



Rulebook

2026-2027

Table of Contents

Description	Page
Section R1 Team Membership	4
Section R2 Individual Student Membership	5
Section R3 Individual Coach, Assistant Coach Membership and Proxy Coach	6
Section R4 Individual Eligibility Packet	8
Section R5 Show Requirements	10
Section R6 Non-Competition and Associate Memberships	12
Section R7 YEDA National Officer Duties and Powers	13
Section R8 Rule Interpretation, Enforcement Applicability, and Definition	14
Section R9 National Steward	15
Section R10 Rules, Standards and Ethics Committee	16
Section R11 Show Violations & Penalties	19
Section R12 Organization and Procedures for Shows, Host Teams & Duties of Show Personnel, Height Weight Horses	20
Section R13 Minimum Entry Requirements for Regular Season Shows & Classes	23
Section R14 Class Routine	25
Section R15 Falls, Refusals, & Eliminations – Stewards and Accident Reports	27
Section R16 Drawing for Horses and Height Weight Rider Limits	28
Section R17 Re-Rides, Re-Test and Extra Testing	29
Section R18 Tack, Aids, Martingales and Spurs. Exhibitor Numbers and electronic devices	30 31
Section R19 Awards - Ribbons & Trophies	32
Section R20 Personal Conduct of Exhibitors, Coaches, and Show Personnel	34
Section R21 Show Officials & their Duties	35
Section R22 Judges	36
Section R23 Show Steward	37

Section R24 Show Program	39
Section R25 General Judging Requirements	41
Section R26 Western Horsemanship	42
Section R27 Reining and Ranch Riding	44
Section R28 Point Requirements and Scoring	51
Section R29 Individual Point Procedures & Requirements	52
Section R30 High Point Teams and Riders for Regular Shows	53
Section R31 Individual Point Requirements for Championship Shows	54
Section R32 Team Point Requirements for Championship Shows	55
Section R33 Placement Specification for Western Horsemanship Riders	56
Section R34 Equestrian with Disabilities (EWD)	58
Section R35 Alumni	60
Section R36 Western Horsemanship Competition	62
Section R37 Western Horsemanship Patterns	67
Section R38 Reining and Ranch Riding Patterns	68
Section R39 Organization of the National Horse Show	69
Section R40 Horse Show Hosting Rules	71
Section R41 Try-it Membership Program	76

YEDA rules, rulebooks, pattern book and proprietary forms are exclusively used for YEDA events and YEDA sectioned events. No organization can use, refer to, or reference YEDA rules for non-sanctioned events or shows. Any group or groups must be an affiliate club or team with YEDA to use the rules, rulebooks, pattern book and proprietary forms.

Team Membership

Section R1

R1.01 Any team interested in participating in the activities of the Youth Equestrian Development Association, Inc. and willing to subscribe to the by-laws and rules of YEDA are eligible for membership.

- A. Minimum for a team is one (1) coach and three (3) members, which can be mixed elementary, junior high, senior high, alumni and EWD.**
- B. Teams can be any size but cannot have more than forty-two (42) total entries between junior and senior high riders at one YEDA regular season point show.**
- C. Elementary, alumni and EWD entries do not count toward the total entries per team for a YEDA regular season point show.**

R1.02 Teams must apply for membership annually on an official YEDA membership form. Such form shall also identify the name of the team, team's coach/coaches and their official mailing address and email. All student riders must have a YEDA approved coach present at the competitions.

R1.03 The team membership application must be accompanied by a check with the enclosed amount:

- A. \$125 for teams who only have elementary, alumni, and/or EWD riders.**
- B. \$150 for teams who have just one of the following: a junior, a senior, an elementary, an alumnus, or just EWD riders.**
- C. \$200 for teams who have both junior and senior teams. Elementary, alumni and EWD riders are included with this registration.**
- D. A rush fee of \$100 will be added to the membership if a team is requesting to enter a show after the show closing date and their memberships are not currently submitted and in the database.**

R1.04 The team membership application must include the following:

- A. Name, address, and phone number of the coach**
- B. Name of team and team's official address**
- C. Name, title and address of coach, coach supervisor or employer if employed by a farm or youth group sponsoring team**
- D. Signature of coach**
- E. Signature of supervisor or employer of farm or youth group sponsoring team**

R1.05 For a team to be considered "in good standing," both the initial or annual team membership application and dues must be received before the first show in which they seek to participate.

Individual Student Membership

Section R2

R2.01 Eligibility for Membership & Participation

- A. Riders will be eligible for the number of regular terms equivalent to the grade in which they are enrolled. A rider's eligibility time starts with the initial completion of his/her application.
- B. Eligibility is as follows: elementary - 2 years; junior high - 3 years; senior high - 4 years. (The YEDA founders) will consider exceptions on applications.) Alumni and EWD members have unlimited years of eligibility.
 - 1. elementary: grades 4 & 5
 - 2. junior high: grades 6, 7 & 8
 - 3. senior high: grades 9, 10, 11, & 12
- C. In order to become an individual student member in YEDA, a rider must be a full-time student. In order to participate in YEDA shows or events, an individual member must be in good academic standing at the time of the show—alumni and EWD would be excluded.
- D. A rider in the final term of his/her senior year enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies may compete in YEDA shows providing the student member certifies that the student is carrying the minimum necessary to graduate (for credit).
- E. A rider having completed high school and is a graduate in mid academic year is eligible to ride in regular YEDA shows. Students may not be competing on a collegiate team.
- F. A rider that has graduated early from high school and has not used their 4 years of eligibility in YEDA may continue to compete unless they have joined a collegiate equestrian team.

R2.02 Individual Membership Form

- A. Annually, prior to the member's first competition, an eligible student must apply for membership on the official YEDA Individual Membership form, to indicate intent to participate. The application must be signed by both the individual & parent(s) and/or guardian(s).
- B. The application must be filed with YEDA prior to the first completion, must include an individual membership fee of ~~\$60~~ \$70 and must be received by the YEDA home office.
- C. Memberships are non-refundable. There is an additional required \$10 back number fee that is applied to all riding memberships. This \$10 goes directly to the Scholarship Incentive Fund (SIF).
- D. A rush fee of \$25 will be added to the membership if a rider is requesting to enter a show after the show closing date and his/her membership is not currently submitted and in the database.

R2.03 Should a team or individual check be returned for insufficient funds, the team or individual responsible shall be notified in order to resubmit the check. If the check is not made good within (fifteen) 15 business days, the team or individual responsible shall be ineligible to compete until funds are negotiable and all charges and applicable fees are paid. A \$25 return check fee plus any additional bank fees must be paid.

R2.04 If an individual rider wishes to change teams in mid-season, they must fill out a YEDA Change Team Request form. A \$25 fee paid in full will be required and accompany the Change Team Request form. Coaches from both teams must sign off on this form prior to the request being submitted. If the student rider has competed in the current YEDA season, s/he is not eligible to be selected as a team point rider for the remainder of the season for the new team.

Individual Coach, Assistant Coach Membership and Proxy Coach

Section R3

R3.01 Eligibility for Coach & Assistant Coach Membership & Participation

- A. In order to become a coach in YEDA, a person must be affiliated with a member team. In order to participate in YEDA shows or events, a coach member must be in good standing at the time of the show.
- B. All YEDA coaches must be a member and at least twenty-one (21) years old.
- C. All YEDA coaches must carry professional liability insurance coverage for coaching activities at YEDA events or shows. Proof of professional liability insurance must be included with the coach application.
- D. An assistant coach can act in the capacity as a coach by complying with all rules of the organization. The coach must be present at the show; the assistant coach cannot act alone. **If the coach is not present a proxy coach must be present.**
 - 1. The assistant coach needs to be eighteen (18) years or older.
 - 2. The assistant coach does not have a vote for the team; only the coach has voting privileges.
 - 3. The assistant coach cannot ask for a re-ride.
 - 4. The assistant coach of a team cannot act as the official coach. **The team's assistant coach will work under a coach or proxy coach that is coach carrying liability insurance.**

R3.02 Coach Membership Form

- A. Annually, prior to his/her first competition, an eligible coach must submit a signed application for membership on the official YEDA Coach Membership form to indicate intent to participate.
- B. The Coach Membership form must be received by the YEDA home office prior to the first competition at which a coach intends to serve and must include the coach membership fee of ~~\$60~~ \$70. The membership fee is non-refundable.
- C. The Assistant Coach Membership form must be received by the YEDA home office prior to the first competition at which an assistant coach intends to serve and must include the coach membership fee of \$60. The membership fee is non-refundable.

R3.03 Should a team, coach or individual check be returned for insufficient funds, the team or individual responsible shall be notified in order to resubmit the check. If the check is not made good within (fifteen) 15 business days, the team or individual responsible shall be ineligible to compete until funds are negotiable. A \$25 return check fee plus any additional bank fees must be paid.

R3.04 Proxy Coach

If a team coach on record cannot attend a show date, s/he is responsible for aligning a proxy coach for his/her riders. If this is not done before the show, the riders will not be allowed to compete in the event. The absent coach must file a fully completed Proxy Coach form with the show secretary, preferably when entries are sent. The appropriate form must be received by the show secretary prior to the competition date.

- A. The proxy coach **MUST** be a YEDA coach member in good standing for the current show season.
- B. The proxy coach can only coach one additional team at a show.
- C. The proxy coach can coach a maximum of ten (10) rides per show day. If an assistant coach is present for the absent coach, then the proxy coach can coach a maximum of twenty (20) rides.
- D. **In extenuating circumstances, show management, Nationals Steward, or YEDA Founder can allow a proxy coach to coach more than 10 riders or more than 1 team.**

- E.** All financial agreements must be mutually agreed upon before the show.
- F.** The proxy coach agrees to equally and fairly coach the riders agreed upon. This includes being the representative during the horse draw, assisting with mounting, and requesting a re-ride if needed.
- G.** The proxy coach is NOT responsible for providing horses for the riders. The proxy coach cannot offer to provide horses for the riders. All proxy coached riders must rent rides from the event.
- H.** The absent coach has communicated to his/her riders of the arrangement.
- I.** All YEDA proxy coaches must meet the requirements set forth in Section 3.

Individual Eligibility Packet

Section R4

R4.01 Academic Eligibility

In order to compete in YEDA shows, a YEDA member must be able to submit proof of academic eligibility guaranteeing they are a full-time student in good academic standing, if requested. Alumni and EWD would be excluded. (See R2.01.)

R4.02 Individual Placement Form

In order to compete in YEDA shows, an individual member showing YEDA must submit a completed YEDA Individual Placement form to the team coach who will sign and forward it to the address on the applicable form prior to the member's first show. Coaches are responsible to evaluate a rider in the appropriate division.

R4.03 An Individual Membership and Placement form must be completed in its entirety, including signatures. This form must be completed and sent with payment to the membership secretary.

R4.04 For a team to be considered "in good standing," both the initial or annual team membership application and dues must be received before the first show in which they seek to participate.

R4.05 Classification by the Coach

Classification is the responsibility of the coach to accurately enter riders in the proper class according to his/her individual skill and experience levels and in compliance with the definitions and descriptions of those levels as set forth in the rules. Coaches will be held responsible for placement.

R4.06 It is the responsibility of the coach to move riders to the proper class when they have used all their eligibility or achieved certain goals as defined in the rules. If a rider has progressed sufficiently in skills, s/he may be moved to a higher class.

R4.07 Once a rider has competed in a level, s/he may not move to a lower level unless directed to do so by a show steward of YEDA with approval of the National Steward see rule R4.08.

R4.08 Classification of Student Riders

The National Steward of YEDA has the power to reclassify riders who are competing at incorrect levels. All points and ribbons won in such classes shall be forfeited, but it will not affect the points of other student riders. Classification of riders need not be automatic. When classification is unclear, upon request to the National Steward and submission of biographical information **by the coach**, the National Steward may review the riders' ability for proper classification. A \$25 fee must accompany the formal request. See R23.05

R4.09 Riders may compete in one or two classes per show: horsemanship rail, horsemanship rail/pattern, horsemanship pattern, Ranch riding, and Reining, depending on their eligibility for those classes. This does not include opportunities to compete in Diamond Elite head-to-head challenges or any new challenge classes for both junior and senior high.

R4.10 Falsification of Forms

The falsification of the Team Membership form, Individual Membership form, Individual Placement form, or Eligibility form may be cause for immediate expulsion of the individual, team, or coach from YEDA. Or, they may incur any other penalty assigned by the Rules, Standards and Ethics Committee (RSEC).

R4.11 Forfeiture of Points

A rider showing in a class in which s/he is ineligible shall forfeit those points, ribbons or awards won.

R4.12 Non-EWD Riders with Special Needs

Riders qualified for individual membership in YEDA, showing in all divisions except Amber and Topaz (See Section 34.) but who have a disability as defined herein may be permitted to compete under the terms and conditions set forth as follows:

- A. A disability is defined as a physical limitation including but not limited to the loss of use of an arm or leg or any part thereof; the loss of or limitation of sight not correctable to 20/40 by corrective lenses; or the loss of or limitation of hearing.
- B. Special equipment is any substitution of tack, approved by show management, show steward or National Steward
- C. Active assistance is defined as physical, verbal, or sign assistance; or any combination thereof provided in respect to the directing or control of the horse or rider. The use of standard hand signals for "walk," "trot," etc. is not considered active assistance.
- D. Riders must choose to compete as an EWD rider (Amber or Topaz) or special needs rider in all other divisions. Riders must choose a category but cannot show both for the season.

R4.13 Before becoming eligible to compete, the student rider and his/her coach must both submit written statements requesting permission to compete and the nature and extent of the limitations, as well as a full statement by the coach as to his/her evaluation of the ability of the person. The statements must be submitted to the membership secretary of YEDA.

R4.14 The membership secretary shall make and provide copies by mail/email to the national steward. The national steward shall designate one member of the YEDA founders not familiar with the case to observe the rider on a horse at a mutually convenient location within thirty (30) days of the application. The expenses of the national steward's visit will be covered by the party requesting the steward visit.

R4.15 A video tape, unedited and recorded by a disinterested party, may be substituted for the national steward's on sight observation. If, however, the national steward is not satisfied with the tape, s/he may still request personal observation.

R4.16 The national steward shall determine whether the disabled student rider can safely compete without active assistance in the class level for which the person is otherwise eligible under the rules. The National Steward view in person or requests a video.

R4.17 If the national steward determines that the rider cannot safely compete, then the person shall have the right to a review by the RSEC founding members of YEDA by requesting such a review in writing. The request shall state all facts the person believes to be pertinent and must include a statement signed by the person or parent if the person is under eighteen (18), agreeing the decision of the board shall be final and that the person will be bound by that determination.

R4.18 In the event that the person is determined to be eligible to compete, the coach may make entry for such person as any other member of the team; however, the coach must notify the show management at least one week prior to the show that the rider is disabled. The show management shall promptly notify all teams providing horses for the show of the nature and extent of the disability.

R4.19 The provider of horses may, in their sole discretion, determine whether to permit the rider to compete on the provider's horses with or without special equipment. The provider's determination shall be final for that event only. The show management should make every attempt to obtain the provider's determination before the day of the event in order to avoid inconveniencing the disabled person.

R4.20 Riders having temporary physical disabilities will be evaluated on an individual basis as to suitability and safety by the stewards and the show management.

R4.21 Riders with documentation of special needs will need to draw from a pool of horses in consideration of their needs. The show steward can provide a fair pool of horses

Show Requirements

Section R5

R5.01 YEDA shows shall be classified as regular, national championship, or invitational events. Show hosts will be responsible for providing suitable facilities, horses, tack and equipment. (See Section 12, Section 39 and Section 40.) YEDA rules shall govern all classes held at YEDA shows. Regular season shows will begin no earlier than July 15 and no later than four (6) weeks prior to the National Championship Show.

- A. Regular point shows shall be shows that will be held by YEDA and/or a member team in good standing under YEDA rules, and in compliance with the rules to assist. It will be required for member teams to supply one (1) suitable horse for every six (6) entries at a single judged one-day show or a double judged (1) day show. It will be required for member teams to supply one (1) suitable horse for every nine (9) entries at a double judged split combined show held over a two-days. It will be required for member teams to supply one (1) suitable horse for every four (4) entries at a double header one-day or also know as an AM/PM show.(see R12.05 for clarification) Show management can change the ride to horse ratio in extenuating circumstances (e.g., double header, nationals, etc.) with permission of the YEDA board.
- B. Horse providers will be expected to have horses available for six (6) rides and up to three (3) alternate rides per show. It is conceivable a horse could be used nine (9) times per show day.
- C. If a horse is used more than nine (9) times due to the disqualification of an unsuitable horse(s) (Reference R5.03), those horse providers will be compensated the rented rider fee for every ride over nine (9) by the disqualified horse provider's team. Fees associated with overuse will be facilitated by the show management.

R5.02 Suitable horses are defined as horses that can perform at the show and do the following:

- A. Be ridden with one or two hands while on the rail or in patterns (Stewards can make adjustments or exceptions with the help of the horse provider.
- B. Stand while rider mounts.
- C. Take both leads (except for walk/jog horses).
- D. Stop when asked.
- E. Perform in a minimum of two (2) divisions.
- F. Back up.
- G. Work under multiple riders in a lesson program or show leasing program.

