



ECSJ
Constitution
&
Rulebook
2020

ENGLISH CIRCUIT OF SOUTH JERSEY

CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name and Affiliation

The name of this association shall be the ENGLISH CIRCUIT OF SOUTH JERSEY. It is a non-profit organization founded in 1971 to create interest and improvement in the horse show world, in South Jersey. It is an Affiliated Association of the USEF, and will abide by its rules where no specific rules of E.C.S.J. exist.

Article II - Objectives

The objectives of this association shall be:

1. Protect and support the welfare of all horses, promote and encourage safety, physical fitness and sportsmanship.
2. To serve and promote the best interests of the E.C.S.J. shows and the exhibitors who participate in them.
3. To make adequate and fair rules governing E.C.S.J. shows and to enforce them for the common benefit.
4. To approve dates for all shows recognized by E.C.S.J.
5. To maintain proper records of points accumulated by horses and riders throughout the year, towards Year End Awards.
6. To encourage the sport of riding at all levels, in South Jersey.

Article III - Membership

Section 1 - Show Members

Horse show committees, agricultural or other organizations shall be eligible for Show Membership. When more than one show is held in a given year by the same management under the same name, each show shall be considered a separate entity.

Section 2 - Individual Members

Individual Membership consists of those persons who have joined this association, as provided in the Rules, and shall be of the following categories:

- A. Senior Membership - those persons who have reached their eighteenth Birthday.
- B. Junior Membership - those persons who have not reached their eighteenth birthday. For horse show purposes, the age of an individual on December 1st shall be maintained throughout the entire show year. Persons born on December 1st shall assume the greater age on that date.
- C. Family Membership - shall include all members of the immediate family, but shall not include any horses or ponies.
- D. Horse/Pony Membership - All horses and ponies must be registered to a member of E.C.S.J.

Article IV - Board of Directors

Section 1

Directors shall be elected from the individual Senior Membership of the Association by the current Directors. Nominations to the Board of Directors may come from any individual who is a current Senior Member of the Association. The Applicant must have been a member of the Association for one full calendar year prior to the application to the Board. Provided there are vacancies on the Board, the Applicant can apply for membership at any time after completing the membership requirement. After receiving a seconded nomination, the nominee will be contacted by the Board and asked to submit, in writing, a resume of their horse show related activities and their reasons for desiring a position on the Board. After receiving said resume, the Board will vote on the nominated individual provided there is a sincere interest on the part of the nominee.

New directors will serve a probationary term of one year. During this period they will be expected to attend at least fifty percent of the Board meetings, serve on at least one committee and in the eyes of the Board, be an asset to the Association. If the probationary term is completed to the satisfaction of the Board, the individual will be retained as a permanent Board Member. If the Board of Directors does not feel that an individual has fulfilled his/her obligations which would qualify him/her to be placed on the Board permanently, he/she may, at the discretion of the Board, either be dropped entirely from the Board, or be retained for a second probationary term.

All Board Members must attend one-half of all scheduled meetings and chair or serve on at least one committee. Members are required to contact the President, Secretary, or the Board Member hosting the meeting if they are unable to attend. If it is not possible to call by the date of the meeting, call the date after, or the absence shall be unexcused. Three consecutive unexplained absences shall result in dismissal from the Board. Board Members will be evaluated in December of the calendar year.

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of an odd number of Directors not to exceed fifteen. This is not a hard and fast rule. The Directors may make exceptions to this rule if they feel it is in the best interest of the Association.

Section 2

- A. The Directors shall have the general management of the Association and make contracts in its name and behalf or authorized such contracts to be made by officers of the Association.
- B. The Directors shall make and enforce the rules governing the Association and its members. They shall adopt at their discretion, rules recommended by Association committees.
- C. They may censure, fine, suspend or expel any Show Member for just cause.

Section 3

At all meetings of the Board of Directors, one-half of its members shall constitute a quorum. Meetings shall be held 4 times a year. January: Banquet, scholarship. April, September: Banquet, rule change proposals, nomination of officers. November: Banquet, final rule changes, elections, show producer's meeting.

Section 4

The Board of Directors shall keep a record of its proceedings and shall report either at a general membership meeting or through the newsletter any matters which in its judgment require the attention of the members.

