



Virginia Horse Shows Association, Inc. Rule 14 - Medal Finals Specifications

The Finals will be offered when there is a minimum of four riders qualified. The Judge or Judges will be provided by the Association. The winner of these competitions will receive the VHSA Award at the Annual Meeting. Previous Medal Final Winners are allowed to continue to compete in the same Medal in future qualifying classes and Medal Finals. To qualify for the VHSA Medals and Flat the top twenty point accruals based on a 10-6-4-2-1-.5 multiplied by the number of entries in the class point system will be chosen. However, two blue ribbons will be an automatic qualification. Points to be scored 10-6-4-2-1-.5 multiplied by the number of entries in the class regardless of classification of the show. All Equitation on the Flat Class riders must show all working gaits (walk, trot, and canter) in both directions as well as lengthening of stride at all working gaits in each direction. The sitting trot should be a working sitting trot. The judge must request additional tests on the flat as a group or individually. Regulation snaffles, pelhams, and full bridles, all with cavesson nosebands are permitted. A judge at their discretion may penalize unconventional bits or nosebands. Martingales are prohibited.

(d) VHSA PONY MEDAL CLASS. Finalists will be requested to ride over a hunter course of not less than 8 jumps; 2'3" for ponies not exceeding 12.2 hands, 2'6" for ponies over 12.2 hands and not exceeding 13.2 hands, and ponies over 13.2 hands not exceeding 14.2 hands jump 3'. Jumping faults of mount not to count. Fall of pony or rider or two disobediences shall eliminate the finalist. No less than four riders will return for additional testing from VHSA tests 1-14.

(e) VHSA PONY EQUITATION ON THE FLAT. Finalists must show all working gaits (walk, trot, and canter) in both directions as well as lengthening of stride at all working gaits in each direction. The sitting trot should be a working sitting trot. The judge must request additional tests on the flat as a group or individually. Regulation snaffles, pelhams, and full bridles, all with cavesson nosebands are permitted. A judge at their discretion may penalize unconventional bits or nosebands. Martingales are prohibited.

(f) VHSA CHILDREN'S PONY MEDAL CLASS. Finalists will be requested to ride over a hunter course of not less than 8 jumps; Small and medium ponies to jump 2'0. Large ponies to jump 2'6". Riders may not compete in any class where the fence height exceeds 2'6" at the same show. Jumping faults of mount not to count. Fall of pony or rider or two disobediences shall eliminate the finalist. No less than four riders will return for additional testing from VHSA tests 1-14.

Sec. 6. Tests from which Judges Must Choose. No other tests may be used. Tests may be performed either collectively or individually. Instructions must be publicly announced. No over fence testing for the Flat Phase.

- (1) Work collectively at a walk, trot or canter.
- (2) Jump obstacles on figure eight course.
- (3) Jump low fences at a trot as well as at a canter. The maximum height and spread for a trotting fence is 3' for horses and 2' for ponies.
- (4) Figure eight at canter on correct lead, demonstrating simple change of lead. (This is a change whereby the horse is brought back into a walk or trot and restarted into a canter on the opposite lead.)

Figures to be commenced in the center of two circles so that one change of lead is shown.

- (5) Counter canter a jump
- (6) Ride without stirrups, irons may be crossed.
- (7) Change leads on a line demonstrating simple or flying change of lead.
- (8) Question(s) regarding basic horsemanship, tack and equipment and conformation.
- (9) Execute serpentine at trot and/or canter on correct lead demonstrating simple or flying changes of lead.
- (10) Figure eight at canter on correct lead demonstrating flying change of lead.
- (11) Hand gallop a jump
- (12) Hand gallop.
- (13) Halt (four to six seconds) and/or back.
- (14) Sitting Trot