Note: Horses that cannot perform because of lameness or unruly/unsafe behavior will be noted on the steward's report. Horses that demonstrate poor behavior in warm-up and paddock can be pulled prior to the show or class. Examples of poor or unsafe behavior include bucking, kicking, rearing, bolting, or rider being separated from their horse because of bad behavior.

R5.03 Teams providing the same unsuitable horse more than two show days during one season will pay on the third show day of disqualification for the rides that the horse needs to cover. The show steward will indicate the horse being pulled for the day on the steward's report.

- A. This rule also includes horses considered to be not suitable in regard to animal welfare concerns. The image YEDA does not want to present include horses with a body score of less than four (4) when using a scale of one to nine (1– 9), such as horses with ribs easily discernible, tops of spinous process easily discernible, tailhead prominent with hook bones easily discernible, withers accentuated and neck obviously thin, obviously sick horses, and horses with grade three (3) or greater lameness (consistently observable at the trot; marked nodding, hitching, or shortened stride; and minimal weight bearing in motion or at rest) are not allowed at YEDA shows. Show management or show steward can dismiss a horse from

the show for these reasons. The show steward will indicate the horse being pulled for the day on the steward's report.

- B.** Horses that have been pulled on three show days during a season as determined by show management and the show steward cannot be used again the remainder of the season.
- C.** Horse providers may request a horse be reevaluated by the show steward if the horse has been disqualified for the season.

R5.04 The National Championship Show shall be held annually. YEDA shall approve the site of the show and the judges. The show shall be open to those riders who qualify for the National Championship Show.

R5.05 Invitational events can be held in conjunction with other organizations for promotional purposes. These events can be point or nonpoint shows. Out of season shows cannot be point shows.

R5.06 Dues and Entry Fees for Recognized Shows

- A.** Regular shows shall charge no more than \$45 per entry, per judge.
- B.** Each show shall remit \$5.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 75 entries. Each show shall remit \$6.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 125 entries. Each show shall remit \$7.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 200 entries. Each show shall remit \$8.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 250 entries. These funds should be remitted within ten (10) days of the show. All funds must be in United States currency. If dues are not remitted within ten (10) days, YEDA may suspend a team until such time as dues are paid.
- C.** Office fee per entry may be charged but cannot exceed \$10.
- D.** Special event shows such as the Quarter Horse Congress; and the National Championship show will charge an entry fee to be determined by YEDA.
- E.** Entry fees can be raised in certain circumstances with approval of the YEDA board.
- F.** YEDA personnel and the trailer-provided cost will be \$3.00 per entry fee plus lodging for shows up to 200 entries. For shows over 200 entries, YEDA personnel will also be paid a day fee.

Non-Competition and Associate Memberships

Section R6

R6.01 Non-competing and Associate Memberships (Use form to complete.)

- A.** Any person may become an associate member of YEDA upon application and payment of the annual associate membership contribution of ~~\$30~~ \$40.
- B.** A person interested in becoming an associate member must apply for membership on the appropriate YEDA Associate Membership form.
- C.** Regular associate members shall not be eligible to compete.
- D.** Show secretary and stewards need to be an associate member.
- E.** Non-competing student rider members are those that cannot or choose not to compete in a season but wish to still receive the benefits of YEDA. The Non-competing Membership form must be completed and a payment of \$70 received by YEDA.

R6.02 Affiliated Association Memberships

Affiliated associations consist of organizations and other groups in good standing in a state, province, region or locality, and educational institutions offering equine related programs; or other organizations approved by the YEDA founding partners upon recommendation of those who have federated together to form an association. Affiliated associations must pay annual dues of \$150. Any affiliated association will pay dues as an affiliated association of YEDA and be subject to all responsibilities and privileges of an affiliated association.

- A.** Categories of Affiliated Association Memberships
 - 1.** National associations, where equestrian-related groups or individuals have formed a national association or organization.
 - 2.** Educational associations, where educational institutions or colleges offer equine related programs.
- B.** Affiliated associations may be offered oral and/or written representation of association reports at the annual YEDA founding partners' meeting. Affiliates will also be offered a link on the showYEDA.com website and have access to the YEDA rulebook, pattern book and the guidance of the YEDA founding partners.
- C.** YEDA is not liable for financial responsibilities or other policies of affiliated associations.
- D.** YEDA reserves the right to not renew or to decline affiliated association membership.

YEDA National Officer Duties & Powers

Section R7

R7.01 National Steward

- A. Responsible for interpretation of the rules for YEDA.
- B. Attends and leads steward duties for the YEDA national show.
- C. Presides over all RSEC meetings.

R7.02 Associate National Steward

- A. Assist National Steward in any duties needed
- B. Attend and Steward the YEDA National show
- C. Step into Nationals Steward duties when National Steward is unavailable or has a conflict

R7.03 National Show Manager

- D. Responsible for all aspects of the National Championship Show.

R7.04 National Show Secretary

- A. Responsible for all entries and qualifiers for the National Championship Event

R7.05 RSEC 5 Member Committee

- A. See rule R10

Rule Interpretation, Enforcement Applicability and Definition

Section R8

R8.01 The provisions of these rules shall apply to the following persons: exhibitor, coach, rider, show official, show employee, designated representative or member of the family of the above individual, and member colleges, member show and member institution. These rules will also apply to those who act in a manner in violation of the rules of the association or are deemed prejudicial to its best interests. Any action in connection with a show in violation of the rules by a member of the family of a person participating in the show and/or who is described in the previous sentences, may be deemed to have been committed by such person and subject to penalties.

R8.02 All references to “days” are business days.

R8.03 The construction or application of YEDA rules is governed by the State of Ohio.

R8.04 If the rules of YEDA do not apply to a given situation, refer to R12.15.

R8.05 Non-contestable Decisions

- A. The soundness of a horse or the suitability of a rider or a horse when determined by a steward of the show or by a judge is not a violation.
- B. A judge’s decision representing his individual preference is not a violation of the rules.

National Steward & Associate National Steward

Section R9

R9.01 Qualifications of Nationals Steward

- A. The national steward shall be appointed by the founding partners of the Youth Equestrian Development Association LLC.
- B. The national steward may be anyone over twenty-one (21) years of age who is a member of YEDA. Each term of office shall run for two years. The national steward shall be appointed in even years.
- C. The national steward must have a working knowledge of the YEDA rules.

R9.02 Duties of National Steward

- A. The national steward shall be responsible for interpretation and clarification of the rules of the association.
- B. Upon the request of any member, director, steward or designated representative, the national steward shall render an opinion as to the propriety of any prospective conduct or action under the rules by an individual or show. The opinion shall be binding unless reversed before the fact by the YEDA founding partners, excluding the national steward.
- C. The national steward shall, if required in writing by a member, director, or designated representative, also determine the validity of show results and eligibility for competition by an individual or a team at a regular or national championship event. Their duties here-under are to be exercised irrespective of any action taken by the RSEC.
- D. All opinions or rulings by the national steward shall be in writing and copies forwarded to the YEDA founders and all other interested persons.
- E. The national steward shall act as the presiding steward at the National Championship Show.
- F. The national steward shall act as the chairperson for RSEC.

R9.03 Qualifications of Assoc. Nationals Steward

- A. The assoc. national steward shall be appointed by the founding partners of the Youth Equestrian Development Association LLC.
- B. The assoc. national steward may be anyone over twenty-one (21) years of age who is a member of YEDA. Each term of office shall run for one (1) year.
- C. The assoc. national steward must have a working knowledge of the YEDA rules.

R9.04 Duties of Assoc National Steward

- A. The assoc. national steward shall be responsible for assisting the national steward interpretation and clarification of the rules of the association.
- B. The assoc. national steward will take over the duties of the national steward in the event the national steward is not available or has a conflict.
- C. The assoc. national steward shall act as a show steward at the National Championship Show. The assoc national steward also will serve on the RSEC.

Rules, Standards, and Ethics Committee (RSEC)

Section R10

R10.01 Composition and Election

- A. The five-person committee shall consist of the following:
 - 1. The national steward, assoc. national steward and ~~four~~ three elected team coaches as defined in R3.01.
 - 2. The national steward shall serve as the RSEC chairperson and shall vote only in the event of a tie.
 - 3. Any member of the RSEC involved in an alleged violation shall be excused from the hearing. If the national steward acting as the chairperson is involved the assoc, national steward shall become the acting chairperson a temporary chairperson shall be appointed by the YEDA founders to serve only in that specific allegation resolution.
 - 4. A temporary member of RSEC will be appointed by YEDA founders to serve in the case of less than 5 members to resolve specific allegation resolution.
- B. The RSEC shall serve through the National Championship Show.
- C. Elections for the RSEC shall be conducted on or before the first regular show of the YEDA season. All YEDA team coaches that are currently in good standing (forms submitted and fees paid) for the upcoming competition year shall participate in the election of the RSEC officials.

R10.02 Jurisdiction

- A. The RSEC shall have jurisdiction over all alleged violations of YEDA.
- B. The RSEC shall entertain only such alleged violations as are presented to them in writing by a designated representative, steward, show official, or individual member.
- C. The RSEC shall rule on and enforce such penalties as here under are described for the violation.
- D. All RSEC rulings shall be reviewed by the YEDA founding partners and their legal counsel before submission to the accused and accuser. Legal counsel for YEDA shall serve notice of the RSEC decisions upon the accused in written form through email or U. S. Mail, or both.
- E. RSEC has Final Arbitration Authority of any formal written challenge to a ruling issued by the National Steward. Challenges eligible for review may include but not limited to:
 - 1. Class and division placement or movement
 - 2. Alleged violations or misapplication of YEDA rules or policies
 - 3. Contradictions between published rules, policies, or procedures.All challenges must be submitted in writing, in accordance with established YEDA procedures and timelines. The RSEC's determination shall be final and binding, and no further appeals will be permitted.

R10.03 Judicial Procedure

- A. Report of Alleged Violation
 - 1. Notice of alleged violation must be in writing and sent to a YEDA Founder or Nationals Steward, within ten (10) days of discovery of the violation. The notice must state the full name of the accused, be signed by the accuser, and contain a complete and definitive statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation. Specific details including dates regarding a violation of the rules, are necessary. This will be forwarded to the RSEC.
- B. Hearings
 - 1. Following receipt of written notice of an alleged violation, the RSEC chairperson shall notify the accused of the charges alleged against them in writing by email or U.S. Mail.
 - 2. The chairman of the RSEC shall arrange a mutually agreeable date for a hearing to be held for the accused to appear before the RSEC. This hearing may be held in person, conference call or by video

conference at the discretion of the chairman. The accused and accuser shall be given no less than seven (7) days prior notice of the date of the hearing.

3. The hearing can be recorded, but a written review of the content of the hearing and the decision of the RSEC shall be provided to the YEDA founding partners within seven (7) days of the conclusion of their deliberations.
4. In order to proceed with a hearing, at least four (4) members of the RSEC must be present. All parties to the hearing shall be afforded the opportunity to have legal counsel present on their behalf if they so desire.
5. After giving all persons an opportunity to be heard, the RSEC shall review the testimony in closed session following the conclusion of the hearing. The RSEC will determine by majority vote if a violation has occurred, and if so, what penalty, if any, should be recommended.

C. Notification of Verdict and/or Penalty

The verdict and penalty, if any, shall be set forth in writing by the chairman of the RSEC within seven (7) days of the determination and sent by email or U. S. Mail to the YEDA founders.

R10.04 Non-cooperation

In the event that a member fails to cooperate with the RSEC, the RSEC by a vote of at least three (3) members shall suspend said member until the member renders the cooperation required. An individual violation is any of the following acts committed by an individual:

- A. Violation of the rules of YEDA
- B. Penalization by the Humane Society or a court of law of violation of the association's rules
- C. Acting, inciting, and/or permitting another person to act in a manner contrary to the rules of the association, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interest of the association
- D. Any act committed or remark made in connection with a show considered to be offensive and/or made with intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the judging, such as approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from the show committee or steward; or the inspection of a judge's card without show management's permission
- E. Failure of a judge or steward to perform his/her duties at a show in accordance with the rules
- F. Filing of an inaccurate individual membership application
- G. Failure of an exhibitor or his/her representative to sign the entry blank of a show in which s/he competes
- H. Physical or verbal assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse, as defined in R21.02.
- I. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the association.
- J. Administration of central nervous system drugs (See penalties assigned in R15.02.)
- K. Violation of YEDA social media **rules (See rule R20.05)**, or other act that could negatively affect YEDA's name and reputation.

R10.05 Penalties

If found guilty, penalties shall be limited to the following:

- A. PROBATION shall be listed under the defendant's name in the secretary's record of penalties. If found guilty of a further violation, the defendant shall be subject to a heavier penalty than for a first offense.
- B. SUSPENSION of such person or institution for any period from showing. A suspended person or institution is forbidden for the time specified in the sentence to hold or exercise office in the association or in any show, and is excluded from all show grounds during shows, as an exhibitor, participant, or spectator.
- C. EXPULSION from all YEDA recognized shows.

- D. EXPULSION** from membership in YEDA.
- E. FORFEITURE** of trophies, ribbons, and points won in connection with the offense committed. (See R4.08 & R4.11.)
- F. SUSPENSION** from office as steward, judge, or show official.
- G. FINE**
- H. CENSURE**
- I. REMOVAL** from office.

Show Violations & Penalties

Section R11

R11.01 A team may be subject to penalties by the RSEC for violations of the rules in the conduct of its show.

A. Violations shall include but are not limited to **failure** to do the following:

1. Conduct a show in accordance with YEDA rules.
2. Use standard specifications for classes with entry deadlines and list suitable horses.
3. Print the YEDA statement and deadlines on the showbill posted on each entry blank. (See Section 24.)
4. Secure signature of designated representatives on each entry blank.
5. Provide ~~ambulances on grounds or on call, plus~~ qualified medical personnel as outlined in R21.02-G.
6. Pay its indebtedness to YEDA.
7. Pay other indebtedness within thirty (30) days.
8. Send all show results and reports.
9. Report the disqualification of a person at the show.
- 10.

11. Honor written contracts with the judges, stewards, or other show officials and employees.

- B. The use of judges who have not been approved by obtaining in advance the required permissions from the YEDA office.
- C. The use of non-qualified stewards.
- D. The listing of a judge or steward in the show program or catalog before the invitation to serve has been accepted.
- E. Permitting persons or institutions not in good standing to participate in any manner.
- F. Permitting acts which are improper, intemperate, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, or contrary to the rules of YEDA.

R11.02 A team guilty of a violation shall be subject to a penalty, including the following:

- A. FINE
- B. PROBATION: A vote of censure shall be listed under the defendant's name in the secretary's record of penalties. If found guilty of a further violation, the defendant shall be liable to heavier penalty than for a first-time offense.
- C. SUSPENSION for any period from the list of approved shows.
- D. EXPULSION from membership in YEDA.

R11.03 Reciprocity

On receipt of official notice that disciplinary action has been taken by a humane society or court of law against a person for an act that may be a violation of YEDA rules, an officer of this association may make charge against such person to the RSEC, and after a hearing of such disciplined person under the provisions of the rules, may take such action as it deems in its own best interest.

Organization and Procedures for Shows, Host Teams & Duties of Show Personnel, Height Weight Horses

Section R12

R12.01 YEDA founding partners will run a minimum of eight (8) horse shows. Any team in good standing, with the approval of YEDA, may host a regular point show. All shows will adhere to the show hosting rules section R40.

R12.02 YEDA founding partners will run all national championship shows and events. All shows will adhere to the show hosting rules section R40.

R12.03 A host team is any team in good standing that would like to host a YEDA regular point show with approval of the YEDA home office. All shows will adhere to the show hosting rules section R40.

R12.04 Host teams may limit entries to any number of riders, which shall be binding on all participating teams. They cannot exclude any team from their YEDA show, but they can enforce deadlines. Host teams may do the following:

- A. Verify horses with teams participating in shows and the ability to stable those horses.
- B. Provide the option in a fair and equitable manner for teams to rent horses from the host team at no more than \$60 per ride rental, if possible.
- C. Reduce the number of horses required to bring for entries but cannot increase the number of horses required for entries as defined in R12.05.
- D. Provide suitable stabling for required horses or no-charge horses for entries they accept.

R12.05 Horse ratio requirements per type of show:

- A. Single Day Show: Teams are required to bring one (1) horse for every six (6), unless the host team reduces the team's horse entry ratio because of space or entry limits. This includes double judged (1) day show Horses that are considered height weight horses as defined (R16.01-C). Show management, when necessary, has the discretion to reduce the number of entries/rides height weight horses to less than 6.
- B. AM/PM or Double Header Show: Teams are required to bring one (1) horse for every four (4) entries, unless the host team reduces the team's horse entry ratio because of space or entry limits. Horses that are considered height weight horses as defined (R16.01-C) Show management, when necessary, has the discretion to reduce the number of entries/rides height weight horses to less than 4.
- C. Double Judged Split Combined Show or a Full Show held over 2 days: Teams are required to bring one (1) horse for every nine (9) entries, unless the host team reduces the team's horse entry ratio because of space or entry limits. Horses that are considered height weight horses as defined (R16.01-C) Show management, when necessary, has the discretion to reduce the number of entries/rides height weight horses to less than 9.
- D. Show management can change the ride to horse ratio in extenuating circumstances with permission of the YEDA founders

R12.06 Horse requirements

- A. Every horse must be outfitted with an all-leather tack.
- B. No synthetic materials will be considered acceptable, with the exception of billets, off-billets and cinch straps.
- C. Reins must be an appropriate length for animals being used.
- D. No martingales or tapaderos except for those with prior approval from YEDA or the show steward.

