

Intercollegiate Saddle Seat Riding Association  
Rules and By-Laws

RULE I

Membership Classification

1100 College Membership

1101 Any degree-granting institution interested in participating in the activities of the Intercollegiate Saddle Seat Riding Association, and willing to subscribe to the By Laws and Rules of the ISSRA, is eligible for membership.

1102 An eligible college must apply for membership annually on the official ISSRA College Membership form, and such form must be properly signed by an official of the college empowered to do so. Such form shall also identify the team coach and the designated representative authorized to represent the member institution.

1103 At the option of the institution, the team coach may be the designated representative.

1104 The college membership application must be accompanied by a check, drawn on an official account of the college or a club check, in the amount of \$150.00 per semester to the ISSRA.

\$300 per year – rev.1/18

1105 For a college to be considered “in good standing,” both the initial or annual college membership application and dues must be received by ISSRA at or before the first show in which they seek to participate.

1200 Individual Undergraduate Membership

1201 Eligibility for Membership and Participation.

In order to become an Individual Member in the ISSRA, a rider must be a full-time student at an ISSRA member institute. In order to participate in ISSRA shows, an individual member must be in good academic standing at the time of the show. **\*Full time is considered 12 hours for an undergraduate student or 8 hours for a graduate/secondary student. rev. 1/18**

Exceptions:

A. A rider in the final term of a baccalaureate program enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies may compete in ISSRA shows providing the member institution certifies that the student is carrying (for credit) at least four (4) semester/term hours and all the courses needed to complete degree requirements.

A rider will be eligible for the number of regular terms equivalent to four calendar years, not necessarily in succession, but within a five-year total period - counted from the first term of ISSRA participation. A student entering active military duty will have the five-year period extended for the length of that military duty.

#### 1202 Individual Membership Form

Annually, prior to their first competition, an eligible student must have the application signed by that individual and must be filed with the ISSRA. It must include an individual membership fee of ~~\$80.00 per semester.~~ **\$75/per year. rev. 1/18**

#### 1300 Individual Eligibility Packet

#### 1301 Academic Eligibility Form

In order to compete in ISSRA shows, at the beginning of each term, a team must submit a completed ISSRA Academic Eligibility Form listing each student and signed by the college Registrar, Bursar or other qualified official verifying that each is a full-time undergraduate student in good academic standing. See Rule 1201.

**Riders with a GPA below 2.2 may still compete, however they will be on probation and they may only garner individual points and not be eligible for team points. Rev. 1/18**

#### 1302 Individual Placement Form

In order to compete in ISSRA shows, an individual member new to ISSRA showing must submit a completed ISSRA Individual Placement Form to the team coach who will sign and forward it to the ISSRA prior to the member's first show. An eligibility form must be retained for 5 years, and shall include the following:

- A. Name, school, address, home address.
- B. Year and semester of first ISSRA participation.
- C. Current class level.

- D. Class level of first ISSRA participation.
- E. Riding experience, including level and duration of instruction in:
  - 1. Saddle seat equitation
  - 2. Saddle seat performance
  - 3. Western
  - 4. Hunter/Jumpers
  - 5. Dressage
  - 6. Showing-equitation, International competition
  - 7. Walking/Racking
- F. Signature of applicant.
- G. Signature of coach.
- H. Date of application.

### 1303 Classification by Coach

It is the responsibility of the coach to accurately enter riders in the proper class according to their individual skill and experience levels and in compliance with the definitions and descriptions of those levels as set forth in the rules.

### 1304 Classification by Show Stewards

Classification of riders need not be automatic. When classification is unclear, upon submission of biographical information, the show stewards at the rider's first competition may review the rider's ability for proper classification. If rider is reviewed at the higher class and is moved down, all points and ribbons won in the class shall be forfeited. If rider is reviewed in the lower class, they must ride unjudged for that one class. Rider may be evaluated outside the competition day by designated regional representatives. See Rule 4304.

1305 It is the responsibility of the coach to move riders to the proper class when they have acquired the proper number of points. If a rider has progressed sufficiently in skills, s/he may be moved to a higher class.

1306 Once a rider has competed at a level, s/he may not move to a lower level unless directed to do so by the show stewards of the ISSRA.

### 1307 Falsification of Forms

The falsification of the membership or eligibility forms may be cause for immediate expulsion of the individual, college, or coach from the ISSRA, or any other penalty assigned by the Regional Standards and Ethics committee.

1308 Forfeiture of Points

A rider showing in a class for which s/he is ineligible shall forfeit any points, ribbons and trophies won in such class.

1400 Show Membership

1401 ISSRA shows shall be classified as Regular point shows. Show hosts will be responsible for providing suitable facilities, horses, tack and equipment (See Rule IV). ISSRA rules shall govern all classes held at ISSRA shows.

