

2014 ANMS LIBERTY CLASS RULES

The aim of the Liberty class is to show off the natural grace, beauty and movement of the Morgan horse. Horses will be judged on style, grace, animation, presence, gaits, music suitability and ease of catching.

- ◆ Horses will be judged beginning when the exhibitor (the individual wearing the number) removes the halter and until caught by the exhibitor. Time of liberty shall be 2 minutes; time to catch shall be 1 minute.
- ◆ Only the exhibitor and up two handlers (one at each end and one person in the middle) will be allowed in the arena with the horse. Whips and shaker bottles (or similar, e.g. plastic bags on sticks) are allowed, but touching the horse during performance with aids or hands will result in disqualification.
- ◆ The aim of the Liberty class is to show off the horse's natural grace, beauty and movement. The horse can be encouraged/driven to move out and be guided by the handlers to cover the arena.
- ◆ Horse must be caught and haltered by exhibitor within 1 minute of end of music or be disqualified.
- ◆ Music is required. Music is to be provided on CD. Suitability of horse's movement to the chosen music will be evaluated.
- ◆ No assistance from outside of the arena will be permitted. Elimination will result unless the judge feels that the outside action was taken in an attempt to cause the exhibitor's horse to be disqualified. An announcement is to be made prior to the class to specify that no outside assistance be allowed.
- ◆ All horses entered in the Liberty class must be at least three years old. The well being of the horse is of paramount importance and horses should not show any sign of stress. For this reason horses under the age of three are not permitted to participate.
- ◆ Exhibitor and handlers must be neatly attired.
- ◆ A standard scoring sheet will be used for judging the Liberty class. The following point ratings will be used:

Style and Grace	30 points
Animation and Presence	30 points
Gaits	20 points
Music and Suitability	10 points
Catch	10 points
Total points possible	100 points

LIBERTY SCORE SHEET

COMPETITOR NAME: _____

HORSE NAME: _____

COMPETITOR No. _____

Judge: _____

Element	Maximum points	Actual points
Style and Grace	30	
Animation, Presence and Gaits	30	
Arena Coverage, Changes Of Direction and Control	20	
Music and Suitability Performance time 2 minutes	10	
Catch Horse must be caught by exhibitor within 1 minute or be disqualified	10	
SUB TOTAL		
DEDUCT Points for interference by handler/s *		
Total maximum points	100	

Disqualification conditions:

- Handler touches the horse with hands or artificial aids during performance
- Horse not caught and haltered within 1 minute of finish of music
- Assistance given from outside the arena

- Interference refers to 'chasing' the horse and/or acting in an improper manner