1. Must be a running martingale. (Ex: single strap secured to the girth between the front legs, a neck loop in one piece attached to the fork for the reins with a buckle on the left side of the mount and the rings for the reins no larger than 1.5" in circumference. The entire martingale must be one piece of equipment and have no mechanical or moving parts.) (See diagram below.)
2. Reins must have stoppers between the martingale and the bit that prevent the bit from "catching" on the bridle.
3. Horse provider must school in martingale to the show steward in the morning and may be required to demonstrate certain tests.
4. Horses may be excluded from certain levels per the show steward.



E. Horses must have up-to-date and appropriate health paperwork; requirements may vary depending on facility and show host.

1. Horse providers that bring unsuitable horses will be responsible for paying for rented rides. (See R5.01 for criteria and procedures.)

R12.07 If a team cannot supply the requisite number of horses required by R12.05, the team is responsible for notifying the YEDA show or host management and may pay up to a \$60 fee per entry at a regular season show for a missing horse to be rented on their behalf. Cost of rented horses may vary depending on availability and area. Cost will vary at the YEDA National Championships or Invitational.

R12.08 Teams must apply for a show date sixty (60) days prior to the show date and the show must be announced or advertised thirty (30) days prior to the show date on the YEDA website and social media. The 60-day deadline can be waived for extemporaneous circumstances and approved by YEDA.

R12.09 Host teams will set an entry fee of no more than \$45 per class. \$5.00 - \$8.00 per entry based on Rule 5.06 B. will be submitted to the YEDA home office and two (2) programs with results sent within five (5) days after the show, along with all other required documentation from the Show Hosting Guide.

R12.10 Double judge or split combined shows are permitted with approval of YEDA in the following instances:

- A. Run by the YEDA national organization.
- B. Run by state, province, or affiliate clubs of the YEDA organizations.
- C. Take place within geographic areas or teams with special circumstances.
- D. Hold events of special importance.

R12.11 Each show day may not exceed two hundred and fifty (250) entries, with the exception of the YEDA National Championship Show or other special event such as Quarter Horse Congress. Shows that exceed 250 entries per day need to have permission from the YEDA home office.

R12.12 In order to inspect a judge's card, only a coach can obtain show steward permission.

R12.13 Judge's scoresheets should be released and viewable at the end of the day (end of the show) when the judge has finished all classes.

R12.14 The judge's card is final.

R12.15 For any rule not specifically addressed in the YEDA Rulebook, refer first to IHSA rules, then to AQHA rules. No external rule may override an existing YEDA rule.

Minimum Entry Requirements for Regular Season Shows & Classes

Section R13

R13.01 Minimum Entry Requirements for Regular Member Shows and Classes

- A. A minimum of two (2) teams must compete in an official regular YEDA show. In cases of inclement weather, for points to count, fifty percent (50%) of the entered riders or fifty percent (50%) of the entered teams must attend.
- B. There are no minimum entry requirements per class. (See R28.01.)
- C. Entries per day of showing should not exceed two hundred and fifty (250) entries. (See R12.10.)
- D. ~~If a division in a category has less than three (3) riders, a show committee may combine classes from across category in order to build entries.~~ If When a Jr and Sr category in the same division has (5) or less entries, show management may combine that class to make it a full point class and build entries. Exceptions can be made for safety. (e.g., junior and senior high Sapphire riders may compete together).
- E. No Divisions that cannot be combined to build entries, (e.g., Divisions that cannot be combined are Pearl and Alumni)

R13.02 In order for a show to count, all regular season classes for which rules are provided herein, must be offered. Exceptions may include Diamond Elite classes.

R13.03 Due to inclement weather, or a catastrophic event, a show cannot be held under any circumstances and of no fault to the show hosts. The show hosts are permitted to hold half the entry fees to be used at a future date.

- A. Refunds and show credits are paid back to the team and to be used at the coach's discretion.
- B. If the show host does not hold a YEDA show in the current or following season the show host must refund all held entries to the team.
- C. Any funds left unclaimed from disbanded teams will be paid to the YEDA SIF.

R13.04 Show committees accepting entries for shows that exceed the limitations of the rules of show entries will be given priority. Team entries in order received will have first priority. If all entries are received on the open date and still have more entries than allowed by rule, elimination of entries will be as follows:

- A. Teams and/or entries without complete payment.
- B. Teams and/or entries not providing horses.
- C. The percentage of entries over the limit amount will be cut per team per day by that percentage. For example, if total show entries exceed the limit by fifteen percent (15%), each team will be required to limit its entries by fifteen percent (15%) per day.
- D. When horse availability is limited, show committee, in consultation with the show steward, may limit the number of reining rides per team to ensure horse welfare, safety, and fair competition.

R13.05 When a team or rider cannot safely make it to a show, due to inclement weather, family tragedy or a catastrophic event they are entitled to a refund of entry fees from the show host. If it is past the closing date the show host may keep the office fee and rented ride fee.

- A. The show host has the option to refund 100% of the entry fee or refund 50% of the entry fee and hold the other 50% as a future credit for that team.
- B. All future credits are the credits of the team not an individual rider and the team coach determine how those credits are used in the future.
- C. If the show holds a future show credit, they must host a show during the remainder for the current season or the following season.

- D.** If the show host does not have a show within the remainder of the current season or the next show season they must refund 100% money to the team.
- E.** If a team does not use the future credit during the current season or the following season that money can stay with the host team or be donated to the YEDA SIF added money.
- F.** If there is disagreement between the show host and the team requesting a refund as to the severity of the reason, they are requesting a refund, the YEDA RSEC will make a ruling on if the refund requested is valid request and must be given.

Class Routine

Section R14

R14.01 All classes for which rules are provided herein must be conducted accordingly. If the rules of YEDA do not apply to any given situation, the national steward in conjunction with the YEDA founding partners will rule.

R14.02 Care and control of horses, including any drugs or medications administered, shall be the sole prerogative of the horse provider or their designated representative.

- A. Administration of drugs and medications shall be limited to therapeutic use only and used for the well-being of the horse.
- B. The administration of central nervous system drugs is prohibited in YEDA competitions.

R14.03 A rail class in operation at the time of the stopping of a show for any reason shall cease and no placements shall be made. In the event that a pattern class in which horses compete individually is stopped while in progress, due to storm, accident, or other emergency, the following procedures shall govern:

- A. If the class is continued at the same session of the show, it shall proceed from the point at which it was stopped.
- B. If the class is continued at a succeeding session of the show, it shall be held over in its entirety, and no scores credited in the first session shall count.

R14.04 If a show is stopped while in progress and is unable to recommence, no points will be awarded for the show. **Unless extenuating circumstances exist the Nationals Steward may have final determination on points.**

R14.05 Schooling of horses must be conducted prior to competition for the show steward to review. Schooling of horses will be conducted with the following rules:

- A. On the day of the show for a single judge, no rider entered may school a horse to be used in the show prior to that rider having competed in his/her own classes. On the weekend of a double judge two-day show, a rider entered may school a horse to be used in the show the day prior to that rider having competed in his/her own classes. On the day of the show no rider entered may school a horse to be used in the show prior to that rider having competed in his/her own classes.
- B. Those schooling student riders can only warm up horses from their team's pool of horses.
- C. Student riders that are competing in horse shows or events in conjunction with YEDA point shows can be exempt from R14.05 with prior approval from the National Steward. This includes the All-American Quarter Horse Congress, the Color Breed Congress, breed shows and IHSA shows.
- D. Warmup riders may not school at Nationals if they are competing in the Invitational, individual, or team competition. They may school after they have completed all their showing for that week.
- E. Horses may be schooled with roweled spurs in accordance with the wishes of the horse provider. Horses should be schooled in a manner that best prepares them for the class, demonstrating that they can perform in the classes in which they are assigned. **The horse provider may be asked to demonstrate the horse being ridden in the manner it will be shown.**
- F. Any schooling once mounted for your class or when waiting for a portion of your class can be a reason for Disqualification. Schooling of a horse is doing anything but walking and stopping. Rolling of spurs, bumping of the bit, backing up, pivoting etc. will all be considered schooling.

R14.06 At nationals, no rider entered may school/ride a horse prior to that rider competing. This includes the day before or the day of the show before his/her own class(es). This also includes riding any horse on the show grounds.

R14.07 Small ponies (12.2 hands or smaller) shall not be used in YEDA shows unless approved by YEDA and show management.

Falls, Refusals, & Eliminations

Section R15

R15.01 A rider is considered to have fallen when s/he is separated from his/her horse, which has not fallen, and which necessitates remounting or vaulting into the saddle.

- A. In the event of a fall/accident where the rider is apparently unconscious or concussed, s/he is precluded from competing until evaluated by qualified medical personnel as defined in R21.02-G. If the rider refuses to be evaluated, s/he is disqualified from the competition.
- B.** If qualified medical personnel determine that a rider has sustained unconsciousness or a concussion, the rider must be precluded from competing until cleared to compete. In order to return to competition, the rider shall submit a signed letter, completed by a licensed medical professional, stating that the rider is cleared to compete. The letter shall be submitted to the team coach with a copy sent to Ric Weitzel rweitzel@showyeda.com and show management. ~~national steward in order to compete in YEDA shows.~~
- C. The fall/accident that results in unconsciousness or concussion shall be reported on the YEDA accident report and forwarded to Ric Weitzel rweitzel@showyeda.com ~~national steward.~~
- D. In the event of a fall as defined in R15.01, if subsections A, B, or C do not apply, the rider is precluded from competing until evaluated by qualified medical personnel as defined in R21.02-G and shall be reported on the YEDA Accident Report form and forwarded to the national steward.

R15.02 A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground or an obstacle on the ground.

R15.03 In the event of a fall where the steward determines a re-ride is to be granted, if R15.01 subsections A, B, or C do not apply, the rider is precluded from competing until evaluated by qualified medical personnel as defined in R21.02-G.

Drawing for Horses

Section R16

R16.01 Drawings will be by lot from the pool of designated horses. There must be at least one designated alternate. The draw shall be held at least one hour prior to the start of competition. Announcement of the draw must precede it by at least ten (10) minutes.

- A. Riders with special needs or special assistance not in EWD classes (Amber and Topaz) may be allowed to draw first from a smaller group of horses but one which is not less than two (2).
- B. Riders considered height or weight as set by show management and the horse providers may be allowed to draw first from a smaller group of horses no less than three (3). It is suggested that a show committee set a height weight at 5'9"– 160#. (The show committee can refer to the student's membership form.)
- C. Height weight for horses/ponies 12.3 to 14.2: It is suggested the show committee set a height weight at 5'5"– 125#. (The show committee can refer to the student's membership form.)
- D. Horse providers must bring horses that can cover a minimum of two divisions and cover the total number rides required for that show.
- E. The show steward must be present and conduct the horse draw in the coaches' meeting before the competition starts in the case of a live draw with the coaches invited to be present. The draw during the coaches' meeting can be done in any fair way. Live draw is also an option. The show steward needs to be present at a live draw before the show starts or two stewards need to be hired. A show steward must be present during horse warm up. The show steward can require additional schooling of horses. Horse providers may request additional schooling during the show but must have steward approval.
- F. The draw can be held outside the regular coaches meeting, a steward must be present, and the coaches must be invited to attend and given least 2-hour notice.

R16.02 Diamond Elite pattern classes will draw one horse for head-to-head riders or the show management and/or steward may select a final horse, no draw necessary.

- A. For example, if four (4) teams are participating, two (2) individual riders will draw collectively for their mount, and the next two (2) will draw for their mount. Riders will compete head-to-head on the same horse and move to the next bracket or to finals in the Diamond Elite competition

Re-rides & Re-test

Section R17

R17.01 When through no fault of the rider, a horse performs so poorly or is unsafe that it is impossible to fairly judge the rider's ability, a re-ride may be granted. Examples of poor or unsafe performance include bucking, kicking, rearing, bolting, etc.

R17.02 A re-ride must be requested prior to the conclusion of a rail class, or the last horse leaves the arena in a pattern or Reining class.

R17.03 Only the coach of the rider or the designated proxy coach listed with show management for that rider's team may request a re-ride.

R17.04 Although the show steward may confer with ~~show management and~~ the judge, only the show steward may grant or deny a re-ride.

R17.05 If a re-ride is granted, it shall be judged as if the first ride never occurred.

R17.06 If a re-ride is granted in a class in which riders compete individually, the re-ride shall take place after all other riders in that class have competed.

R17.07 If a re-ride is granted in a class in which all riders compete simultaneously, the class may resume from the point the re-ride is granted and/or can be left to the discretion of the judge and steward to start part or the entire class from the beginning.

R17.08 Re-test is initiated by the judge to see a rider on a horse that is competing in the same class. A judge can also switch riders in a class, which is also considered a re-test.

R17.09 Re-test can be granted when the judge would like to see a rider during a pattern class perform the pattern on a horse already in the group of horses in use in the same class. ~~The show steward will facilitate the student riders in mounting and any equipment changes needed on the new horse designated for the re-test.~~

R17.10 The steward may stop a class in the event a horse or rider is considered unsafe.

R17.11 At an any YEDA show for horsemanship classes judge may choose from the following elements, singly or in combination, and/or any other appropriate and equivalent elements that may be deemed necessary:

- A. Individual performance on the rail (All divisions)
- B. Halt and/or back (All divisions)
- C. Extended jog (All divisions except Amber)
- D. Lope & back (Emerald divisions and higher)
- E. Ride without stirrups (Ruby divisions and higher)
- F. Counter-canter (Ruby divisions and higher)

Tack & Aids, Including Martingales and Spurs. Exhibitor Numbers

Section R18

R18.01 Neither substitution of tack or aids, nor addition of materials by exhibitors that could affect the horse or tack shall be permitted unless approved by a steward. Those riders with special needs or assistance tack and aids that wish to compete in non-EWD classes (Amber and Topaz) may compete with prior approval of show management and the steward. (See R4.12.)

R18.02 In the event of tack breakage, the stewards may stop the competition to fix and/or replace the tack. The rider may then resume the pattern/course where the breakage took place without penalty, or the steward may grant a re-ride.

R18.03 All horses should come with a saddle to the arena for their classes. If the saddle does not fit the rider, the stirrup length cannot be adjusted properly, or the size of the seat is too small or too large, a saddle change can be requested. The saddle change must go through the show steward or saddle steward present. The new saddle must be ring side and be an equal opportunity saddle for all riders and all saddle changes for the entire show. Any rider, team or show management can provide saddles for the saddle change area, if they are an equal opportunity for all riders for the entire show. The saddle steward or show steward will choose the saddle for the saddle change in a fair and impartial process.

R18.04 Use of Crops

- A. Crops, whips, or bats (hereafter “crops”) may be carried only when specified by the show committee and the horse provider.
- B. Aids are not to be used prior to entering the arena.
- C. Two hand horses with a crop option may briefly go to one hand to use the crop and then must return to both hands on the reins.
- D. Stewards may rule that a rider be disqualified for improper use of crops.
- E. Use of crops other than described in the horse description lists, description changes board or approved by the show steward, is cause for disqualification.

R18.05 Use of Spurs

- A. Spurs are permitted except for in Pearl & Opal divisions.
- B. Ball spurs are allowed in Emerald, Ruby, Sapphire, and Diamond divisions in accordance with the instructions of the horse provider and steward. Ball spurs with rolling balls are allowed.
- C. Roweled spurs will be allowed in Sapphire and Diamond classes in accordance with the instructions of the horse provider and steward. Roweled spurs must not be “rock grinders” and every pair of if a roweled spurs is in question used must it can be approved by the show steward prior to the start of the class. Roweled spurs over ten (10) points are not allowed, roweled spurs with sharpened points or hooks are not allowed.
- D. It is up to each horse provider to determine if they will allow the use of spurs on their horse.
- E. It is recommended that all riders provide their own non-roweled spurs.
- F. Use of spurs other than described in the horse description lists, description changes board, or approved by the show steward, is cause for disqualification.
- G. Stewards may rule that a rider be disqualified for improper use of crops and spurs.

R18.06 Responsibilities of Horse Providers

- A. A list of aids appropriate to each horse must be posted or accompany each horse.

- B. Riders shall comply with the suggested use of aids.
- C. Tack and equipment used is at the discretion of the horse provider.
- D. Every horse must be outfitted with all leather tack; i.e., no synthetic materials; however, synthetic billets/latigos, off-billets, and/or cinch straps may be used.
- E. Reins must be an appropriate length for the horse on which they are being used.
- F. No martingales or tapaderos except for those with prior approval from YEDA or the show steward. (see rule R12.06)
- G. It is recommended horse providers use a leather or rope halter under the bridle to lead horses into the arena.
- H. All tack and equipment should be labeled by the horse provider.
- I. Horse providers must bring horses that can cover a minimum of two divisions.
- J. Horse providers must be present on the show grounds.