1500 Affiliated Association Memberships

1501 Affiliated Associations consist of organizations and other groups in good standing in a state, region or locality, educational institutions offering equine related programs, or other organizations approved by the ISSRA Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Executive Committee of the ISSRA, which have federated together to form an association.

1502 Categories of membership shall include:

- A. National associations, where equestrian-related groups or individuals have formed a national association or organization.
- B. Educational associations, where educational institutions or colleges offer equine related programs.

1503 ISSRA is not liable for financial responsibilities or other policies of Affiliated Associations.

1504 ISSRA reserves the right to not renew or decline Affiliated Association membership.

RULE II

Rule Interpretation and Enforcement  
Violations and Penalties

2100 Applicability and Definition

2101 The provisions of these rules shall apply to the following persons: exhibitor, coach, rider, show official, show employee, designated representative or member of the family of the above, individual, and member colleges, member show and member institution, who act in a manner in violation of the Rules of the Association or deemed prejudicial to its best interests. Any action in

connection with a show in violation of the Rules, by a member of the family of a person participating in the Show, who is described in the previous sentence, may be deemed to have been committed by such person and subject to penalties.

#### 2102 Non-Protestable Decisions

- A. The soundness of a horse or the suitability of a rider or a horse, when determined by a Steward of the Show or by a Judge, is not a violation.
- B. A Judge's decision, representing his individual preference, is not a violation of the rules.

2103 If the rules of the ISSRA do not apply to a given situation, the rules of the USEF shall govern.

#### 2200 Violations by Individuals and Penalties

##### 2201 Violations

An individual violation is any of the following acts committed by an individual:

- A. Violation of the Rules of the Association.
- B. Penalization by the Humane Society or Court of Law for violation of Association Rules.
- C. Acting or inciting or permitting another person to act in a manner contrary to the Rules of the Association, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interest of the Association.
- D. Any act committed or remark made in connection with a Show, considered offensive and/or made with intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the judging; approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from the Show Committee or Steward; inspection of a Judge's card without show management's permission.
- E. Failure of a Judge or Steward to perform their duties at a Show in accordance with the Rules.
- F. Filing of an inaccurate individual membership application.
- G. Failure of an exhibitor or his representative to sign the entry blank of a Show in which s/he competes.

H. Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse, as defined in Rule 3702 & 3902.

I. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the Association.

## 2202 Penalties

If found guilty, penalties for an individual shall be limited to the following:

A. PROBATION shall be listed under the defendant's name in the Secretary's Record of Penalties. If found guilty of a further violation, the defendant shall be subject to a heavier penalty than for a first offense.

B. SUSPENSION of such person or institution for any period from showing. A suspended person or institution is forbidden for the time specified in the sentence to hold or exercise office in the Association or in any Show, and is excluded from all show grounds during Shows, as an exhibitor, participant, or spectator.

C. EXPULSION from all recognized Shows.

D. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION from membership in the Association.

E. FORFEITURE of trophies, ribbons, and points won in connection with the offense committed.

F. SUSPENSION from office as Steward, Judge, or Show Official.

G. FINE.

H. CENSURE.

I. REMOVAL from office.

## 2300 Show Violations and Penalties

2301 A Host College may be subject to penalty by the ISSRA for violations of the Rules in the conduct of its Show. Violations shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. Failure to:

1. Conduct a Show in accordance with Association Rules.

2. Use standard specifications for classes.
3. Print the Association statement and deadlines on each entry blank (Rule 4404).
4. Secure signature of designated representatives on each entry blank.
5. Provide ambulance on grounds or on call, plus qualified medical personnel as outlined in Rule 4102.B.4.
7. Pay other indebtedness within 30 days.
8. File marked catalogues.
9. Report the disqualification of a person at the show.
10. Present correct patterns for pattern classes.
11. Honor written contract with Judges, Stewards, or other Show Officials and employees.

B. The use of Judges in divisions in which they have not been enrolled without obtaining in advance the required regional permission (See Rule 4202).

C. The use of non-qualified Stewards.

D. The listing of a Judge or Steward in the prize list or catalog before the invitation to serve has been accepted.

E. Permitting persons or institutions not in good standing to participate in any manner.

F. Permitting acts which are improper, intemperate, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, or contrary to the Rules of the Association.

2302 A host college guilty of a violation shall be subject to a penalty, including the following:

A. FINE.

B. PROBATION. A vote of censure shall be listed under the defendant's name in the Secretary's Record of Penalties. If found guilty of a further violation, the defendant shall be liable to a heavier penalty than for a first offense.

