

TIPS FOR SHOWING

- HALTER: its all about the horse. Use the 'half' method - you are always on the opposite side of the horse to the judge. You are allowed to touch the horse in this class, so manually place the legs if you need to. Do what you can to make the horse stand up well with ears forward when you are showing to the judge.
- SHOWMANSHIP: its all about you. Use the 'quarter' method – when the judge is behind girth line, you are on the same side of the horse to the judge, when the judge is forward of the girth line; you are on the opposite side. Remember; you are NOT allowed to touch or cue the horse in any way, nor are you to touch any part of the chain.
- RAIL CLASSES (HUNTER UNDER SADDLE & WESTERN PLEASURE): This is about how the horse moves. Stay close to the rail, only overtake on the inside & dont rush your transitions. Keep an eye on the judge and other horses in the class all the time and remember: reverse does not mean go backwards - it means change direction by doing a small circle to the inside!
- PATTERN CLASSES (HUNT SEAT EQUITATION & WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP): This is about how well you ride. Really, really look hard at your pattern and memorise it to the best of your ability. Make sure you do the right things at the right places. You will also be worked on the rail after everyone has completed their patterns, so you are judged on your rail work as well.
- TRAIL: This is about your ability to guide the horse through a variety of obstacles. The horse must be able to negotiate the course without showing resistance. Once again – really, really look at your pattern!

THE BIGGEST TIP OF ALL: Stay focused and calm ... and HAVE FUN!