R18.07 Dress & Headgear

- A. All student riders must show in the official YEDA logo show shirts.
 - 1. Official YEDA logo show shirts must be purchased through YEDA.
 - 2. The YEDA logo is copyrighted and may not be used by any team or rider without written permission from YEDA.
- B. Clothing must be clean, workmanlike and neat.
- C. Chaps are optional at the discretion of the rider.
- D. Riders shall wear a Western hat or ASTM/SEI certified safety helmet.
- E. Team identifying logos are NOT allowed on official YEDA logo show shirts, nor on any other item of clothing worn in the show arena.
- F. Official YEDA logo show shirts may be tailored for optimum fit; however, they may NOT be modified from the original format, including such things as crystals, magnets and personalized additions, etc.
- G. Hair must be neat and securely fastened.
- H. Any exhibitor found in competition with any piece of accouterments or attire, including magnetic devices, which in the opinion of the judge or steward would tend to give a rider an unfair advantage, will be disqualified. This will also include shoulder back or position performance altering supports under the show clothes.

R18.08 Electronic Communication Devices on an exhibitor competing are prohibited and will result in disqualification.

R18.09 Failure by exhibitors to wear the correct or any number in a visible manner shall result in disqualification. The judge or show steward shall have the final say in disqualifications. (Extenuating circumstances may influence this decision.)

Awards - Ribbons & Trophies

Section R19

R19.01 The color of awards at all shows shall be as follows:

- A. Champion blue - red - yellow
- B. Reserve champion red - yellow - white
- C. 1st blue
- D. 2nd red
- E. 3rd yellow
- F. 4th white
- G. 5th pink
- H. 6th green

19.02 Prizes must meet or exceed the following: (See R40.13.)

- A. Ribbons/Medals/Equivalent Prizes for 1st–6th place
 - 1. Ribbons must have rosettes with a minimum of two (2) streamers and color coordinated to the class placing with a description.
 - 2. Medals must be color coordinated to the class placing with a description on the medal or neck ribbon. The medal must not be smaller than 2.5” round.
 - 3. Equivalent prizes must be color coordinated with rule R19.01 and approved by YEDA.
- B. First (1st) place prize with a value of \$5 or more.
- C. Prizes for High Point and Reserve High Point riders for high school and junior high school with a value of \$10 or more.
- D. Prizes for high point and reserve high point teams for high school and junior high school with a value of \$10 or more.
- E. Horse-of-the-day prize should have a value of \$25 or more and should be for the winning horse.
- F. Sportsmanship prize is optional. Sportsmanship patches can be ordered from the YEDA home office—order form available.

R19.03 A minimum of six awards shall be awarded in each class.

R19.04 Ribbons and awards shall be furnished by the show host.

R19.05 Champion and reserve ribbons or equivalent prizes shall be awarded to the following at each show:

- A. First and second place teams.
- B. First and second place High Point rider in both junior, senior, and elementary high competitions.
- C. For High Point and Reserve High Point junior and senior high riders, it is recommended a monetary scholarship be awarded. However, the amount of the scholarship cannot exceed the total riders’ entry fee amount for that day. (See R19.10.)

R19.06 Additional awards may be given to the winners of each individual class, to the champion team, and/or High Point rider(s) at the discretion of the show committee.

R19.07 In the event of a tie for champion team at a regular season show, the scores shall stand, and the show committee shall rule on who receives the champion team award and the reserve champion team award. The same is true for reserve champion team ties, or any team placing team tie at a regular season show.

R19.08 At all YEDA horse shows a “horse of the day” will be chosen by the judge. The “best groomed horse” must be awarded to a horse by the steward.

- A. Horse of the day is defined as the best performing horse in the show.
- B. The best-groomed horse award is to promote animal welfare and the image that YEDA wants to present. This award is presented to showcase those teams who are providing horses that are well groomed with a high body score and condition.

R19.09 At the YEDA National Championship Show

- A. All champion riders, and the champion team shall be presented with awards-
- B. All reserve champion riders and the reserve champion team shall receive an award.
- C. First through eighth in each division shall be awarded champion-sized rosettes.
- D. All exhibitors will receive a national qualifier award.

R19.10 Sportsmanship Recognition Award

The Sportsmanship Nomination form shall be available at every show and may be used by coaches, show staff, and/or other exhibitors to nominate an outstanding rider/exhibitor who has shown extraordinary levels of sportsmanship. An award need not be given at every show but only in situations where show staff feel extra acknowledgment is appropriate. There is no minimum or maximum number of awards to be given in a single season. YEDA sportsmanship patches may be given for this award and are available through the YEDA home office.

R19.11 Monetary Awards to Students

- A. Student riders may receive monetary awards in the form of scholarships toward undergraduate, trade and vocational education.
- B. Direct monetary awards at a YEDA show for student riders based upon their performance; i.e., High Point and Reserve High Point riders, must not exceed their entry fees for a given YEDA show day. This assures student riders are in compliance with any NCAA, undergraduate or conference affiliations’ rules or by-laws.
- C. No family member of a student rider, team, or coach may receive monetary awards on behalf of a student ride.

Personal Conduct of Exhibitors, Coaches, and Show Personnel

Section R20

R20.01 It is expected that exhibitors, spectators, and coaches will behave in a manner that reflects the dignity of the sport. Ill-mannered conduct will not be tolerated. Any behavior deemed inappropriate may be presented as a protest to the RSEC or included in a steward's report. At YEDA horse shows, the show management, in conjunction with the stewards, may expel from the grounds any person whose behavior is deemed dishonest, unethical, unsportsmanlike, or detrimental to the health, safety, or well-being of any horse, person, or the YEDA association during the progress of the show. Three or more violations of the sportsmanship rules will result in expulsion of the association. By registering as a coach in YEDA, you agree to the following:

- A. Know the current YEDA rules and abide by them.
- B. Put the emotional and physical wellbeing of all YEDA riders, staff, and coaches ahead of your personal desire to win.
- C. Respect all YEDA staff and officials and refrain from questioning them in a disrespectful or abusive manner.
- D. Maintain control over your emotions and avoid language, actions, or gestures that could be interpreted as disrespectful, demeaning, hostile, or humiliating.
- E. Set the example of being humble and generous when winning and proud and courteous in defeat.
- F. Ensure that all riders, parents, and other personnel associated with your team always demonstrate good sportsmanship and maturity.

It is the responsibility, therefore, of all parties concerned to be aware of the conduct of participants and the condition of the horses; and, if a violation is observed, a report must be made immediately to the stewards.

R20.02 Cruelty

Equestrian sport is made possible by the animals who serve the riders. This is a sport of grace and elegance where rider and animal work as a team. There is neither grace nor elegance in an abusive spectacle. Know the current YEDA rules and abide by them.

R20.03 Alcohol

The use and/or possession of alcohol, or any illegal substances, by the exhibitors, coaches or spectators is strictly forbidden during the YEDA show in or around the show arena and at the barns. ~~on the show grounds~~. Any participant apprehended with such materials will automatically be suspended from YEDA.

R20.04 Veterinary Drugs

It is the responsibility of all parties concerned to consider the welfare of the horse. The administration of central nervous system drugs is prohibited in YEDA competition. (See R14.02.)

R20.05 Language detrimental to YEDA or any of its members in their social media will be subject to disciplinary action. As a YEDA Member, parent, booster, or any affiliation with YEDA, you agree NOT to post any negative remarks on any social media platform about any member, horse, parent, booster, or affiliate organization. This will not be tolerated and is strict. If this should occur, you may be subject to disciplinary actions including being excused from YEDA without refund of membership, entry or any related fee.

Show Officials & their Duties

Section R21

R21.01 The term “show officials” shall include and refer to all persons directly engaged by the show.

R21.02 Officials and their duties shall include the following: (See Section 40.)

- A. Show Manager:** Someone who completes all communication and paperwork with YEDA. The manager may assist in coaching a team if s/he only needs to manage the show.
- B. Show Secretary:** Someone who creates the showbill and program before the show. During the show, the show secretary manages the office, tracks the points, collects money, organizes judge's cards and scoresheets, and creates a final program. Manager and secretary can be the same person as long as that person does not coach a team the day of the show.
- C. Announcer:** This individual announces placing and other information on the day of the show.
- D. Judge:** To judge, an individual must be selected from any carded breed association as listed but not limited to (PtHA, APHA, AQHA, ApHC, NSBA, and NRHA). A judge can also be an active Western coach in the IHSA. A judge not qualified under previous rules may be used with permission from the YEDA home office or be qualified under the YEDA judge certification process. The judge needs to understand the difference between a YEDA show and a breed show and agree to fill out scoresheets for all rail and pattern classes.
- E. Show Steward:** This individual needs to understand and uphold the YEDA rulebook. The show steward needs to be present the entire day of the show including the coaches' meeting, horse schooling, and all classes. This individual needs to be able to give a fair and impartial ruling that upholds the current YEDA rulebook and YEDA core values. ~~S/he cannot be related to or affiliated with any team or rider competing in the show.~~ S/he needs to watch each class carefully, grant re-rides if necessary, and approve changing of tack in the paddock. (See R7.01.) During pattern classes, the show steward will monitor the flow of riders entering the arena. S/he will watch when the judge is ready and let the riders know they can enter or even assist the riders with entering the arena. It is suggested for large shows over 125 rides that there be a saddle steward present to help with the changing of tack. **If the show steward is related or affiliated to any rider at that show, a YEDA founder or qualified person can take over the show stewarding duties for any class that involved the rider the show steward has a relationship.**
- F. Ring Steward:** This individual is knowledgeable about a horse show, judging, and is ring smart. The ring steward will be in the arena with the judge all day, assisting the judge with scoresheets as a scribe (if the judge wants), calling gates, communicating with the announcer, etc.
- G. EMT or Nurse:** This individual needs to be on the grounds and available from the time the first rider mounts for warm up until the end of the final class.
- H. Paddock Steward:** This individual organizes the horses and riders in preparation for upcoming classes. This individual also helps to manage changing of tack, tightening of girths, and overall safety in the paddock.
- I. Saddle Steward:** This is a position that is needed for larger shows over 125 rides to assist with the changing of tack in a fair way when saddle changes are needed.
- J. In-gate and Out-gate Staff:** There should be a responsible horseman at each gate at all times. This is for safety and time efficiency of your show.

Judges
Section R22

R22.01 Qualifications

- A. To judge, an individual must be selected from any carded breed association as listed but not limited to (PtHA, APHA, AQHA, ApHC, NSBA, and NRHA). A judge can also be an active Western coach in the IHSA.
- B. A judge not qualified under R22.01-A, can be qualified under the YEDA judge certification process, with prior approval from the YEDA founders by the closing date of the horse show.
 - 1. A person may judge up to two (2) shows per YEDA season. In extenuating circumstances (1) one judge may officiate an AM & PM show or back-to-back show with approval from YEDA.
- C. A judge for the National Championship Show must not have officiated at any YEDA show in the current season.
- D. A judge may not officiate if s/he has had a professional relationship with any coach or member of a hosting team, including clinics with any exhibitor or member team, within 120 days prior to the show.
- E. No YEDA individual member may show before a judge with whom s/he has had a professional relationship, including but not limited to clinics, within 120 days prior to the show.
- F. The National Championship Show shall have a minimum of two (2) judges.

R22.02 Responsibilities

- A. Good judging depends on a correct observance of the fine points and the selection of the best rider under the conditions of the class. A judge serves three interests: his/her own conscience, and the interests of the exhibitors and the spectators. S/he should make clear to the audience that the best rider wins. The attention of judges is directed to the difference in requirements as stated in the YEDA rulebook for the class in question. A judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the YEDA rulebook. S/he is expected to have a working knowledge of the rules of YEDA.
- B. The decision of each judge constitutes solely his/her individual preference and not a verdict by YEDA.
- C. No one shall approach a judge with regard to a decision unless s/he first obtains permission from the show steward who shall arrange an appointment with the judge at a proper time and place.
- D. A judge may order from the arena a horse or rider whose actions may endanger other exhibitors and/or horses. (See R25.03.)
- E. All classes will have an individual scoresheet filled out for rail, pattern, rail/pattern, Ranch, and Reining classes. The scoresheets will be posted at the conclusion of every show but not before.

Show Steward

Section R23

R23.01 A regular show shall have one (1) qualified steward.

R23.02 Qualifications

- A. A YEDA steward may be anyone over the age of twenty-one (21).
- B. A steward must hold current YEDA membership as either a regular member or an associate member.
- C. A steward must have current working knowledge of the YEDA rulebook and know the distinctions between YEDA and other competitive organizations.
- ~~D. No person may serve as a steward at a show hosted by the institution with which s/he is associated in any manner.~~
- E. New stewards are recommended to set up a training in person or by phone with the National Steward

R23.03 Duties

Show stewards serve to interpret the rules of YEDA. The steward's duties include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Protect the interest of exhibitors, judges, and show management.
- B. Investigate and act upon any alleged rule violations, without waiting for a protest. **When needed** report to the YEDA RSEC board for disciplinary action.
- C. Report to the show management any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a protest.
- D. Report to the show management any violation of the rules and pursue charges against the violator if not otherwise properly handled **through RSEC for disciplinary action.**
- E. Supervise the drawing of horses.
- F. Fill out and return to the YEDA home office a show-steward report within **two (2) five (5) days** of the show. **If there were any show problems that could not be resolved call the national steward or a YEDA founder as soon as possible. Any riders** that were reclassified, the show steward report must be forwarded onto the YEDA home office within two (2) days of receipt of the report.
- G. **Collect** Review all accident/claim forms and make sure show management forwards a copy to the YEDA home office within two (2) **five (5) days** of the conclusion of the show. **Any major incident requires a phone call to the National Steward or a YEDA founder as soon as possible.**
- H **A videographer can be hired and used at YEDA shows with prior approval from the YEDA founders**

R23.04 Steward's Powers

Steward's powers include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Permit re-rides under specific conditions as agreed upon by the show management prior to beginning of competition.
- B. Determine, under extenuating circumstances or extreme unfairness to one or more exhibitors if a class should be re-run.
- C. Determine suitability of rider to horse, rider to class, and/or horse to class level.
- D. Stop a class in the event a horse or rider is considered unsafe.

R23.05 Classification of student riders by the National Steward

- A.** The National Steward of YEDA has the power to reclassify riders who are competing at incorrect levels. All points and ribbons won in such classes shall be forfeited, but it will not affect the points of other student riders.
- B.** Classification of riders need not be automatic. When classification is unclear, upon request to the National Steward and submission of biographical information, the National Steward may review a rider's ability for proper classification. \$25 fee will accompany the formal request.
 - 1.** A student rider may be evaluated by the National Steward outside of the competition day prior to his/her first YEDA show of the year.
 - 2.** Head coach of the student rider may submit a video of the student rider to the National Steward for evaluation.
 - 3.** The National Steward can designate three (3) representatives to evaluate the student rider outside of the competition day prior to his/her first YEDA show of the season. It is recommended to use coaches and/or stewards. Their evaluation will be considered in the National Stewards' reclassification but not automatic. Accompanying video is recommended to be submitted after the evaluation.

Show Program

Section R24

R24.01 The Show Program/Showbill

A. The show program must include the following:

1. Name of the judge
2. Name and address of show manager
3. Date, location, and phone number for the show
4. Time of coaches meeting and start of the show
5. Opening and Closing date for entries
6. Information about food and entertainment
7. Amount of entry and other fees (Once distributed, the fees may not be changed for said show.
8. Disclosure statement
9. YEDA logo

B. The show program must use the YEDA template and be emailed to YEDA to be posted on the official YEDA website not less than two (2) weeks prior to the opening date of entries. (See Section 40.)

C. Forms for the show must include the following:

D. The entry blank, which must contain spaces for name, class numbers, and the name of the team and exhibitor number is required for every rider and is used for the duration of the YEDA season.

F. The Team Entry form must contain the following statement to be signed by the coach or designated representative of each member team making the entry: *This entry constitutes an agreement and affirmation that the team, riders, coaches, trainers and/or any affiliate, agent, and/or representative of the said individuals making entries (hereinafter collectively referred to as "exhibitors") shall accept and abide by the rules of YEDA and of the show, and that each rider is eligible as entered. Exhibitors certify that each rider is eligible for competition in the level entered, and that exhibitors will accept any rulings of YEDA with respect to their conduct as final and beyond contestation. Additionally, exhibitors agree to defend and hold YEDA, its directors, officials, employees, and all persons, stables, and/or other entities providing facilities, horses or equipment for YEDA shows and activities (hereinafter collectively referred to as "YEDA & affiliates"), harmless for any claim action, or suit, including claim, action, or suit for injury, property damage, or death sustained during participation in the show by the entity, his/her coach, trainer or visitors.*

- a. Exhibitors hereby acknowledge and recognize that competing in a YEDA event and/or show is an inherently dangerous activity and may result in substantial and serious injury, including but not limited to, maiming, paralysis, and/or death, and that all of the aforementioned individuals openly and freely accept all of the potential risks association with participation in YEDA events/shows. Accordingly, exhibitors agree to waive, release, and hold harmless the YEDA & affiliates from any and all actions, causes of action, suits, debts, promises, damages, judgments, claims, and/or demands whatsoever, in law and/or equity. In making entry into YEDA competition or event, team and/or individuals explicitly indemnify YEDA & affiliates from

any threatened and/or actual liability, and agree to defend YEDA and affiliates from the same.

- b. Each coach must sign the entry blank for entrants from his/her team. In the event of failure to do so, the first entrance into the arena of an exhibitor of that team shall constitute acceptance of the rules of YEDA and of the show by both the team and each entrant from that team. As such, that team and all of its exhibitors shall be held subject to aforementioned rules.