C. SUSPENSION for any period from the list of approved Shows.

D. EXPULSION from membership in the Association.

2303 Reciprocity

On receipt of official notice that disciplinary action has been taken by a Humane Society or Court of Law against a person for an act which may be a violation of Association Rules, an officer of this Association may make a charge against such person to his Regional Standards and Ethics Committee and after a hearing of such disciplined person under the provision of the Rules,

may take such action as it deems in its own best interest.

### RULE III

#### Organization and Procedures for Shows and Duties of Show Personnel

##### 3100 Host colleges

3101 Any college in good standing, with approval of the ISSRA may host a regular point show.

3102 Host colleges shall provide suitable facilities, horses, and equipment for all entries, including stirrup leathers for all ~~Hunter~~-Saddle Seat saddles.

3103 Host Colleges may limit entries to any number of riders, which shall be binding on all participating colleges.

##### 3200 Minimum Entry Requirements for Regular member shows and classes

3201 A minimum of three (3) colleges must compete in an official Regular ISSRA show. In cases of inclement weather, for points to count, fifty (50) % of the entered riders or fifty (50) % of the entered colleges must attend.

3202 In order for a show to count, all regular horse show classes for which rules are here in provided, must be offered.

3203 In order for a class to count there must be a minimum of 3 riders in the ring. Riders who have been entered in a lower class unjudged for reclassification will not count toward the minimum of three entries.

3204 If less than 3 entries, class may be run at discretion of committee but points will not count.

##### 3300 Class Routine

3301 All classes for which rules are provided herein must be conducted accordingly. If rules of the ISSRA do not apply to any given situation, the rules of the USEF shall govern.

3302 Care and control of horses including any drugs or medications administered shall be the sole prerogative of the horse provider or their designated representative. Administration of drugs and medications shall be limited to therapeutic use only, and used for the well-being of the horse.



3303 A class in operation at the time of the stopping of a show for any reason shall cease and no placements shall be made.

3304 In the event that a class in which horses compete individually is stopped while in progress, due to storm, accident, or other emergency, the following procedure shall govern:

1. If the class is continued at the same session of the show, it shall proceed from the point at which it was stopped.
2. If the class is continued at a succeeding session of the show, it shall be held over in its entirety and no scores credited in the first session shall count.

3305 If the class in which horses compete together is stopped while in progress due to storm, accident, re-ride or other emergency, the class (or test), when recommenced, shall be held over in its entirety, and no consideration shall be given to the performance during the original session.

3306 If a show is stopped while in progress and is unable to recommence, no points will be awarded for the show.

3310 Small or medium ponies shall not be used in ISSRA shows.

#### 3400 Falls and Eliminations

3401 A rider is considered to have fallen when s/he is separated from their horse that has not fallen, in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle.

3402 A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground or an obstacle on the ground.

3403 Falls will result in elimination.

3406 If an elimination occurs during a ride-off, the contestant shall be placed last of all those chosen for the ride-off.

3407 If the fall is due to the horse being unsuitable or unsafe, the stewards may choose to give the said rider a re-ride. In this case, the class's alternate horse will be used and the class will start over from the said point. Rev. 1/18

#### 3500 Drawing for Horses

3501 Drawings will be by lot from the pool of designated horses. There must be at

least two designated alternates. The draw shall be held at least twenty minutes prior to the start of each class. Announcement of the draw must precede it by at least ten minutes.

### 3600 Re-rides

3601 When through no fault of the rider, a horse performs so poorly that it is impossible to fairly judge the rider's ability, a re-ride may be granted.

3602 With the exception of safety, a coach can not ask for a re-ride during the warm up session.

3603 A re-ride must be requested prior to the lineup in a flat class or the last horse leaves the ring in a pattern class.

3604 Only the coach of the rider involved may request a re-ride.

3605 Although they may confer with show management and the judge, only the show stewards may grant or deny a re-ride.

3606 If a re-ride is granted, it shall be judged as if the first ride never occurred.

3607 If a re-ride is granted in a class in which riders compete individually, the re-ride shall take place after all other rides in that class have been completed.

3608 If a re-ride is granted in a class in which riders compete together the class starts over with no judgment from before the re-ride.

### 3700 Tack and Aids

3701 Use of personal stirrup leathers ~~or saddles~~ may be allowed upon permission of the horse provider. Exhibitor may check the girth but must have horse provider or representative to tighten girth. Change of bridles, curbs, etc by exhibitor or coach is not permitted, **however you may ask handler to make such adjustments (caveson, tongue tie, etc.) rev. 1/18**

### 3702 Use of ~~Whips~~ Artificial Aids

Whips may be carried unless told otherwise by horse provider, **or the horse description states otherwise**. The use of the whip is not to be used prior to entering the warm up ring. One or two disciplinary applications in the event of disobedience are sufficient. Stewards may rule that a rider be disqualified for improper use of a whip. **Spurs shall not be permitted, and riders may be disqualified if they are used.**

3703 A list of aids appropriate to each horse must be posted or accompany each horse. Riders shall comply with the suggested use of aids.

