

What is Trail (English, Western, and In-Hand)?

The Trail Horse Class is the performance of a safe, sensible, well-mannered horse over a course of obstacles. Competitors will be given their pattern at the show. At least six obstacles will be used, three of which will be mandatory (Gate, backing obstacle, and logs or poles) and at least three others selected from the approved list (e.g., Optional Obstacles may include: Serpentine obstacles, rubber stall mats, wooden bridge, carrying an object from one part of arena to another, side pass over poles, 360 turns within a square, etc.).

In Hand Trail is performed with the horse in hand. Suitable halter (Leather preferred) to be used with leather lead (with or without a chain) to be used. If a chain is used with the lead it must not be run through the horse's mouth or over the horse's nose. No crop, whip, chaps, chinks or spurs allowed. Judges should consider the overall appearance of the horse, conditioning, grooming, and the equipment in the overall score. Also to be considered is the correctness of the horse while being led. For safety reasons, those handlers continuously holding the chain on the lead, tightly coiling the lead shank around the hand, or dragging the lead shank must be penalized. Patterns will include a walk and jog of suitable duration to determine the way of going.

English Trail is performed in English tack while Western Trail is performed in Western tack. In both, the gait between the obstacles shall be at the discretion of the judge but horses are required to show the three gaits (walk, jog/trot and lope/canter) somewhere between obstacles (except in the walk/trot class) as a part of its work and will be scored as a maneuvers. A flying lead change cannot be required, but it can be optional.

Scoring will be on the basis of 0 - infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. Each obstacle will be scored from +1 1/2 to minus 1 1/2. Obstacle scores are to be determined and assessed independently of penalty points (e.g., blatant disobedience, refusal, etc.). Failure to follow the course shall cause elimination. Failure to complete each maneuver shall not be elimination, but is penalized.



The amateur and junior (horse and rider) Trail classes at the PAWWSHA Beat the Heat show will be beginner friendly!

Join us at our Beat the Heat Show July 14th & 15th, 2018 in Melville, SK to give Trail a try!

Our goal at the PAWWSHA Beat the Heat show is for everyone to have fun and try something new! Other classes offered include Sport Horse in Hand, Western and English Dressage, Western Suitability Halter, Western Horsemanship, Ranch Riding, Reining, Western Riding, Sport Horse Under Saddle, Sport Horse Show Hack, and English Equitation.

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