R24.02 Entries

- A. The acceptance of substitutions is entirely at the discretion of the show committee.
- B. A show may adopt its own policy regarding the refunding of entry fees to an exhibitor who cancels entries after the closing date. A refund will only be considered if a completed scratch refund request form is submitted, however this does not guarantee a refund. Please refer to rule R13.05 for more detail and extenuating circumstances.
- C. Any violation of financial obligations, including those monies due to the YEDA home office, will result in the team or individual in question being restricted from future shows until such fees are paid. Show management will require entries to be paid prior to the first class.
- ~~D. In case of discrepancy between information in the show program and that of the entry blank, the entry blank shall take precedence.~~
- E. It is recommended that all entries received by the closing date be acknowledged by the show secretary, including a schedule indicating the classes for each entry.
- F. Teams that would like to enter a show after the closing date and there is available space must pay a late fee of up to \$100 payable to the show management or show host if requested.

R24.03 Programs

Programs shall contain the following:

- A. Number of classes on the show program (See Section 33.)
- B. List of classes and entries in order.
- C. Names of show steward, judges and medical
- D. YEDA logo and www.showyeda.com printed on the front cover

General Judging Requirements

Section R25

R25.01 In all YEDA classes, only the rider is being judged; therefore, no penalty should be assessed because of the horse's conformation, color, or way of going. Tack and equipment used is at the discretion of the horse provider. (See Section 18.)

R25.02 Falls, refusals, and eliminations (See Section 15.)

R25.03 Any rider not having his/her mount under sufficient control shall be removed from the arena and shall be disqualified or remounted at the show steward's discretion.

R25.04 Riders must remain on the same horse throughout all phases of the class unless/until the judge or steward requests a change.

R25.05 No attendant shall be allowed in the arena except at the request of the judge or steward. The exception is the EWD classes.

R25.06 If additional tests are desired and appropriate, the judge's instructions to riders shall be officially announced. It is suggested that the judge go over these instructions with the announcer to assure mutual understanding of the wording. Judges shall not confer with riders individually during the lineup.

Western Horsemanship

Section R26

R26.01 Riders will be judged on seat, legs, hands, and the ability to control and show the horse. Results as shown by performance of the horse are NOT to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining them.

R26.02 Basic Position

The rider should sit in the center of the saddle and the horse's back with the legs hanging to form a straight line from the rider's ear through the center of the shoulder and hip, touching the back of the heel or through the ankle. Feet should be placed in the stirrups with the weight on the ball of the foot. Consideration in making this judgment, however, should be given to the width of the stirrup. The heels should be lower than the toes, with a slight bend in the knee and the lower leg should be directly under the knee. Riding with the toes in the stirrups will be penalized. The rider's back should be flat, relaxed and supple. The shoulders should be back, level and square.

R26.03 Hands

- A. One hand: Both hands and arms should be held in a relaxed manner, with the upper arm in a straight line with the body. The arm holding the reins should be bent at the elbow forming a line from the elbow to the horse's mouth. No more than one finger is allowed between the reins when split reins are used. The position of the free hand and arm is optional but should be kept clear of the horse and equipment. Excessive pumping of the free arm as well as excessive stiffness will be penalized.
- B. Two hands: Except as noted, only one hand is permitted on the reins, and hands are not to be changed. Two hands may be used only on horses designated by the horse provider. When two hands are used, the tails of the reins must be crossed on opposite sides of the neck. The reins must be held with both reins in each hand: bridged, or one rein may be held in each hand. Changes by the rider from one hand to two hands or two hands to one hand are considered a major penalty or disqualification depending on the severity of the penalty.
- C. Romal reins: When using romal reins, the rider's hand shall be around the reins, with the extension held in the freehand. It is acceptable to hold the free hand in classical style of horsemanship versus down in the traditional style of romal rein use. The use of the freehand while holding the romal to alter the tension or length of the rein from the bit to the hand is considered to be the use of two hands and can result in a disqualification. No fingers are allowed between reins when using a romal.
- D. Bosal and/or hackamore reins shall be held in two hands
- E. The rein hand should be carried immediately above or slightly in front of the saddle horn. Bracing against the horn will be penalized.
- F. Reins should be adjusted so that the rider has light contact on the horse's mouth, and at no time shall reins require more than a slight hand movement to control the horse.
- G. Excessively tight or loose reins will be penalized.
- H. The hand is to be around the reins at all times.

R26.04 Position in Motion

Rider's base of support should maintain secure contact with the saddle from the seat to the thigh. Light contact should be maintained with the saddle and horse from the knee to mid-calf. Riders should sit to jog and not post. All movements of the horse should be governed by the use of imperceptible aids.

R26.05 Class Routines

A. Horsemanship rail only class: Riders shall enter the arena and show collectively on the rail at all required gaits in both directions prior to any individual testing. The order to reverse should be executed away from the rail. Light contact with the horse's mouth shall not be penalized.

~~Entries shall line up on command.~~ A judge may change a rider from any horse to any other horse in the same class.

B. Horsemanship pattern class: Riders will enter the arena or individually. Each rider must perform a designated pattern and be judged individually on a scoresheet. ~~Any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in class requirements.~~ Additional testing is optional in all classes. If a re-ride is granted by the stewards during the horsemanship pattern, the riders will re-ride on an alternate horse. **The first ride shall not be considered and judged only on the re-ride.**

C. Horsemanship rail/pattern class: Riders enter the arena collectively and perform at all three gates. It is the judge's discretion to work exhibitors one or both directions. Exhibitors will exit the arena after rail work and then work through the gate for the pattern in their draw order. Riders are to remain mounted. The student rider is allowed to communicate with their coach ~~and~~ before their pattern begins. Coaches and student riders can make adjustments to spurs, position of hands, (i.e. one to two hands) or stirrups and in compliance with horse descriptions.

D. Diamond Elite pattern class: The top 4, 6, 8 or 12 leading teams in team points for the year competing at a show will have the option to designate one rider for the Diamond Elite class. Exceptions can be made to the number of riders by show management as long as it is done in a fair and equitable way and all teams have a fair chance. Those riders will compete head-to-head on a horse drawn from a pool of horses or selected by the steward. (This class may not be offered at every show. Show host will decide the number of team riders invited to compete if the class is offered) The number of teams represented and present at a show will also determine the number of riders in this class.

R26.06 Horsemanship Elements

At any YEDA show for horsemanship classes, judge may choose from the following elements, singly or in combination, and/or any other appropriate and equivalent elements that may be deemed necessary:

- A. Halt Individual performance on the rail (All divisions)
- B. and/or back (All divisions)
- C. Extended jog (All divisions except Amber)
- D. Lope & back (Emerald divisions and higher)
- E. Ride without stirrups (Ruby divisions and higher)
- F. Counter-canter (Ruby divisions and higher)

R26.07 Faults incurring a score of 0 must be placed below rider/s without or not incurring faults.

- A. Performing maneuvers other than in the specified order
- B. Inclusion of maneuvers not specified
- C. Running away or failure to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether the rider is on pattern

Reining and Ranch Riding

Section R27

R27.01 Reining Class Procedures

Entries are to perform individually before the judge. Three markers will be placed on the left and right rail: a center marker and two end markers spaced appropriately to the size of the arena to allow easy passage beyond the markers. Personal appointments, positions, and procedures are consistent with the rules governing YEDA.

R27.02 Reining General Guidelines

Riders are to be judged on proper symmetry of figures, definite changes of speed, direction, and size of circles; proper technical application of natural aids in obtaining lead changes, stops and turns; and reasonable working horsemanship. Emphasis is on precision, technical application, and the ability to show an unfamiliar horse in a preassigned pattern. (Results as shown by the performance of the horse are not necessarily to be considered more important than the methods used by the rider in obtaining them.) YEDA judges will adhere the NRHA Judges Guide to access scores for maneuvers and penalties. With YEDA's unique catch-riding format, penalties do not have to be assessed if the student rider is not a fault. The penalty can be circled on the scorecard to show it occurred but was not applied, as the judge saw it as the fault of the horse not the rider.

R27.03 Reining Patterns

- A. The show committee of each show must determine which pattern is most appropriate based on the suitability of horses and arena footing.
- B. Patterns may be selected only from the YEDA pattern book/rulebook.

R27.04 A winning ride includes the following:

- A. Proper use of natural aids
- B. Smooth, consistent figures
- C. Efficient, well-placed changes of lead
- D. Definite changes of speed
- E. Noticeable differences in circle size
- F. Proper use of arena markers
- G. Proper working horsemanship

R27.05 Faults incurring a score of 0: Not to be placed

- A. Illegal use of hands on the reins
- B. Using the reins as a whip
- C. Fall by horse or rider (See Section 15.)
- D. Abuse of the horse

R27.06 Faults incurring a score of 0 that must be placed below rider/s without or not incurring faults:

- A. Performing maneuvers other than in the specified order
- B. Inclusion of maneuvers not specified

C. Running away or failure to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether the rider is on pattern

R27.07 Reining rider may untangle excess rein but only when excess rein may prevent the rider from properly executing the pattern. And, rider may untangle excess reins only during periods when such movements may not be used to affect the performance of the horse, such as during hesitations or while settling the horse.

R27.08 Faults incurring major penalties include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Excessive, reckless, or inappropriate speed
- B. Any unnecessary aid by the rider, such as excessive talking, petting, kicking, jerking of reins, etc.
- C. Overly aggressive or abusive use of natural aids
- D. Jogging in excess of 1/2 circle or 1/2 length of the arena while starting a circle, circling, or exiting a rollback
- E. Use of free hand to intimidate or to show praise to the horse
- F. Spurring in front of the girth
- G. Holding or touching the saddle with either hand

R27.09 Reining faults incurring in which severity of the penalty must be determined according to the judges' perception as to whether blame lies more with the horse or the rider include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Figure asymmetry
- B. Failure to properly use arena markers
- C. Starting or completing any circle on an incorrect lead
- D. Starting any lope maneuver at a jog

R27.10 Reining faults incurring in whichever severity of the penalty must be determined according to the judges' perception as to whether blame lies more with the horse or the rider and include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Any deviation from well balanced stops or turns or timely transitions
- B. Delayed changes of lead
- C. Anticipation of signals by the horse
- D. Backing sideways or refusing to back
- E. Failure to complete the pattern as written will result in a score of 0 unless it is determined by the show steward that the fault was the horse and not the riders' ability. (See Section 17.)

R27.11 Show management must use an official YEDA Reining pattern. Any changes because of horse availability or arena condition must be announced at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the class. Patterns should be worked as stated, not as drawn. The drawn pattern is to give the general idea of how the pattern will appear in the arena.

R27.12 The judge may ask a rider to return to ride any approved Reining pattern on the same or different horse.

R27.13 Scoring and penalty reference guide will be as follows with special consideration for YEDA shows and the unique catch riding/draw format

Penalty Reference Sheet

- Scoring: On a basis of 0–Infinity, 70 denoting an average run
- Maneuver Scores:
 - +1½ Excellent

- +1 Very Good
- +½ Good
- 0 Correct
- -½ Poor
- -1 Very Poor
- -1½ Extremely Poor

½ Point Penalties

- Delayed lead change by 1 stride
- Starting circle at a jog or executing rollbacks at a jog up to 2 strides
- Over/under spinning up to ⅛ of a turn
- Failure to remain a minimum of 20 feet from wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or rollback (special consideration for YEDA shows for availability of arenas)
- In a pattern requiring a run-around, failure to remain a minimum of 10 feet from either side of the center of the arena (for small arenas, at judge's discretion)

1 Point Penalties

- Each time a horse is out of lead (cumulative; applied each ¼ of the circumference of a circle or any part thereof)
- Delayed lead change from 1 stride to ¼ of circumference of a circle (cumulative beyond that point)
- Over/under spinning up to ¼ of a turn
- Failure to be on the correct lead when rounding the end of the arena for ½ the turn or less

2 Point Penalties

- Break of gait, including complete stop in first quarter of circle after lope departure
- Freeze up in spins or rollbacks
- Jogging beyond 2 strides but less than ½ circle or ½ length of arena
- Failure to be on correct lead when rounding end of arena for more than ½ the turn
- On walk-in patterns: loping prior to reaching center of arena and/or failure to stop or walk before executing lope departure
- On run-in patterns: failure to be in lope prior to reaching first marker or break of gait prior to first marker
Failure to completely pass specified marker before initiating stop position

5 Point Penalties

- Spurring in front of cinch
- Use of either hand to instill fear or praise
- Holding saddle with either hand

- Blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, or striking (Special consideration for YEDA horses if it is clearly not the fault of the student rider)

Penalty Score 0 (In YEDA this would be OP – off pattern and scored below horses completing the pattern)

- Use of more than index (first) finger between reins
- Use of two hands (except in snaffle bit or hackamore classes designated for two hands) or changing hands (Special consideration available horses from providers)
- Use of romal other than as outlined in R26.03.C rulebook
- Failure to complete pattern as written
- Performing maneuvers other than in specified order
- Inclusion of maneuvers not specified, including but not limited to:
 - Backing more than two strides
 - Turning more than 90 degrees
 - On run-in patterns, once beginning a lope, a complete stop prior to reaching the first marker
- Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern, including dropping a rein that contacts the ground while horse is in motion
- Balking or refusal of command where pattern is delayed
- Running away or failing to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether entry is on pattern
- Jogging in excess of ½ circle or ½ the length of the arena
- Overspins of more than ¼ turn
- Fall to the ground by horse or exhibitor
- In run-around patterns, a rollback that crosses the center line
- Any attempt to alter tension or length of reins from bridle to rein hand

R27.13 YEDA Over-riding of a reining horse definition is riding to much or to hard, to push a horse beyond his comfort or athletic ability. To use too strong or aggressive of a cue for the animal. When the rider's management or lack thereof causes uncontrolled responses of the horse. Over-riding should be treated as a fault against the maneuver score and marked down according to the severity of the deviation of control. Judges for YEDA are tasked with seeing through the horse and determining if fault lies with the rider or the horse.

R27.14 Judges may not confer on any penalty or maneuver prior to submitting a score. If a major penalty (a penalty which results in a no score, zero (0), or five (5) point penalty) is unclear, a judge will submit his/her score and ask that the score be held, pending a conference or review of the official video at the next drag, or as soon as practical. Should the judges determine via conference or video replay that a penalty has been incurred, it should be applied. However, if no penalty occurred, the score will be announced as originally submitted. No judge shall be required to change his/her score following a conference or replay.

Each judge's decision is an individual call and based on an individual decision from a conference or video replay. The use of video review equipment by a judge is only permissible if the judge has reason to believe that all entries have been videotaped by the official videographer or an official videographer approved by YEDA. **Only a judge may request a video review when determining clarification on a score.**

R27.15 A coach with rider/s in the respective class may request a video review from the show steward only when there is an official videographer and scores being announced. The coach believes a major penalty (penalty score zero (0) and five (5) point penalty) has incurred.

- A. A judge has the right to deny or honor the request. The judge has the ability to request video review if there is an official videographer in place.
- B. The show steward will verify the penalty is score (0) and/or five (5) on a maneuver, otherwise the video review is not permitted.
- C. Coaches may not have direct contact with the judge(s) during the entire process of requesting a review. The request must be submitted to the YEDA show steward, who will take the request to the judge(s).
- D. Judges will correct the score if the video review proves a major penalty was applied incorrectly, but they cannot correct any other scores with the exception of the major penalty as defined above. (Judges cannot correct any other scores for riders with the exception of the requested exhibitor.)

R27.16 YEDA permits the judge the option of requesting a re-ride if an unavoidable circumstance disrupts a horse and rider's pattern. In the instance where a re-ride is warranted in the judge's opinion, the judge should advise the YEDA steward as soon as possible. In the case where a horse was able to complete the pattern, but a re-ride is warranted, the score should be held until the coach decides whether to exercise the re-ride option.

R27.17 Ranch Riding Class Procedures

Entries are to perform individually before the judge. Markers may be used but are not required to indicate a point of the pattern. Personal appointments, positions, and procedures are consistent with the rules governing YEDA.

R27.18 Ranch Riding General Guidelines

Riders are to be judged on proper symmetry of figures, definite changes of speed, direction, and size of circles when designated. The Ranch riding class is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute, in concert with his/her horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional, and fundamentally correct seat. Horses should have forward motion. The ideal Ranch riding pattern is extremely precise with the horse and rider working in complete unison, executing each maneuver with subtle aids and cues.

R27.19 Ranch Riding Patterns

- A. The show committee of each show must determine which pattern is most appropriate, based on the suitability of horses and arena footing.
- B. Patterns may be selected only from the YEDA pattern book/rulebook.

R27.20 A winning ride includes the following:

- A. Proper use of natural aids
- B. Smooth, consistent figures
- C. Efficient, well-placed changes of lead
- D. Definite changes of speed
- E. Noticeable difference in circle size
- F. Proper use of arena markers
- G. Proper working horsemanship

R27.21 Faults incurring a score of 0: **Not to be placed**

- A. Illegal use of hands on the reins
- B. Using the reins as a whip
- C. Fall by horse or rider (See Section 15.)

