

PNWIC RULE BOOK 2022

PNWIC
Pacific Northwest Invitational Championship



OHSET/WAHSET Rules will be followed in all events. Where the rules differ, the following clarifications will be used. Rules that are the same in both states are not repeated here. This resource is intended to complement and clarify the existing rules of each association and define what will be used at the PNWIC competition. Between WAHSET and OHSET rule books when there is a conflicting rule, the most challenging rule will be used and is clarified in this document.

Table of Contents

Eligibility	3
Athlete Uniform	3
Cattle Events	3
Dressage	4
Drill Team	5
Driving	5
Hunt Seat Equitation & Trail Hunt Seat	6
Hunt Seat Over Fences	6
In Hand Obstacle Relay	6
Trail In Hand	7
Reining	7
Saddle Seat Equitation & Trail Saddle Seat	8
Showmanship	8
Timed Events	8
Western Horsemanship/Stock Seat Equitation & Trail Western	10
Working Pairs	10
Working Rancher	11
Team Versatility	11

Eligibility

1. Event eligibility to be determined by the rules of the state represented by the athlete.
 - a. Athletes must have competed at the respective state competition.
 - b. Athletes must have placed in the top 5.
 - c. Alternates may be selected down to the 3rd alternate.
 - i. Alternate pool will not pass number 3.

Athlete Uniform

1. Helmets
 - a. All athletes MUST wear an ASTM/SEI helmet, properly adjusted according to manufacturer's instructions.
 - i. The helmet must maintain the proper adjustment throughout the entire event.
 - ii. Manufacturer installed elements such as rhinestones are allowed.
2. Polo Shirt
 - a. Upon entering the arena for an event the athlete must wear a solid colored polo shirt with collar, long sleeves rolled down and shirt tucked in as part of the required uniform.
 - b. One solid color, long sleeve polo shirt.
 - c. Should be clean and in good repair (no rips, tears or holes)
 - d. Sponsor logos are permitted.
 - e. Athletes may wear a garment under the polo, but it may not cover any part of the polo, this includes the collar.
3. Pants
 - a. Pants must be worn on the outside of boots for performance classes.
 - b. Pants may be tucked into boots in Daubing, Break Away Roping, Sorting, Team Penning and timed events.
4. Boots
 - a. Appropriately corresponding boots for the style of riding and tack used.
 - i. Boots must have a definite heel - no ramps are allowed.
5. Disqualifications
 - a. If an athlete enters the arena with missing required equipment, illegal equipment, or illegal use of permitted equipment, including uniform violation, not considered to be unsafe, the athlete will be allowed to continue the course and receive scores and comments, but will be disqualified from the event.
 - b. Obvious lameness or unsoundness detected in participation equine will result in disqualification.

Cattle Events

Breakaway Roping
Steer Daubing
Team Penning/2 man Team Sorting

1. Equipment for Cattle Events
 - a. Throat latch and breastcollar are not required.

2. Arena procedure for Breakaway Roping and Steer Daubing
 - a. An electric eye will be used for all barriers.
 - b. Athletes may come out of either side of the box (header or heeler).
3. The athlete will receive a NO TIME for that “go”, not the entire event.
 - a. Any encouragement of forward motion or holding back by anyone other than the rider.
 - b. He/she breaks the rope from the horse by hand, touches the rope or string after the catch is made or if the rope dallies around the horse and/or does not break free when the calf reaches the end.
 - c. Roping the calf without releasing the loop from the hand.
 - d. Any attempt by the athlete to position his/her equine in the box enabling himself/herself to rope or daub the calf without leaving the box.
 - e. If an athlete has not entered the box and called for their calf within sixty (60) seconds from the time their name is called.
 - f. Fall of rider, or rider dismounting.
 - g. Roughing cattle, as determined by the judge.
 - h. Judges will eliminate any athlete and/or animal they consider to be unsafe.
 - i. Any tack or uniform violations that do not interfere with the safety of the run.
4. Breakaway roping
 - a. Two loops will be permitted. Option to carry the 2nd loop.
 - i. Rebuilding the loop is not allowed.
 - b. One (1) or two (2) ropes are to be tied to the saddle horn by a heavy string (90pb test) in such a manner as to allow the rope to be released from the horse when the calf reaches the end of the rope.
 - i. Heavy string will be provided by PNWIC officials. Athletes are not permitted to provide their own.
 - c. A legal catch is to be any loop that goes completely over both horns if horned cattle are used, the calf’s head, or around the neck and draws up on any part of the calf’s body (except the tail) causing the rope to break away from the saddle horn.
 - i. Half catches are permitted.
5. Steer Daubing
 - a. Equipment shall include
 - i. A 4’ dauber stick with a tennis ball
 - ii. Bright contrasting color paste - mustard is not permitted.
6. Team Penning/2 man sorting
 - i. For Team Penning refer to OHSET rules.
 - ii. For 2 man Team Sorting refer to WAHSET rules.

