**2016 MICHIGAN APPLE BLOSSOM CLASSIC Open Horse Shows**

Under the Michigan Equine Liability Act, an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in an equine activity resulting from an inherent risk of the equine activity (PA 351 of 1994). Completion of entry forms and/or attendance at this event constitutes waiver of liability beyond the provisions of this act and such waiver shall be valid and binding. The Michigan Apple Blossom Classic/Russell Training Center LLC or any individual assisting at this show will not individually or collectively be responsible for loss, damage, or injury to any person(s), horse(s), or property in connection with this event.

* AQHA rules will be used. Modifications may be done at the discretion of the judge and/or show management.
* It is mandatory for riders in all hunter, jumper and equitation **over fence** classes including hunter hack, where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition ground to wear properly fastened protective headgear that meets ASTM/SEI Standards or equivalent international standards for equestrian use. The helmet must also be properly fitted with harness secured. **It is mandatory that all youth wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with harness during all English classes including flat and over fence classes.** It is recommended that amateurs wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with harness in all English classes.
* The Judge’s decision is final.
* Exhibitor’s age is as of January 1, 2016
* Horse’s age is as of December 31, 2016.
* Each show will offer seven high point age divisions.

1) 12 & under Peewee walk/trot only

2) 13 & Under

3) 14 to 18

4) 19-34

5) 13 & over youth/amateur walk/trot only

6) 35 & over

7) 50 & over

* Peewee is defined as 12 & under walk/trot. No entry into canter/lope classes.
* Walk/Trot 13 & over is defined as a 13 & over youth or an adult amateur exhibitor/horse combination that has not shown in any lope/canter classes in 2016. If said exhibitor/horse subsequently enters any canter/lope classes (at any show) they will no longer be eligible for this division in 2016.
* All age divisions other than described above are walk/trot/canter
* Each high point division will consist of one halter class, and the corresponding showmanship, hunt seat equitation, hunt seat pleasure, horsemanship, and western pleasure for that division. A horse/rider combination is not required to enter all the age division classes to be eligible for high point.
* Exhibitors eligible for the 50 & over age division may also enter the 35 & over age division, and nominate high point for both. However they may win only one division high/reserve high point each day. The awards in the other nominated division will be awarded accordingly.
* Class points for High Point count **only after** nomination is made at entry booth.
* Daily High Point awards & sweepstakes money is awarded at the end of each show. Money won will be subtracted from bill.
* Points will be counted on a one-horse one-rider basis.
* Points will only be given for one like class, for example: one halter class, one

showmanship class, etc**.**

* Points will be awarded as follows: First-6 points, Second-5 points, Third-4 points

Fourth-3 points, Fifth-2 points, Sixth-1 point

* Tie breaker will be 1) number of firsts, number of seconds, number of thirds etc. 2) # of horses in classes. No duplicate awards will be given.

 **To qualify for year-end high points horse/rider must be nominated for at least 4 shows.**

**Must be present to win September Random Prize drawings. If exhibitors are not present for Week End or Year End awards it is their responsibility to arrange pick-up or delivery of their awards. Show Mgt. will not be responsible for awards or sweepstakes monies not picked up by winner.**

* Novice horse is an OPEN class. Any exhibitor other than Peewee or lead line may enter.
* Peewee, Walk/Trot 13 & Over, and Novice Horse Open are eligible to show in halter and walk/trot trail.
* Sweepstakes payout-money added plus 50% of entry paid 40-30-20-10.
* No points or ribbons will be given for sweepstakes classes.
* Lead line exhibitors (6 & under) are ineligible to show in any other class.
* Exhibitors in the sweepstakes bridle-less class must use an approved neck strap.
* A 2-year old may not be shown in any performance class prior to July 1 of its 2-year-old year
* Stallions must be shown by an exhibitor age 18 and over.
* Ranch Horse Riders may cross enter into their respective Pleasure class.
* All horses must be stalled – no showing out of trailer.
* Tack changes must be requested at the show office.
* Classes must be entered/added at the show office. **Entries at the gate will be subject to a class fee equal to 1½ of the normal entry fee.**
* Exhibitors MUST check in at gate two classes prior to entered class
* Entries for class #1 – #6 close at 7:30 AM the morning of the show.
* Patterns will be posted the morning of each show. Pattern books for each show may be obtained Friday evening for a $1 donation to the Beekman Therapeutic Riding Center.

**The show will announce gate calls multiple times. However it is the EXHIBITOR’S responsibility to be aware of and enter their respective classes. Once the judge closes the gate the class has started. The show is not responsible for missed classes.**

**\*Exhibitors wearing/displaying the wrong/incorrect back number or entering the ring on the wrong/incorrect entered horse will *lose the points and/or sweepstakes money* for that particular class. *PLEASE* CHECK YOUR BACK NUMBER AND MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE ENTERED CORRECTLY PRIOR TO GOING IN YOUR CLASS.**

**No refunds will be given for dropped / missed classes or early pull outs - please plan accordingly.**

* The show committee reserves the right to require exhibitor or horse’s proof of age if disputed.
* Show Management reserves the right to cancel/combine/divide classes, or refuse any entry, check, or tab. Fees are subject to change without notification.
* **All checks and/or credit cards (3.5% service fee applies) must be accompanied by a valid driver’s license**.
* ALL HORSES MUST HAVE PROOF OF CURRENT YEAR COGGINS

***PARENT/LEGAL Guardian Signature REQUIRED for Exhibitors Under the Age of 18***

**Questions, clarifications, and feedback are welcome at the show office. If something is not clear please come and see us so that we can help you to enjoy the show. Questions prior? rtrainct@aol.com**

Thank you for coming to the start of the 20th annual Michigan Apple Blossom Classic

Open Horse Show Circuit. Please join us in 2017 for our 20th Anniversary Celebration!