D. Abuse of the horse

R27.22 Faults incurring a score of zero (0) that must be placed below rider/s without or not incurring faults:

- A. Performing maneuvers other than in the specified order
- B. Inclusion of maneuvers not specified
- C. Running away or failure to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether a rider is on pattern.

R27.23 Ranch riding exhibitors may untangle excess rein, but only when excess rein may prevent the rider from properly executing the pattern. And, the rider may untangle excess reins only during periods when such movements may not be used to affect the performance of the horse, such as during hesitations, or while settling the horse.

R27.24 Faults incurring major penalties include but are not limited to the following with a 5-point penalty:

- A. Excessive, reckless, or inappropriate speed
- B. Any unnecessary aid by the rider, such as excessive talking, petting, kicking, jerking of reins, etc.
- C. Overly aggressive or abusive use of natural aids
- D. Jogging in excess of 1/2 circle or 1/2 length of the arena while starting a circle, circling, or exiting a rollback
- E. Use of free hand to intimidate or to show praise to the horse
- F. Spurring in front of the girth
- G. Blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing, or striking (Special consideration for YEDA horses if it is clearly not the fault of the student rider)

R27.25 Ranch riding faults incurring in which severity of the penalty must be determined according to the judges' perception as to whether blame lies more with the horse or the rider, include but are not limited to the following with a 1-point penalty:

- A. Figure asymmetry
- B. Failure to effectively use the arena and demonstrate spatial awareness
- C. Starting or completing any circle on an incorrect lead
- D. Starting any lope maneuver at a trot
- E. Break of gate at the walk or trot up to 2 strides
- F. To slow per gate
- G. Wrong lead up to 2 strides
- H. Over bridled or out of frame

R27.26 Ranch riding faults incurring in which severity of the penalty must be determined according to the judge's perception as to whether blame lies more with the horse or the rider include but are not limited to the following with a 3-point penalty:

- A. Any deviation from well-balanced stops or turns or timely transitions
- B. Delayed changes of lead
- C. Anticipation of signals by the horse
- D. Backing sideways or refusing to back
- E. Break of gate walk or trot for more than 2 strides
- F. Break of gate lope for more than 2 strides except for when correcting a wrong lead
- G. Wrong lead or out of lead more than 2 strides

H. Draped reins per maneuver

I. Severe disturbance of an obstacle

J. Trotting more than 3 strides when completing a simple lead change

K. Out of lead or cross cantering for more than 2 strides

L. Trotting 3 or more strides in a lope departure from stop, walk or exiting a rollback.

M. Failure to complete the pattern as written will result in a score of 0, unless it is determined by the show steward that the fault was the horse and not the riders' ability. (See Section 17.)

R27.27 Show management must use an official YEDA Ranch riding pattern. Any changes because of horse availability or arena condition must be announced at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the class. Patterns should be worked as stated, not as drawn. The drawn pattern is to give the general idea of how the pattern will appear in the arena.

R27.28 The judge may ask a rider to return to ride any approved YEDA Ranch riding pattern on the same or different horse.

R27.29 Judges may not confer on any penalty or maneuver prior to submitting a score.

R27.30 YEDA permits the judge the option of requesting a re-ride if an unavoidable circumstance disrupts a horse and rider's pattern. In the instance where a re-ride is warranted in the judge's opinion, the judge should ask the YEDA steward as soon as possible. In the case where a horse was able to complete the pattern, but a re-ride is warranted, the score should be held until the coach decides whether to exercise the re-ride option.

Point Requirements & Scoring

Section R28

R28.01 Points will be based on the number of riders that compete in a class.

EXAMPLE:

1 Rider	2 Riders	3 Riders	4 Riders	5 Riders	6-11 Riders
1st - 1 pt.	1st - 2 pts	1st - 3 pts.	1st - 4 pts	1st - 5 pts	1st - 6 pts
	2nd - 1 pt.	2nd - 2 pts.	2nd - 3 pts	2nd - 4 pts	2nd - 5 pts
		3rd - 1 pt.	3rd - 2 pts	3rd - 3 pts	3rd - 4 pts
			4th - 1 pt.	4th - 2 pts	4th - 3 pts
				5th - 1 pt.	5th - 2 pts
					6th - 1 pt.

R28.02 Procedures

- A. Cumulative and aggregate point totals of teams and individuals shall be entered into the database by the YEDA point/show secretary. Such current scoreboard shall be available to participating teams at each show.
- B. The official point records shall determine annual class advancement of riders, as well as eligibility for the National Championship Show, YEDA invitational shows, YEDA High Point rider, and YEDA High Point team.
- C. At a split combined or double judge show a rider that is only eligible to show under one judge, their entry does not count to the total number of entries for the judge not be placed/judged.
- D. All points recorded will become final and not subject to protest at the close of each show season; therefore, any adjustments or corrections must be made before the last show of the season.

Individual Point Procedures & Requirements

Section R29

R29.01 Riders have two (2) years of eligibility in the elementary category; three (3) years of eligibility in junior high sections; and four (4) years of eligibility in senior high sections.

R29.02 Riders have two (2) years of eligibility in each division within the category.

- A. With the initial sign-up student riders will remain in (or be seeded in) that division for 2 years regardless of any type of show experience, points earned or National titles during their membership in YEDA.
- B. The student rider must move up to the next higher division once they have used all their eligibility regardless of points earned, except from R29.03, R29.04 and R29.05.
- C. A coach may evaluate a rider and place them in a higher division at initial sign up for the season.

R29.03 Eligibility in a division can exceed two (2) years if a student rider has no other advancement options within his/her category.

- A. Riders in the junior high category in the Sapphire division can have up to three (3) years of eligibility.
- B. Riders in the senior high category in the Diamond division can have up to four (4) years of eligibility.

R29.04 Riders must move up a division in their category (i.e., junior high or senior high) if they finish in the top three (3) point earning value of their division class for the season, or finish as national or reserve champion in their individual class at the National Championship Show.

R29.05 Moving from category to category (e.g., junior high to senior high) and remaining in the same division is considered moving up one division. For example, if a rider is in the Sapphire division in the junior high category and is now in the senior high category, s/he may show in Sapphire for two years.

R29.06 Riders become eligible for YEDA state invitational events by competing in a minimum of two (2) shows throughout the season. This event should not be confused with the National Championship Show.

R29.07 Riders become eligible for the YEDA National Championship Show by competing in a minimum of two (2) shows in their division. Riders can move up to fill a team riders' position for nationals, but that rider is no longer eligible to show in the lower division. (See R39.02G)

R29.08 Riders will achieve a qualifying point total by taking their top six (6) judge's points in a class and totaling them, dropping the remaining points not going toward their total points earned in a class. (See Section 28.) Riders can compete up to a maximum of twelve (12) shows/judges per class.

High Point Teams and Riders for Regular Shows

Section R30

R30.01 General

- A. High Point riders and Reserve High Point riders shall be determined by totaling the points in the senior high Diamond, junior high Sapphire divisions and elementary Pearl at each show.
- B. In the event of a tie for High Point and Reserve High Point riders, ties shall be broken by the judge with assistance from the show steward who will test the riders with an equine knowledge question.
- ~~C. High Point Pearl riders and Reserve High Point Pearl riders shall be determined by totaling the points in the Pearl rail and Pearl pattern classes at each show.~~

R30.02 Point Scoring for High Point Teams

- A. Each senior high team's highest placing Diamond pattern/rail, Diamond Reining, Sapphire rail/pattern, Sapphire Ranch, Ruby rail, Ruby pattern, Emerald rail, Emerald pattern, Opal rail and Opal pattern riders' scores will count toward the team total, and all scores will be added together for the team score for the day.
- B. Each junior high team's highest placing Sapphire rail, Sapphire pattern, Ruby rail, Ruby pattern, Emerald rail, Emerald pattern, Opal rail, Opal pattern, Pearl rail and Pearl pattern rider's score will count toward the team total, and all be added together for the team score for the day.
- C. In the case of a tie for the team championship of a regular show, teams shall remain tied. Distribution of awards and/or ribbons will be at the discretion of the show management.
- D. If an ineligible rider's score is used as a team point earner, the team will lose that score and one more score. The highest score in that category will be dropped, regardless of the size of the team.

Individual Point Requirements for Championship Horse Shows

Section R31

R31.01 Riders are eligible to compete in the National Championship Show upon acquiring the top ten (10) highest point total in their individual class or are in the top twenty percent (20%) of all those in their individual class, whichever method has a greater number of qualifiers.

R31.02 In case of a tie for qualified riders in the individual year-end ranking, no tie will be broken, all ties will be invited to the National Championship Show.

R31.03 Riders will achieve a qualifying point total by taking their top six (6) judge's points in a class and totaling them, dropping the remaining points not going toward their total points earned in a class. Riders can compete up to a maximum of twelve (12) judges, per class.

R31.04 Student riders must be full-time students in good standing in the academic period immediately prior to the show in accordance with R2.01.

R31.05 Riders qualifying in both Western rail and Western pattern classes, or Western pattern & Reining or Ranch classes, may show in both classes at the National Championship Show.

R31.06 No minimum number of riders is needed to fill a class at the National Championship Show.

R31.07 Should a rider at any level who has qualified for the National Championship Show be unable to attend, s/he must notify YEDA at once. YEDA shall then invite the next highest ranked rider qualified until all vacancies have been filled.

R31.08 The YEDA National Championship Invitational gives student/riders nationwide the opportunity to qualify for the YEDA National Championship Show.

- A. An invitation to compete will be offered to the a determined number of riders based on annual membership each year in each class from each state or province in which they are not already qualified for nationals.
- B. The first and second place winner of each invitational class will be entered as an individual in the corresponding class at the National Championship Show.
- C. The student rider will be eligible for the state invitational competition from the state in which they reside of their original membership application of that season. ~~must be residing and attending school in the state or province in which they qualified as an individual student rider and be in good standing.~~
- D. The student rider can be a member of any team located in any state or province and be in good standing. The rider's home address will be used to determine his/her qualifying state or province.
- E. The invitational qualifiers will be announced at the same time as individual national qualifiers.
- F. Teams must provide a horse to cover entries or pay the rented ride fee.
- G. All YEDA rules and regulations apply to the invitational as they do the National Championship Show.
- H. The invitational will be judged by at least one qualified judge.
- I. The national steward will make any ruling on extenuating circumstances to do with student rider qualifications.
- J. Patterns for the invitational will be different from those patterns used at the National Championship Show.
- K. The YEDA Nationals show committee has the ability to increase the number of invitees from each state or those moving forward from the invitational to the individual championship class due to participation and class size from each state or province. Special consideration will be given to the Diamond, Pearl and Alumni divisions when adding student riders because those divisions cannot be combined from the Jr and Sr High categories.

Team Point Requirements for the National Championship Horse Shows

Section R32

R32.01 A team will achieve a qualifying point total for the National Championship Show by taking their top ten (10) judge's point totals, dropping the remaining points not going toward their total points earned. The top twenty percent (20%) of teams not less than twelve (12) with the highest cumulative point totals shall be invited to the National Championship Show to compete for the National Championship Team.

A. Senior high school team top 20% not less than twelve (12)

B. Junior high school team top 20% not less than twelve (12)

C. EWD, Alumni and ~~Pearl teams are not counted.~~

R32.02 In the case of a tie for qualifying teams, all affected teams involved will be invited to the National Championship Show.

R32.03 In order to be eligible for the National Championship Show, a team must compete in a minimum of five (5) regular YEDA shows.

Specification for Western Horsemanship Riders

Section R33

R33.01 Recognized Competition: Any breed association event including but not limited to AQHA; APHA; PtHA; ApHC; NRHA; IBHA; ABRA; POA; USEF; Palomino and Arabian or any association that keeps national points.

- A. For those students coming to YEDA from another team-riding national organization that places their riders in divisions based on their experience, those students must compete in a division equal to or greater than the division in which they have competed.
- B. Riders moving to the next category will be reevaluated for their division in the new category.
- C. Riders moving to the next category may stay in the same division because it is considered an upward move

R33.02 Western Riders in Elementary Category Including 4th and 5th Graders.

A. Pearl division

- 1. Pearl riders are student riders of any skill level that walk, jog and who are riders currently enrolled in 4th or 5th grade for the school year of competition. Pearl riders have two (2) years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the YEDA Individual Membership form.
- 2. This is an introductory walk-trot division for students of all skill levels to get experience riding unfamiliar horses in a group.
- 3. Pearl does **not** count toward team points **beginning the 26-27 season in the Jr High category.**
- 4. Riders are eligible to qualify for the national championship event as an individual.

R33.03 Western Riders in Junior High Category Including 6th through 8th Graders.

- A. **Opal division:** These are walk-jog students who are beginning riders who have not competed in mounted competition which require them to canter or lope.
- B. **Emerald division:** These riders are students who have competed in 12 (twelve) or fewer open non-recognized shows that require them to lope or canter.
- C. **Ruby division:** This includes students who have competed in more than twelve (12) shows that require a rider to lope or canter. Ruby riders may not have earned more than twenty-five (25) national points from any association including novice classes. However, it excludes roping, games, halter, showmanship, ten & under classes and/or non-roping classes.
- D. **Sapphire division:** This includes students who have earned twenty-six (26) or more points from any national association including novice but excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship, ten & under classes, and/or non-roping classes. Sapphire riders are also riders who have competed at a national run show including but not limited to world championships, national championships, novice championships, Congress or Derby.

R33.04 Western Riders in Senior High Category Including 9th through 12th graders

- A. **Opal division:** These are walk-jog students who are beginning riders who have not competed in mounted competition which requires them to canter or lope.
- B. **Emerald division:** These are students who have competed in twelve (12) or fewer open non-recognized shows that require them to lope or canter.
- C. **Ruby division:** This includes students who have competed in more than twelve (12) shows that require a rider to lope or canter. Ruby riders may not have earned more than twenty-five (25) national points from

any association including novice classes. This excludes roping, games, halter, showmanship, ten (10) & under classes and/or non-roping classes.

- D. Sapphire division:** This includes students who have earned twenty-six (26) or more points from any national association including novice but excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship, ten & under classes, and/or non-roping classes. Sapphire riders are also riders who have competed at a national run show including but not limited to world championships, national championships, novice championships, Congress or Derby.
- E. Diamond division:** These riders are those who have finished in the top ~~fifteen (15)~~ five (5) at a national run show including but not limited to world championships, national championships, novice championships, Congress, or Derby. It includes novice but does not include roping, games, halter, showmanship, ten & under classes, and/or non-roping classes. A rider must meet one (1) of the following requirements prior to entry in Diamond Reining: Have competed in the Sapphire Division for a minimum of one (1) competition year; OR Have competed in at least one (1) sanctioned reining event recognized by AQHA, NRHA, APHA, NSBA, or an equivalent governing body. All Diamond Division eligibility determinations remain subject to review and approval by the National Steward.
- F. Diamond Elite division:** Diamond division riders will be given the opportunity to compete in a “head-to-head” style class at select shows.
1. Teams leading in the year-end points prior to the beginning of competition will be given priority to select a Diamond division rider to compete in the Diamond Elite horsemanship class.
 2. Up to sixteen (16) teams may participate in this class or team representatives at a given show. The number of participants will be determined by the show host.
 3. All riders will compete head-to-head in a NCEA style competition with special emphasis on their individual achievement.
 4. Teams hosting YEDA shows may elect to offer Diamond Elite to the top point leading teams present at the show.
 5. Diamond Elite does not count toward team points.

R33.05 Riders in the EWD Category (YEDA Equestrians with Disabilities)

- A.** EWD classes in YEDA are open to riders who are ten (10) years old or in the 4th grade and older. (There is no age limit to EWD classes. It is open to everyone over the age of ten (10). All EWD riders will need to fill out a YEDA membership form and purchase a back number. All EWD riders must have a Special Diagnosis form filled out and signed by a physician and turned in with their membership form, along with the Special Adaptive Equipment form.
- B. Amber division:** This is an assisted and independent walk only class. There will be ~~two~~ four classes in the Amber division: a rail horsemanship assisted, a pattern horsemanship assisted, a rail horsemanship independent, and a pattern horsemanship independent class.
- C. Topaz division:** This is a walk-trot class where the rider will ride assisted and independently. There will be four classes in this division: a rail horsemanship assisted, a pattern horsemanship assisted, a rail horsemanship independent, and a pattern horsemanship independent class.
- D.** In both Amber and Topaz division classes, rail and pattern will be run concurrently on the same horse and mount (Ex: one draw for assisted rail and pattern, and one drawn for independent rail and pattern). The rail class will be run first with the rider only having to mount one time. Show host may charge two (2) entry fees but only one (1) rented ride fee.

Equestrians With Disabilities (EWD)

Section R34

R34.01 Eligibility for YEDA EWD Riders

- A. EWD classes in YEDA are open to riders who are ten (10) years old or in the 4th grade and older. There is no age limit for EWD classes. It is open to everyone over the age of ten (10).
- B. All EWD riders must have a diagnosed mental or physical condition attested to by a licensed medical physician. The Special Diagnosis form must be completed, signed by a licensed medical doctor, and returned to YEDA with the membership form. The Special Diagnosis form is good for three (3) years. The Special Adaptive Equipment form must be completed annually.
- C. All EWD riders should be able to hold the reins.
- D. All EWD riders must be on a YEDA team. They can be a part of a YEDA team with other category riders such as elementary, junior high, senior high or alumni riders or a team can consist of just EWD riders. In accordance with R1.01-A, a YEDA team must consist of at least a coach and three (3) riders. If a team consists of just a coach and EWD riders, there is a discounted team membership fee of \$125.