3704 Dress and Headgear

A. It is the tradition of the show ring that riders are correctly attired for the class in question and horses properly presented. A show committee may, at its discretion, bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience.

B. The use of helmets should not be penalized in the judgment of the class.

3800 Awards - Ribbons and Trophies

3801 The Color of ribbons at all shows shall be:

Champion Tri-color: Blue, Red and Yellow

Reserve Champion Tri-color: Red, Yellow and White

1<sup>st</sup>: Blue

2<sup>nd</sup>: Red

3<sup>rd</sup>: Yellow

4<sup>th</sup>: White

5<sup>th</sup>: Pink

6<sup>th</sup>: Green

The Championship Show shall award 8 places. 7<sup>th</sup> shall be purple and 8<sup>th</sup> brown.

3802 A minimum of six ribbons shall be awarded in each class.

3803 Ribbons and trophies shall be furnished by the host school. Trophies shall have a value of \$5 minimum per class and must be provided. Rev. 1/18

3804 Champion and Reserve ribbons shall be awarded to the first and second place teams and Senior and Junior High Point Rider and Reserve High Point Rider at each show.

3805 Awards shall be awarded to the winners of each class, to the Champion College and High Point Rider at each show at the discretion of each region.

3806 In the event of a tie for Champion College, the scores shall stand and the show committee shall rule on the awarding of trophies and ribbons.

## 3900 Personal Conduct of Exhibitors, Coaches, and Show Personnel

### 3901 General

It is expected that exhibitors, spectators, and coaches will behave in a manner that reflects the dignity of the sport. Ill-mannered conduct will not be tolerated; the show management may expel from the grounds any person whose behavior is deemed dishonest, unethical, unsportsmanlike, or detrimental to the health, safety, or well-being of any horse, person, or the Association during the progress of the show.

### 3902 Cruelty

Equestrian sport is made possible by the animals, who serve the rider. This is a sport of grace and elegance, where rider and animal work as a team. There is neither grace nor elegance in an abusive spectacle. It is the responsibility, therefore, of all parties concerned to be aware of the conduct of participants and the condition of the horses; and, if a violation is observed, a report must be made immediately to the stewards.

### 3903 Alcohol

The use or possession of alcohol, or any illegal substance by the exhibitors or coaches is strictly forbidden on the show grounds, and any participant apprehended with such materials will automatically be suspended from the Association.

3904 It is the responsibility of all parties concerned to consider the welfare of the horse. The administration of central nervous system drugs is not supported by the ISSRA. See Rule 4302.

## RULE IV

### Show Officials and Their Duties

#### 4100 Show Officials

4101 The term "show officials" shall include and refer to all persons directly engaged by the show.

4102 Officials and their duties shall include:

- A. Show Chairman, who shall be responsible for the operation of the show.
- B. Show Secretary, who shall be in charge of:

1. Hiring the Judges and officials necessary for the operation of the show.
2. Appointing and identifying in the program three Show Stewards who shall be present throughout the show.
3. Mailing or emailing the prize lists.
4. Providing qualified medical personnel on grounds for all scheduled performances and an ambulance on the show grounds or on call for the entire scheduled performance. Qualified medical personnel is a currently certified or licensed EMT or Paramedic, or a Physician or nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care and currently certified or licensed in their profession. A physician or nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care is a physician or nurse who is currently certified in Advanced Trauma Life Support, Basic Trauma Life Support, Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support, or who has First Responder or comparable certification. It is strongly recommended that EMTs and/or Paramedics be used to fill this position. Medical personnel must not exceed the scope of their practice.
5. Marking the official programs with special regard to scratches, substitutions, additions and other corrections.
6. Checking class sheets against actual riders and numbers.
7. Providing four(4) copies of the program that contain all changes, corrections, scores, scratches, substitutions, and official results.
8. Apply for the show date.
9. Furnish the judges in each class a blank score card containing exact specifications as shown in the rulebook.
10. Provide appropriate badges for Judges and Stewards.
11. Report in writing to the Association within 15 days of the close of the show the name of any exhibitor whose fees are not negotiable.
12. Be responsible for all matters in connection with substitutions.
13. Familiarize the judges with the differences between ISSRA rules and those of the USEF.

#### 4200 Judges

##### 4201 Qualifications

- A. To officiate at an ISSRA show, a person must be a recognized USEF saddleseat equitation or performance judge.
- B. A judge not qualified as stated in A. may be used with prior written and signed consent by the closing date of the horse show of the designated representatives of all colleges participating in said show. If the judge is later protested by a participating college and their designated representative did not sign the consent prior to the show then said show shall be declared invalid and no points won at said show shall count.

