
Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by cantata007 - 2008/04/21 13:42

anyone explain this to me? I cannot figure it out. obviously as both myself and my horse have only been going western for 1 year, we are both novices. so I think to myself, should enter novice horse or novice rider classes?

Going along to shows, I see then the same horse/rider partnership entering novice rider and then novice horse class, how come is this? and then I see a horse which I know definitely is not novice as it has been winning stuff in places like Munich with a top trainer, been ridden in these novice classes as well, I am very confused. are the two judged differently, if so how? how is my horse supposed to compete against the above described horse?

Post edited by: cantata007, at: 2008/04/21 14:43

Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by appynospots - 2008/04/21 15:13

As I remember it, I have not read my rule book this year.

Novice horse classes are for HORSES who have not gained 36 points in that discipline (be it, pleasure, trail, reining etc) These classes are there for the young horses, and can be ridden by any rider, even the pro's.

Novice rider classes are for those RIDERS who have not gained more than 36 points, but can ride a 'open' horse, like the one you have described.

However, these points are to be gained at WES shows, so it is quite possible for a horse/rider combination to ride at a good level somewhere else, and still be a novice at WES shows. It's just how it is, that's the rules. It's not necessarily fair! I do wonder why people do it though.

I know it seems a little unfair, but don't be intimidated, if the rider isn't up to scratch and makes a mistake, then his good horse won't always be able to cover it up!

I have never been too impressed with pleasure classes, as these combinations do tend to come to the top.

You still have very good chances with your horse in horsemanship, trail and western riding. Still plenty to go at, don't give up, you may get placed above them one day, imagine how pleased and proud you'll be, and you've done it yourself!

Hope this has helped.

Post edited by: appynospots, at: 2008/04/21 16:18

Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by mrickard - 2008/04/21 15:14

Hi

As far as I know it is worked on a point system under WES rules.

If the horse has more than 36 points then it must proceed to Amateur or open classes and becomes ineligible for Novice Horse Classes.

The same applies for Novice Rider if you attained 36 or more points you are ineligible or excluded from Novice Rider.

Everytime you are placed in a WES show you gain points if you take a look at your WES rule book this will explain the point system in more detail.

I hope this helps.:unsure:

Don't let it get you down - at least your getting out there and giving it a go.:)

Good Luck.

Michelle:) :) :)

Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/21 15:15

WES uses their own points system, placings at WES shows have points allocated to them, in the rulebook there is a table showing how points are awarded depending on the number of entries & the placing.

I'm sure someone can explain better but...

I've looked at the WES rulebook (which is on the WES website):

Novice rider is a rider that has less than 36 points, any horse can be ridden in these classes.

Novice horse is a horse that has less than 36 points.

Therefore novice riders that also have novice horses can enter both classes.

Hope this helps a bit!

Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by amanda - 2008/04/21 16:12

as others have explained, it's all down to the points system - you could have a really experienced horse and rider going in for novice classes with WES simply because they haven't amassed points with WES. Although it might seem unfair, I don't think it happens that often (does it?!) and when it does happen I honestly think it raises everyones game. Whilst I personally wouldn't feel comfortable doing a novice horse or rider class for WES (I would be eligible as I've not done a great deal with WES) sometimes people do it to warm up their horses for another show. I don't think it is particularly fair but really believe that in the long run it can be healthy to compete with good horses. At the end of the day, it's more important how your horse goes and that you are pleased with him or her. I've had times when I've not placed but been really pleased with our performance, and likewise had times when we've been placed well but not felt I deserved it. Shows are a great place to learn what you need to improve, so just go and do your best. Are you going to the WES show at Sovereign this weekend?

Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by cantata007 - 2008/04/21 18:07

thanks for all the advice, makes more sense now, I now see that these really goog horses have probably been doing so well such as AQHA etc is that right?, so they can come to WES and look like a novice on paper. However as the proud owner of a rather athletic cob, WES is the one for us!

I am not really that worried about the winning side of things, we can build up to that!!!! , but just needed to understand why I as up against these other really good horses, and obviously they set a good bench mark for us, when the day (if the day) finally comes and we get placed, I will feel a real sense of achievement!!

We did our first show last oct at solihull and did the walk and jog only. First one this year is Solihull again in May, so look out for chestnust and white cob with slightly nervous but determined looking rider!!!! :woohoo:

Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/22 07:32

I'm going to be at Sovereign on Sunday, i'm looking forward to it but at the same time a bit nervous. We've only done a handful of shows & this will be the first time i've entered a class where we have to lope with other horses.

My horse conveniently has just been hit with spring grass & goes off bucking every time i let him out. Lets hope we don't do that across the arena on Sunday!

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by campbh - 2008/04/22 08:10

Caz, I'm so with you - I'm also going to SQH for the first time this weekend and my horse is A-Bit-Too-Well-in-Himself too! Don't know that the notion of potentially two of us pogoing around the arena in a similar situation is much consolation but at the end of the day, it's all experience, hopefully a good one!

Took me a while to get my head around the WES points system but then I realised since neither my horse nor I have any points, I just head for all things novice!

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/22 10:58

Sounds like its going to be a fun day!!

Keep fingers crossed that the weather stays nice.

I just hope that there aren't too many in the novice pleasure, as i've seen at some shows when everyone starts loping it looks very much like a stampede.
Loads of novices loping round at top speed doesn't help settle my horse! Lets hope theres enough space in the arena!

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by misty - 2008/04/22 20:17

Thanks for that Caz! I hope to be there on Sunday as well and it will be my first ever show! My loping is rubbish as my girl has got the measure of me (i.e. nervous old rider) so like today did a little buck then tanks off for a while with her neck outstretched and then stops. Well they are doing walk and jog but it's a long way to go for 5 mins in the ring.

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by markrm - 2008/04/22 22:12

Hi Misty, we can't be there Sunday - would have liked to participate. I'm sure you'll be fine - just enjoy it and good luck! ;)

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/23 07:38

Misty, will you be competing on the grey in your picture?
Hope i haven't made you any more nervous about Sunday!
Good luck, see you there!

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by misty - 2008/04/23 10:14

Thanks Mark, I'll do my best! Had a lesson with Tanya yesterday and one with David tonight, my poor old body!

Caz, this is the little madam I should be riding

<http://i5.photobucket.com/albums/y193/rosiepony/DSC00920-1.jpg>

I will not be wearing my pink stetson!

I am an old lady with brown, blonde and red hair and a bit vertically challenged (what a bloody weird'o). I have been told to do stuff with novice riders. Do say hello.

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/23 10:24

I think we'll be in the same class, i'm doing Novice Rider Trail, Walk Jog Pleasure & Novice Rider Pleasure.

I've got a sorrel gelding with a small white star & i will be wearing black with a black, white & yellow vest.

See you there! :)

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by misty - 2008/04/23 21:31

You know what you'll be wearing! Yep, should be doing the same classes.

What time are you aiming to get there?

Just got the trail pattern, what do you think? The 'attempted' lope, and gate will be adventurous for me.

Post edited by: misty, at: 2008/04/23 22:56

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/24 07:21

I'm panicking now, i don't have a trail pattern!!

Did yours come through the post? When did it arrive?

I'm going to be leaving at 6 & hoping to get there for 8.

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by misty - 2008/04/24 14:18

Caz, have p.m'd you

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Re:Novice rider, novice horse (WES)

Posted by Caz - 2008/04/24 14:35

Thanks Misty!

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