R34.02 EWD Membership

- A. EWD riders must pay a YEDA membership and purchase a YEDA back number.
- B. All EWD riders must wear a properly fitted ASTM approved helmet.
- C. All EWD riders must wear an official YEDA logo show shirt.

R34.03 EWD Divisions

- A. EWD will be its own category and with two divisions in that category.
- B. **Amber division:** This is an assisted and independent walk only class. There will be four classes in the Amber division. A rail and pattern horsemanship assisted and rail and pattern horsemanship independent class.
- C. **Topaz division:** This is a walk-trot class where the rider will ride assisted and independently. There will be four classes in this division. A rail and pattern horsemanship assisted and rail and pattern horsemanship independent class.

R34.04 Class Routines and Rules for EWD Classes

- A. The EWD divisions will consist of two classes that will be a pattern and rail combination horsemanship class.
- B. EWD riders are allowed to hold the saddle horn without severe penalty.
- C. The independent riders will have a spotter present with them in the arena but not attached to the horse. The spotter in the independent class should carry a lead in case it is needed. The horse must have a halter with the bridle.
- D. Show management may combine Topaz divisions (assisted and independent) and Amber divisions (assisted and independent) together, depending on numbers to help riders earn points or control time management of the show. However, they cannot combine the Topaz and Amber divisions together.
- E. Show management may split the Topaz and Amber divisions into splits smaller six (6) if needed for safety, horse use, or other reason as long as it is approved by YEDA before the show or by the show steward at the show.

R34.05 Leaders and Spotters for EWD Classes

- A. Along with the rider and coach being members of YEDA, each person who will be entering the arena and helping an EWD rider as a leader or side walker must be a member of YEDA. A person can become an associate member for the fee of \$30.
- B. All leaders, spotters or side walkers must be at least sixteen (16) years of age and a member of YEDA either as a coach, rider, assistant coach, associate member or non-competing member. They must wear long pants, covered-toe shoes or boots.

R34.06 Horses Used for EWD Classes

- A. All horses in an EWD class, no matter if it is assisted or independent, must wear a halter in a manner that does not interfere with reining. A halter must be over or under the bridle and can be used by the handler if needed.
- B. EWD riders, teams and/or coaches may provide appropriate level horses for EWD competition. Horses designated for EWD classes may be horses specific or drawn from the EWD approved horse list when applicable. These horses must still be drawn from a pool of horses in accordance with YEDA horse draw rules (see 16.01A). Horses can be brought specifically for EWD classes but still must be put in a pool of horses to be drawn, staying with the YEDA basic tenant of team riding, i.e., a horse cannot be brought for one rider to use.
- C. Steward may set up a “try out” for EWD horses on a show day to determine if the horse will be suitable with specific equipment and specific riders.

R34.07 EWD Showing, Points Earned, and SIF

- A. Points will be earned the same as all other YEDA classes in accordance with Section 28.
- B. An EWD rider can show to a maximum of twelve (12) judges per season with the top six placings averaged into the overall year-end standings.
- C. The top ten (10) ranked riders or 20%, whichever is greater, will be qualified to compete at the National Championship Show.
- D. EWD riders must compete in a minimum of two (2) regular season shows to be eligible for the National Championship Show.
- E. EWD classes will be scored and judge’s feedback given just the same as all YEDA classes.
- F. EWD riders will qualify for nationals under the same rules as all YEDA riders as explained in Section 31 of the YEDA rulebook, the only exception being R31.04. (EWD riders do not have to be full-time students in good academic standing.)
- G. The Scholarship Incentive Fund: EWD riders are eligible to participate in the SIF as long as they are between the ages of ten to nineteen (10-19) and have not used more than nine (9) years of YEDA eligibility.

Alumni
Section R35

R35.01 Eligibility for YEDA Alumni

- A. To compete in the YEDA alumni division the student rider is not eligible for YEDA youth status.
- ~~B. Riders can be those who have graduated from a team youth program. (e.g., 4H, high school equestrian, breed association program, YEDA, etc.)~~
- C. Alumni riders must be affiliated with an active YEDA team and coach. The team and coach do not have to be the same as your high school YEDA team.

R35.02 Alumni Category

- A. **Opal division:** These are walk-jog students who are beginning riders who have not competed in mounted competition, which requires them to canter or lope.
- B. **Alumni Emerald division:** These are riders who have not earned twenty-five (25) national points from any national association, including novice but excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship ten & under classes, and/or non-roping classes.
 - 1. Riders who were competing in YEDA Opal, Emerald, or Ruby divisions most recent to graduation are eligible for Alumni Emerald division.
 - 2. These riders are eligible for the Alumni Emerald rail class and the Alumni Emerald pattern class.
 - 3. Classes are to be shown at walk, jog, & lope, both ways of the arena. Leads will count.
 - 4. YEDA elements A–D may be asked. (See R26.06.)
 - 5. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division are suggested to remain on the rail.
 - 6. Riders have two (2) years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the Individual Membership form, or until they must advance up by finishing in the top three (3) YEDA point earners for the season, or finish in the top two (2) at the YEDA National Championship Show.
- C. **Alumni Sapphire division:** ~~These are riders who have not earned twenty-five (25) national points from any national association including novice but excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship ten (10) & under classes, and/or non-roping classes. Riders who were competing in~~ YEDA Sapphire or Diamond divisions most recent to graduation are eligible for Alumni Sapphire division.
 - 1. These riders are eligible for the Alumni Sapphire Ranch riding class and the Alumni Sapphire pattern class.
 - 2. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division are suggested to remain on the rail.

R35.03 Alumni Membership

- A. Alumni rider must pay a YEDA membership and purchase a YEDA back number.
- B. Alumni riders must show in an official YEDA show shirt.

R35.04 Alumni Showing and Points Earned

- A. Points will be earned the same as all other YEDA classes.
- B. An Alumni rider can show up to twelve (12) judges per season with the top six placing being averaged into the overall year-end standings.

- C. The top ten (10) ranked riders or twenty percent (20%), whichever is greater, will be qualified to compete at the National Championship Show.
- D. Alumni riders must compete in a minimum of two (2) regular season shows to be eligible for the National Championship Show.

R35.05 Alumni riders are not eligible for the Scholarship Incentive Fund (SIF) program.

R35.06 Alumni are subject to all rules and fees of YEDA. By becoming an Alumni member of YEDA you are agreeing to all policies and rules not defined in Section 35.

Western Horsemanship Competition

Section R36

R36.01 All regular YEDA shows must include the following classes:

A. Elementary Category:

Class 1 Pearl Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 2 Pearl Division—Pattern Horsemanship

B. Junior High Category:

Class 3 Opal Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 4 Opal Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class 5 Emerald Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 6 Emerald Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class 7 Ruby Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 8 Ruby Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class 9 Sapphire Division—Pattern/Horsemanship

Class 10 Sapphire Division—Ranch Riding

C. Senior High Category:

Class 11 Opal Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 12 Opal Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class 13 Emerald Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 14 Emerald Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class 15 Ruby Division—Rail Horsemanship

Class 16 Ruby Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class 17 Sapphire Division—Rail/Pattern Horsemanship

Class 18 Sapphire Division—Ranch Riding

Class 19 Diamond Division—Rail/Pattern Horsemanship

Class 20 Diamond Division—Reining

D. EWD Category:

Class 21 Amber Division—Rail Horsemanship walk only assisted.

Class 22 Amber Division—Pattern Horsemanship walk only assisted.

Class 23 Amber Division—Rail Horsemanship walk only independent.

Class 24 Amber Division—Pattern Horsemanship walk only independent.

Class 25 Topaz Division—Rail Horsemanship walk/trot assisted.

Class 26 Topaz Division—Pattern Horsemanship walk/trot assisted.

Class 27 Topaz Division—Rail Horsemanship walk/trot independent

Class 28 Topaz Division—Pattern Horsemanship walk/trot independent

E. Alumni Category:

Class-29 Alumni Opal Division—Rail Horsemanship-

Class 30 Alumni Opal Division—Pattern Horsemanship-

Class-31 Alumni Emerald Division—Rail Horsemanship-

Class-32 Alumni Emerald Division—Pattern Horsemanship

Class-33 Alumni Sapphire Division—Rail/Pattern Horsemanship

Class-34 Alumni Sapphire Division—Ranch Riding

R36.02 Classes that MAY be Offered at a Regular YEDA Show

Class 35 Diamond Elite Horsemanship

R36.03 Division Descriptions

A. Pearl Rail and Pattern Horsemanship (Classes 1 & 2)

1. Walk-Trot division: Open to all elementary, 4th and 5th grade students, no matter their ability or experience levels. To be shown at the walk and jog both ways of the arena.
2. YEDA elements A–C may be asked. (See R26.06.)
3. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division are suggested to remain on the rail.
4. ~~Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, s/he is not automatically disqualified (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated “over” with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).~~

B. Opal Rail and Pattern Horsemanship (Classes 3, 4, 11 & 12)

1. Open to beginner walk-trot riders as described in R33.03 & R33.04. Beginner riders have two years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the Individual Membership form, or until they must advance up by finishing in the top three (3) YEDA point earners for the season, or finish in the top two (2) in the individual class at the YEDA National Championship Show. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook.
3. Open to new riders as described in R33.03 and R33.04
4. To be shown at the walk and jog both ways of the arena.
5. YEDA elements A–C may be asked. (See R26.06.)
6. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division are suggested to remain on the rail.
7. ~~Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, s/he is not automatically disqualified (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated “over” with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).~~

C. Emerald Rail and Pattern Horsemanship (Classes 5, 6, 12, 14, 25 & 26)

1. Open to beginner loping riders as described in R33.03 & R33.04. Riders have two years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the Individual Membership form, or until they must advance up by finishing in the top three (3) YEDA point earners for the season, or finish in the top two (2) in the individual class at the YEDA National Championship Show. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook.
2. Open to riders who have advanced out of class 3, 4, 11 or 12.

3. Open to riders who have used up their two (2) years of eligibility within the category.
4. Open to new riders as described in R33.03 and R33.04.
5. To be shown at the walk, jog, & lope, both ways of the arena. Leads will count.
6. YEDA elements A - D may be asked. (See R26.06.)
7. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division are suggested to remain on the rail.
8. Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, s/he is not automatically disqualified (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated "over" with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).

D. Ruby Rail & Pattern Horsemanship (Classes 7, 8, 15, & 16)

1. Open to riders as described in R33.03 & R33.04. Riders have two years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the Individual Membership form, or until they must advance up by finishing in the top three (3) YEDA point earners for the season, or finish in the top two (2) in the individual class at the YEDA National Championship Show. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook.
2. Open to riders who have advanced out of class 5, 6, 12 or 14.
3. Open to riders who have used up their two (2) years of eligibility within the category.
4. Open to new riders as described in R33.03 and R33.04
5. To be shown at the walk, jog, & lope, both ways of the arena. Leads will count.
6. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA rulebook.
7. YEDA elements A-F may be asked. (See R26.06.)
8. Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, s/he is not automatically disqualified (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated "over" with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).

E. Sapphire Rail/Pattern Horsemanship (Classes 9, 17, & 27)

1. Open to riders as described in R33.03 & R33.04. Riders have two years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the Individual Membership form, or until they must advance up by finishing in the top three (3) YEDA point earners for the season, or finish in the top two (2) in the individual class at the YEDA National Championship Show. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Exception is Sapphire riders who have three (3) years of eligibility.
2. Open to riders who have advanced out of class 7, 8, 15, or 16.
3. Open to riders who have used up their two (2) years of eligibility within the category.
4. Open to new riders as described in R33.03 and R33.04.
5. Riders will exit the arena after rail work and then work through the gate for the pattern in their draw order. Riders are to remain mounted. The student rider is allowed to communicate with their coach ~~rail~~ before their pattern begins. Coaches and student riders can make adjustment to spurs, position of hands, (i.e. one to two hands) or stirrups and in compliance with horse descriptions. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division can be in the center of the arena. Rail work will be done first and patterns second.
6. YEDA elements A-F may be asked. (See R26.06)

7. Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, this does not mean an automatic disqualification (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated "over" with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).

F. Sapphire Ranch Riding (Classes 10, 18, & 28)

1. Open to riders as described in R33.03.
2. Open to riders showing no lower than class 9 & 17.
3. Open to riders who have had six (6) continuous months of professional Ranch/Reining instruction within the past calendar year.
4. To be shown individually in a pre-assigned pattern from the official YEDA patterns. (See R26.05.)
5. Show management may place appropriate constraints on the number of entries per team, to be determined by the availability of horses, etc. However, each YEDA show must make this class available to at least one (1) rider per team competing at the show from each team.
6. Execution: Staying with industry standards if a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver incorrectly executing a lead change, flying or simple. This does not mean an automatic disqualification. (See R24.24 R27.25 R27.26)
7. Ranch patterns will designate a lead change. The lead change will be simple or flying and judged equally. Horse provider may recommend the best course of action.

G. Diamond Rail/Pattern Horsemanship (Class 19)

1. Open to riders as described in R33.04E Riders will have unlimited years of eligibility starting with their initial completion of the Individual Membership form, or until graduation from YEDA.
2. Open to new riders as described in R33.04E.

Riders will exit the arena after rail work and then work through the gate for the pattern in their draw order. Riders are to remain mounted. The student rider is allowed to communicate with their coach before their pattern begins. Coaches and student riders can make adjustment to spurs, position of hands, (i.e. one to two hands) or stirrups and in compliance with horse descriptions. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division can be in the center of the arena. Rail work will be done first and patterns second.

3. Patterns for this division must be chosen from the official YEDA patterns or YEDA rulebook. Patterns for this division may be performed in the center of the arena. Rail work will be done first and patterns second.
4. Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, this does not mean an automatic disqualification (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated "over" with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).

H. Diamond Reining(Class 20)

1. Open to riders as described in R33.04.
2. Open to riders showing no lower than class 19.

3. Open to riders who have had six (6) continuous months of professional reining instruction within the past calendar year.
4. To be shown individually in a preassigned pattern from the official YEDA pattern book.
5. Show management may place appropriate constraints on the number of entries per team to be determined by the availability of horses, etc. However, each YEDA show must make this class available to at least one (1) rider per team competing at the show from each team.
6. Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, this does not mean an automatic disqualification (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated "over" with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).

I. Diamond Elite Pattern Horsemanship (Class 31)

1. Open to riders showing in the Diamond division, classes 19 & 20.
2. Show management must designate on their showbill prior to the show if they will offer Diamond Elite and how many spots will be available for the day of the show. (4, 6, 8 or 12 spots for those top point earning teams at that show to designate a rider.)
3. Entries will be taken at the coaches' meeting prior to the start of the show. Based upon the current team standings as indicated by the date in the showbill.
4. To be shown individually in a preassigned pattern, from the official YEDA patterns, or YEDA rulebook.
5. Each eligible team is represented by one rider in "head-to-head" competition based on NCEA format. Up to twelve (12) riders/teams will be eligible to compete in the Elite class. Priority is given to the top teams ranked in the top twelve (12) based on current season cumulative points prior to the start of the day's competition.
6. Execution: If a rider is on pattern but is having a problem executing a maneuver, s/he is not automatically disqualified (DQ). The maneuver will be indicated "over" with a signal. The signal can be a whistle or announcement through the scribe or ring steward. The rider will continue on with the pattern and the maneuver will be scored a minus two and a half (2½).
7. Diamond Elite may not be available at every show.
8. Diamond Elite will be run at the National Championship Show offering an entry to each senior high team competing in the team competition. In the event of an uneven number of riders, or additional spots are available the National steward will hold a draw for the additional spots from eligible Diamond riders from the qualified Sr high teams.

Western Horsemanship Patterns

Section R37

R37.01 Individuals showing in classes 2, 4, 12 and 30, Opal and Pearl pattern horsemanship will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Opal and Pearl patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.02 Individuals showing in classes 6, 14 and 32, Emerald pattern horsemanship will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Emerald patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.03 Individuals showing in classes 8 and 16, Ruby pattern horsemanship will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Ruby patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.04 Individuals showing in classes 9, 17, and 33, Sapphire pattern horsemanship will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Sapphire patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.05 Individuals showing in class 19, Diamond pattern horsemanship will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Diamond patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.06 Individuals showing in classes 22 & 24 EWD Amber pattern rail horsemanship assisted and independent will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Diamond/Sapphire patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.07 Individuals showing in classes 26 & 28, EWD Topaz pattern rail horsemanship assisted and independent will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Diamond/Sapphire patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

R37.08 Individuals showing in class 35, Diamond Elite horsemanship will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Diamond/Sapphire patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book

Reining and Ranch Riding Patterns

Section R38

R38.01 Individuals showing in class 20, Diamond Reining will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Diamond Reining patterns contained in the YEDA pattern book Reining patterns provided courtesy of NRHA and IHSA.

R38.02 Individuals showing in classes 10, 18 and 30, Sapphire Ranch riding will be required to execute the elements named in any one of the Sapphire Ranch riding patterns contained in YEDA pattern book

Organization of the National Horse Show

Section R39

R39.01 Officials

- A. Two or more qualified judges will be hired for the YEDA National Championship Show.
- B. A national show manger will be hired and in charge of all things to do with the YEDA National Championship Show.
- C. A minimum of two qualified stewards for the arena and one saddle steward will be utilized.