- C. A person may judge only one show per region per academic semester.
- D. A judge may not officiate if s/he has had a professional relationship as defined by the USEF rules, but to include clinics with any exhibitor or member college, within 60 days prior to the show.
- E. No ISSRA individual member may show before a judge with whom s/he has had a professional relationship as defined by the USEF rules, but to include clinics, within 60 days prior to the show.

#### 4202 Responsibilities of a Judge

- A. Good judging depends upon a correct observance of the fine points and the selection of the best rider under the conditions of the class. A judge serves three interests: their own conscience, exhibitors, and spectators. S/he should make clear to the audience that the best rider wins. The attention of Judges is directed to the difference in requirements between USEF equitation classes and ISSRA equitation classes. A Judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the ISSRA Rule Book. S/he is expected to be proficient in their Division and to possess a working knowledge of the Rules of the Association.
- B. The decision of each judge constitutes solely their individual preference and not a verdict by the Association.
- C. No one shall approach a Judge with regard to a decision unless s/he first obtains permission from a Steward, who shall arrange an appointment with the Judge at a proper time and place. In order to inspect a judges card, an exhibitor must first obtain show management's permission and be accompanied by their coach.
- D. A Judge may order from the ring any horse or rider whose actions may endanger other exhibitors (See Rule 5103).

#### 4300 Show Stewards

##### 4301 Number required

- A. A Regular Show shall have three (3) qualified stewards.

##### 4302 Qualifications

A. An ISSRA steward may be anyone over 21 who is not an Individual Undergraduate member of the ISSRA or an undergraduate student attending any Member College. It is suggested that team coaches be used.

B. A steward must have a current working knowledge of ISSRA Rules and know the difference between ISSRA competition and that of the USEF.

C. ~~No person may serve as a steward at a show hosted by the institution with which s/he is associated in any manner.~~

#### 4303 Duties and Powers of a Show Steward:

Show Stewards serve to interpret the Rules of the Association.

Stewards' duties include but are not restricted to:

A. Protect the interests of exhibitors, Judges and Show Management.

B. Investigate and act upon any alleged rule violations, without waiting for a protest.

C. Report to the Show Committee any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a protest.

D. Ascertain that all Judges are recognized in the divisions to which assigned.

E. Report to the Show Committee any violation of the Rules and prefer charges against the violator if not otherwise properly handled.

F. Supervise the drawing of horses.

Stewards' powers include but are not restricted to:

A. Permit re-rides, under specific conditions, as agreed upon by the Show and Stable Management.

B. Determine, under extenuating circumstances or extreme unfairness to one or more exhibitors, if a class should be rerun.

C. Determine the suitability of rider to horse, rider to class, and horse to class level.

D. Stop a class in the event a horse or rider should be considered unsafe.

#### 4304 Classification of Riders by Stewards

A. Classification of riders need not be automatic. When classification is unclear, upon submission of biographical information, the show stewards at the rider's first competition may review the rider's ability for proper classification. If rider is reviewed at the higher class and is moved down, all points and ribbons won in the class shall be forfeited. If rider is reviewed in the lower class, they must ride unjudged for that one class. Rider may be evaluated outside the competition day by designated regional representatives. See Rule 1304.

B. The show stewards of the ISSRA will give advice if requested, and shall have the power to reclassify riders who are competing at incorrect levels. All points and ribbons won in such classes shall be forfeited.

#### 4400 Prize List, Entry Blank, and Program

##### 4401 Prize List

A. The prize list shall contain:

1. The name of the Judge.
2. Name and address of Show Manager.
3. The date, location, phone number for the show.
4. Time of registration and start of the show.
5. Closing date of entries.
6. Information about food and entertainment.
7. Amount of entry and other fees. Once distributed, the fees may not be changed for said show.

B. Prize lists must be postmarked not less than two (2) weeks prior to the closing date of entries and must be sent to all colleges.

##### 4402 Entry Blank

A. The entry blank must contain spaces for name, class numbers, and the name of the school.

B. Each entry blank must contain the following statement to be signed by the designated representative of each member institution making entry. Entries under the age of 18 must have the entry form signed by a parent.



\*\*\*\*\*

This entry constitutes an agreement and affirmation that the institution making it, and each of its riders, coaches and trainers shall accept and abide by the rules of the ISSRA and of the Show, that each rider is eligible as entered, that they will accept as final any rulings of the ISSRA with respect to their conduct and each entry agrees to defend and hold the ISSRA, its directors, officials, employees and all persons, stables or other entities providing facilities, horses or equipment for the Show, harmless for any claim, action or suit, for injury, property damage or death sustained during participation in the show by the entity, his or her coach, trainer or visitors.

