

**Massachusetts Quarter Horse Youth Association
Amanda Putney Memorial Show**

1. All exhibitors shall be responsible for a thorough knowledge of and compliance with the Amanda Putney Memorial Show rules. Situations not specifically covered by these rules shall be handled by the show officials/committee in a manner that most closely follows the spirit of these rules, and refer to the AQHA handbook.
2. Presentation of a signed entry form shall be deemed acceptance of these rules and in the event of failure to sign the entry, the first entry into the show ring shall be deemed acceptance of said rules.
3. Exhibitors in all classes shall be neatly attired in clothing and with equipment appropriate to the class in which they are exhibiting. Refer below for more detail. At the discretion of the show officials/committee special exceptions may be granted.

A. Hunt Seat Appointment

- a. **Personal Appointments:** Conservative hunt coats is preferred, (if a hunt coat is not available to you, you must wear a long sleeved button down shirt) jodhpurs or breeches in traditional shades, high English boots or Jodhpur shoes. Dark blue, brown or black hunt cap or black or brown derby is mandatory. **All youth Walk Trot and Leadline exhibitors shall be required to wear protective headgear whenever mounted on the show grounds. Helmets passing or surpassing ASTM/SEI standards are mandatory.** Stock, tie or choker is required. Hair must be neat and contained (as in a net or braid). Judges must penalize exhibitors who do not conform.
- b. **Tack Appointments:** English-style bit (snaffle, pelham, kimberwick and/or full bridle) with cavesson nosebands and plain leather browbands. All bits shall conform to the specifications of the AQHA rule book. Saddles to be of the hunt or forward seat type with or without knee rolls. No cutback saddles.
- c. **Optional Appointments:** Protective headgear, Unrowelled spurs, crops, bats, gloves, English breastplate and braiding of mane and tail in hunt style are all optional.
- d. **Prohibited Appointments:** Boots of any description on the equine, leg wrappings (except in game classes), rowelled spurs, draw reins, flash nosebands, figure eight nosebands, dropped nosebands and martingales in classes not required to jump.

B. Saddle Seat Appointment

- a. **Personal Appointments:** Coats of conservative color with matching jodhpurs is preferred (if a coat is not available to you, you must wear a long sleeved button down shirt), derby or soft hat and Jodhpur boots. **All youth Walk Trot and Leadline exhibitors shall be required to wear protective headgear whenever mounted on the show grounds. Helmets passing or surpassing ASTM/SEI standards are mandatory.** Judges must penalize exhibitors who do not conform.
- b. **Tack Appointments:** Entries shall be shown in full bridles (curb and snaffle) or pelham bit and flat English-style saddles. All bits shall conform to the specifications of the AHSA rule book.
- c. **Optional Appointments:** Protective headgear, Unrowelled spurs, gloves, whips or crops are optional.
- d. **Prohibited Appointments:** Forward seat saddles, martingales or similar tiedowns, draw reins, boots or chains on the legs of the equine.

C. Western Appointments

- a. **Personal Appointments:** Western boots, Western hat and long-sleeved, button down shirt with collar. **All youth Walk Trot and Leadline exhibitors shall be required to wear protective headgear whenever mounted on the show grounds. Helmets passing or surpassing ASTM/SEI standards are mandatory.** Hair must be neat and contained (as in a net or braid). Judges must penalize exhibitors who do not conform.
- b. **Tack Appointments:** Western stock saddle that must be clean, in good repair, and properly fitted to both horse and rider. Silver not to count over a good working outfit. Romals or split reins may be used; but if romals are used, hobbles must be carried. All western bits shall conform to the specifications of the AQHA rule book. Snaffle bits may be used on horses 5 years and under. All bits shall conform to the specifications of the AQHA rule book. Snaffle bits may have a curb strap (leather or nylon). Reins to be attached above the curb strap. Two-handed reining, snaffle bits and bosals will be permitted only on horses five years and under. Curb chains must be at least one-half inch wide and lie flat against the jaws of the horse.
- c. **Optional Appointments:** Protective headgear, Gloves, spurs and chaps are optional.
- d. **Prohibited Appointments:** Tapaderas, mechanical hackamores, cavesson-type nosebands, martingales and tiedowns except where otherwise stated in specific class rules. Bosals prohibited except on horses five years and under.

