Limited Working Ranch Horse (Box-Drive-Box-Drive; amateur and youth only), **Ranch Cutting**, Ranch Riding, Team Roping and Barrel Racing.

**SHW565. VRH** <u>and RHC</u> **RANCH CUTTING**. This class is judged on the ability of the horse to work a cow by separating it from the herd and holding it to demonstrate the horse's ability to work the cow. A single cow is cut from the herd and the horse must demonstrate its ability to work the cow. The ideal VRH Ranch cutting horse should have a natural ranch horse appearance from head to tail in each maneuver.

**SHW565.1** Objective will be to cut two cows from the herd and work the cow(s) with the assistance of two turn-back riders

and two herd holders. Show management may supply two herd holders and two turn back riders, or exhibitors may supply

their own helpers. If an exhibitor is a herd holder or turn back rider, he or she may use the horse that they are competing on

or use a different horse. Herd holders' and turn back riders' horses should be American Quarter Horses.

**SHW565.2** In all divisions, there will be a two-minute time limit. <u>The announcer/timekeeper will give a warning when one</u>

minute of the two-minute working time has expired. Each exhibitor must work two head and has the option of ending their

run before the two-minute limit or working the full two minutes. For international countries show management has the option

of allowing exhibitors to work the two head or there may be a one and one half time limit and work only one head.

**SHW565.3** Time will begin when a rider crosses a time line just prior to entering the herd. Time should not start until

contestant crosses a pre-determined and marked timeline. The rider will then quietly separate his/her cow from the herd.

**SHW565.4** Unnecessary roughness or disturbing the herd excessively could result in disqualification.

**SHW565.5** Ultimate credit will be given to horses demonstrating excellence in the herd work by committing to, driving,

setting up and working a cow in the center of the arena with minimal disturbance to the herd.

**SHW565.6** Exhibitors will not be penalized for reining during the cutting portion, but should display natural ability.

**SHW565.7** Scoring. 100 percent will be judged by the horse's performance and natural ability.

SHW565.8 Penalties should be assessed as follows:

- One point: over-bridled (per maneuver), out of frame (per maneuver), losing working advantage; toe, foot, or stirrup on the shoulder; working out of position
- Three (3) points: cattle picked up or scattered; spurring on shoulder; pawing or biting cattle; back fence; hot quit
- Five (5) points: horse quitting cow; losing cow; changing cattle after a specific commitment; failure to separate a single animal after leaving the herd; blatant disobedience
  - Ten (10) points: unnatural ranch horse appearance (Horse's tail is obvious and consistently carried in an unnatural manner in every maneuver)
- Off Pattern (OP): turn tail; failure to cut two cows; repeated blatant disobedience; use of two hands (except junior and

Level 1 horses shown in a snaffle bit/ hackamore), more than one finger between split reins or any fingers between romal reins (except in the two-rein)

 Disqualification (DQ): lameness; abuse; disrespect or misconduct; illegal equipment; excessive disturbance of herd to the point that exhibitor is asked to leave the arena; leaving arena before run is complete, fall of horse/rider; improper western attire.

## V. RHC OPEN 7 AND UP WORKING RANCH HORSE

Working Ranch Horse classes will be offered in the following divisions:

- Open RHC 4-Year-Old Working Ranch Horse
  - Limited Open RHC Limited 4-Year-Old Working Ranch Horse
- Open RHC 5 & 6-Year-Old Working Ranch Horse
  - Limited Open RHC Limited 5 & 6-Year-Old Working Ranch Horse

- Open RHC 7 and Up Working Ranch Horse
- Cowboy RHC 4-Year-Old & Up Cowboy Working Ranch Horse
- Amateur RHC 4-Year-Old & Up Working Ranch Horse
  - Level 1 Amateur RHC 4-Year-Old & Up Working Ranch Horse
- Youth RHC 4-Year-Old & Up Working Ranch Horse
  - Level 1 Youth RHC 4-Year-Old & Up Working Ranch Horse

## VI. TIMED RANCH TRAIL

SHW795.Timed Ranch Trail. Events held in China with rules provided by the recognized international affiliate, as approved by the American Quarter Horse Association.

SHW795.1 Judged by persons approved by the international affiliate, even though such judges are not also on the list of judges approved by AQHA.

SHW795.2 Any other approved AQHA event held in conjunction with Timed Ranch Trail must be judged by an AQHA approved judge.

**In Timed Ranch Trail,** each exhibitor races against the clock, following a course consisting of obstacles which might be found on a ranch.

## Pattern:

- **1. Pass the starting line.** Begin by crossing the center of the starting line, then stop even with the first obstacle and make a quarter turn right to face the obstacle. Enter. (Obstacle to be placed ten meters from starting line.)
- **2. 360 turn.** Turn 360 degrees (either direction acceptable) in the square made of poles. Exit straight ahead and continue to next obstacle. (Poles should be three meters long each; overlapped at the ends.)
- **3. Side pass.** Side pass over a raised pole on the ground. (The pole should be 4 meters long, elevated no more than 20 cm above the ground.)
- **4. Tire Pull.** After completing the side pass, remove rope with attached tire from stand and drag the tire in counter-clockwise direction around the cones.
- **5. Calf roping.** Enter the marked area. Horses should be stand quietly while contestant throws the rope at stationary steer (only one loop allowed.) The rope must pass completely over the head. Contestants may leave the rope as it lies or recoil and carry. If horned steer is used, rope must catch around the horns, half head, or over the head. (Stationary steer is a bale of hay with an artificial head with or without horns.)
- **6. Forward and back in chute.** Ride into chute, pick up small flag, then drop it. Back out of the chute, pick up second small flag on the entrance chute, then drop it. (Chute should be six meters long and 1.2 meters wide; chute should be 50 cm high).
- **7. Barrels.** Pick up hay bag from top of barrel, carry the hay bag to the other barrel and ride around it (right or left), return, and place the hay bag back on the first barrel. (The distance between the two barrels should be 15 meters; the second barrel should be 25 meters away from finishing line. Bag should weigh two to five kilograms made by soft materials such as nylon and cloth.)

8. Finish. Run across the finish line following path depicted.

## **Assessment:**

Exhibitors will be scored based on time to complete pattern and assessed penalties. The exhibitor with the fastest time and fewest penalties will be considered the winner.

A maximum of one penalty per obstacle will be assessed. Exhibitors will be disqualified if three or more penalties are assessed. Exhibitors refusing to attempt any obstacle will be disqualified.