



DELTA RIDING CLUB

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ENGLISH CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

The Show Committee reserves the right to correct, change or delete class descriptions at any time. Every effort has been made to create accurate and thorough descriptions based on a number of sources, especially Equine Canada. The Show Committee welcomes feedback and the opportunity to consider changes to the rules as errors or inconsistencies are brought to their attention.

ENGLISH APPAREL

- Competitors should be neatly and suitably attired in riding coat, ASTM helmet, shirt and tie, choker or stock, breeches or jodhpurs and boots.
- Helmets with permanently affixed harness must be worn by all riders 18 years and under **at all times while mounted**. Seniors may wear helmets without harness, or a bowler type or other suitable hat, at their own discretion. ASTM-approved helmets are mandatory for all exhibitors riding over fences. with the exception of over fences classes, in which case all riders must wear a helmet with permanently affixed harness..
- Half Chaps must be a conservative dark colour (brown or black) and match the boot.
- Spurs, if worn, must be of the unrowelled kind.
- Gloves are optional.
- Above all, the rider should be neat, clean and workmanlike.

TACK / TURNOUT

- Braiding and banding is optional.
- Whips, if allowed (see class descriptions), must be no longer than 75 cm or 30 inches from top to end of tassel and unweighted.
- Leather bridle with only regular cavessons may be double, pelham, single (snaffle) or kimberwick
- Pelham converters are allowed in Delta Riding Club shows.
- Plain cavessons/nosebands are permitted in all classes. Flashes, figure eights and drop nose bands are **only** permitted in Jumper classes.
- Reins must be made entirely of leather with the exception of Jumper classes.
- English saddle pads should be white or dark conservative colours, unmarked and not oversize. Exception: Jumper classes.
- Saddle should be plain English, Dressage or modified jumping. Extreme forward seat is not recommended.
- Protective equipment (e.g., boots and bandages) is NOT permitted except in Jumper classes and Hunt Seat Equitation both on the flat and over fences.
- Standing martingales, running martingales, boots and bandages, and draw reins are permitted in the schooling area.

Please see more division-specific rules regarding attire and tack for Equitation, Hack and Hunter

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

LEAD LINE

- Lead Line classes are restricted to riders 10 years and under and will start at approx. 10 am when offered.
- Handlers must be 12 years and over.
- All exhibitors are encouraged to wear ASTM-approved helmets. Boots with heels mandatory if riders' feet are to be in stirrups.
- To be shown in English or Western tack. Wearing a helmet while riding western will NOT be penalized.
- Riders will be mounted as horses are led into the ring at a walk by a handler. Handlers must never let go of the horse's lead.
- Halters attached to leads may be worn over (optional) bridles.
- Horses may be asked to trot, but exhibitors are not required to trot if safety is an issue.

ENGLISH SHOWMANSHIP

- Judged strictly on the riders' ability to fit and show a horse in-hand. Cleanliness of both the horse and handler will be considered. Personal appearance of exhibitor should be neat, clean and well-groomed, attentive and courteous. Handlers will perform the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision.
- Proper English attire is to be worn.
- Horses are to be shown in an English bridle or appropriate halter depending on breed of horse.
- Horses to enter the ring in hand and line up when called for by the ring master.

ENGLISH HALTER

- To be judged solely on the conformation of the horse and its effect on the horse's movement. Emphasis will be placed upon type, conformation, substance and quality.
- Horses to be shown in hand with halter or bridle.
- Horses will walk to judge one at a time; as judge steps away, horse will jog/trot straight to cone placed 50 feet away. At cone horse will continue trotting to left toward fence. Horses will then line up head to tail for individual inspection (side to side, front to rear).



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ENGLISH CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH EQUITATION

BASIC SEAT EQUITATION

- Correctness and effectiveness of rider's position and aids are judged at the walk, trot and canter, both ways of the ring; judge may ask for individual work.
- Horse's performance not to count unless the result of the rider's ability.
- Judge may ask for exhibitors to ride a pattern. Judge may ask questions concerning horsemanship, anatomy of the horse, tack and management. Sitting trot will be required.
- *Breastplates are not permitted.*
- *Running or standing martingales, tie-downs or draw reins are not permitted*
- *Whips are optional.*

ENGLISH PLEASURE

- Horses are judged on manners, quality of gaits, willingness and performance. The ideal horse will look like a fun and easy ride.
- To be shown at a flat-footed walk, normal trot and easy canter; not to gallop; light contact to be maintained. May be asked to back.
- No martingales, tie-downs or draw reins to be used.
- Tack and attire to be appropriate to the seat being ridden.
- *Breastplates are not permitted.*
- *Running or standing martingales, tie-downs or draw reins are not permitted*
- *Whips are not permitted.*

ROAD & SHOW HACK

ATTIRE

- *Permitted attire: Black jacket or dark coat, ASTM approved helmets. Bowlers and top hats permitted as per English division rules stated above. White or light tan breeches, jodhpurs, white hunting stock or chokers, black boots or brown boots; black or brown half chaps are permissible providing they match the boot colour.*
- *Prohibited: saddle suits and/or Kentucky jodhpurs.*
- *Spurs are optional.*

TACK

- *English saddle of any type is required.*
- *Bridles may be double, pelham, snaffle or kimberwick.*
- *Martingales, breastplates, boots of any kind and/or bandages are not allowed.*
- *Dropped and flash nosebands are prohibited.*
- *Browbands shall be leather of any description but not solid white, colored or sequined.*
- *Whips are NOT permitted in any road or show hack class.*

