Freestyle Guidelines

Lane County is offering Freestyle as an event for Seniors at the 4-H Fair. Freestyle is an individual or pair performing a routine choreographed to music. If riding in pairs, both riders must be Seniors.

4-H rules will apply except where the following rules pre-empt the same.

No equipment allowed (e.g., barrels, jumps, etc.) Riders may carry flags as part of their routines, as long as you enter the arena with the flag(s) in hand. They cannot pick up flags in the arena.

Required movements:

- Must include 4 of the 5 gaits: walk, jog, trot, canter or lope
- Back at least one length
- A minimum of 1 hind pivot (your choice of direction and degrees but not less than 180 degrees)
- A minimum of 1 forehand pivot (your choice of direction and degrees but not less than 180 degrees)
- A minimum of 1 lead change at the canter from right to left
- A minimum of 1 lead change at the canter from left to right (changes may be simple, interrupted or flying)

Additional movements and additional repetitions of required movements are appropriate in the Freestyle class. (See the 4-H Horse Contest Guide and the Dad Potter movements for ideas.) All patterns must be the members’ original creations. Don’t use dressage tests, OHSET patterns, breed show patterns, etc.

Time Limit: Maximum of 4 minutes including any introductions. The time limit will be from the beginning of the music or introduction (whichever is first) and will end with the music.

Costumes are permitted but not required.

English or Western attire and/or tack are permitted.

Riders are allowed to use 2 hands if using a bit. Any 4-H approved bit may be used, including snaffle, bosal or hackamore. A neck rein may be used in addition to the bit.

Exhibitors may use one or more pieces of music, vocal or instrumental; part of a speech; pieces of poetry; spoken words, etc. Be creative!

All patterns & music used in freestyle needs to be pre-approved by the 4-H staff or appointed individual.

1. Hand in a written pattern and the music by the end of the first day of the Fair. The music must be in .mp3 format, preferably on a CD.

2. 4-H will keep all CDs until after the freestyle event is completed. Members may pick up their CDs from the Horse Show office after the event.

3. If the music stops for any reason during the event, you need to finish the event without the music.

5/2/2010