4. Exhibitors shall be responsible for any errors on entry forms.

5. The show management reserves the right to decline any entry or to return the entry before or during the show without being liable for compensation.
6. Proof of a negative Coggins test & Rabies vaccine will be required from all exhibitors in compliance with the state requirements for the state where the show is being held.
7. The ring steward must stay a reasonable distance from the Judge and must not in any way attempt to influence the judging. He/She should take great care to avoid influencing or to give the appearance of influencing the Judge in his duties. Questions directed to him/her by the Judge should be answered with great tact where the answer might sway the Judge's decision.
8. After the ring steward determines that the class is complete and/or the gate is closed, no other horse may then enter the ring and be judged.
9. Classes may be added and/or scratched with the show office or gate keeper. If you do not officially scratch the class at least 2 classes before the class you will be charged for that class.
10. If an exhibitor or his representative wishes to speak with the Judge, he must do so with permission of the show office and in the presence of the ring steward. Exhibitors may not speak with the Judge pertaining to their performances until they have completed their last class of the day; but they may view the Judge's cards for their previous classes with the Judge's permission.
11. Exhibitors shall be allowed a three-minute tack change if necessary. The show office must be notified of all tack changes in advance.
12. No unauthorized person shall be allowed in the show arena during times of judging, performance or preparation for same except in emergency.
13. For purposes of showing, an exhibitor's age as of January 1st shall be considered as his/her age for the show season. A youth exhibitor is an exhibitor 18 years of age and under. An adult exhibitor is 19 years of age and over.
14. A rider is allowed to ride more than one horse in any event that works as an individual.
15. Any indebtedness to, MassQHA whether by NSF check or nonpayment may result in loss of all MassQHA points for yearend awards and such person and/or any equine in his ownership shall be barred from further participation in MassQHA competitions until and unless the debt, including any related fees, has been settled with cash, a bank check or money order. In addition, you may be asked to pay cash for any future participation at MassQHA events for the remainder of the show season. Any exhibitor stopping payment on a check to MassQHA may lose their membership and/or may be barred from any future MassQHA event(s).
16. Stallions must be housed on a trailer if left unattended on the show grounds. Stallions shall not be shown by nor be in the personal care of youth exhibitors. If a stallion is showing unruly behavior it will be asked to leave the show grounds at the discretion of show officials/committee and forfeit all show fees.
17. Show management requires that all dogs in and around the show grounds be on a leash at all times and to be held firmly in hand or firmly attached to truck or trailer. The Show Committee reserves the right to remove from the show grounds and/or prohibit from future competitions any dog deemed to be a nuisance.
18. No gait faster than a brisk walk/slow jog is permitted in the immediate area around the show ring, spectator area, vendor area, or show office
19. Any equine that tends to kick shall wear a red ribbon in its tail.
20. Any class may be combined or divided at the discretion of the show management.
21. The Judge's decision is final.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONDUCT

22. Cruelty to or the abuse of an equine by any person at this show is forbidden. The Judge and/or show management has the authority to dismiss from the class or show any exhibitor for cruelty to or abuse of an equine. Further disciplinary action will be referred to the show officials/committee

23. Any un-sportsman like conduct by an owner and/or exhibitor shall jeopardize their right to further exhibit in the show. At any time, the Judge and/or show committee may issue a first warning to any exhibitor and/or owner for un-sportsman like conduct. Upon failure to comply with this warning, the exhibitor and/or owner will be disqualified from further classes in the show without return of any fees paid. These rules will be strictly enforced.
24. No awards will be given to any exhibitor and/or owner disqualified from a show for un-sportsman like conduct.
25. Open disrespect for the Judge and/or show management will result in disqualification.

DISQUALIFICATIONS – all discrepancies will refer to the current AQHA handbook and will be used where possible

