

Section 11.19A Country Speed Division

1. The Country Speed Horse shall be shown where both horse and rider are relaxed and comfortable. The horse shall be required to maintain a head set and be alert in the bridle. He shall not be required to maintain a high front leg lift, but should exhibit a smooth stride behind. The Country Speed Horse does not sacrifice style for speed and is purposed to be less than the Open Speed Horse division. The Country Speed Horse will not show signs of straining but will be performing a natural gait that isn't forced and is more collected than the normal speed horse division. The gait is highly recognized while being judged and is very important that the horse has a smooth and natural four beat gait that never paces or trots while being shown. The Country Speed Horse will be required to perform three gaits: (1) Country Speed Brisk Walk, (2) Country Speed Slow Rack and (3) Country Speed Fast Rack. The Country Speed horse shall stand quietly and must back readily. The tack and attire for Country Speed may be either English or Western but not a combination of both.
2. The Country Speed Brisk Walk Horse must exhibit a brisk walk, but not a show walk, be alert in the bridle, well collected and controlled. This gait would be a desired on a trail as a natural walk and the horse shall remain relaxed and collected.
3. The Country Speed Slow Rack shall be a true four-beat gait, horse must exhibit a slow, smooth, be alert and collected in the bridle. There will be no evidence of strain on the part of the horse or rider. The reins shall be held lightly.
4. The Country Speed Fast Rack shall be a comfortable, easy-going rack in which speed is encouraged but style and gait should not be sacrificed. The gait should be easily distinguished from the other two gaits required of this division; there shall be a smooth stride behind and a natural rolling motion up front. Any indication of strain on the part of horse or rider will be penalized.
5. The Country Speed horse shall enter the ring at a Country Speed Slow Rack prior to initial judging of the class. Three gaits shall be called for, beginning with the Country Speed Brisk Walk, after all entries have entered the ring horses are prepared to be judged.
6. Shoeing requirements: The shoe must not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ " in thickness, nor be wider than 1". Drill tech and borium are allowed on the bottom of the shoe. The shoe must be hoof to shoe with no pad in between. Refer to Section 8.7A (5), page 32 of the Rule Book.

7. Severe bits must be penalized in the final judging. Shanks over nine- and one-half inches (9 ½”) are prohibited. Gag bits without shanks are not allowed. Shanks are measured from the top to the very bottom of the metal, including the rings. In this division, whips, crops and cross-chain cavessons are prohibited. Cavessons are permitted in Western and English.
8. Horses competing in Country Speed Division are not eligible to compete in any other divisions. This division shall be open only to Amateurs and Juveniles.