

# Summary of Rule Changes For the 2020 Year



1. A horse specific 4-H Portfolio (resume/cover letter) contest will be included at the State Horse Show. Acceptable submissions will be worth one point to the overall score.
2. The two-handed program will now be competing in two-handed western horsemanship instead of two-handed western pleasure. This event will still be on the rail.
3. When a horse leaves the keyhole pattern (meaning all 4 feet are out at the same time), it is a 20-second penalty, not a disqualification. Horses not entering/exiting through the neck will be disqualified.
4. A broken pattern in a judged event will result in a disqualification. Please note that judges should be advised on the difference between a broken pattern (skipping a maneuver or obstacle entirely) and a failed attempt (which would be reflected in their maneuver score but not a DQ).
5. During Ranch Riding events, riders will have the option to post, stand, or sit the extended job. Riders who maintain a proper posting motion or stand will be scored higher than a rider that sits the extended jog. Riders are still not allowed to touch the horse or the saddle
6. All patterns will be removed from the rulebook. A separate book of suggested patterns will be available for county horse show managers to use if they wish, but show management should feel free to find and use patterns they deem appropriate.
7. During the two-handed events, mecate reins will be permitted on a snaffle bit.
8. Once the first person has handed in their test and left the testing area, no more tests will be distributed.