26. Use of prohibited appointments is cause for disqualification. Prohibited appointments include but shall not be limited to mechanical hackamores, hackamore bits, running or standing martingales, tie downs, choke ropes, draw reins, (except on equine in speed events) bosals (except on equines five years and under), cavesson-type nosebands in Western classes and tapaderas.
27. A dropped noseband is prohibited in all English flat classes. A dropped noseband is interpreted as a cavesson and/or noseband, which is fastened below the bit (Flash and figure eight nosebands are considered this type of noseband).
28. Any artificial appliance shall be prohibited in all classes. An artificial appliance shall be defined as wired ears, nerved/nicked tails, the use of chains or rattlers on the legs and any medication, including ginger.
29. Lack of required appointments in any class or division specifying appointments will be cause for disqualification.
30. If either the equine or rider becomes injured or ill and cannot continue the class after the entry has entered the arena, the entry will be disqualified.
31. Riders not dressed in appropriate attire according to the rules of a particular class or division will be disqualified. Refer to appointment section.
32. Entrants shall be disqualified for failing to follow the Judge's instructions.
33. The Judge and/or show management shall have the authority to dismiss any entry from the arena if the entry is not under sufficient control.
34. A fall shall be considered a disqualification. A rider is considered to have fallen when he is separated from his/her equine in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle. An equine is considered to have fallen when shoulder and haunch on the same side touch the ground or the obstacle and the ground.
35. All exhibitors' numbers must be clearly visible when they enter the ring and at all times when in competition. Any exhibitor entering the ring without a number or an incorrect number will automatically be disqualified regardless of Judge's decision.
36. A Judge and/or show committee/management person may order any person or equine from competition for bad conduct of one or both or may disqualify any exhibitor for abuse of the equine.
37. Any exhibitor who is assisted by an unauthorized person inside the show ring or arena will be disqualified.

DIVISIONS -

ADULT DIVISION - All exhibitors in this division shall be 19 years of age and over.

LEADLINE DIVISION - Riders in this division shall be 8 years of age and under, Horses or ponies may be used. Appointments shall be as specified for the seat being ridden with the exception that protective headgear shall be required whenever mounted and no rider shall be discriminated against for the use of hard hat or helmet. Lariats prohibited for western riders. Saddle should be properly fitted to both the horse/pony and rider. No exhibitor shall be tied, buckled or fastened in the saddle in any manner. Feet must be placed in properly fitted stirrups. A lead shank at least six feet long shall be

attached to a halter that is under the bridle so that while the rider is on the rail, the horse/pony is controlled by the handler. Handlers must be at least 14 years of age or older. Fall of horse or pony and/or rider shall result in disqualification. All leadline riders shall be led while mounted on the show grounds

WALK-TROT DIVISION – Riders in this division may not have ever ridden in ANY class requiring a canter or lope and are not eligible for any such class at the same show in which they compete in this division. Open to horses and ponies, English and Western. Riders shall enter the appropriate aged class. Appointments shall be as specified for the seat being ridden with the exception that protective headgear shall be required whenever mounted and no rider shall be discriminated against or the use of hard hat or helmet. Exhibitors in this division shall refrain from cantering at any time on the show grounds. Walk Trot is for beginner riders ONLY!

YOUTH DIVISION - Exhibitors in this division shall be 18 years of age and under as of January 1 of current year. Open to horses and ponies, English or Western. No stallions. Classes in this division may be divided according to age: 13 and under years of age and 14 through 18 years of age. All appointments in this division shall be in accordance with the seat being ridden.

GREEN HORSE - classes are for beginner horses with less than 2 years showing experience - This class is limited to equines in their first or second year under saddle. Equine will show at the walk, trot/jog and may be asked to at the show management's discretion canter/lope. The class may be split for the canter or lope at the judge's discretion. Equines will show at both ways of the ring. Equine in the Green horse division may not show in any other division.

CLASS DISCRPTIONS -

Open Halter: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, STOCK SEAT

Description: This class is open to all horses, Western horses to be shown in halter. English horses to be shown in a suitable halter or bridle. Handler must be dressed in accordance with the tack being used. Equine shall enter the ring show at a walk & trot/jog around cone and be lined up at the discretion of the Judge. Entries shall be judged individually standing. Exhibitor shall not be penalized for touching or moving a horse's leg with their hands. To be handled and shown by one person only. Unruly or ill-mannered horses may be excused from the ring. Entries shall be judged on confirmation, type, soundness, quality, action and substance.

Showmanship: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, WESTERN

Description - Entries shall be judged on the exhibitor's ability to train, groom and present an equine for consideration of the Judge. All leading shall be done from the near side and all turns shall be made to the right with the exhibitor moving around the horse. Unruly or ill-mannered horses will be excused from the ring.

Fancy clothing or tack not to count over a clean, good working outfit. Western horses shall be shown in a halter; English horses shall be shown in an appropriate halter or bridle. Chaps or spurs shall not be worn by Western exhibitors. THIS IS NOT TO BE JUDGED AS A FITTING AND SHOWING CLASS!

