

GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL MHAA STATE SHOWS:

The full show program, and general rules, is to be presented to the MHAA board for approval prior to publishing or distributing to members.

1. All Morgans MUST be registered with the MHAA. Owners MUST be either current financial members of the MHAA or pay a day membership for the State Show event.
2. All handlers/riders MUST be either a current financial member of MHAA or pay a day membership (currently \$20.00) for the State Show event.
3. No foal under the age of three (3) months of age at the time of the show may be exhibited. Foals must have been foal recorded prior to the closing date for entries.
4. Lactating mares will not be permitted to compete in ridden and/or performance classes.
5. At no time shall a pure bred Morgan and a part bred Morgan be judged together in Led classes that are based on breed standards.
6. Morgan horses competing in ridden classes may not compete in more than EIGHT ridden events on the day including Harness classes.
7. The Judge may request a horse be removed from a class if, in their professional opinion, the horse is showing signs of extreme tiredness.
8. The Judge's decision is final.
9. No horse to have more than 2 riders for this event.
10. No horse under the age of 3 shall be ridden in any event at the Morgan show.
11. Entry via www.nominate.com.au Absolutely no late entries accepted. Entries close midnight
12. The Committee reserves the right to alter any class on the programme.
13. The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject entries.
14. Competitors will be required to nominate a job that they can assist with during the event with their entry.
15. Entry fees will NOT be refunded after close of entries unless a Veterinary or Doctors Certificate is produced within 24 hours of the event.
16. In case of cancellation of the event, an administration fee of 20% of the entries may be retained by the organising committee.
17. Ribbons awarded to 6th place. Sashes/Rosettes and/or Trophy Rugs for Supreme Champions, Sashes for Champions and Reserve Champions.
18. Colts/Stallions must be shown in show halter with chain or bridle with bit at discretion of handler. The horse must be adequately controlled at all times. The Judge may request an equipment change. Handlers and riders of stallions and colts must be 18 years and over.
19. Stallion identification discs (green in colour) will be compulsory at all MHAA sanctioned events. This is for safety reasons and to ensure other competitors give the stallion handler/rider a respectful distance. Discs to be displayed on both sides of either bridle or saddle pad. Green discs should be displayed on the truck/float when the stallion is present, if it is not displayed on the stallion. The onus is on all competitors to maintain a safe distance between stallions and other horses.
20. To be eligible for an award, an exhibit must not, in the judge's opinion, show any lameness or the effects of any banned substance. The MHAA Reserves the right to carry out vet checks and random swabbing. An exhibitor who, in the Judge's opinion,

abuses the horse in their care could have an award withheld or be requested to leave the ring.

21. Any exhibitor whose horse misbehaves, in any manner considered to be dangerous, or where such exhibitor is deemed to be incapable of exercising proper control over such animal will be requested to leave the arena or marshalling area. Failure to do so will incur instant disqualification for the duration of the show. The exhibitor who has withdrawn on request will be allowed to continue participation provided they can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Chief Ring Judge that they have achieved control of the exhibit.
22. Any person demonstrating abusive behaviour in any manner to any other person (or animal) will be banned from the arena.
23. **YOUTH** exhibitors are members aged 17 years and under. Some shows may have **Junior** classes or **Lead Line** classes that are specific for those less experienced younger riders.
24. All youth must at all times, while on the grounds and in control of a horse, wear approved footwear and a currently approved equestrian helmet listed by Standards Australia, including the in-hand classes and in the warm-up areas.
25. Draw reins, running reins, side reins or standing martingales are strictly not allowed in any class.
26. Classes, other than Breed classes, may include but are not limited to Ranch Riding, Dressage (Western/Cowboy/English), English Equitation, Horsemanship & Liberty, Show Jumping, Harness, Stock-horse, Games, Hunter and others at the discretion of the show committee. The show committee must consider the differing disciplines and riding styles of the members when choosing additional classes, and ensure the variety is in balance.
27. All riders must wear approved footwear and helmets that meet current Australian Standards. The approved equestrian helmets can be found on the website of STANDARDS Australia.
28. A full, natural mane and tail and a smooth glossy coat enhance the appearance of the Morgan horse and plaiting is not compulsory at a Morgan Horse Show.
29. Boots, bandages and false manes/tails are prohibited.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY: Entrants compete at their own risk. Neither the organizer, nor anyone acting on their behalf, accept liability for any loss or damage, accident, injury or illness to horse or rider, owners or spectators, or any other person or property whatsoever.

HI-POINT AWARD

Show Committees have the discretion to add separate High Point Awards for In Hand and Ridden horses at a State Show. Horses must compete in all the nominated events to be eligible for the high point awards.

Disputes

A Protest and Appeals Committee consisting of the Chief Ring Judge, a member of the Show Committee, and one other independent non-competitor, will be appointed prior to the State Show. All protests must be made in writing and accompanied by a fee of \$50. This fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld. Protests must be lodged within one hour of the class or event having taken place. The decision of the Protest and Appeals Committee is final and binding.

GROOMING/ATTIRE/TACK GUIDELINES

Attire and Tack must be consistent with chosen discipline

In-hand Classes

Attire

Neatness of exhibitors' attire adds greatly to the overall decorum of the show ring. Handlers should strive always to be neat and clean, wearing well-fitted, conservative clothing. Appropriate accessories include a hat (not cap) and gloves. Slacks are appropriate or English Riding Attire. If showing in western style halter/bridle, the handler may wear smart dress jeans with western style, long sleeved shirt and hat.

Equipment

A whip may be carried. Morgans may be shown in a show halter or an appropriate bridle with any of the many types of snaffle, Pelham or curb bits available. Judges should penalise any horse that is over-bitted. Weanlings/yearlings are shown in halters and barefoot. Colts/Stallions MUST be shown in either halter with chain or bridle with bit.

Breed Ridden Classes

Breed ridden classes may be performed in English, Western or Stock attire and equipment. The rider's attire and equipment must be consistent with the discipline they have chosen.

Lead-line Classes (if included)

Attire and Equipment to be consistent with the discipline they have chosen. Protective footwear must be worn. It is required that the equipment fit the rider with the riders' feet in the stirrups. Failure to comply will result in elimination.

When led in the class the rider should be in control of the reins, but the leader must hold a lead that is attached to the bridle, appropriate to the saddle being used.

Debut Rider Class (if included)

Attire and Equipment to be consistent with the discipline they have chosen. Debut Rider does not mean an incompetent rider. It means a rider who has not competed at a show before and the rider will be required to perform in all three gaits - walk, trot and canter - for the class.

English Performance Classes:

Attire

Hunt outfits consisting of jodhpurs, hunt/show coats, shirt with collar & tie or stock, riding boots (long or short) and approved riding helmet.

Equipment

A dressage, show or general-purpose saddle, ordinary snaffle, pelham or double bridle. A bitless bridle is accepted when it fits the style of the tack being used. Appropriate spurs are optional.

Western/Stock Performance Classes:

Attire

A minimum of long-sleeved collared shirt with bandana/tie, long trousers/jeans, heeled boots.

Equipment

Western saddle and bridle or hackamore (bosal with mecate reins), or stock saddle and bridle is acceptable for western style events. A bitless bridle is accepted when it fits the style of the tack being used.

Harness Classes

Attire

A skirt or dark pants and jacket or shirt and vest are required for most driving divisions. A hat should be worn in all classes. Helmets may be used without penalty.

Equipment

Vehicle and harness should be in great condition and clean, with any brass or other fittings polished and 'show ready'. All equipment must comply with the rules of the Australian Carriage Driving Society.