Dressage

1. Whips are not allowed.
2. Readers are not allowed in championship classes.
3. A raised court shall be used whenever possible.

4. Interrupted elements, "off course" or causes to repeat an element will be scored as per USDF rules.
 - a. The judge shall deduct 2 points for the first occurrence, 4 points for the 2nd occurrence. After the third error, the athlete will be eliminated.
 - b. Errors on the test (judge may choose to ring a bell. Athlete re-rides the test from the point directed by the judge).
 - i. The rider turns the wrong way.
 - ii. Omits a movement.
 - c. Error of the test (may choose to not ring the bell. Rider does not re-ride the movement).
 - i. Rider incorrectly rides a movement such as sitting trot instead of posting, trot instead of canter.
 1. Incorrect salute.
 - ii. Use of voice or intentional audio aid.
 1. Deduct 2 points from what otherwise would have been scored.
 2. ON element with co-efficient deduct 1 point
 - iii. Equine stepping all four feet outside of the court during the test shall be an elimination.

Drill Team

Freestyle Fours - Teams with 4 riders

Freestyle +5 - Teams with 5 or more riders

1. There are no required maneuvers.
2. Required equipment
 - a. Drill team may be ridden in English or Western equipment with corresponding attire. All members of a team will use the same style equipment (either English or Western). Equipment should be clean, in good working order and safe.
 - b. Bridles must be worn.
 - c. Arm bands identifying Captain, and when present Co-Captain.
3. A 2 minute warm up in the competition arena will be offered to each team.
 - a. Teams that fail to exit the arena before their two minute warm up time has ended will receive a penalty deduction of 10 points for each full or partial portion of 30 seconds they are over time.
4. Timing
 - a. An official timer will be stationed at the gate entrance to allow for time to begin when the first horse's nose breaks the plain of the gate and the time to end when the last horse's hind legs have crossed the same plain of the gate. Tail does count.
5. PNWIC score sheet will be used that reflects no required maneuvers.

Driving

1. Whips are required.
 - a. The tip of the whip or lash must reach the shoulder of the equine.
2. Headers

- a. Headers must be a registered volunteer or athlete.
 - b. Athletes must be in team uniform.
- 3. Guide to gaits (speed rates in order).
 - a. Walk - free, flat footed.
 - b. Jog trot/Trot - slow smooth.
 - c. Pleasure trot- medium speed, good tempo.
 - d. Working trot - exerts more energy, deliberate and fast
 - e. Extended trot/strong trot - clear but not excessive increase in pace and lengthening of stride while remaining well balanced.
- 4. Disqualifications
 - a. Except for minor adjustments, athletes who fail to pass the safety inspection.
 - i. Will not be allowed to make corrections.
 - ii. Will not be allowed on course.

Hunt Seat Equitation and Trail when ridden Hunt Seat

- 1. Equipment
 - a. Figure 8, flash or dropped nosebands are prohibited.
- 2. Lead changes
 - a. Flying lead change may score 0-10 points
 - b. Simple lead change may score 0-8 points
 - c. Interrupted lead change may score 0 points

Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences

- 1. Refusals
 - a. Mandatory score deductions will be made and noted on the score sheet in the space provided. Judges may also factor the refusal into their element score at their discretion.
 - i. First refusal shall incur a deduction of 3 points.
 - ii. Second refusal shall incur a deduction of 5 points for a total of 8 points.