Furthermore, the institution, riders, coaches, trainers, and/or any affiliate, agent, and/or representative of the foregoing, hereby acknowledge and recognize that competing in an ISSRA event and/or show may result in substantial and serious injury, including, but not limited to, maiming, paralysis, and/or death; that all of the foregoing persons openly and freely accept all of the potential risks associated with participation in an ISSRA event and/or show; and they agree to waive, release, and hold harmless the ISSRA, and/or any members, agent, and/or affiliates of the ISSRA, from any and all actions, causes of action, suits, debts, promises, damages, judgments, claims, and/or demands whatsoever, in law and/or equity, as well as agree to defend and indemnify the ISSRA, its members, agents, and/or affiliates, from any threatened and/or actual liability.

#### 4403 Entries

- A. The acceptance of substitutions is entirely at the discretion of the show committee.
- B. A show may adopt its own policy regarding the refunding of entry fees to an exhibitor who cancels entries after the closing date.
- C. Any violation of financial obligations will result in the institution in question being restricted from future shows until such fees are paid. Show Management may require entries to be paid prior to the first class.
- D. In case of discrepancy between information in the program and that of the entry blank, the entry blank shall take precedence.
- E. It is recommended that all entries received by the closing date be acknowledged by show secretary, including a schedule indicating the classes for each entry.

#### 4404 Programs

Programs shall contain:

- A. Numbers 1- 3, 5 & 7 as listed for Prize List.
- B. A statement of prizes offered for each class.
- C. An alphabetical list of exhibitors by school with their numbers and class sections entered.
- D. The classes listed in order, with a numerical list of exhibitors in each class.
- E. The tentative time schedule of classes.
- F. Names of Show Stewards.

RULE V

Judging Requirements

5100 General

5101 In equitation classes only the rider is being judged; therefore no penalty should be assessed because of the horse's conformation, color or way of going.

5102 Falls, Refusals and Eliminations (See Rule 3400).

5103 Any rider not having their mount under sufficient control shall be removed from the ring and shall be disqualified or remounted at the stewards' discretion.

5104 No attendant shall be allowed in the ring except at the request of the judge or stewards.

5105 If additional tests are desired and appropriate, the Judge's instructions to riders shall be publicly announced. It is suggested that the judge go over these instructions with the announcer to assure mutual understanding of the wording. Judges shall not confer with riders individually during the line-up.

5200 Saddle Seat Equitation - Hands and Seat\*\*\*\*\*

5201 General

Rider should have a workmanlike appearance, seat and hands light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control should any emergency arise.

5202 Mounting and Dismounting

To mount, take up the reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right hand, insert foot in stirrup and mount. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down. The size of the rider must be taken into consideration.

#### 5203 Hands

Hands should be over and in front of the horse's withers, knuckles 30 degrees inside the vertical, hands slightly apart and making a straight line from the horse's mouth to rider's elbow. Method of holding reins is optional between one finger and two finger spread, but all reins must be picked up at the same time.

#### 5204 Basic Position

The eyes should be up and shoulders back. Toes should be at an angle best suited to rider's conformation, ankles flexed, heels down, calf of leg held away from contact with horse and slightly behind girth. Iron should be on ball of foot.

#### 5205 Position in Motion

At the walk, trot and canter body should be vertical. A posting trot should be assumed when the trot is called in ring. Although permissible to ask for canter with horse's body towards the rail once in gait should be straight in motion.

#### 5206 Class Routine

##### A. Pattern Classes

The performance begins when the horse enters the ring with each rider competing one at a time. At the completion of the class riders will enter on their horses (or on foot) to receive the ribbons. Riders will be tested by a set order to be announced by the gate master.

~~A warm up shall be allowed in a designated area as directed by the gate master.~~

Patterns must be posted via e-mail ONE WEEK before the day of the show, and must be an approved workout – either from the UPHA handbook, or from the approved list of patterns.

##### B. Rail Classes

Contestants shall enter ring at a trot and shall proceed at least once around the ring at each appropriate gait and on command, reverse and repeat. The order to reverse may be executed by turning either toward or away from the rail. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required.

Entries shall then line up on command, and any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in class requirements.

A warm up shall be allowed in a designated area as directed by the gate master.

5207            Warm up

A warm up shall be allowed in a designated area as directed by the gate master. Warmup shall not exceed two minutes and shall not commence until all entries have entered the ring, or in the case of a separate warmup area being available, shall not start until all riders have mounted and when the previous class reverses.

With an exception of safety issues, a coach may not ask for a re-ride until behavior is seen in the show ring. Coaches are permitted to adjust stirrups during warm up but not bit or curb corrections unless given permission by horse provider. Gate master will determine when warm up is complete, not coach or rider. If you are done early you can stand in the middle to wait until your class.

5208    Saddle Seat Tests\*\*\*\*\*

A Saddle Seat judge may choose from the following tests. Tests may be performed collectively or individually. Instructions must be publicly announced.