Section 5

Generally, September shall be the designated month for the review of all rule changes for the upcoming year. Should a rule change be proposed for immediate implementation at any other time during the course of the year, it will need to be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors at least two weeks prior to the next scheduled Board meeting or an emergency meeting could be called for it's review.

Article V - Officers

Section 1

The officers of this association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. They will be elected from the Board of Directors and must have served on the Board for at least one year. Officers will serve a one year term.

Section 2 - President

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors. He/She shall sign all contracts and obligations and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Board of Directors.

The President shall approve all committees and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

The President may at any time call a meeting of the Board of Directors and shall do so at the request of one-third of the directors.

Section 3 - Vice-President

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President, The Vice-President shall also assume the duties of the Horse Show Coordinator.

Section 4 - Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of all meetings, informing the Board Members of Meetings, keeping an attendance record of the Board Members and shall take care of all correspondence from the board.

Section 5 - Treasurer

The Treasurer shall collect all monies and dues of the Association and will be responsible for the funds of the Association, He/she shall keep proper books showing the disposition of all funds which pass through his/her hands and will give a report at each Board Meeting. He/she shall be responsible for an annual written report covering the financial condition of the Association.

Article VI - Committees

Committees will be formed to act upon specific areas concerning the Association. Committees will be chaired by a Director and will be formed of either Directors and/or individual Senior Members who express an interest in committee work. Committee members will be approved by the President. Committee chairmen may be appointed by the President.

Committees

Horse Show Coordinator

1. Chair Show Producers' Meeting
2. Receive payment for show dues
3. Arrange show calendar
4. Educate Producers
5. Approve prize list
6. Prepare Show Producers Information Packet

Banquet

1. Location/menu
2. Entertainment
3. Sponsorships
4. Ribbons/awards
5. Invitation/programs
6. Reservations
7. Setup
8. Scholarship

Rules

To review the minutes on an annual basis for any proposed changes and then present them to the Board.

Membership

To keep a record of all members and a copy of the membership application for each member and horse recorded.

Points

To compile points accumulated by the members and their horses toward the Year End Awards.

Website

To post points, update show schedule and forms.

Article VII - Year End Awards

Section 1 - ECSJ Division Championships

Champion and Reserve awards and ribbons to 10th place will be given for each division.

Section 2 - Perpetual or Challenge Trophies

ECSJ welcomes the donation of Perpetual or Challenge Trophies to division champions. These are in addition to the awards given by ECSJ. The value of the trophy should not be under \$100.00. Purchase of these trophies is the responsibility of the donor, as is the engraving, etc.

Article VIII - Amendments

A two-thirds majority vote of all Board Members is required for this constitution to be altered or amended. Also, two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting, all Board Members must be notified in writing of the amendment to be proposed. At such meeting, proxy votes will be included.

ECSJ SPECIFICATIONS

AGE REQUIREMENTS

For horse show purposes, the age of an individual on December 1 shall be maintained throughout that entire year. Persons born on December 1 will assume the greater age on that date.

A junior rider is anyone who has not reached his/her 18th birthday as of December 1.
An Adult rider is anyone who has reached his/her 18th birthday as of December 1.

ELIGIBILITY FOR RESTRICTED DIVISIONS

For horse show purposes, the status (i.e. Beginner, Baby Green, etc.) of a horse or rider as of December 1 shall remain that status for the following year. See specific Division descriptions for more information. Horse and pony names under the same ownership shall not be changed in the same calendar year.

YEAR END AWARDS

ECSJ show year will run concurrent with USEF show year.

Champion and Reserve awards and ribbons to 10th place will be given for the following:

<i>Mini Stirrup</i>	<i>Walk/Trot</i>
<i>Beginner Rider</i>	<i>Low Children's/Adult Hunter</i>
<i>Short Stirrup</i>	<i>Children's/Adult Hunter</i>
<i>Low Children's/Low Adult Equitation</i>	<i>Baby Green Hunter</i>
<i>Pleasure Horse/Pony</i>	<i>Long Stirrup</i>
<i>Itty Bitty Jumper</i>	<i>Low/Working Hunter</i>
<i>Pre-Prelim Jumper</i>	<i>Low/High Child/Adult Jumper</i>

All divisions are optional for show producers to hold. They must be held in at least 25% of the shows in a calendar year in order to receive a Year End Award. The horse show calendar year shall run from December 1st to November 30th.