In Hand Obstacle Relay

- 1. Required equipment
 - a. Head gear is not optional
 - i. Helmet or appropriate hat for the seat displayed by athletes.
- 2. Eligibility
 - a. Schools with only 2 or 3 eligible competing athletes will be allowed to participate using 4 different equine.
- 3. Timing
 - a. Each team is allowed 5 minutes to complete the course

- b. Any teams exceeding the 5 minute allotment shall be assessed a 10 point penalty for each minute or fraction of a minute in violation.
 - i. 5:01-6:00 minutes 10 point penalty
 - ii. 6:01-7:00 minutes 20 point penalty
- c. Teams will be signaled to stop after 7 minutes on course.
 - i. A thirty second warning will be given.
 - ii. When time is called, the athlete on course will not continue.
 - iii. Teams will receive all scores to that point, and will accrue appropriate time penalties.
- 4. Class expectations
 - a. Course reset will occur only after the on course team has completed their go with all 4 athletes.
 - i. Athlete on course may reset obstacles.
 - b. Hand aids, without touching the equine, are allowed.
 - i. Athletes may touch the equine when directed by the judge or specified in the pattern.
 - ii. Athletes touching their equine should expect a zero for that individual element.

In Hand Trail

- 1. Required Equipment
 - a. Head gear is not optional
 - i. Helmet or appropriate hat for the seat displayed by athletes.
- 2. Cross entry between In Hand Trail and mounted Trail is permitted.
- 3. Course design
 - a. The same course with the same dimensions will be used for both horse and pony/mini.
- 4. Hand aids are permitted.
 - a. Athletes may not touch equine unless directed by the judge or specified in the pattern.
 - b. Athletes touching their equine should not expect a zero but will be scored accordingly.

Reining

- 1. Equipment
 - a. Split reins - when used with a curb bit may be held in one of two ways:
 - i. One finger between the reins with the bight of the rein falling on the same side as the rein hand.
 - ii. Romal style with all fingers wrapped around the reins and with the bight held in the opposite hand. There can be no fingers between the reins when held in a romal style.
 - b. Prohibited
 - i. Roping reins

2. Pattern selection
 - a. USEF or NRHA approved reining patterns will be used.
3. Lead changes
 - a. Flying lead changes are required and should be attempted. Horses attempting flying lead changes and not completing them will be scored accordingly.
 - b. Horses not attempting a flying lead change and performing other changes will be given a score of 0 for the element.

Saddle Seat and Trail when ridden Saddle Seat

1. Equipment
 - a. Gaited horses may use breed specific bridles
 - i. Single curb bit with a single rein
 - b. Saddle seat pants may have pinstripes
 - c. Optional equipment
 - i. A whip may be used but may be no longer than 48" including the snapper or lash.
2. The terminology of "intermediate gait/trot" will be included in gait descriptions in patterns.
3. Lead changes
 - a. Interrupted lead changes are the expectation and may score 0-10 points

Showmanship

1. Required Equipment
2. Head gear is not optional
 - a. Helmet or appropriate hat for the seat displayed by athletes.
3. Hand aids are permitted
 - a. Athletes may not touch equine unless directed by the judge or specified in the pattern.
 - b. Athletes touching their equine should not expect a zero but will be scored accordingly.

Timed Events

1. Equipment
 - a. Breast collars are encouraged but not required.
 - b. Throat latches are encouraged but not required.
2. Arena set up
 - a. No chalk start/finish line will be used.
 - b. Chalk passing lines will be used in team timed events.
 - c. Poles and barrels will be provided by hosting state
3. Eliminations
 - a. Taking more than 30 seconds to cross the starting line.
 - i. The 30 seconds starts after the announcer has announced the athlete and the judge raises their hand with a closed fist or flag indicating the course is ready.

1. If any horse waiting its turn crosses the start/finish line before the horse on course across the start/finish line completely. There may not be two horses on course at any time.
 2. Two athletes are determined to be on the course at the same time if the nose of the departing horse crosses the start/finish line prior to the hind feet of the return horse crossing the start/finish line. Tails do not count.
4. Disqualifications
 - a. If a helmet comes loose or unbuckled during the run.
 - b. If the athlete touches or adjusts their helmet during the run.
 5. Barrels
 - a. Barrels as described in either WAHSET or OHSET rule books will be acceptable for this event.
 6. Idaho Stake Race/Figure 8 Race
 - a. Idaho Stake Race (See WAHSET)
 - b. Figure 8 Race (See OHSET)
 - c. Same event, different names in OHSET and WAHSET.
 7. Individual Flags
 - a. One 1"-1 1/2" diameter dowling, 5' long
 - b. A flag that misses the 3rd barrel (1st barrel) and is carried over the start/finish line will earn a 5 second penalty.
 - c. If a barrel is upset and the rider crosses the start/finish line, the rider will receive a 5 second penalty per barrel.
 - i. If the barrel is upset during the run, but the rider is able to insert the flag in the upset barrel, but not able to return the barrel to the upright position, only one 5 second penalty is given.
 - ii. If the barrel is upset during the run, but the rider is able to insert the flag and return the barrel to the upright position, it is a clean run.
 - d. Rider may circle the barrel several times if he/she chooses. Individual flags is a "container event", as long as the rider goes around the far flag container the course requirements are met.
 8. Keyhole
 - a. Same for OHSET and WAHSET
 - b. Penalties
 - i. Any part of the hoof past the entrance of the key hold neck is a "no time".
 1. "Neck" line continues across the arena.
 9. Pole Bending
 - a. Same for OHSET and WAHSET
 - b. Stepping on or across the start/finish line while turning the pole nearest the start/finish line will result in a "no time", even if the timer continues to run. Tails do not count.
 10. Two Man Birangle
 - a. Unsafe passing