1. Address reins-the process of laying down reins and picking up reins (only in line up).
2. Circle at a trot. When circling clockwise, rider should be on left diagonal; when circling counterclockwise rider should be on right diagonal.
3. Performance on the rail at a walk, trot, or canter using the correct leads and diagonals only.
4. Performance around the ring at a walk, trot, or canter using the correct leads and diagonals only.
5. Feet disengaged from stirrups. Feet engaged. In the line-up only.
6. Change of diagonals on or off the rail. The judge must specify diagonal changes to be executed and the beginning diagonal.
7. Execute serpentine at a trot. A series of left and right half circles off imaginary line where correct diagonals must be shown.
8. Back for not more than eight steps.
9. Figure eight at trot demonstrating change of diagonals. Unless specified, it may be started either facing the center or away from the center. If started facing the center, it must be commenced from a halt.
10. Circle at the canter. When circling clockwise, horse should be on right lead; when circling counterclockwise, horse should be on the left lead.
11. Execute serpentine at a canter.
12. Figure eight at canter. Unless specified, it can be started either facing the center or away from

the center. If started facing the center it must be commenced from a halt. Figures are commenced in center of two circles so that one lead change is shown.

13. Canter a straight line, on or off the rail, with or without demonstrating simple change of lead. The judge must specify lead changes to be executed and the beginning lead.

14. Ride without stirrups for a brief period of time, at any gait requested (for not more than one minute at the trotting phase). Riders may be asked to disengage or engage stirrups at a halt or walk or any gait requested by the judge.

## RULE VI

### Point Requirements and Scoring

6100 Points

6101 General

Points will be counted as follows:

If there are five or more entries in the class, the points will be as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> – 7 points

2<sup>nd</sup> – 5 points

3<sup>rd</sup> – 4 points

4<sup>th</sup> – 3 points

5<sup>th</sup> – 2 points

6<sup>th</sup> – 1 point

FOR END OF THE YEAR PURPOSES ONLY: If there are four or less entries in the class, the individual points will be as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> – 4 points

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3 points

3<sup>rd</sup> – 2 points

4<sup>th</sup> – 1 point

Riders shall not be eligible to win a year-end award in the same division for more than one year. Therefore, once a rider wins a year-end divisional award, they must move up to the next highest division.

6102.                    Procedures

A    Cumulative and aggregate point totals of teams and individuals shall be kept by the ISSRA. Such current scores shall be available to participating schools at each show.

B    The official point records shall determine class advancement of riders, Regional High Point Rider, and Regional High Point Team.

C All points recorded by the ISSRA will become final and not subject to protest at the close of each show season; therefore any adjustments or corrections must be made before the last show of the season.

6200 Individual Point Procedures and Requirements

6201 Riders must advance to the next division when they have acquired 22 points. Points will carry over from year to year until 22 points have been acquired.

6202 If a rider acquires 22 points mid-way through the season, they may continue to compete in the current division, and will not have to move up until the following season, where they will again start out with zero points.

6203 Upon qualifying out of a class, a rider will be considered in the next higher class whether s/he has actually competed in that class or not.

6300 High Point Teams and Riders for Regular Shows

6301 Point Requirements for High Point Riders

A. Champion and Reserve High Point Riders shall be determined by totaling the points earned at each show. Riders in Walk and Trot, Beginner WTC, and Intermediate WTC will be eligible for the Junior High Point division and those in classes Novice, Advanced, Open Limit and Open will be eligible for the Senior High Point division. Points are a summation of the total points in the rail and pattern class combined.

B. In the event of a tie, all tied riders will ride off in a separate class, and the Champion and Reserve shall be the two riders placing first and second. A ride-off is at the judges' discretion, and may include rail work, working one or both directions of the ring, or any series of tests appropriate for their level of riding. For the Junior division, if a walk and trot rider is in the ride-off only those gaits may be called for. ~~Ties for Reserve shall also be ridden off.~~

6302 Point Requirements for High Point Teams

A. Each College will designate a maximum of 8 riders, one from each class, to compete for points toward the Team Championship.

B. Champion and Reserve teams shall be determined by totaling the scores of the designated

point riders from each team.

- C. Only one rider may be selected from each class (A or B in divided classes).
- D. Point riders must be registered with the score keeper or secretary prior to the first draw.  
Teams who fail to register point riders prior to the first draw shall have the first eligible riders listed in the program in the class list designated by the show as point riders.
- E. In the case of a tie for the team championship of a regular show, teams shall remain tied.  
Distribution of ribbons will be at the discretion of the show.
- F. If an ineligible rider is used as a team point rider, the team will lose that score and one more score will be dropped, regardless of the size of the team. The score to be dropped will be the lowest score greater than zero.
- G. Each school may drop one low score for rail and pattern classes.

