

NORTH AMERICAN SADDLE MULE AND DONKEY ASSOCIATION

OPEN COMPETITION PROGRAM

The Open Competition Program is meant to recognize individual achievements of Mules/Donkeys and riders that are competing in events against all breeds by awarding lifetime achievements in individual categories, and to recognize individual Mules/Donkeys who excels in a range of categories by awarding them the Open Performance Versatility Award.

The Open Competition Program is also available to International Competitors.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

To be eligible:

- Owner and rider must hold a membership with NASMDA
- Mule/Donkey must be registered with NASMDA during competitions
- Mule/Donkey must compete under NASMDA registered name
- Mule/Donkey maybe ridden by more than one person, but each rider must hold a membership
- An enrollment form and \$25 fee must be submitted annually for each mule or donkey to remain in the program
- Competition must be open to all breeds and classes for Mule/Donkey only do not count in the Open Competition Program.

Only one bronze, silver, gold and platinum Medal/Award/Certificate will be awarded per category, for all time to Mule/Donkey and Amateur/Youth.

The Open Performance Versatility Award represents a lifetime achievement, but to be awarded the owner must hold current membership and the Mule/Donkey must be registered with NASMDA.

Mules/Donkeys who earn 5 of the 11 bronze medallion/Award/Certificate will earn the Open Performance Versatility Award.

Gaited and Draft Mules who earn 3 of the 11 bronze medallion/award/certificate will earn the Open Performance Versatility Award.

Trophies for the Open Performance Versatility will be awarded to the owner at the National Championship Show/End of Year High Point Awards in July each year.

REPORTING GUIDELINES

A signed National Score Card (name and signature by secretary/judge/official at competition will be necessary) or a copy of the results sheet or publicized list of placings must be submitted as proof of completion/participation in competition/events.

Other methods offered as proof of completion may be accepted or rejected at the Board's discretion.

Competition results may be audited. If there is a significant difference in the information reported by the owner/rider and information reported by the official results, the entry will not be accepted.

4-H and club shows eligible but must be open to all breeds. If GAYP please indicate whether you rode English or Western so points can be applied to the appropriate category.

Online or Video competitions are ineligible.

SCORING SYSTEM

# in class	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
0 - 3	1					
4 - 9	2	1				
10 - 15	4	3	2	1		
16 or more	6	5	4	3	2	1
Grand Champion			2			
Reserve Grand Champion			1			

Multiple Phase Competitions: Overall Placements will be given 2 points for 1st/Champion and all other placements will be given 1 Point.

Medal/Award/Certificate for Open Competition Program

- ❖ Bronze: 100 Points
- ❖ Silver: 200 Points
- ❖ Gold: 300 Points
- ❖ Platinum: 500 Points

The level of requirements to achieve awards may change from time to time upon review by the National Awards Committee and NASMDA Board. Members will be notified of any changes, and they will be effective at the beginning of the next year after adopted. Any changes will not have a detrimental effect on the requirements from the previous year.

In the event a member would like to add a discipline to the program, they need to provide information such as National Association that governs the discipline. The discipline is required to be a sport that has national championships and/or national competition levels.

The NASMDA Board's decision is final in all matters to the Open Competition Program.

Awards will only be given to current registered Mule/Donkey and paid-up members.

OPEN COMPETITION CATEGORIES

REMEMBER that owners and riders MUST have current NASMDA membership and the Mule/Donkey MUST be registered and compete under its NASMDA registered name.

1. HALTER

Classes based 100% on conformation (no color classes eligible)

- Grand or Reserve Champion
- In Hand
- Longe line
- Conformation

2. ENGLISH PERFORMANCE

Classes judged on horse's movement, not rider's posture and ability

- English/Country Pleasure
- Bridle Path Hack
- Hunter Under Saddle
- Hunter Hack
- Working Hunter
- Jumping
- Cross Country

3. WESTERN PERFORMANCE

Classes judged on horse's movement, not rider's posture and ability

- Western Pleasure
- Western Riding
- Reining includes Ranch, Stockhorse, NRCHA

4. HARNESS

- Pleasure Driving
- Obstacle Driving
- Drive/Ride
- Timed Event Driving
- Heritage/Antique Driving

5. WORKING RANCH

Includes all Ranch type events except where cattle or mechanical cattle are used.

- Ranch/Stock Horse Pleasure
- Ranch Rail
- Ranch Riding
- Ranch Trail
- Mounted Shooting

6. WORKING CATTLE

Includes events where cattle or mechanical cattle are used.

- Cutting/Ranch Cutting
- Boxing
- Roping – tie down/head/heel/breakaway
- Steer Stopping/Daubing/Goat Tie
- Team Penning/Sorting
- Ranch Cow/Working Cow
- Mechanical Cow/Flag
- Cattle Work – Working Equitation

7. GYMKHANA/SPEED/NOVELTY EVENTS

Includes all speed type events that use time for the placements

- Poles
- Barrels
- Key Hole
- Pylon Alley
- Cones & Barrels
- Flag Race
- Working Equitation – Speed Trail
- Misc Timed Events

8. GAITED/DRAFT MULES

- Ridden – walk/rack/gait
- Driving
- Log Skidding
- Team Race/Driving

9. TRAIL

- Western
- English
- In Hand
- Working Equitation – Ease of Handling
- ACTHA
- Cowboy Obstacle Race
- Obstacle Challenges

10. DRESSAGE

Includes traditional and other non-traditional dressage

- Dressage
- Eventing Dressage
- Western Dressage
- Cowboy Dressage
- Working Equitation Dressage
 - Training, First and Second Levels (Western/Cowboy/WE)

- 67.001% or better : 6 points
- 64.001% - 67.000% : 5 points
- 60.001% - 64.000% : 4 points
- 55.001% - 60.000% : 3 points
- 50.001% - 55.000% : 2 points
- Third and Forth levels add 2 points to each score above
- FEI Levels add 4 points to each score above

11. ENDURANCE/COMPETITIVE TRAIL

Rides must be greater than 12 miles

- Medals awarded
 - Bronze: 300 Miles
 - Silver: 600 Miles
 - Gold: 900 Miles
 - Platinum: 1500 Miles

AMATEUR/YOUTH AMBASSADOR

The Amateur/Youth Ambassador Competition Program is meant to recognize individual achievements of Amateur/Youth exhibitors that are competing in events against all breeds with their Mule/Donkey. NASMDA will recognize their achievements within the categories, the events or classes must be open to all breeds but only amateur or youth eligible. Below are other classes not included in the categories for Open Performance where an Amateur/Youth can also receive points. Please indicate whether you rode English or Western so points can be applied to the appropriate category

1. Equitation/Horsemanship – Any English, Western or Performance class judged on rider's posture and ability.
2. Showmanship – Includes all in hand competition which class is judge on handler's ability, fitting, grooming and conditioning.