

Musical Free Style Equine Rules

Enforcement of Rules: All rules printed in the Madison County Junior Fair Book will apply for this show. Any rule broken will disqualify the exhibitor from this show.

Number of Entries: One entry per exhibitor. One rider per horse.

Required Entry: Each exhibitor must fill out and sign an entry form. Exhibitor's parent/legal guardian must also sign the entry form. The completed entry form with CD and a written copy of the lyrics must be received by the Equine Key Leader before 10 PM on the first Saturday of fair. Entry Forms can be found on the website www.madison.osu.edu under 4H Equine Projects or at the Announcers stand on the fairgrounds.

Guiding Rules: Refer to Junior Fair General Horse Exhibitors Rules. Please read all rules carefully and comply with rules at all times.

Music Selection: Selected music must be turned in with the entry form. ***IMPORTANT RULE: Written lyrics of musical selection must be submitted with entry.*** Only one song on the CD is permitted. CD must be marked clearly with your name, phone number and title of song. Song length: minimum – 2 minutes; maximum – 4 minutes. CDs will be returned, if in error, and exhibitors will be asked to edit. If edited CD is not returned 1 day prior to the Freestyle event, the exhibitor may be disqualified. It is highly recommended that you have a backup CD. **When burning a CD, burn the CD in the "Audio CD" format versus burning in the "MP3" format.**

Screening of Music: The Musical Freestyle Show Committee will listen to the music and review the lyrics. If the music is found to be inappropriate, the exhibitor will be asked to select a different song. No explicit language, reference to drugs, sexual implications, sexual preference or violence will be accepted in the lyrics. If the exhibitor is notified that their music is inappropriate they will have to turn in a new entry form and music at least 1 day prior to the event. If there is any question that the music may be inappropriate, pick another piece of music. The decision of the Show Committee is final and cannot be contested.

Practice: Practice time will be scheduled and posted at the announcers stand on the first day of fair or prior to.

Show Order and Posting: Order of go is randomly picked; if you need to be spaced apart from someone please notify one of the Musical Freestyle Committee Members at time of entry. Attempts will be made to honor the request, but not guaranteed. Exhibitors must be waiting at the gate to enter the class. This is the exhibitor's responsibility. Please help the show run as smoothly as possible. Be on time and ready to enter the horse ring when you are called.

General Rules – Musical Freestyle:

1. Exhibitors will only be judged astride their horses, except for Ground Tie.
2. Exhibitors are allowed to use two (2) hands (as well as one hand or no hands).
3. All costumes and props are subject to committee approval. No sharp items will be allowed. No smoke bombs or loud effects are to be used. **If props are used, you will have a total of five minutes for set up and five minutes for removal of props.** Horse and rider may not enter the arena until all props have been set up. Anyone sitting on the fence or entering the arena with the rider is considered a prop and must be listed on entry. A maximum of 4 horses/riders can be in the arena. A five-point penalty will be given if time is exceeded. Bridles must be worn, but not necessarily used, at all times. All riders as well as anyone in the arena or sitting on the fence must wear appropriate clothing. **The rider and anyone entering the arena with the horse and rider must wear boots.** The Musical Freestyle Committee reserve the right to rule on costumes, props or attire that may be inappropriate, offensive or unsafe. When costumes or props are deemed unsafe, offensive or inappropriate the exhibitor may be disqualified. **Any changes or additions to props, special request or dedications must be submitted by at least 1 day prior to the event using the new Musical Freestyle Entry Form.**
4. Saddle and bridle must be from the same seat; i.e. western bridle with a western saddle and an English bridle with an English or Saddle seat saddle. If riding bareback, either English or Western bridles may be used. Bits must be as approved in #179 *Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows* for that style of tack (bosals or snaffle bits acceptable on Western horses 5 years and younger).



5. Riders will be allowed to mount or mount and dismount their horses in the show ring.
6. Any rider that falls from their horse or is expelled by the horse will be disqualified.
7. Any horse that is not being controlled by the rider and/or has excessive speed not being controlled by the rider, at the judge's discretion, may be stopped, excused from the class and disqualified.
8. Use of illegal equipment, riding without a bridle on horse, or any act of abuse to the horse will result in contestant being disqualified.
9. Single Entry: The decision of the judges will be final and cannot be contested or disputed.
10. If more than 1 horse is in the arena during the judging the only horse to be judged is the horse on the entry form. The other horse(s) will just be considered a prop.
11. Team Entry: See Below – more than 1 horse/1 rider to be judged.

Judging: Judge will independently score each contestant. The points awarded by the judge will be summed and the exhibitor receiving the highest total number of points will be placed first. Second highest score is second place and so on down the placing.

No Ties: No ties will be awarded. If there is a tie, the higher placing will go to the contestant that has the highest sum for Technical Difficulty. If there still is a tie the likewise sum for declared skills will determine. If these scores are the same too then Choreography / Creativity will determine. If there still is a tie then Costume and finally Crowd Appeal will be used to determine the placing. In the unlikely event that both contestants have identical combined scores in all categories then the tie-breaker will be selected via a coin toss.

Team Entry: A team is limited to four riders. Four horses must be used. One rider per horse. Two riders are not allowed to use one horse. The team must enter the class based on the age of the oldest team member. Each rider must perform the 3 declared skills. Each rider is scored individually on technical difficulty and 3 declared skills. The scores will then be averaged and one final score for each of the above as well as the team score for choreography/creativity, costume and crowd appeal will be given per team. There can be up to 6 horses in the arena, however, only the 4 designated horse/rider teams will be scored.

Questions: Please address any questions to the Musical Freestyle advisor prior to the show.

Musical Freestyle Classes: Class 1: Walk-Trot Class 2: 8-13 Class 3: 14-18
** Age divisions for these classes will be based on the number of entries received.*

Performance Score based on:

Technical Difficulty (20 points) – Exhibitor will be judged on overall degree of difficulty in performance. Moves made in addition to the 3 declared skills will be considered in the score.

3 Declared Skills (25 points) – Exhibitor must select 3 skills from choices listed on the musical freestyle entry form. Judges will score these maneuvers based on exhibitors riding ability and the horse's ability to perform. Multiple repetitions of the declared skills will be averaged (I.E. once excellent and once poor would equal average).

Choreography/Creativity (25 points) – Exhibitor will be judged on how well the arrangement of moves are planned or put to music. Overall imagination will be considered.

Costume (20 points) – Score will include how creative and how well the costume and/or any props coordinates with the theme of the music.

Crowd Appeal (10 points) – Judges will determine how well exhibitor entertains the audience.

Penalties (5 points) – For exceeding prop set-up time of 5 minutes maximum
(5 points) – For exceeding prop tear-down time of 5 minutes maximum
(5 points) – For undeclared/approved props



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.