R39.02 Procedure of Show

- A. Individual classes that need to be split into sections will be divided by a random selection starting at the highest placing individual.
 - 1. Designate a number signifying the split in order (e.g., 1, 2, 3 repeat and so forth) to eliminate strong or weak splits.
- B. Final placing should be announced at the completion of the class after the scoresheet and judges' cards are verified. Scoresheets are not to be posted or reviewed by coaches, or student riders before the conclusion of the show.
- C. The tiebreaker judge will be designated and posted prior to the show.
- D. In the event of a tie in the team standings, the tie will be broken by the team with the greatest number of first (1st) places. If they are still tied, the tie will be broken by the team with the greatest number of second (2nd) places, and if still tied, this pattern will continue for 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th places.
- E. In the event this method does not break the tie, the high school team tie will be broken by the team who placed the highest in Diamond rail/pattern team horsemanship. The junior high tie will be broken by the highest placing team in the Sapphire rail/pattern team horsemanship. If neither team has a rider in the aforementioned classes, the tie will be broken using the next lower division rail horsemanship.
- F. Class ties: Tie breaker judges will be announced at the National Champion and Invitational prior to the start of the show.
- G. Team may promote/advance a student rider up to a higher division to fill a roster spot during the team portion of Nationals. The advancing student riders may move between categories as long as they are moving out of the category next season but must fit the minimum qualifications for the division, they will be filling at Nationals. A rider cannot show in a lower level for the team portion at Nationals. Once a rider has been promoted/advanced to a higher division they may not go back down to a lower division. A rider cannot show as the team rider in two divisions at Nationals. See below examples:
 - Student rider (A) showing in the Sr High category may advance to a higher-level division for the team spot at Nationals. This is at the coach's discretion and allowed.
 - Student rider (B) showing in Jr High category may advance to higher-level division for the team spot at Nationals. This is at the coach's discretion and allowed
 - Student rider (C) showing in Elementary or Jr High category may advance to a higher-level category and division for the team portion of Nationals. Student rider (C) must be in 5th grade or 8th grade and meet the minimum qualifications for the division they will be showing in at Nationals. This is at the coach's discretion and allowed.
 - Separate Teams with the same facility and coach may not cross riders into the new team. Team (A) JV may not move a student rider to team (B) Varsity.
- H. High Point rider ties: In the event of a tie in the individual High Point rider competition, for Pearl, Junior or Senior High, the tie will be broken by a horse knowledge question asked by the designated judge.

- I. Warmup riders may not school at Nationals if they are competing in the Invitational, individual, or team competition. They may school after they have completed all their showing for that week.
- J. If a team cannot supply the requisite number of horses required by R12.05, the team is responsible for notifying YEDA and/or host management of the National Championship Week. To allow YEDA to maintain quality horses for this level of competition and unlike a regular season show the rented ride price will vary set by YEDA

R39.03 Entries

- A. The list of qualified riders for the state invitational, individual and team national championship classes will be published within 72 hours of the completion of the final regular season show
- B. All coaches must follow and adhere to the entry deadlines to allow time for all "move up" riders to be notified
- C. If a scratch or decline happens, riders will be moved up and invited to fill the spot/spots left open by the scratch or decline until 36 hours prior to the start of competition.
- D. Once we are within 36 hours of start of competition no adjustments will be made to the entries except a scratch.

Horse Show Hosting Rules

Section R40

R40.01 Personnel and Required Services

Show committee must have in place the following staff and services to have a YEDA sanctioned show:

- A. Show Manager:** Someone who completes all communication and paperwork with the national YEDA office. Managers may assist in coaching a team if they only need to manage the show.
- B. Show Secretary:** Someone who creates the showbill and program before the show. During the show, they manage the office, track points, collect money, organize judge's cards and scoresheets, and create a final program. Manager and secretary can be the same person as long as that person does not coach a team the day of the show.
- C. Announcer:** This individual announces placing and other information the day of the show.
- D. Judge:** To judge, an individual must be selected from any carded breed association as listed (PtHA, APHA, AQHA, ApHC, NSBA, and NRHA). A judge not qualified under previous rule may be used with permission from the YEDA home office. The judge needs to understand the difference between a YEDA show and a breed show and agrees to fill out scoresheets for all rail and pattern classes. (See R22.01)
- E. Show Steward:** This individual needs to understand and uphold the YEDA rulebook. The show steward needs to be present the entire day of the show including the coaches' meeting, horse schooling, and all classes. This individual needs to be able to give a fair and impartial ruling that upholds the current YEDA rulebook and YEDA core values. ~~S/he cannot be related to or affiliated with any team or rider competing in the show.~~ S/he needs to watch each class carefully, grant re-rides if necessary, and approve changing of tack in the paddock. (See R7.01.) During pattern classes, the show steward will monitor the flow of riders entering the arena. S/he will watch when the judge is ready and let the riders know they can enter or even assist the riders with entering the arena. It is suggested for large shows over 125 rides that there be a saddle steward present to help with the changing of tack. **If the show steward is related or affiliated to any rider at that show, a YEDA founder or qualified person can take over the show stewarding duties for any class that involved the rider the show steward has a relationship.**
- F. Ring Steward:** This is an individual who is knowledgeable about a horse show, judging, and is ring smart. The ring steward will be in the arena with the judge all day, assisting the judge with scoresheets as a scribe (if the judge wants), calling gates, communicating with the announcer, etc.
- G. EMT or Nurse:** This individual needs to be on the grounds and available from the time the first rider mounts for warm up until the end of the final class.
- H. Paddock Steward:** This individual organizes the horses and riders in preparation for upcoming classes. This individual also helps to manage changing of tack, tightening of girths, and overall safety in the paddock.
- I. Saddle Steward:** This is a position that is needed for larger shows over 125 rides to assist with the changing of tack in a fair way when saddle changes are needed per R18.03.
- J. In-gate and Out-gate Staff:** There should be a responsible horseman at each gate at all times. This is for the safety and time efficiency of your show.
- K. Awards/Ribbon Staff:** Their duty is to distribute the awards/ribbons/prizes at the conclusion of each class.
- L. Horse Warm-up Riders:** These riders cannot be exhibitors of the show that day. They can be team riders if they are not participating in the show that day, coaches, horse owners, volunteers, etc. Student riders can

warm up the night before the show with the exception of the night before the National Championship Show. **Non-YEDA members must fill out a waiver to school horses**

M. Food Booth: This can be provided by the facility or by the hosting team. The hosting team can use this as a fundraiser. **If a food booth is not available this must be communicated to the teams attending the show.**

N. Horses: The amount and ratio should follow R12.05, with the exception of the National Championship Show.

O. Scoreboard: This can be as simple as a poster board or a whiteboard. However, the team points need to be posted and updated throughout the show.

P. Extra Tack: Use a wide variety of saddles to accommodate all types of riders.

Q. Horse Name Tags: Every horse needs to have an identification tag on its saddle pad on both sides. It is **recommended that a horse description is included on their name tag.**

R. Two-way Radio: Several will be needed so that show officials can easily communicate.

R40.02 Show Approval

- A.** In order to host a show, you need to apply for show approval. Please submit the Show Hosting Application form to YEDA. Shows must be submitted for approval sixty (60) days before the show date. YEDA recommends applying for show approval as soon as possible, so your show can be posted and advertised. The longer teams know about your show increases your chances of a successful show. There will be exceptions to the sixty (60)-day requirement for extemporaneous circumstances. Contact a YEDA board member in this instance.
- B. Show Hosting Application Form:** In order to apply to host a show, you need to have at least a show manager, his/her contact information, show date and a hosting team. Other information such as a location, description, judge, steward, and secretary need to be submitted thirty (30) days before the show.
- C. Event Insurance:** Include with the initial show application, payment for show insurance—the amount included on the show host guide. The rate is negotiated and provided with **Equisure Event Insurance**. This is a requirement, and YEDA will procure insurance for your event for you. If your show is not approved, this payment can be transferred to a different show day or will be returned to you.

R40.03 Create a Showbill

The showbill lets teams know about the show and provides entry forms for your show. The showbill needs to contain all official names, open date that entries will be accepted, due dates for entries, location information about the show, entry forms, Horse Description form, and overall account summary. If you are having a two-day show, duplicate the entry forms. Hosts can add any other information they would like to promote their show or things that their secretary/manager prefers. Put the maximum number of entries in the showbill.

R40.04 Number of Entries and Limiting Entries

No show should exceed 250 rides per day. Entries will be accepted on a first come basis. Entries will only be considered accepted once originals are received with horse description or horse payment and total payment for entries. Emailing entries is helpful; however, this will not be considered an official entry. Teams are limited to forty-two (42) total entries between junior and senior high teams. EWD, Pearl and Alumni entries do not count toward the total number of entries (See R1.01-B.) Show committees may accept additional entries in the junior and senior divisions from one team if the show has not exceeded the maximum number of entries by closing date. (See R13.04.)

R40.05 Final Showbill Approval

When the showbill is complete and needs final approval, send it to **Laura Smith, CEO via email lsmith@showyed.com**. You will get notification that your showbill has been approved or how your showbill needs to be revised. Once the showbill has been approved, the YEDA home office will post it on the website, and

the show managers are encouraged to share the showbill with local teams send an email to Lsmith@showyeda.com

When emailing, if you do not receive a reply in five (5) business days, please call. (419)-957-9054.

R40.06 Show Program

The show program is the document that is made once the entries have been submitted. The show program must be shared with all participating team coaches twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the coaches' meeting. It contains most of the showbill information—all officials names, location information about the show and host hotel, entries/classes, order of classes, and horse descriptions. When making the show program, leave the "Draw" and "Horse" columns blank and these can be filled in during the horse draw on the day of the show.

R40.07 Class Splits

Classes will be split at twelve (12) or more riders. In the event of splits, label them in the name of the class within the show program and on judges' documents, scoresheets and judges' cards.

R40.08 Horse Descriptions

The Horse Description form must be included in the showbill and those descriptions need to be formatted into a list of descriptions that the participants and coaches can read in the show program. Horse descriptions should be posted at the show and be distributed to each coach. Two-hand option must be clearly stated in the description. If no reference to hands or reins, it is considered the horse is one hand only. It is recommended that horse descriptions be on the horse's saddle pad or number holder. The description on the horse is considered the final word.

R40.09 Horse Changes

Horse descriptions should be reviewed at the coaches' meeting and if there are any changes or updates it should be done at the coaches' meeting. In the event that a description needs to change mid show the horse's handler/owner needs to communicate this to the show steward; e.g., the horse started as a no spur horse but now would benefit from spurs. This needs to be communicated to the show steward. The show steward needs to agree to the change and this change needs to be made public through the communication system discussed at the coaches' meeting.

R40.10 Horse Draw Matrix

Before the show starts, the horses need to be assigned to the classes in which they will participate. Use the Horse Description form to place horses in the classes in which they are best suited. The person deciding in which classes to put each horse should be cognizant to put similar horses in the same class if possible. For example, try to put all ranch type horses in the same class and all pleasure type horses in the same class. This allows for a fairer field for riders when possible.

R40.11 The Process of The Horse Draw

This must be done with the show steward present. Conduct the horse draw in the coaches' meeting before the show starts with all coaches and the steward present. The draw during the coaches' meeting can be done in any fair way. Live draw is also an option. The show steward needs to be present at a live draw before the show starts or two stewards need to be hired. A show steward must be present during horse warm up. The show steward can require additional schooling of horses. Horse providers may request additional schooling during the show but must have steward approval. The draw can be held outside the regular coaches meeting, a steward must be present, and the coaches must be invited to attend at least with a 2-hour notice.

R40.12 Judges' Cards and Scoresheets

Before the show, print out the scoresheets and judges' cards. Scoresheets should be printed one per page and make sure the judges have enough for everyone in the class. Title the scoresheets before giving them to the judges with class name and class number. Give the judges a copy of all the patterns for the day along with their judges' cards and scoresheets.

R40.13 Prizes and Ribbons (See Section 19.)

Prizes must meet or exceed the following:

- A. Ribbons/Medals/or equivalent prize of greater or equal value for 1st–6th place
- B. Ribbons must have rosettes with a minimum of two (2) streamers and color coordinated to the class placing with a description.
- C. Medals must be color coordinated to the class placing with a description on the medal or neck ribbon, and medal must not be smaller than 2.5” round.
- D. Equivalent prizes must also be color coordinated.
- E. Additional to the 1st – 6th placing ribbon/medal or equivalent, the first (1st) place must have a prize.
- F. Prizes for High Point and Reserve High Point riders for high school and junior high school with a value of \$10 or more.
- G. Prizes for High Point and Reserve High Point teams for high school and junior high school with a value of \$10 or more
- H. Horse-of-the-Day prize must be awarded.
- I. Good Grooming prize must be awarded.
- J. Sportsmanship prize is optional. Sportsmanship patches can be ordered from the YEDA home office. Order form available.

R40.14 Points & Score Board

The show secretary will track and post team standings throughout the day. After all splits of the class have been completed, each team's points should be posted. It is suggested that if a team did not have a competitor in the class, it must be indicated by a dash. However, if the team had a competitor in the class and that rider earned no points, it is indicated with a 0. Scoreboards should be posted in clear view for all spectators to see.

R40.15 High Point Rider

The show committee must award a high school High Point rider and Reserve High Point rider (only eligible to Diamond riders), award a junior high school High Point rider and Reserve High Point rider (only eligible to Sapphire riders), Elementary High Point and Reserve High Point rider.

R40.16 Submit results to the YEDA home office.

The following items need to be mailed to the YEDA home office within five (5) days of the show:

1. A copy of the final official show program completely filled out with all class results and High Point riders
2. Original entry forms
3. Horse draw matrix
4. Steward report per show
5. Post show summary report
6. Original judges' cards and scoresheets (It is suggested to make copies before mailing so that the show secretary has his/her own copies.)
7. Copy of the final scoreboard/team competition results
8. Schooling rider waiver (if applicable)
9. YEDA fee payment per ride will be as follows: (See rule R5.06) Each show shall remit \$5.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 75 entries. Each show shall remit \$6.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 125 entries. Each show shall remit \$7.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 200 entries. Each show shall remit \$8.00 of each entry fee to YEDA for shows under 250 entries. These funds should be remitted within ten (10) days of the show. All funds must be in United States currency. If dues are not remitted within ten (10) days, YEDA may suspend a team until such time as dues are paid.
10. YEDA personnel and the trailer-provided cost will be \$3.00 per entry fee plus lodging for shows up to 200 entries. For shows over 200 entries, YEDA personnel will also be paid a day fee.

It is highly suggested to mail documents with tracking and delivery confirmation and to make photocopies/scans of all documents for the show manager's records before mailing them to the YEDA home office at **YEDA Home Office, 11125 County Road 180 Findlay, Ohio 45840** (Make checks payable to YEDA.)

- 12. For shows in the last 2 weeks in the regular season. Results, judges' cards and scoresheets must be scanned and emailed to lsmith@showyeda.com within 24 hours of the shows conclusion. Packet must still be mailed.**

Try-it Membership Program

Section R41

R41.01 Try-it Membership Program

This program is exclusively for approved YEDA shows to allow first time teams, riders and coaches who would like to experience YEDA without a full commitment of membership.

- A. A discounted team membership of \$30
- B. Coach membership of \$20
- C. Individual membership of \$20

R41.02 Any team or rider interested in participating in the activities of the Youth Equestrian Development Association, Inc., and willing to subscribe to the by-laws and rules of YEDA are eligible for Try-it membership. **This is a one-time offer for a new team or new riders on an existing team.**

- A. Minimum for a team is one (1) coach and three (3) riders and can be mixed from any category.
- B. Teams can be any size but cannot have more than forty-two (42) total entries between junior and senior high riders at one YEDA regular season point show.
- C. Elementary and alumni entries do not count toward the total entries per team for a YEDA regular season point show.
- D. Teams and individual student riders must use the Try-it Membership form prior to the start of the show day and list all required information.
- E. The team and individual student rider's application must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$30 for one or two teams of the same address and name, a coach membership of \$20, and \$20 for the individual student rider membership.
- F. Student riders competing as Try-it members are required to wear a plain oxford shirt or a YEDA official oxford shirt for their class.
- G. Student riders in the Try-it program will be assigned a back number from one to ninety-nine (1-99) by the show management.
- H. The class entry fees and one horse entries requirement and/or the rented rider requirements will apply to the Try-it teams.
- I. Show management must give priority to full YEDA member teams and student riders before Try-it teams and student riders. YEDA shows cannot exceed the 250-entry limit per show day.

R41.03 Try-it teams, coaches and student riders have thirty (30) days from the Try-it-show to upgrade to a regular membership.

- A. Try-it membership fees will be credited toward the regular membership fees.
- B. Points earned by the Try-it rider at the show will be counted in year-end standings if the riders has upgraded to a regular membership within 30 days
- C. With upgrade to regular membership, a required payment of \$10 for a 3-digit or 4-digit permanent back number will be assigned for the season.

R41.04 Try-it riders showing on an established team cannot be the point rider for that team.

R41.05 Try-it riders count as entries regardless of whether the teams and riders upgrade to a full membership.