

## **Quarter Pony Association Online Halter Class**

(a) The purpose of the class is to preserve Quarter Pony type by selecting well-mannered individuals in the order of their resemblance to the breed ideal and that are the most positive combination of balance, structural correctness, and movement with appropriate breed and sex characteristics and adequate muscling.

(b) The ideal Quarter Pony shown at halter is a pony that is generally considered to possess the following characteristics: the pony should possess eye appeal that is the result of a harmonious blending of an attractive head; refined throat latch; well-proportioned, trim neck; long, sloping shoulder; deep heart girth; short back; strong loin and coupling; long hip and croup; and well-defined and muscular stifle, gaskin, forearm and chest. All stallions 2 years old and over shall have two visible testicles. These characteristics should be coupled with straight and structurally correct legs and feet that are free of blemishes. The pony should be a balanced athlete that is muscled uniformly throughout. Having a resemblance to a non-quarter breed is considered a fault.

(1) One of the most important criteria in selecting a pony is conformation, or its physical appearance and how well the pony fits the Quarter Pony Standard. While it could be assumed that most ponies with several years' seasoning and past performance have acceptable conformation, the goal in selection should always be to find the best conformed pony possible that best represents the perfect example of the Quarter Pony breed.

(2) Rating conformation depends upon objective evaluation of the following four traits: balance, structural correctness, breed and sex characteristics, and degree of muscling. Of the four, balance is the single most important, and refers to the structural and aesthetic blending of body parts. Balance is influenced almost entirely by skeletal structure.

### **(c) PROCEDURE FOR JUDGING THE CLASS:**

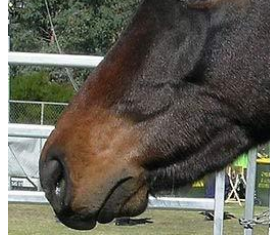
(1) Pony should be properly fitted for the show arena and handler properly dressed. Pony may be shown either in all Western Attire/Tack or all English Attire/Tack.

(2) A video of you doing halter with your pony. Have the pony set up, walk to the judge (camera person) trot by at least five strides straight away then continue trotting a half circle to the right back to the judge(camera) before coming to a stop. Set up for inspection. Have the judge (camera person) walk around your pony showing all angles of the pony. Be sure the entire pony is captured in the video at all times. Camera must remain rolling for the whole session.

For stallions 2 yrs and over, also need a shot showing that both testicals are descended. And for all, a shot showing the pony does not have a parrot mouth (see image below). If video reveals that a pony has Parrot Mouth or is cryptorchid, such pony should be disqualified from the class. Also, submit 4 photos, one of each angle.



Parrot Mouth



(3) A well-mannered pony is a pony that (1) is under control by the exhibitor while tracking and standing for inspection and (2) is reasonably still and flat-footed while standing for inspection.

(4) For purposes of this rule, the term “disruptive behavior” includes, but is not limited to rearing, striking, biting, or backing or falling into others.

(5) Judges may disqualify a pony at their discretion that exhibits disruptive behavior, or lameness.

(6) Rather than disqualify, a judge may choose to fault a pony that is exhibiting disruptive behavior. The decision of the judge(s) will be final.

(d) The following open halter classes are recommended with separate classes for each sex in each age division if class size warrants:

Weanling:

1) fillies 2) colts 3) geldings

Yearling:

1) fillies 2) colts 3) geldings

2-year-old and over:

1) mares 2) stallions 3) geldings