



MSPHO Show Policies

To Our Valued MSPHO Show Competitors:

As a volunteer-run organization, our goal is to organize shows that are safe, fun, and run in accordance with equestrian organization rules (USDF, USEF, etc.). It is important that we have clear show policies, and that they are enforced consistently to be fair to all competitors. Our show secretaries and managers enforce these policies for all competitors.

Horse Health

Protecting the health of our horses is of utmost importance. MSPHO, in compliance with Maine State Law, requires a negative Coggins within 36 months for in-state horses; within 12 months for out-of-state horses.

- **Important tip:** Please ask your vet to put your horse's show name on the Coggins form. Our show secretaries cannot process entries where the name on the paperwork does not match the name on the entry form. Also, please make sure that the photocopy of your Coggins is legible.

Schooling Show Fees

- \$25 per test
- \$15 for schooling on grounds
- \$35 for non-negotiable check
- \$5 office fee

Dressage Schooling Show Entries – Limit on Levels

- All levels: The same horse and rider combination can only ride tests in consecutive levels at a show. You cannot skip a level at the same show.
- Intro A and B: The same horse and rider combination cannot show in Training Level or above.
- Intro C: The same horse and rider combination cannot show above Training Level Test 1.

Musical Freestyle

Please consult the SMDA rules for Musical Freestyle.

Processing Entries

Show secretaries begin processing entries received on the opening date. Entries received before the opening date will be returned. Complete entries are processed in the order they are received. A complete entry is one that includes a copy of current Coggins, a complete entry form (must be signed by rider, owner, and parent or guardian if the rider is under 18), and a check payable to MSPHO.

If you submit an incomplete entry form, the show secretary will make a reasonable effort to contact you as soon as possible. Please make sure your telephone number and email address are legible on your entry form. Your entry is placed ON HOLD until you submit missing information. Please understand that show secretaries cannot hold a place for you while waiting for missing information. Please submit a timely and complete entry.

All signature fields on the Show Entry form must be complete. We must have the rider's signature (regardless of rider age), parent signature for riders under 18 years old, and the horse owner's signature. Even if the rider and the owner are the same, we need signatures in both fields. If you are leasing the horse you MUST get the owner's signature.

The Wait List

Show secretaries schedule as many rides as possible. Once the show is full, you will be notified if you are placed on the wait list. Whenever possible, we fill scratches with entries on the wait list; however, once ride times are scheduled, we need to match the open slot with an appropriate wait list ride (for example, a Training 1 slot cannot feasibly be filled with a Second Level ride).

If we are not able to get you into the show, the secretary will contact you and either return or destroy your check.

No Refunds for Cancellations and Scratches

After the show closing date, we cannot refund your entry fees. There are no refunds after the closing date, including Acts of God, *except* for wait list entries not scheduled. USDF and USEF rules and regulations are followed.

*Note: Your check will be deposited at our bank on or shortly after the show closing date, except for Wait List entries that do not make it into the show.

Dressage Ride Times

Ride times are posted the Thursday prior to the show date on MSPHO's website MaineStandardbred.com. You can also call the secretary the Thursday before the show date between the hours of 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

Show Etiquette and Attire

At our dressage schooling shows, traditional dressage attire is required (conservative colored jacket, light breeches, helmet). See the USDF website for more information on rules regarding whip length, legal bits, acceptable attire, and so on.

For safety reasons we request that all riders use the designated warm-up area. Remain at a walk at all times outside of the warm-up ring. Extend courtesy to other riders. Listen to the announcements and check with the ring steward to make sure you get to the ring on time for your test. If you have questions about proper etiquette in the warm-up ring, please see the information posted on our website.

No dogs are allowed on the grounds the day of the show.

If you have questions, please contact the show secretary (or any of our Board Members).

USEF Helmet Rules

Effective March 1, 2011, for dressage: Anyone mounted on a horse must wear protective headgear except those riders age 18 and over while on horses that are competing only in FEI levels and tests at the Prix St. Georges level and above (including FEI Young Rider Tests, the USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test and the USEF Brentina Cup Test). MSPHO strongly recommends that ALL riders wear protective gear, including at the FEI levels!

Thank you,
The MSPHO Board of Directors