English Equitation: Appointments - HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT

Description - In this class, the rider is being judged. Tests may be asked to determine the rider's equitation. Tests may be performed individually or collectively. Shall be judged at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Incorrect diagonals and leads shall be penalized unless asked for by the Judge.

Western Horsemanship: Appointments: WESTERN

Description - In this class, the rider is being judged. Tests may be asked to determine the rider's equitation. Tests may be performed individually or collectively. Shall be judged at the walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring. Incorrect leads shall be penalized unless asked for by the Judge.

English Pleasure: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT

Description - This class will be judged on the performance of the horse as a pleasure animal. Excessive speed and wrong leads shall be penalized. Horses to be shown and the walk, trot and canter with light contact on the horse's mouth. Horses may be required to reverse at the walk or trot at the discretion of the Judge; but shall not be asked to reverse at the canter. The Judge may ask for additional work of the same nature from any horse or horses. Loose reins shall be on command of the Judge only and shall be without loss of contact.

Western Pleasure: Appointments: WESTERN

Description - This class will be judged on the performance of the horse as a pleasure animal. Excessive speed and wrong leads shall be penalized. Horses to be shown and the walk, jog and lope both ways of the ring on a reasonably loose rein without loss of control. Horses may be required to reverse at the walk or jog at the discretion of the Judge; but shall not be asked to reverse at the lope. The Judge may ask for additional work of the same nature from any horse or horses.

Trail: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, WESTERN

Description - All entries in this division shall be asked to travel over or through obstacles that might reasonably be encountered on the trail. Maybe be asked to canter/lope. Equine shall be allowed to enter both English and Western classes; but one horse may not enter a particular trail class more than once, regardless of change of rider. The gait between obstacles shall be at the discretion of the show committee. Entries shall be judged on performance over obstacles, manners and attitude and over all appearance. The exhibitor will be allowed a maximum of three (3) refusals at any given obstacle.

Leadline Equitation: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, WESTERN

Description - The rider shall be judged on hand, seat and back position. Shall be shown collectively at a walk and individually at a trot/jog at the direction of the Judge. If the judge asks the rider to back in line, the leader shall not aid the rider.

Leadline Pleasure: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, WESTERN

Description - To be shown at a walk and trot/jog both ways of the ring. To be judged on performance, manners quality and confirmation. Must back readily and stand quietly. May be asked to reverse at the walk and trot/jog. Emphasis to be on the suitability of the rider/equine.

Leadline Trail: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, WESTERN

Description - Exhibitors shall be led at a walk or trot/jog over a series of obstacles equal to the rider's level of ability. No jumps allowed. May be asked to dismount; but may not be asked to mount. Suitability of mount for riding by a beginner shall be paramount. Shall be judged on manners, steadiness and ability to give a safe and comfortable ride over uneven terrain and obstacles.

Walk-Trot English Pleasure: Appointments: HUNTER SEAT, SADDLE SEAT

Description - This class will be judged on the performance of the equine as a pleasure animal. Excessive speed shall be penalized. Equines to be shown at a walk and trot with a light contact on the equine's mouth. Equines may be required to reverse at the walk or trot at the discretion of the Judge. The Judge may ask for additional work of the same nature from any equine or equines. Loose rein shall be on command of the Judge only and shall be without loss of contact.

Walk-Trot Western Pleasure: Appointments: STOCK SEAT

Description - This class will be judged on the performance of the equine as a pleasure animal. Excessive speed shall be penalized. Equines to be shown at a walk and jog with a light contact on the equine's mouth. Equines may be required to reverse at the walk or jog at the discretion of the Judge. The Judge may ask for additional work of the same nature from any equine or equines. Loose rein shall be on command of the Judge only and shall be without loss.

Walk-Trot English Equitation: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT

Description - In this class, the rider is being judged. Tests may be asked to determine the rider's equitation. Tests may be performed individually or collectively. Shall be judged at the walk and trot both ways of the ring. Incorrect diagonals shall be penalized unless asked for by the judge.

Walk-Trot Western Horsemanship: Appointments: WESTERN

Description - In this class, the rider is being judged. Tests may be asked to determine the rider's equitation. Tests may be performed individually or collectively. Shall be judged at the walk and jog both ways of the ring.