- i. Teams are encouraged to, but not required to pass (one coming off the course, one going on the course) on opposite ends of the start line.
 - ii. A pass deemed unsafe by the judge may be cause for elimination.
- 11. Team Canadian Flags
 - a. Unsafe passing
 - i. Teams are encouraged to, but not required to pass (one coming off the course, one going on the course) on opposite ends of the start line.
 - ii. A pass deemed unsafe by the judge may be cause for elimination.

Western Horsemanship(OHSET)/Stock Seat Equitation(WAHSET) & Trail when ridden

Stock Seat

- 1. Equipment
 - a. Split reins-when used with a curb bit may be held one of two ways
 - i. One finger between the reins with the bight of the rein falling on the same side as the rein hand.
 - ii. Romal style with all fingers wrapped around the reins and with the bight held in the opposite hand. There can be no fingers between the reins when held in a romal style.
 - b. Prohibited
 - i. Roping reins
- 2. Lead changes
 - a. Flying lead change may score 0-10 points
 - b. Simple lead change may score 0-8 points
 - c. Interrupted lead change may score 0 points
- 3. Disqualifications
 - a. An athlete using two hands on a curb bit, or one hand on a snaffle bit, is considered to be using permitted equipment illegally.
 - b. If the athlete enters the arena and begins the pattern correctly holding the reins, the athlete will not be disqualified but will receive a "0" on every element ridden illegally.
 - c. Exception - in trail, proper negotiation of an obstacle may require a rider to use one hand on a snaffle or bosal temporarily.

Working Pairs

- 1. Costume
 - a. Flags on flagpoles may be carried as part of the costume element in conjunction with a flag boot.
 - b. Other than flags (as stated above), no part of the costume may be held by the athlete.
 - i. Face paint and hair/and or helmet decoration is allowed.
 - ii. Any costume deemed unsafe by the judge will result in an elimination.

2. Degree of difficulty
 - a. Any bit may be used in this class, and reins may be held by any safe method.
 - b. Two hands on a western curb will be given a lower degree of difficulty score than reins carried conventionally.
 - c. Martingales and tie downs are legal but may also reduce the degree of difficulty score.

Working Rancher

1. Equipment
 - a. Required roping, romal or mecate reins.
 - b. Required rope.
 - c. Hackamore optional.
2. Course design
 - a. Cattle may be incorporated into an obstacle on the course.
 - b. Only one attempt at roping calf head allowed.
3. Disqualifications
 - a. An athlete using two hands on a curb bit, or one hand on a snaffle bit, is considered to be using permitted equipment illegally.
 - b. If the athlete enters the arena and begins the pattern correctly holding the reins, the athlete will not be disqualified but will receive a "0" on every element ridden illegally.
 - c. Exception - in trail, proper negotiation of an obstacle may require a rider to use one hand on a snaffle or bosal temporarily.

Team Versatility

1. Schools with only 2 eligible competing athletes may compete with 4 different equines.
2. For the Trail/Working Rancher section of the event:
 - a. Trail or Working Rancher equipment may be used in either Trail or Working Rancher chosen pattern.
 - b. If there is a rope required for the Trail/Working Rancher pattern then roping reins are required.
3. Timed event tie
 - a. If two athletes are tied for 3rd in the timed event, each athlete's team will receive 3rd place points and the next team will be awarded 4th place points.
4. Overall time for each team is recorded to the hundredth, or the thousandth if equipment allows.
5. Timed event riders not stopping and/or proceeding into the other horse/handlers in an unsafe manner will be disqualified.