

# 2012 HARRY HUGHES CIRCUIT DRAFT DIVISION

## **GENERAL RULES**

1. The Judge or Harry Hughes Circuit (HHC) show committee must excuse from competition any unsafe vehicle, harness, unruly horse or any driver clearly out of control.
2. It is the responsibility of each driver to insure that harness and vehicle are in good repair and structurally sound.
3. Youth drivers (18 years of age and younger) must be accompanied by an adult in all driving classes.
4. Drivers should strive to maintain a safe distance from other vehicles during the competition. Passing is NOT permitted during the competition.
5. A header is allowed during the lineup in all driving classes.
6. **UNDER NO CONDITION SHALL A BRIDLE BE REMOVED FROM A HORSE WHILE IT IS STILL PUT TO A VEHICLE!!**
7. Whips are mandatory. The whip may be held by the driver or placed in a holder on the vehicle.

## **BASIS FOR JUDGING**

### **Draft Showmanship**

Fitting and grooming of the horse and the ability of the showman to present the horse properly

40% - Appearance of Exhibitor and Animal

Showman should be dressed appropriately (NO BLUE JEANS).

Animal should be healthy and alert and their coat, mane and tail should be clean and free of tangles.

Stallions and geldings manes can be rolled and tails braided with appropriate decorations.

Mares can have their manes tails braided with appropriate decorations.

Mares can also have their manes rolled if they are to be shown in cart class.

Draft horses/ponies are usually shown in white halters or bridles, however a clean, well fitted halter of any color is acceptable.

A show stick is encouraged if showing in a white halter or bridle.

60% - Showing the Animal

This includes control and responsiveness in lines, turns, gaits and setting up in front of the judge.

The horse should stand quietly.

When moving you should show off the horse's knee and hock action.

The turn should be a golf club.

When setting up for the judge the animal is usually set at a three-quarter angle to the judge.

The show stick may be used to help place feet and to help keep the horse's attention.

### **Draft Single Cart**

To show the all around action at the walk and trot. To be judged on manners, performance, presence and quality.

25% - Turnout of driver, horse and vehicle.

Suggested attire to complement the type of harness animal is shown in.

Long pants, long dresses or skirts and hard-soled shoes or boots.

Driving aprons for pleasure style (breast collar) harness.

Jeans may be worn if showing in farm harness.

Rolled manes and scotch-knot tails for those showing with a draft show harness with a housing.

75% - Performance and manners.

Will be worked at a walk and a brisk show trot both ways of the arena.

Will reverse going diagonally across the arena.

Must stand quietly and back readily.

### **Draft Driven Reinsmanship**

A driving class in which entries are judged primarily on the ability and skill of the driver.

- 25% - Turnout including cleanliness and condition of horse and vehicle and proper attire (see suggested attire for Draft Single Cart)
- 25% - Railwork including a true flat footed walk and a brisk show trot
- 50% - Pattern Work including one or more obstacles which show the driver's ability to control his/her animal.  
Obstacles that may be used for pattern work include a figure eight, serpentine, backing or fanning.

### **Driven Obstacle Class**

The purpose of this class is to drive the horse through different obstacles. The course will be posted at least one hour before start of event. The clock starts when the horse's nose crosses the line of gate one and stops as the nose crosses the line on the last gate. Obstacles can include: bridge, drive with a wheel between two poles, figure eight, serpentine between cones, mailbox, pass through a passage (set at least 84" in width) at any gait, back straight through between poles, back into a three sided box (can also be set up to allow for vehicle to knock down back pole), back through two cones, drive over markings on the ground (i.e. lines made by lime or spray paint), fan the hitch either to the left or right 90 degrees.

Penalties:

1. Knocking over an obstacle – 10 second penalty
2. Missing an obstacle – 10 second penalty
3. All penalty points are added to time
4. Canter is prohibited and will result in disqualification

If a horse is driven in a manner deemed to be reckless or unsafe to either the horse or the driver, the Judge will eliminate this horse and driver from the competition.

### **Draft Line Driving Single Obstacle**

The purpose of the class is to send the horse through different obstacles while ground driving; similar to what they may encounter while being driven in a cart. The class is judged on manners, way of going, performance, obedience and willingness of the horse. Also the exhibitor will be judged on how smoothly and efficiently he/she handles the horse while completing each obstacle. The course will be posted at least one hour before start of event.

Judging will be based on how one performs at the obstacle. At the same time penalties will be given where deemed appropriate. Penalties include (but not limited to): performing obstacles out of specified order, equipment failure that impedes the finish of the pattern, refusal at an obstacle with a maximum of three attempts at each obstacle, incorrectly working the obstacle as described on the pattern, exhibitor's excessive use of force to make horse/pony work the obstacle, horse's blatant disobedience (i.e. kicking out, bucking, rearing, striking, bolting, etc.)

### **Draft Walk Trot Equitation/Horsemanship**

This is a ridden class to show the versatility of Draft animals. This class can be shown under either English or western tack. The class is to be judged on the rider's equitation/horsemanship. A pattern for the class is acceptable but must be able to be shown either English or western. Riding two handed in this class is not cause for points being taken off or disqualification.