Awards and ribbons are based upon highest point accumulation throughout the year. Standings are published on the ECSJ Website. In the event of a tie at the year end, duplicate awards and ribbons are given

REGULATION HELMETS

These must be worn by all riders, as specified by USEF.

HORSE SHOW CALENDAR YEAR

Shall run from December 1st – November 30th.

POINTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

HUNTER DIVISIONS

At any single show, all horse and ponies competing in hunter divisions for Year End Awards, must enter and complete one over fences class in that division in order that all points won will count.

POINT SYSTEM

The chart below fully explains the system of awarding points for ribbon winnings based upon class size. Within each division, use the number of entries in the largest class, and apply that to the other classes in that division.

	1 to 8	9+
1st Place	10	20
2nd Place	6	12
3rd Place	4	8
4th Place	2	4
5th Place	1	2
6th Place	1/2	1

Championships

The above point system is to be used in determining division championships at each horse show.

CHAMPIONSHIP TIES

It is the duty of the show committee to announce any ties as quickly as possible following the completion of the involved division. The tie should be settled promptly. In hunter division ties, the winner is to be the horse or pony with the most points over fences. If this does not break the tie, then a hack off is to be held, or they can be decided by the flip of a coin if both parties agree. In equitation division ties, they must hack off, or equal ribbons awarded, or a championship class held open to 1st and 2nd place winners throughout the division.

DIVISION/CLASS SPECIFICATIONS

Unfilled Classes/Canceled Classes

In classes with 4 or less entries, the show management has the option to cancel those classes, except where classes may be combined (see individual class specifications). Should a show producer choose to hold a class with only one exhibitor, no ECSJ points will be awarded for that class. Points will be awarded when 2 riders are in the class.

Short Stirrup Equitation

This division is open to riders twelve (12) years of age and under. It is an equitation division with points to follow the rider. A show producer must hold at least the first three Classes.

**Short Stirrup Walk, Trot:* To be judged at a walk and trot both directions of the ring.

**Short Stirrup Walk, Trot, Canter:* Same as above with the addition of the canter.

**Short Stirrup over Fences:* Rider is to perform over a course of six to eight vertical jumps not to exceed 18" in height. May have a change of direction.

**Short Stirrup Over Fences:* Same as the previous class. If show management deems necessary, jumps may be 18" crossrails.

Mini Stirrup Equitation

This division is open to riders 10 years of age and under who have never shown over fences at a horse show. Riders who enter this division may not enter any other class in which they are required to canter or jump.

**Mini Stirrup Walk/Trot Pleasure:* To perform at a walk and trot, both directions of the ring.

**Mini Stirrup Walk, Trot Eq:* To perform at a walk and trot, both directions of the ring.

**Mini Stirrup Figure Eight:* This is an individual test to be ridden at a trot.

**Mini Stirrup Ground Poles:* To perform at a trot over four ground poles.

Beginner Rider Equitation

This division is open to riders of all ages. It is an equitation division with points to follow the rider. Riders must not to have won three (3) blue ribbons in any performance or equitation classes in any shows, including Breed, Western, Pony Club, Eventing, with the exception of 4-H shows and lead line classes.

**Beginner Rider Walk, Trot:* To be judged at a walk and trot both directions of the ring.

**Beginner Rider Walk, Trot, Canter:* Same as above, with the addition of the canter.

Note: In the interest of safety, the number of entries in relation to the size of the ring has to be a consideration. Show producers are encouraged to split the class for the cantering phase, especially if the ring is small and/or there are jumps still in the ring that can pose as a hazard for riders.

**Beginner Rider over Fences:* To perform over a course of at least four (4) cross rails not to exceed 18" in height.

Walk/Trot

Open to all age riders with points to follow the rider. May not cross enter into a canter class.

**Walk/Trot Equitation:* To be judged at a walk and a trot in both directions of the ring.

**Walk/Trot Pleasure:* To perform at a walk and trot, both directions of the ring, mount to be judged.

**Walk/Trot Figure Eight:* This is in individual test to be ridden at the trot.

**Walk Trot Ground Poles:* To perform at a trot over four ground poles.

Long Stirrup

Open to Adult riders with points to follow the rider. Adults may ride ponies with suitability to count. Show producers must hold a minimum of three classes.

