

Scottsdale Saddle Club

Western Class Descriptions 2010

Halter - Halter classes are divided by age and sex. Horses are shown in halter and are traveled before judges so that lameness and quality of movement can be evaluated. Horses are judged on balance, structural correctness, breed and sex characteristics and degree of muscling.

Western Pleasure – Will be judged primarily on the horse. Horses will be asked to perform all gaits required (either W/T or W/T/C) per class/division both directions on the rail. Horses are judged on their manners, performance, quality and conformation. The horse is to give the impression of being a pleasure to ride. Riders may also be asked to halt and backup.

Western Equitation – Will be judged primarily on the rider. Riders will be asked to perform all gaits required of their class/division both directions of the rail. Riders will be judged on position in the saddle and horsemanship skills. There is no pattern for this class.

Showmanship - Judges evaluate the grooming and fitting of the horse and expertise of the exhibitor in presenting the horse. Each exhibitor is required to perform a pattern with emphasis on preciseness of pattern and degree of confidence exhibited by the showman.

Ranch Horse - Our ranch horse division will demonstrate the versatility of the working horse in four categories— Ranch Conformation, Ranch Horsemanship, Ranch Riding and Ranch Trail.

Trail - The trail class tests the maneuverability of the horse through an obstacle course. Mandatory obstacles include one in which the rider will open, pass through and close a gate, riding over four logs or poles and one backing obstacle. Scoring is based on the horse's willingness, ease and grace in negotiating the course.