Walk-Trot Trail: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT, WESTERN

Description: Suitability of mount for riding by a beginner shall be paramount. Manners, steadiness and the ability to give a safe and comfortable ride over uneven terrain and/or obstacles shall be judged. Western riders shall not carry a lariat; all other trail rules shall apply. To be judged 50% on performance over obstacles and 50% on manners and attitude.

Road Hack: Appointments: HUNT SEAT, SADDLE SEAT

Description - Open to English horses only. To be shown on a reasonably loose rein without loss of contact at a flat-footed walk, trot, extended trot, canter and hand gallop. Not more than eight horses to hand gallop at one time. Excessive speed at the hand gallop to be penalized. Shall stand quietly and back readily. The road hack horse should be obedient, consistent and easy to handle. Scoring the horse's performance shall be based on the ability to extend the trot by actually lengthening the stride rather than just moving on with more speed and the smoothness of the horse's overall performance. Shall be judged on performance, substance and manners.

Command Class: Appointments: Shirt, Long Pants, & Boots

Description - Elimination class based on the ability of the equine and rider to perform commands immediately as specified by the Judge. No individual performance required. May be required to canter/lope

Egg & Spoon: Appointments: Shirt, Long Pants, & Boots

Description - Exhibitors shall ride at the direction of the Judge and will be disqualified for dropping their eggs, for not performing the requested gait, not moving out when asked or for holding the egg with the fingers or thumb. Hand must be at least one inch from the bowl of the spoon. Riders will be placed by process of elimination; no individual performance will be required. May be required to canter/lope

Sit a Buck: Appointments: Shirt, Long Pants, & Boots

Description - Exhibitors shall ride at the direction of the Judge and will be disqualified for dropping their eggs, for not performing the requested gait, not moving out when asked or for holding the egg with the fingers or thumb. Hand must be at least one inch from the bowl of the spoon. Riders will be placed by process of elimination; no individual performance will be required. May be required to canter/lope

Barrel Racing: Exhibitors race against the clock, following a course consisting of three barrels in a triangular "cloverleaf" pattern. Contestants must choose either the right or left barrel, circle it, and go to the next barrel, completing the course after circling the third barrel and running home. Barrel racing is a timed event. The contestant is allowed a running start. Knocking over a barrel carries a five-second penalty. Failure to follow the course shall cause disqualification. A contestant may touch the barrel with his or her hands in barrel racing. A whip may not exceed two feet in length. The judge must disqualify any contestant for excessive use of a whip, rope, crop, bat or reins anywhere on the horse. Timing shall begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose passes over the finish line.

Stake Race: Stake race is a timed event consisting of markers set on either side of a center line. Contestants are given a running start to complete a figure 8 pattern. They must cross the center line between upright markers, head to either the right or left of the first pole, make a 180 degree turn, head to the second pole, turn around it in the opposite direction and then to the center line to stop the clock. The contestant is allowed a running start and may begin his run from either the left or right side of the first pole. If an upright marker or pole is knocked down, it shall result in no time. If the original course is altered by a rider intentionally grasping a pole, a five-second penalty for each pole grasped will be assessed. All horses must start from same end of arena. Failure to cross the start and finish line between the markers shall result in no time. Failure to cross over the center line between the markers before turning the second pole and cross back over the center line after turning the second pole, shall result in no time. A whip may not exceed two feet in length. The judge must disqualify any contestant for excessive use of a whip, rope, crop, bat or reins anywhere on the horse. Timing shall begin as soon as the horse's nose reaches the starting line and will be stopped when the horse's nose passes over the finish line.

Pole Bending: This timed event consists of a series of six poles spaced 21 feet apart, which horses and riders weave through at a high rate of speed. Each contestant will begin from a running start, and time shall begin and end as the horse's nose crosses the line. A clearly visible starting line must be provided. A horse may start either to the right or to the left of the first pole and then run the remainder of the pattern accordingly. Knocking over a pole shall carry a five-second penalty. Failure to follow the course shall cause disqualification. A contestant may touch a pole with his or her hand in pole bending. If the original course is altered by a rider intentionally grasping a pole, a five-second penalty for each pole grasped will be assessed. A whip may not exceed two feet in length. The judge must disqualify any contestant for excessive use of a whip, rope, crop, bat or reins anywhere on the horse. The pole bending pattern is to be run around six poles.