**Walk/Trot Equitation:* To be judged at the walk and trot both directions of the ring.

**Walk/Trot/Canter Equitation:* Same as above with the addition of the canter.

**Walk/Trot/Pleasure:* To perform at the walk and trot in both directions of the ring, mount to be judged.

**Hunter under Saddle:* To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both directions of the ring. Martingales are not permitted. Not more than eight (8) entries to hand gallop at one time. Judged on performance, soundness and manners.

**Hunter Hack:* To be shown at a walk, trot and canter in both directions of the ring. Will be tested over two 18" cross rails.

**Long Stirrup Cross Rails or Ground Poles:* To perform over a course of at least four (4) cross rails not to exceed 18" in height.

Low Children's/Low Adult Equitation

Riders may not have shown over 2'6" or cross into any 3' division at the same show. Adults may ride ponies with suitability to count. Short Stirrup and Beginner Rider Equitation classes not to count. Riders may not have shown over 2'6" or cross enter to a 3' division at the same show. Courses to be set at 2' with no oxers and no less than six (6) fences. The division may have 3 over fences classes.

**Low Children's/Low Adult on the Flat:* To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both directions of the ring. The same note of caution expressed in the Beginner Rider Walk, Trot, Canter applies here as well.

**Low Children's/Low Adult Rider Over Fences:* To perform over a course of at least six (6) fences not to exceed 2' with no oxers.

**Low Children's/Low Adult Rider over Fences:* Same as previous class, but may have one (1) change of direction.

Pleasure

This division is open to horses and ponies. Ponies must possess a valid ECSJ or USEF measurement card. Pleasure Horse/Pleasure Pony may be split into two classes.

**Pleasure Horse/Pony:* To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both directions of the ring. To stand quietly and back readily. Suitability to purpose considered. Judged as a pleasant mount with true road and trail qualities. Disposition, manners and responsiveness to count.

**Cross Country Pleasure:* Open to horses and ponies. Same as Pleasure Horse/Pony, but must be tested by at least one (1) of the following: Jump two (2) 18" fences, back readily; stand quietly while rider mounts and dismounts; hand gallop. May be further tested at the judge's discretion.

**Bridle Path Hack:* Open to horses and ponies. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both directions of the ring. Must be tested at a hand gallop, stop and back readily; walk off on loose rein; rider may be asked to mount and dismount.

**Pleasure Jumping:* Open to horses and ponies. To perform over a course of four (4) 18" cross rails. Disposition, manners, and responsiveness to count.

Hunter Divisions - General Division Requirements

All ECSJ Hunter Divisions must consist of one under saddle and a minimum of two over fences classes. All hunter classes are basically defined below; however, see specific divisions for restrictions and fence heights.

**Hunter under Saddle:* To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both directions of the ring. No martingales permitted. Not more than eight (8) entries to gallop at one time. Judged on performance, manners and soundness.

**Hunter Over Fences:* To perform over a course of at least eight (8) fences at the specified height with at least one change of direction.

Low Children's/Low Adult Hunter

This division is open to horses ridden by Juniors and Adult Amateurs. Adults may ride ponies. Ponies will jump 2', horses jump 2'6".

Low/Working Hunter Division

This division is open to horses and ponies. Ponies may be ridden by an adult with suitability to count. An in-and-out, if there is one, is not to be altered for ponies, and is recommended to be set at 24'. A horse or pony may compete in one only section per show (Low or Working). Low to jump 2' 6"; Working to jump 3'.

This division may be separated into two divisions, Low Hunter and Working Hunter. If this is the case, at the Show Producers discretion, an additional fence height of 3' 6" may be added to the Working Hunter.

Baby Green Hunter

This division is open to horses and ponies in their first and second year of showing who have not shown over fences exceeding 2' 3". Ponies must have an ECSJ or USEF measurement card. Horses and ponies to jump 2' - 2' 3".

Children's/Adult Hunter

This division is open to horses and ponies. Ponies must have a valid ECSJ or USEF measurement card. Small/medium ponies will jump 2', large ponies will jump 2'6" and horse will jump 3'.

Jumper Divisions – General Division Requirements

Itty Bitty Jumper

Open to all. Any three (3) classes from Table I thru Table IV of the USEF rule book may be chosen. 0.70 – 0.75 meters.