ROAD HACK

- To be judged on 55% performance, 20% substance, 15% conformation and 10% manners.
- To be shown at a flat-footed walk with a reasonably loose rein, trot, strong trot, easy canter and hand gallop. Only eight horses to hand gallop at one time.
- *Whips are NOT permitted.*

SHOW HACK

- To be judged on 55% performance, 20% quality, 15% conformation and 10% manners. Credit will be given to horses that have vitality, animation, presence, balance and clean fine limbs showing supreme quality. Soundness is required and blemishes may be penalized.
- To be shown at a walk, trot, canter and hand gallop; collected and extended gaits to be called for. To stand quietly. Only eight horses to hand gallop at one time.
- *Braiding of mane and tail is optional.*
- *Whips are NOT permitted.*

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ENGLISH CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

HUNTER

HUNTER TACK

- *Jeweled and coloured brow bands, dropped nosebands below the bit, figure eights and flash nosebands are not permitted.*
- *Cavessons must be leather.*
- *Breastplates are optional.*
- *Numnahs are recommended in the Hunter division.*
- *Boots and bandages are not permitted except in Hunt Seat Equitation over Fences classes and in Jumper classes.*
- *Whips optional in all Hunter classes except Hunter Hack but must be no longer than 75 cm or 30 inches from top to end of tassel and unweighted.*

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION UNDER SADDLE

- Hunt seat equitation judges the rider only, including his or her position and overall effectiveness while riding keeping in mind the rider will be judged on position of a proper hunt seat rider.
- Horses are to be shown at walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Riders maybe asked to perform a pattern, back, etc. or answer questions on horsemanship.
- *Running or standing martingales are not permitted*
- *Boots or bandages permitted/optional when exhibitors are asked to ride a pattern.*
- *Whips optional as per Hunter division rules above*

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

- This class will be judged on performance, manners, way of going and soundness. Credit will be given to the flowing, balanced, willing horse with ground covering and relaxed strides of great quality. Extreme knee action or rough gaits may be penalized.
- To be shown at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring, to back easily and stand quietly. May be asked to hand gallop. Horses may be asked to change to canter from the flat-footed walk or trot, at the judges discretion.
- *Running or standing martingales are not permitted*

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION OVER FENCES

- Hunt seat equitation judges the rider only, including his or her position and overall effectiveness while riding keeping in mind the rider will be judged on position of a proper hunt seat rider.
- Horses are to be shown over a course of hunter fences. Riders may be asked to perform a pattern, back, etc. or answer questions on horsemanship.
- Running or standing martingales are permitted
- Protective boots or bandages are permitted in Hunt Seat Equitation over Fences.
- Whips optional as per Hunter division rules above

HUNTER HACK

- To be judged on performance, manners, way of going and soundness.
- To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring, to back easily and stand quietly. May be asked to hand gallop.
- Riders will be asked to jump two fences (cross pole or vertical). Jumps are to be a minimum of 2' and a maximum of 2'6" in height and placed 60 feet (or four strides) apart.
- *Running or standing martingales are not permitted*
- *Whips are not permitted in any hack class including Hunter Hack*

HUNTER OVER FENCES

- All Hunter divisions are open to all competitors.
- To be judged on manners, performance, consistent pace over the obstacles, way of going and soundness.
- To be shown over a course of hunter fences. Height to be determined by show committee and posted in program. Third refusal will cause elimination of the horse. Second cumulative refusal, run out or bolting on course results in elimination.
- *Running or standing martingales are allowed.*

JUMPERS

- To jump a posted course of fences within the time allowed. Height to be determined by the show committee and posted in program.
- If a round is fault-free, rider to complete a jump-off over a designated shortened course. Fastest clear round to place first.
- Riders may walk the course prior to the start of the class.
- Penalty points to be calculated as follows: each disobedience (e.g., refusal, run out) - 3 points; elimination on second cumulative disobedience; off course - elimination; knock down - 4 points; fall of horse or rider - elimination; exceeding allowed time - 1 point per second or fraction thereof.
- If a round is fault free, rider to complete a jump-off over a designated shortened course. Fastest clear round to place first.
- *Flashes, figure eights and dropped nosebands permitted.*
- *Running or standing martingales allowed.*
- *Draw reins are not permitted.*

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HANDY HORSE

- To be ridden in English tack.
- To be judged on the performance of the horse over a minimum of six obstacles, with emphasis on manners, response to rider, and attitude. Trail course will be designed to show the horse at all three gaits (walk, trot, canter). A horse that deviates from the posted course or pattern shall not be placed above any horse that completes the course as written.
- A time limit for the course or per obstacle may be posted.
- Obstacles must include but is not limited to a gate, a minimum of four poles and a back through.
- Course to be posted at least one hour before class is scheduled to begin. Exhibitors are not allowed to practice on the course prior to the class. Riding the course prior to the class may result in disqualification and forfeit of entry fee(s).

PLEASURE DRIVING

- This class is judged primarily on the ability of the horse to provide a suitable and pleasant drive.
- 70% on performance, manners and way of going; 20% on condition and fit of vehicle and harness; 10% on neatness and attire
- Two- or four-wheel carts acceptable.
- Horses will be shown at a walk, slow trot, working trot and strong trot. To stand quietly and rein back (back up) when asked. A work off may be used (in which the final placing horses are asked again to perform). In this work off horses may be asked to do a figure eight.