## RULE VII

### Format Description and Definitions of Saddle Seat Classes

#### 7100 Eligibility for Classes

#### 7101 Definitions

##### A. Recognized competitions

A recognized competition is any sanctioned by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF); or breed recognized shows (Arabian, Morgan, etc) 4-H state and regional competitions are not considered recognized.

##### B. Instruction

Any number of lessons taken within a week (Monday-Sunday) constitutes a week a week of instruction.

##### C. Saddle Seat Equitation Classes

A saddle seat equitation class is any class that is judged on saddle seat equitation specifically.

##### D. International Competition

Riders who are entering the ISSRA with only International experience will need to use the ribbons won from competitions that are recognized/sanctioned by that country's governing body.

#### E. Academic Year

Although many colleges use a trimester or quarterly system, for ISSRA purposes, an Academic Year is any two consecutive semesters.

### 7102 Specifications for Placement of New Riders

#### A. Saddle Seat Riders

##### Class 1 – Open Saddleseat Equitation

Open riders are those who have shown in equitation saddleseat classes in a recognized competition having won more than 3 blue ribbons in equitation. (refer to the above description of “recognized” competitions)

##### Class 2 – Open Limit Equitation

Open limit riders are those who have shown in equitation saddleseat classes in a recognized competition who have won less than three blue ribbons in equitation.

##### Class 3 – Open Equitation Pattern

Required for all riders in both class 1 open equitation and class 2 open limit equitation.

##### Class 4 + 5 – Advance Saddleseat Equitation / Pattern Class

Advance riders are those who have won more than five blue ribbons in recognized or county fairs in any saddleseat performance classes.

##### Class 6 + 7 – Novice Walk Trot Canter Saddleseat Equitation / Pattern Class

Novice riders are those who are showing in saddleseat performance classes in horse shows wearing a full suit (any division at any horse show, with the exception of 4H and non-trotting breeds).

##### Class 8 + 9: Intermediate Walk Trot Canter Saddleseat Equitation Class / Pattern Class

Riders that have shown in academy classes at the canter.

##### Class 10: Beginner Walk Trot Canter Saddleseat Equitation Class

Beginner riders are those just learning how to canter, and have never shown at a canter in any horse show in any discipline. Not eligible if you have ridden for more than four years in any discipline.



Class 11 – Walk Trot Canter Equitation Pattern

Open to all riders in Class 10 Beginning walk trot canter. Not required.

Class 12 – Walk Trot Saddleseat Equitation

Walk Trot riders are those with little riding experience on a trotting type horse.

Class 13 – Walk Trot Equitation Pattern

Open to all riders in Class 12 walk trot. Not required.

The ISSRA Coaches/Team Captains met tonight and added a few new rules and classes to the class list. This year the following will be effective beginning October 1, 2009:

Open Saddle Seat Equitation will be split into two divisions:

Open Saddle Seat Equitation-Limited will be for riders who have won 3 or less blue ribbons in equitation at a USEF recognized show.

Open Saddle Seat Equitation will be for riders who have won 4 or more blue ribbons in equitation at a USEF recognized show.

The Pattern class for the Open Limited and Open Equitation will be combined.

There will be an optional pattern class for riders in Beginner WT Equitation and ~~Beginner WTC Equitation~~. The pattern will include walking and trotting only.

There will be high point rider awards for 2 - Junior Division (including those showing in Beginner WT and Beginner WTC ) and Senior Division (including riders showing in Novice through Open level)

There will be an ISSRA Championship Horse Show. ~~In order to compete in the Championship Show, riders must have shown in at least 4 horse shows for the current academic year.~~ Rev. 2009 Rev. 1/18

7103 Riders may continue to compete in their divisions until their eligibility is up, unless moved up by their coach.

7200 Saddle Seat Equitation

7201 Classes

A. Regular Point Shows must include the following classes:

1. Open Equitation
2. Open Limit Equitation
3. Open Pattern
4. Advanced Equitation
5. Advanced Pattern
6. Novice Equitation
7. Novice Pattern
8. Intermediate Walk Trot Canter
9. Intermediate Pattern
10. Beginner Walk Trot Canter
11. Beginner Walk Trot Canter Pattern
12. Walk and Trot Equitation
13. Walk and Trot Pattern
14. Alumni Equitation (if entries warrant)
15. Alumni Pattern (if entries warrant)

Shows may hold additional testing for ties in high point rider at completion of the show.

Appropriate tests for classes:

Open Pattern – Tests 1-14

Advanced Pattern – Tests 1-14

Novice Pattern – Tests 1-12

Intermediate Pattern – Tests 1-10

Beginner Walk Trot Canter Pattern – Tests 1-10

Walk and Trot Pattern – Tests 1-9 (trotting elements only)

Alumni Pattern – same as novice