Pre-Preliminary Jumper

Open to all. 0.90 – 0.95 meters.

Low/High Child /Adult Jumper

Open to Junior and Amateur riders

Low .95 meter – 1 meter, high 1.05 meter – 1.10 meter

GUIDELINES FOR SHOW PRODUCERS

Article I - Requirements for Obtaining a Show Date:

A. All show dates will be set at the annual show producers meeting.

1. This meeting is to be held in November of each year.
2. All show producers will be notified by phone, mail or e mail.
3. Previous show producers will receive priority for their same show dates.

B. A Show fee of \$50.00 for ECSJ members must be submitted along with a completed Show Application Form, at, or prior to, the annual Show Producers Meeting. This fee is non-refundable. Check should be payable to "ECSJ".

1. Show fees must be paid in full by November 30th.

Article II - Requirements for Preliminary Approval of ECSJ Sanctioned Horse Show:

A. Prize list must be received at least one month prior to show date and include the following information:

1. An USEF judge, who is Registered or Recorded in Hunters and Hunt Seat Equitation, along with town of residence is recommended.
2. If a show producer is mailing one prize list for several shows, all the judges and information for each show must be included.
3. Name of show producer, manager and person to contact for information should be included with phone number.
4. Starting time.
5. Location with directions.
6. Class fees.
7. Class specifications.
8. Schedule of classes with any designated schooling breaks.
9. Any other rules/regulations enforced by show producer.
10. Types of awards.

Article III - Horse Show Day Requirements to be met by Show Producer:

A. Schooling in the ring or on course to be set up one hour prior to the scheduled start of the show. Schooling must be controlled so that no more than ten (10) may school in the ring at one time.

B. Registration to be open no later than 1/2 hour prior to scheduled start of the show.

C. Show must provide knowledgeable, efficient and sufficient personnel; i.e. Secretaries, announcer, starters, jump crews.

D. Grounds, riding surfaces must be properly maintained throughout the day, especially in the event of inclement weather.

E. Refreshments/food must be available.

F. Accessible water must be available.

G. Clean and maintained restrooms.

H. Schooling area must be a minimum of 60' x 80' with two (2) jumps set; one being a vertical with two (2) standards and three (3) rails; and the other an oxer with four (4) standards and four (4) rails.

I. For over fences classes, a jump order should be announced 10 minutes before the start of the class. This jump order could be announced at an appropriate time near the completion of the previous class.

J. Course Construction

1. Beginner, Limit, and Short Stirrup: Jumps may consist of rails and standards with wings with appropriate ground lines.

2. All other classes over fences: Every course must have at least four (4) different types of obstacles, such as natural post and rail, brush, stone wall, white board fence or gate, chicken coop, aiken hedge, etc. All courses must include an oxer. When using post and rail construction, verticals at 2' 6" or higher must consist of three (3) raised rails; oxers at 2' 6" or higher must include four (4) raised rails, 3 in front, and one set 3" to 6" higher in the back.

3. All jumps must have ground lines. All jumps must be 12' wide. Rails must be suitable lumber with a diameter no less than 4". All jumps must have standards with wings with secure jump cups.

4. Equitation fences may include colored jumps and striped poles. Equitation courses may include a stile jump, (narrow fence).

K. Course Design

1. All courses should take into consideration the size of the ring. Jumps should be set as far off the corners as the ring allows, except in the case of equitation classes where a fence off the corner may be used.

2. Handy Hunter and Equitation classes may include broken or bending lines and a roll back.

3. The following distances are to be used:

One Stride (in-and-out)	20'	Small/medium ponies
	24'	Large ponies, horses
	26'	Horses on outside course where fence height is 3' or higher
Two Strides	30'	Small/medium ponies
	36'	Large ponies/horses
Three Strides (four strides for small/medium ponies)	48'	
Four Strides (five strides for small/medium ponies)	60'	

2. Failure to comply with the above may result in the show losing ECSJ accreditation.

F. Registration for new members.

1. Will be accepted by the show producer on the day of the show.
2. Proper forms will be provided by ECSJ for membership registration.
3. Membership Fees must be paid in full.
4. Points will count from the Application Date.

G. Pony Measurement Card

Upon registration for the day's classes, all pony exhibitors that are members of the Association must present to the secretary an ECSJ Pony Measurement Card. In the absence of such a card, measurement is made prior to showing, by two (2) authorized personnel. Upon this measurement, a record of the measurement will be issued to the owner; which may be used until the ECSJ Pony Measurement Card is received. Non-members may present a current USEF Pony Measurement Card.

H. Handling Questions and Protests.

1. NO ONE MAY DIRECTLY APPROACH THE JUDGE.
2. All protests and questions must be directed to the show management who may then request the assistance of a member of the Board of Directors.
3. If an exhibitor wishes to discuss the merits of a round or class, he/she may not approach the judge until the division has been completed or until the horse and/or rider has completed competition for the day.
4. Protesters must present to the Show Steward a written statement of the protest, accompanied by a \$20.00 fee. The fee will be returned if the protest is proven valid.
5. The protest should be acted upon the date of the show, but may be presented at the earliest Board of Directors meeting for determination.
6. Protests and questions will be directed to the ECSJ Rule Book, and the USEF Rule Book.
7. If a Horse Show is found to be in violation of either ECSJ or USEF rules, or a protest is upheld, the show management may be fined, (up to, but not to exceed) \$100.00.

I. Conduct of Exhibitors.

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated from anyone on the show grounds.
2. Cruelty to any animals on the grounds of any show will not be tolerated, see USEF Rule Book, Rule III, Article 302.
3. All riders must wear USEF regulation hard hats. Any changes in helmet specifications made by USEF are to be met by ECSJ members.
4. All members must be in good standing for points to count.
5. Policy regarding bad checks: Any exhibitor whose check is returned has a 2 week grace period to rectify the balance including any bank charges or points will be forfeited.

Article V - Canceled Horse Shows

- A. Show Management must contact the judge and officials.
- B. A contact telephone number should be listed on the prize list for exhibitors (refer to Guidelines II, A).

- C. Any cancellations, updates or changes should be made known to ECSJ to be posted on the website or other social media.

E.C.S.J. RECOMMENDATIONS ON JUMP CONSTRUCTION AND COURSE DESIGN

Reference: Carruthers, Morris, Hogan & Thompson: Designing Courses and Obstacles, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1978.

Suggestions of Good Course Design

The well-planned course should enable horse and rider to demonstrate their abilities. Every course should encourage clean rounds. If no horse can negotiate the course successfully, then the course is of poor design, or the designer has set a test too severe for the caliber of horses competing.

"A hunter course shall be any course which management deems a fair test of a hunter. Fences shall simulate obstacles found in a jumping field, such as a natural post and rail, brush, stone wall, white board fence or gate, chicken coop, aiken, hedge, oxer, etc. Oxers are not to be square. A 6" difference is recommended for the back element with a minimum of 3". A ground line is recommended for all fences. In handy classes, fences shall simulate those found in trappy hunting country; the course must have a least two changes of direction, and at least one combination; horses are required to trot over one fence toward the end of the course and may be asked to lead over one fence. A chicken coop hinged at the top and free at the bottom, and jumps such as a triple bar and hogs back, striped rails, targets and spread over 4' are prohibited.

The suggested distance for an in-and-out when used in a ring is 24' to 26', and on an outside course is 26' to 28'. An in-and-out is considered two obstacles in the required number of fences, but must never be used as a first fence.

Every course must have at least four (4) different types of fences, and all fences must have wings 30" wide, that are at least 12" higher than the fence. Pen jumps are excepted.

The top element of all fences must be securely placed so that a slight rub will not cause a knock-down, and must be equally secure for different heights in the same class. The inside dimension of a cup for a 4" pole must be a minimum of 1 1/2" deep, and 5" across.

Spacing between fences - Distances should not be so awkward as to require a horse to alter his normal stride. The normal stride of a horse is 12'. When spacing fences on a line, try to achieve fences 3, 4 or 5 strides apart. Pen striding is allowed on the turns. Striding distance is determined as follows: 3 strides - $3 \times 12' + 12' = 48'$; 4 strides - $4 \times 12' + 12' = 60'$; 5 strides - $5 \times 12' + 12' = 72'$. In-and-outs: Horses 24' to 26' in ring; 26' to 28' outside course. Small ponies 20' to 22'; large ponies 24'.